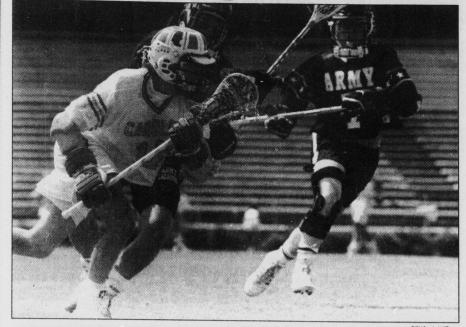
The Daily Tar Heel/Monday, August 23, 1993/15

SPORTS

Syracuse tops Tar Heels in last-second lax



By Justin Scheef Staff Writer

COLLEGE PARK, Md. - A lacrosse fan could not have

asked for anything more. A factorse fail could her have a sked for anything more. The first championship-game meeting between the two most dominant teams in collegiate lacrosse. A game that lived up to its billing as one of, if not the, greatest NCAA lacrosse game in history

lacrosse game in history. "It's unfortunate that it ends on that type of unsettled situation," said North Carolina head coach Dave Klarmann. "But that's lacrosse. We both play wide open." Syracuse dashed North Carolina's hopes of a fifth NCAA lacrosse championship at Byrd Stadium at the University of Maryland on May 31, as Matt Riter converted a patented Syracuse fast break and sent the game-winning goal home with 08 remaining riving the Oregonegree 13, 12 victory. with :08 remaining, giving the Orangemen a 13-12 victory over the Tar Heels. Syracuse had advanced to the final game by avenging last

year's finals loss to Princeton, winning 15-9 May 29. UNC advanced to the final four by topping Army 12-5 May 22 in Chapel Hill, then made the championship by defeating Johns Hopkins 16-10. UNC finished the season with a 14-2 record. Syracuse

finished 12-2.

finished 12-2. This game typified a UNC-Syracuse matchup. There have been three overtime games and five games decided by one goal in 15 meetings. Syracuse leads the all-time series 9-6. The Memorial Day final was a wide-open affair featuring two high-powered offenses and hard-hitting defenses. That style of play enabled the Tar Heels to rally from a 12-10 deficit in the last two minutes of the fourth quarter. Jason Wade scored from the right side with a low, near shot at 1:56 to put the score at 12-11. Donnie McNichol (two goals) sent his teammates and

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UNC fans into a frenzy at 1:24 when he heat his n left side, moved toward the middle and fired a high shot to the game at 12.

Syracuse won the ensuing faceoff. After UNC goaltender Gary Lehrman made a save, Syracuse long-stick defenseman Chad Smith tried to "slam dunk" the ball from behind the 3

Chad Smith tried to "slam dunk" the ball from behind the cage at 1:05. Smith jumped over the goal and swung his stick around, trying to stuff the ball before landing in the crease. He missed, and the Tar Heels got the ball back. North Carolina lost control, but Syracuse was caught in the crease again, giving possession back to the Tar Heels with :29 left. UNC pushed the ball upfield, but Syracuse defensman Ric Beardley stole the ball with :19, and after some quick passes, midfielder Charlie Lockwood found Riter streaking to the cage unmolested

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cage unmolested.

cage unmolested. "That's the most intense lacrosse game I've ever been in," UNC senior defenseman Alex Martin said. Klarmann added, "Both teams played very hard, very tough, and I'm disappointed, but I'm very proud of our effort. That was as tough a team as we faced all year." One of those Tar Heels who came up big was junior goaltender Lehrman, who was forced into the starting role after Billy Daye fractured his sixth vertebra April 3 against Johns Honkins

"I think I got more confident each time I stepped out on the field," Lehrman said. "I think it showed this weekend."

Lehrman said. "I think it showed this weekend." Lehrman made 18 saves in the championship game, in-cluding five from point-blank range in the final half. Lehrman's counterpart, Chris Surran of the Orangemen, also had a remarkable tournament. He was named most outstanding player for his efforts, but refused to take much of e credit

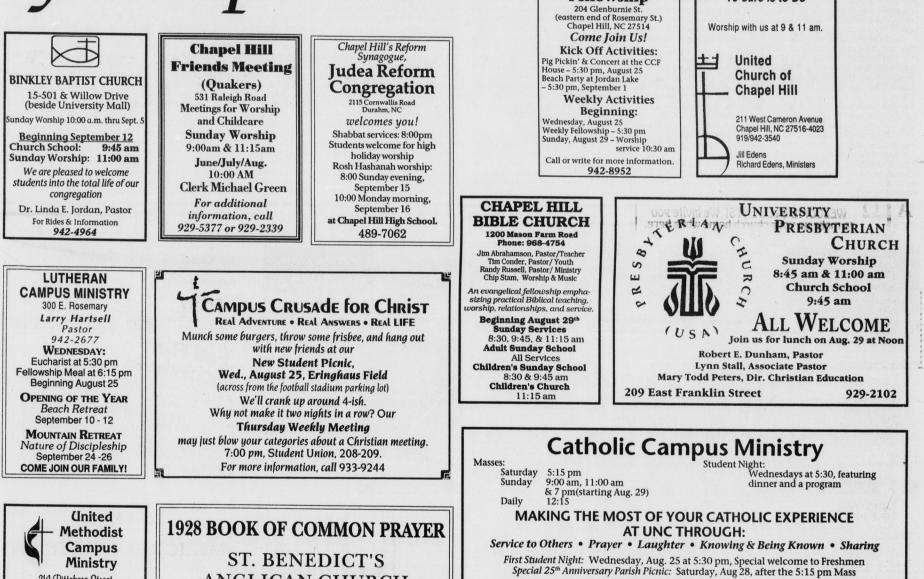
"My defense does all the hard work," Surran said. "I'm not doing that much, they're doing all the hard stuff, pushing out, being physical, hitting guys, keeping me up."

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Senior attackman Mike Acee and UNC topped Army on May 22 at Kenan Stadium but lost to Syracuse in the NCAA Final





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If not now, when? Call 942-4057 if you have questions

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