

Tar Heels Challenge ACC Rivals

North Carolina will host the ACC Cross Country Championships at Finley Golf Course on Monday.

Staff Report

North Carolina will host the men's and women's ACC Cross Country Championships on Monday at Finley Golf Course.

Competition on UNC's new course will begin at 10 a.m.

The North Carolina women, who finished second in the ACC last year en route to placing 18th in the nation, will enter their race ranked No. 6 in the country after moving up 10 places since the last national poll.

The Tar Heels placed fourth in the NCAA Preview race two weeks ago in Bloomington, Ind., defeating several teams that were ranked higher than them at the time. Senior tri-captain Trish Nervo was UNC's top finisher in the race.

The Tar Heels should get plenty of competition Monday from No. 10 N.C. State, which has won the past four conference titles, and 19th-ranked Wake Forest.

The Wolfpack has also excelled on the men's side throughout the decade. Like the 'Pack women, the N.C. State men have also won four consecutive ACC titles. No other cross country program has ever won ACC titles in men's and women's competition in the same year.

The Wolfpack men enter the race ranked No. 3 in the nation behind Arkansas and Stanford.

The men's squad for North Carolina is much less experienced than most other teams in the conference. Many of the runners will be taking part in the first ACC Championships race of their careers.

The Lowdown on Saturday's Game

Furman Paladins at **North Carolina Tar Heels**
(6-1, 5-0 in SoCon) Kenan Stadium, 1:30 p.m. (1-6, 0-5 in ACC)

Head to Head

UNC's Rush vs. Furman's Front Seven: UNC has had success this season against mediocre run defenses, and starting TB Dominique Williams faces a Furman 'D' that allows 180 rushing ypg. **Edge: UNC.**

UNC's Pass vs. Furman's Secondary: With Luke Huard at the helm, UNC's passing offense has been downright desultory. The Paladins DBs have 11 INTs and have allowed just 3 passing TDs this season. **Edge: Furman.**

Furman's Rush vs. UNC's Front Seven: Ever heard of TB Louis Ivory? If not, chances are you will on Saturday. Ivory averages 131 ypg rushing and faces a nonexistent UNC rush 'D' (220 ypg allowed). **Edge: Furman.**

Furman's Pass vs. UNC's Secondary: Furman is strictly an option team (120 passing ypg). With Ivory in the backfield facing a lenient UNC 'D', Paladins QB Justin Hill won't have to use his arm much Saturday. **Edge: UNC.**

Special Teams: Furman K Jason Wells has not kicked a field goal more than 26 yards this year. UNC's Brian Schmitz, on the other hand, is the second best punter in the nation (47 ypg). **Edge: UNC.**

The Bottom Line — UNC 28, Furman 24

COMPILED BY HUGH PRESSLEY

UNC Looks to Stop Paladins

Game and time: Furman vs. North Carolina. Kickoff is at 1:30 p.m.

Site: Kenan Stadium.

TV/radio: The Tar Heel Sports Network will provide live radio coverage; its flagship station is WCHL 1360-AM. The game will not be televised.

Records: Furman is 6-1, 5-0 in Southern Conference. North Carolina is 1-6, 0-5 in the ACC.

Series: UNC leads 4-0, including a 28-0 win against Furman in 1992.

Personnel: Furman - No injuries reported. UNC - QB Ronald Curry (Achilles) and LB Brandon Spoon (biceps) are out for the season. C Adam Metts (ankle), CB Anthony Anderson (concussion), WR Danny Davis (concussion) and S Quinton Savage (sick) are out. QB Antwon Black (flu) is doubtful.

The key matchup: Paladins running back Louis Ivory is one of the best backs in Division I-AA that you've never heard of. But if UNC doesn't at least contain the 5-foot-8, 193-pound Ivory, who is averaging 131.4 rushing yards per game this season, chances are you'll hear a lot from the Fort Valley, Ga., native on Saturday.

Ivory, a sophomore, is the 12th-best running back in Division I-AA and needs 80 yards to reach 1,000 for the season. He rushed for a season-high 203 yards last week against East Tennessee State and leads the team in touchdowns with 10.

"Ivory is one of the better running backs we'll face this year," UNC coach

Carl Torbush said. "I've got a great deal of respect for Furman. They're a good, solid defensive football team."

UNC's defense, meanwhile, would probably have trouble stopping some of the best high school running backs this year, let alone Ivory.

Out of the 114 Division I-A schools, 102 of them (including such juggernauts as Arkansas State, Temple and UTEP) have a better rushing defense than the Tar Heels, who give up 220 rushing yards per game.

Last week, Maryland's LaMont Jordan ran for 147 yards in three quarters of action against UNC, and the Terrapins tacked on 268 total yards on the ground (the most the Tar Heels have allowed this year) in their 45-7 romp.

"I don't want to say (the Tar Heels are) soft or anything, but throughout the week we watched them on film and noticed they didn't play the run too well," Terp fullback Matt Kalapinski said. "We emphasized in practice to try to go right at them, hit them hard and run (isolation plays) at them - you know, power football."



Quarterback Luke Huard will start against Furman on Saturday for the Tar Heels at Kenan Stadium.

Final analysis/prediction: For the Tar Heels to get their first home win of the season, they'll have to accomplish two goals they've failed to achieve this year with any consistency: stopping the run and moving the ball through the air.

Since Ronald Curry ruptured an Achilles tendon against Georgia Tech on Oct. 9, quarterbacks Luke Huard and Antwon Black have had a better chance at winning the lottery than finding open receivers, combining for a measly 265 passing yards in three games.

"I base everything we do on improvement, and especially with a young football team you should see improvement," Torbush said. "And I do not feel that we've improved the last two weeks. A lot of that has to do with certain plays, but we've not been able to make the plays that we need to make to give ourselves a chance to win."

But this will be a "snap-out-of-it" game, where, for one of the few times this season, UNC will execute like it actually has a playbook.

Although the Paladins, who have won six consecutive games after dropping their season opener, have momentum on their side, look for UNC to run the ball effectively past Furman's mediocre rush defense (180.1 yards per game) and give the few Kenan faithful that show up something to go home happy about.

UNC 28, Furman 24

Compiled by Hugh Pressley

Volleyball Spikes Wolfpack

By UMUR TUNCER
Staff Writer

Immediately following Shannon Smith's 14th kill Thursday night, North Carolina volleyball coach Joe Sagula called an unexpected timeout.

The crowd then rose to its feet when

they learned the reason for the untimely TO was to honor Smith's 1,000th career kill.

But after the match Smith downplayed her milestone achievement.

"I'd rather have an ACC ring than a 1,000 kills, but it's a good feeling," Smith said.

UNC coach Joe Sagula said he was thrilled with the team's 3-1 dismissal of N.C. State and was the first to laud Smith's accomplishment.

"I was real excited for her," Sagula said. "We just wanted to be real aggressive, and she performed really well. She's hitting the ball real hard right now."

But Smith wasn't the only intimidating presence on an imposing UNC side. Tori Seibert recorded 22 kills, while Casey Simpson contributed 18. Seibert recorded her 1,000 kill last season as a junior.

Though the individual performances were impressive, the No. 25 Tar Heels were not graceful on their way to victory. The match was marred by sideouts, and UNC struggled to string together points.

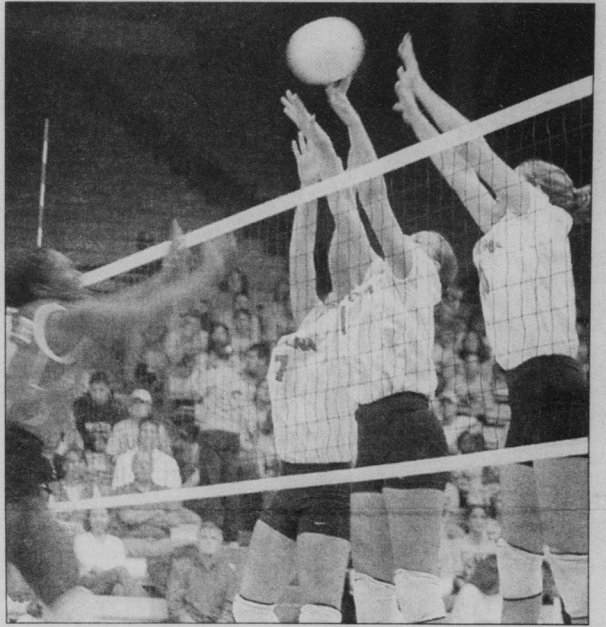
After breezing through the first game with a score of 15-3, North Carolina let up and lost the second game 15-12.

In the poorly played second game, the Tar Heels went through a stretch in which they could only muster eight points in 38 sideouts.

"Serving is one of our biggest strengths. We do a great job with it, and at times it's our Achilles (heel)," Sagula said. "We know that. We have to keep working on that, and it's a matter of just being really focused."

Fortunately for the Tar Heels, the problem did not cost them the match as UNC was able to take the next two games.

After beating the Wolfpack 15-4 in the third game, the Tar Heels rattled off four consecutive points at the end of the final game to take the match.

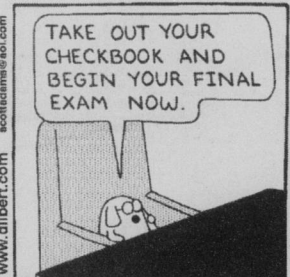


Tar Heels hitters Kathy Konczal (7), Tori Seibert (1) and Casey Simpson (10) try to block a N.C. State shot.

Freshmen Malaika Underwood and Laura Greene saw extensive playing time, contributing seven and 13 kills respectively.

The Sports Editor can be reached at sports@unc.edu.

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THE Daily Crossword

By Edgar Fontaine

- ACROSS**
- Antiquated
 - Khan IV
 - Radon, e.g.
 - Satellite of Uranus
 - Anybody
 - First finger
 - Devour
 - Poker-faced
 - Out of work
 - Highway subdivision
 - Trumpet-shaped flower
 - Look scornfully
 - Blue-dye plants
 - Turn-downs
 - Bunco game
 - USSR jet
 - Act as
 - Stroke
 - Bat tree?
 - Certain ISP
 - Gender: abbr.
 - Unmasker's cry
 - Come back
 - Plunk
 - Gerard or Hodges
 - Money from the bank: abbr.
 - Tibetan antelope
 - Ait
 - Shorer's peril
 - "La Douce"
 - Polanski film

- DOWN**
- Unit of elec.
 - Carnival city, casually
 - Dernier
 - "Messiah" com-poser
 - Pot sweetener
 - Paradigm
 - Clergyman with a red biretta
 - Puts to a test
 - Debutante's attire
 - Docs org.
 - Bird of prey
 - American chameleon
 - Seamstress
 - Robert Frost's wife
 - Stratagem
 - Harry Truman's birthplace
 - Liqueur flavor
 - Nocturnal songbird

HERD SPEC FEAST
OVER OATH APNEA
RIGA ONCE TIGER
SLAP IN THE FACE
ELLEN SOL LAW
DYE DAPPER DIVA
SUSHI PECOS
PUNCH IN THE JAW
VENUE GOUDA
IAMB JESTED SUB
ALA SOD LAURA
POKE IN THE RIBS
CAPRA COHO UTAH
BLEAT TOAD BONE
SIDLE SKIS ARES

26 Shrimp dish
28 Greek city-state
33 Chaney of "The Wolf Man"
34 Bus. bigwig
35 Flinches
36 Hands on deck?
39 Bugsy Siegel's casino
42 Paris-based intl. org.
43 Harbor
46 Ornamental Chinese tree
48 Drinker's tubes
49 First Greek letter
50 Song of praise
52 Cognizant
55 Complexion damage
56 Cupid
58 Tanker's cargo
60 Sub alternative
61 Singer Peggy
62 Byrnes of '77 Sunset Strip"

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AMERICAN BEAUTY Sat/Sun 1:10 Daily 4:10, 7:00, 9:35 R
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