SPORTS/The Charlotte Post

Thursday, October 30, 1997

Barker leads 49ers' rally

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for us."

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It's been an up and down season for UNCC. Coming off their 1 9-win campaign last year, expectations ran very high. The 49ers loaded their schedule with ranked teams so they wouldn't be left out of the NCAA tournament because of a weak schedule. The result is a 9-5-2 record, including 4-4 in Conference USA going into Sunday's finale against N.C.

State. The 49ers will likely enter the league tournament as the fifth seed, but winning the championship means an automatic berth to the 32-team NCAA tournament.

"The best thing I got going for me right now, is the players on this team," Tart said. "They're the ones who have made it where we're as competitive as we are. They're good players and they have the right attitude."

UNCC is now playing its best soccer. Last week the 49ers scored a season-high six goals in a win over Campbell and confidence is high going into the league tournament. Barker believes the best is yet to come.

"I believe we were hungry but the chemistry wasn't there in the beginning," he said. "But now the chemistry is there.'

Green book outlines Vikings takeover

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Chicago-based One-on-One Sports radio network.

Green echoed those statements in the postgame news conference after the Vikings' 10-6 victory at Tampa Bay on Sunday, saying he was "thinking out loud" when he revealed a plan to sue the team's board of directors unless they allowed him to purchase 30 percent controlling interest in the team

But Vikings president Roger Headrick and board member Wheelock Whitney said Green may be trying to rewrite his autobiography.

"It was interpreted by me that way (as a threat)," Headrick said. "Now the story is (that) it was never intended to be anything more than just fiction or fantasy. My personal feeling is you have to take people seriously at what they say. Otherwise why say it?"

mean, he had credible detail. with a draft complaint. That to me would seem to belie that this was not a well-thought-out plan," Headrick said.

Whitney is thought to be one of

The Charlotte Observer Harris Teeter

Dennis Green is under fire for comments made in his autobiography "No Room For Crybabies." in which he details a plan to take over the Minnesota Vikings.

the two unnamed board members who Green believes harmed his reputation last fall by floating rumors that Lou Holtz might coach the team.

Whitney said Sunday he has yet to make up his mind about what he said.

course of action, if any, the board should take regarding Green.

"It certainly raises a lot of question marks about having a longterm relationship with someone who would blindside you like that and take such a radical position,"



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Woods or Irwin for golfer of year?

Bý Ron Sirak The Associated press

HOUSTON - Player of the year honors could be determined this week, but not entirely at the Tour Championship. Tiger Woods has the PGA Tour award wrapped up. But maybe Hale Irwin had the best year in golf. It's too bad there is not a vote for the best overall season, no matter what tour.

Then maybe there would be a little more drama surrounding the Tour Championship rather than the feeling that 30 guys who have already had a good year are looking to pick up one more check

The tension is gone from last year when Tom Lehman, Phil Mickelson and Mark Brooks were fighting it out for Player of the Year. Now it's simply this: Wrap up the award and send it to Woods. Perhaps the loss of drama is a

byproduct of Tigermania, especially in the dizzy days after Woods won the Masters by an astounding 12 strokes. Talk was of Grand Slam, doubledigit number of victories and **\$2** million in winnings.

And some of what was lost was the remarkable year Irwin out together on the Senior PGA Tour. He did more of those things than Woods. While the top 30 money win-ners on the PGA Tour gather this week at Champions Golf Club to play for the \$720,000 first prize at the Tour Championship, Irwin is playing for a more modest sum in Los Angeles. But he is also playing for history at the Ralphs Senior Classic. For the record, Irwin is the first player on any single tour to win \$2 million in a sea-His nine victories this year ties the seniors record set by Peter Thomson in 1985 and is the most won by a male on the U.S. or European tour since Sam Snead won 11 times in 1950 The knee-jerk reaction might be to dismiss Irwin's accomplishments because they came on the Senior PGA Tour. To do so would be to underestimate the mental and physical strain of competing - and winning. "It's hard to stay on that high as many times as I have this year," Irwin said as he got ready to try for his record 10th victory this week. "Winning,

and I don't care at what level, on any tour, anybody against whom you want to talk about, winning takes its toll."

Compare Woods and Irwin by the numbers:



Irwin has won \$2,131,364. Woods

stroke average per round is 69.02. Irwin is at 68.93.

• Woods has played 41.5 percent of his rounds in the 60s. Irwin has played 53.6 percent of his rounds in the 60s. Perhaps the most amazing

Aggie pride

thing Irwin did was maintain his level of play for an entire season. The longest stretch he went without a victory was six tournaments, and he had two seconds, a fourth and a fifth

Woods, on the other hand, peaked early, winning three times by early May. But he has not won since the Western Open on July 6 - a streak of seven winless starts - and hasn't contended in a major cham-

rounds of 1997 in the 60s but has been below 70 in only 13 of 43 rounds, beginning with the final round of the Colonial in

Despite tailing off slightly, Woods has already wrapped up Player of the Year as determined by the PGA of America's points system.





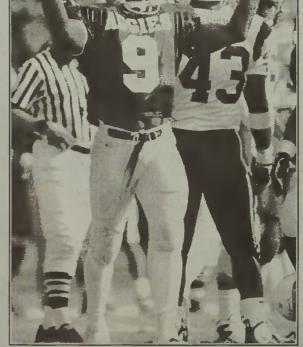
Woods

May.



among those six.

pionship since the Masters. Woods played 20 of his first 34



N.C. A&T defensive end Chris McNeil tries to get the Aggies fired up in Saturday's 21-13 loss to Howard in Greensboro. The Aggies, who play S.C. State Nov. 22 in Charlotte, are ninth in this week's Sheridan poll of black college football teams.