

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, a television network called ESPN was born in America twenty-five years ago this week, at a time in our nation's history when Lee Corso was coaching (and we use that term loosely) the University of Louisville to a 4 – 6 – 1 record, ten-year old Kirk Herbstreit was dreaming of leading Ohio State to a victory over the hated Michigan Wolverines (sorry the best you could get was a tie, Kirk) and Chris Fowler was probably styling his hair in front of a mirror somewhere in Denver, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, ESPN has nonetheless managed to succeed beyond the wildest dreams of its founders, bringing hundreds of thousands of sporting events live into the living rooms of millions of Americans over the past twenty-five years en route to becoming one of the nation's premier cable networks; and

WHEREAS, ESPN's College GameDay program, in addition to being the "Path to Wisdom" for all college football fans, has also become the nation's number one destination for the latest scores, highlights and analysis from the college gridiron; and

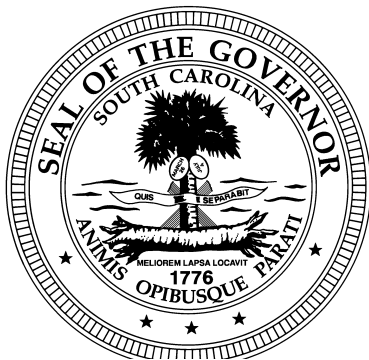
WHEREAS, Chris, Lee and Kirk are joining us in Columbia for today's game between the third-ranked Georgia Bulldogs and our own University of South Carolina Gamecocks, the current SEC Eastern Conference leaders; and

WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina boasts a proud football tradition, including Clemson University's 1981 National Championship team, George Rogers' 1980 Heisman Trophy campaign, South Carolina's back-to-back Outback Bowl victories over Kirk's beloved Buckeyes – and that tradition continues today, supported by the greatest, most loyal football fans you'll find anywhere in the United States of America.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim this weekend, September 10 – 12, 2004, as

ESPN COLLEGE GAMEDAY WEEKEND

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to join me in welcoming three great analysts (who are good sports, too), one great television program, a sports network that's become a central part of our nation's fabric and a standout University of Georgia football team to South Carolina's Williams-Brice Stadium for a great weekend of college football.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA