

Ground Game Grounded in O-Line

North Carolina football fans beware: Do not get too excited about a couple of rookie running backs.

After all, they could hurt an ankle or get declared academically ineligible. No, wait. That was last year.

Regardless, if the ground game is what you want to get hyped about, there is a far better reason than Daniel Davis and Willie Parker. After all, they're only freshmen, and it was only a scrimmage.

The place to look for rushing hopes this season is the Tar Heels' offensive line. Last season, the unit had five new starters. For you non-football types, that's all of the offensive lineman.

My grandmother could have been at tailback, and it probably wouldn't have made much of a difference (though she does have surprising quickness out of the backfield even at age 76).

But this year, UNC's starting O-line is made up entirely of familiar faces. That makes rookie rushers look good. That makes veteran rushers look good. That would even give my grandmother a decent shot at a 100-yard game.

A good runner is useless if he has nowhere to run. That's why any hope of a ground attack has to start with the linemen. Because if you take a guy with 4.3 speed and let him tear through a wide-open hole, he's unstoppable. If you run him into a brick wall, he's unconscious.



EVAN MARKFIELD
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

See how simply the logic works? There is no doubt that speed, quickness and agility are keys to a dangerous rushing attack.

But a little excitement about those qualities sometimes makes people forget that the holes created by the offensive line are what produce a consistent rushing attack.

Before the '98 season, offensive coordinator Steve Marshall — then preparing for his first year at North Carolina — said he planned to bring intensity and aggressiveness to the Tar Heels' O-line, creating a more attacking style of offense.

Then the ground game never materialized. With five new starters, it was hard to determine whether the flaw was in the recipe or the ingredients.

The 1999 season should give UNC's men in the trenches a chance to prove that being experienced might make a difference in production.

And considering the Tar Heel running game was a question mark week



DTH FILE PHOTO

An experienced offensive line could make it easier for UNC runners, like fullback Deon Dyer, to find holes in the opponent's defense.

in and week out in 1998, anything that might bolster its success this year should be a welcome change.

Perhaps that comes in the form of impressive young tailbacks. But thinking a skilled rookie runner will put up big numbers is mere speculation.

On the other hand, it is undeniable fact that the linemen who will play this season saw some snaps in '98.

So if you're looking for something to get excited about, fact is a better bet than speculation.

And who knows? Maybe the two could come together to give the Tar Heels the ground game they sorely lacked last year.

Evan Markfield can be reached at emm@email.unc.edu.

Jones Aims for 4 Golds; Relay Decision to Come

Former Tar Heel Marion Jones is the favorite in the 100- and 200-yard events at the World Championships.

Associated Press

SEVILLE, Spain — Marion Jones won't settle for anything less than an unprecedented four gold medals at the World Championships.

The big question mark is the source of that fourth gold. Will it come in the 1,600-meter relay or in the 400 relay?

If Jones wins the 100 meters, 200 meters and long jump, the relay decision will rest with her coach, Trevor Graham.

"Trevor has told me that after my three individual events are done — hopefully I'm happy with three wins there — he's going to look into my eyes and tell if I'm ready to run a 400 meters or not," she said Thursday. "If he doesn't... then I'm

going to run the 4 x 100."

Jones, who went to college at North Carolina, is a big favorite in the 100 and 200, where she's unbeaten since 1997 and owns the world-best times this season (10.80 and 21.81).

Her biggest challenge will be in the long jump, where she lost last month in Linz, Austria, to Heike Drechsler, the former Olympic and world champion. A loss in the long jump here and Jones' relay choice won't matter.

After losing to Drechsler — 22 feet, 5 inches, to 22-3 — Jones returned home to coordinate her blistering speed down the runway with her shaky technique.

"Everybody knows earlier in the season I was having a little bit of trouble with my rhythm on the long jump," the 23-year-old American said. "Since my last long jump in Linz, we've gone back to the drawing board and made our necessary corrections."

Some answers will roll in almost instantly when the championships open Saturday. Jones begins her long jump qualifying at 10:30 a.m., with 100-meter prelims starting 15 minutes later.

"I want to go out there and hopefully on my first jump qualify and be able to concentrate on the 100 after that," she said.

Both Drechsler and British-born Italian Fiona May, who has the best legal jump in the world this season, see Jones as very beatable.



Former UNC star Marion Jones owns world-best times in the 100- and 200-meters.

Comets' Guard Perrot Dies Following Cancer Struggle

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Kim Perrot, the popular Houston Comets point guard often described as the heart and soul of the two-time WNBA champions, died Thursday of lung cancer. She was 32.

Perrot died peacefully with friends and family by her side at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, the team said.

Perrot, who was diagnosed with lung cancer on Feb. 19, sought alternative treatment in Mexico after undergoing surgery Feb. 24 to remove tumors in her brain, where the lung cancer had spread.

The Comets were in Los Angeles on Thursday preparing for Friday night's game against the Los Angeles Sparks.

Her condition worsened during her second trip to Tijuana, Mexico, where she had been receiving treatment. She returned to Houston last Saturday.

The Lafayette, La., native arrived in Houston three years ago, fresh off the professional women's circuit in Europe. She was signed as a developmental player for the fledgling Women's National Basketball Association franchise here.

Despite her 5-foot-5 frame, Perrot

quickly became a starter and crowd favorite noted for ferocious play that helped the Comets win consecutive championships in 1997 and 1998, the league's inaugural seasons.

Last year, Perrot averaged 8.5 points and 4.7 assists with 84 steals in 30 regular-season games and was second in voting for defensive player of the year.

In the offseason, Perrot began suffering headaches. After conducting tests, doctors delivered the startling diagnosis of lung cancer for Perrot, a nonsmoker. The cancer already had spread to her brain when it was detected.

After brain surgery, Perrot entered radiation treatment to attack tumors in her head. She went to Mexico for alternative medical procedures rather than submit to chemotherapy prescribed by her Houston doctors.

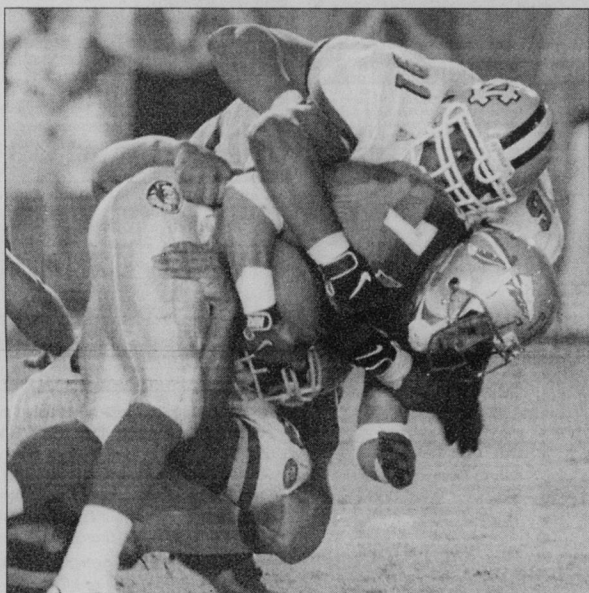
Perrot played for Southwestern Louisiana. She scored 58 points against Southeastern Louisiana in 1990, the second-highest total in NCAA history.

She set 26 school records, including the career scoring mark of 2,157 points.

Perrot played six years in Europe for pro teams in Sweden, Germany, Israel and France, returning to the United States in 1997.

FSU Wideout Coles Sidelined for Opener

Staff and Wire Reports



DTH FILE PHOTO

FSU's Laveranues Coles reportedly injured his left knee Thursday. Coles was suspended Wednesday for the team's Aug. 28 opener.

TALLAHASSEE — Florida State coach Bobby Bowden that wide receiver Laveranues Coles will be suspended for the season opener against Louisiana Tech on Aug. 28.

ESPN reported on Thursday, that Coles was dealt another blow when he injured his left knee in practice.

Coles is being examined for a possible sprained medial collateral ligament and anterior cruciate ligament in the knee. There was no word on whether he would miss any practice or game time.

Coles was slated to start opposite Peter Warrick in the season opener with expected starter Ron Dugans out with a fractured finger.

"Laveranues Coles will be suspended for the first game," said Bowden. "It has nothing to do with the Houston trip, but academics instead."

Florida State is investigating the financial source of a summer trip Coles made to Houston.

Bowden told the Orlando Sentinel he received a copy of Coles' report card from summer school Tuesday and wasn't satisfied with his academic progress.

"I just saw his grades from over the summer, and I do not feel he applied himself," the coach said in the Sentinel.

"He's not ineligible, but I talked it over with [receivers coach Jeff Bowden], and we feel like with the work he did this summer, he deserves to sit out the first ballgame."

It was the latest in a series of setbacks for Coles, who missed a practice last week while attending a court-ordered, anger-management class relating to an assault case from last year.

Jackets Suspend Pair

ATLANTA — Two Georgia Tech football players have been suspended because of conduct "detrimental to the Tech football program," coach George O'Leary said Monday.

O'Leary would not elaborate on the offenses of the two players, but said quarterback Jermaine Crenshaw, a red-shirt freshman quarterback, would miss the first three games and defensive back Troy Tolbert, a junior cornerback, will miss the first two games, against Navy and Florida State. The third game is against Central Florida.

Crenshaw was competing for the No. 2 quarterback slot behind Joe Hamilton, while Tolbert was competing for a starting position.

O'Leary said the suspensions were not drug-related. Both players will continue to practice with the team, he said.

Orlando Deals Again, Ships Ellis, Manning to Bucks

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — The Milwaukee Bucks and Orlando Magic made a four-player trade Thursday, with Milwaukee sending forwards Chris Gatling and Armen Gilliam to Orlando for forward Danny Manning and guard Dale Ellis.

Manning was the NBA's best sixth man for the 1997-98 season. The deal moves four well-traveled veterans, each with at least eight years of experience and four previous teams on their resumes. Ellis and Manning were both acquired by the Magic in offseason trades with Seattle and Phoenix, respectively, and hadn't played a game in Orlando.

"By acquiring Danny and Dale, we have improved our basketball team,"

Bucks coach George Karl said in a statement. "Danny has shown the ability to play all three front line positions exceptionally well, and Dale is one of the best shooters in the game. This trade makes us a better team."

Manning, 33, was traded to Orlando with Pat Garrity and two first-round draft picks for Penny Hardaway earlier

this month. Manning won the 1998 Sixth Man award with Phoenix, where he had played the last five seasons.

A two-time All-Star and the first overall pick in the 1988 draft, Manning averaged a career-low 9.1 points and 4.4 rebounds per game last season while playing in all 50 games for the Suns.

Ellis, 39, played for Karl in Seattle

during the 1997-98 season, and he also previously played in Milwaukee from 1990-92.

Ellis, who was acquired by the Magic in the deal that brought rookie Corey Maggette to Orlando, averaged just 10.3 points per game coming off the bench for the Sonics last season, his lowest average since 1985-86.

Welcome Back!
Stop in before or after a movie!
Bud & Eb's Grill
"Serving Chapel Hill Since 1990"
"All ABC Permits"
Great Sandwiches all Day
We Welcome Timberlyne Shopping Center
Weaver Dairy Rd., Chapel Hill.
Near Timberlyne & Chelsea Theaters
942-6624

EASTERN FEDERAL THEATRES
CHapel Hill
PLAZA THEATRES
Elliott Rd. at East Franklin
967-4737 All Auditoriums Surround Stereo
INSPECTOR GADGET Sat/Sun 1:10
PG-13 Daily 3:10
5:10, 7:10, 9:15
RUNAWAY BRIDE Sat/Sun 1:00
PG-13 Daily 3:10
5:20, 7:30, 9:40
THE THOMAS CROWN AFFAIR Sat/Sun 1:10 Daily 3:30, 7:10, 9:30 R
Teaching Mrs. Tingle Sat/Sun 1:15
PG-13 Daily 3:15
5:15, 7:15, 9:15
DETROIT ROCK CITY Sat/Sun 1:15 Daily 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15 R
MOVIES AT TIMBERLYNE
Weaver Dairy at Airport Rd. Dolby & DTS Digital Sound
933-8600 All Auditoriums Surround Stereo
BOWFINGER Sat/Sun 1:15
PG-13 EX Daily 3:15
5:15, 7:15, 9:15
BROKEN DOWN PALACE Daily 3:05, 5:10, 7:20, 9:25 PG-13
Presenting TriPod Captions Films
Open-Captioned for the Hearing Impaired
NOTTING HILL Sat/Sun 12 Noon
MYSTERY MEN Sat/Sun 1:05 Daily 3:45, 7:00, 9:30 PG-13
UNIVERSAL SOLDIER Sat/Sun 1:05 Daily 3:05, 5:05, 7:10, 9:20 R
THE IRON GIANT Sat/Sun 1:20 Daily 3:20, 5:10, 7:00 PG
AMERICAN PIE Daily 9:15
THE SIXTH SENSE Sat/Sun 1:00 Daily 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40 PG-13
\$4.50 ALL SHOWS BEFORE 6PM
SHOW TIMES FOR TODAY-SUNDAY ONLY
Eastern Federal Theatres Equipped for the Hearing Impaired

CAROLINA
Chapel Hill Columbia St 933-8464
"SCARY AS HELL"
From Screen, ROLLING STONE
THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT
7:00, 9:00, weekends 3:00, 5:00
Fri., Sat. 10:30
CHELSEA
Chapel Hill 1129 Weaver Dairy 968-3005
"The King of Masks"
may sound like the sort of picture that routinely gets a Best Foreign Film Oscar, but actually it's better than that.
—New York Times
An "Unforgettable Movie."
WINNER OF BEST FOREIGN FILM
THE KING OF MASKS
7:10, 9:15, weekends 2:10, 4:15
"Dazzling! Playfully Profound! A Show of Creative Fireworks!"
RUN LO! A RUN!
7:00, 9:20, weekends 2:00, 4:20
an ideal husband
7:15, weekends 2:15
"a real gem...Delaria is wonderful!"
"erotically charged!"
edge of seventeen
9:30, weekends 7:45, 9:30

WARSHTV UH-OH!
Cannes Sensation! RACHEL GRIFFITHS
MY SON, THE FANATIC
a film by SHANTY KURUSHI
(My Beautiful Laundrette)
4:20-7:20
EAST FRANKLIN 957-8665
SOUTH PARK
BIGGER, LONGER & UNCUT 2:10-9:30
957-8665
"★★★★ ONE OF THE YEAR'S FUNNIEST COMEDIES!"
—Jeff Craig, SIXTY SECOND PREVIEW
"A COMIC MOBSTER-PIECE! HUGH GRANT IS INCREDIBLY FUNNY AND INCURABLY ROMANTIC."
—Bill Bregoli, WESTWOOD ONE RADIO
"FUNNY! FUNNIER! FUNNIEST ROMANTIC COMEDY OF THE SUMMER."
—Pat Collins, WWOV-TV
MICKEY BLUE EYES
www.castle-rock.com
LIVE IN FRONTSTREET THEATRE
WARSHTV 2:00 7:00
4:10 9:10

Fundamental Bliss:
Catalog clothes you love...
Prices that let you indulge...
LOOK OUT! is now in Carrboro
Field Jersey
navy and maroon w/logo ID
\$24.95 (Specialty store price \$49.50)
10% off purchase w/student ID — limited time offer
iLOOK OUT! CATALOG & NAME BRAND OUTLET
205 West Main St., CARRBORO
between PTA Thrift Shop & Town Hall
Mon-Sat 10-6 933-5544