



UNC freshman fullback Bob Loomis led the Carolina rushing attack with 75 yards.

# Final-minute fumble

## Typical end to a frustrating season

by Jim Thomas  
Assistant Sports Editor

DURHAM—After having come so close to winning several times this year against Notre Dame, N.C. State and Clemson, North Carolina fumbled away an opportunity to defeat archrival Duke here Saturday in a fitting climax to a frustrating season.

With placekicker Tom Biddle warming up his leg on the sideline, fullback Bob Loomis fumbled on Duke's 15-yard line with 47 seconds remaining. When the Blue Devils recovered the ball the Tar Heels were forced to settle for a 17-17 tie.

"It's an empty feeling," said UNC Coach Bill Dooley, whose Tar Heels finished the season with a 3-7-1 record. "It's a big disappointment. We had a chance to win it. As far as effort goes, our team gave a fine effort. I'm sure Mike McGee (Duke coach) feels the same way about his team."

Both teams had an opportunity to win the

game. Prior to Loomis' fumble, Duke had the ball on the Carolina 12 with just over eight minutes remaining. But freshman quarterback Mike Dunn pitched the ball at tailback Larry Martinez' feet and Tar Heel safety Bobby Trotter recovered on the nine-yard line.

Minutes later, after Carolina's Johnny Elam was forced to punt, Duke fullback Tony Benjamin fumbled at the UNC 47. Tackle Red Broadway came up with the ball for the Tar Heels with 3:42 left.

From that point, the Tar Heels moved to the Duke 29, where, on third and six, quarterback Billy Paschall faked a handoff to tailback Mike Voight and ran 15 yards on an option around the left end to the 14. After a time out Paschall threw an incomplete pass to Loomis. On the next play Loomis was sent into the middle of the line only to fumble the ball. Duke's Kirk May fell on the ball and when the Blue Devils failed to move Bob Grupp punted to end the game.

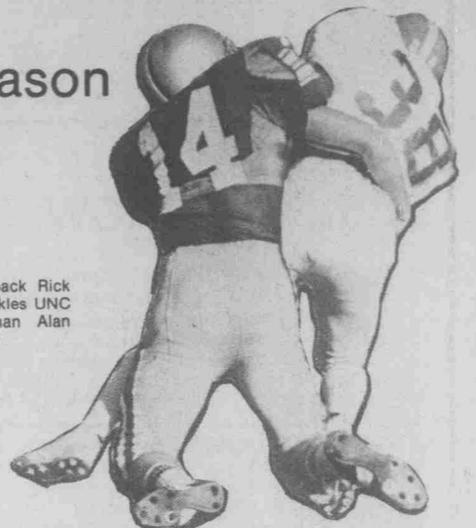
"I don't know who hit me," mumbled Loomis in the UNC dressing room afterwards. "He put his helmet right into the ball."

"We were trying to get the ball in the middle of the field for a field goal," explained Dooley. "I'm sure Tom Biddle would have made it to win the game had we not fumbled."

The tie, which gave Duke a 3-0-2 mark and second place in the Atlantic Coast Conference behind Maryland, was only the fourth in the series (now 28-28-4) between the two schools and the first since 1942. It was also Carolina's first tie since a 6-6 deadlock with Wake Forest in 1956, stopping a streak of 204 games. Rutgers holds the national record of 206.

Before the fourth quarter it appeared the kicking game would decide the outcome. Biddle put the Tar Heels ahead 3-0 on a 36-yard field goal with 2:57 left in the first quarter. Earlier Biddle missed a 50-yard attempt after the Tar Heel's Bobby Cale had recovered a fumble by the Blue Devils' Martinez.

Vince Fusco tied it up at 3-3-0 seconds into the second quarter on a field goal from 26 yards out. The Blue Devils took a 10-3 lead minutes later with a 60-yard touchdown drive culminating in a one-yard plunge over the top by Martinez. The big play in the drive was a 34-yard pass to split end Troy Slade.



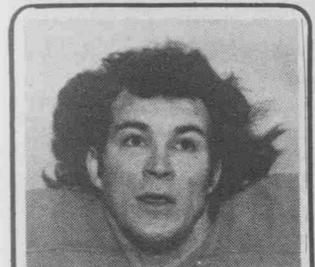
Duke defensive back Rick Sommers (14) tackles UNC kickoff return man Alan Caldwell.

Staff photo by Robin Clark

# UNC reactions: remorse, relief

by Grant Vosburgh  
Staff Writer

DURHAM—The atmosphere of the Carolina dressing room following the Tar Heels' 17-17 tie with Duke was much like the mood of the game itself—anticlimactical. The members of the UNC football team milled around the locker room, quietly talking among themselves, shaking hands with the seniors who had played their final college game and talking frankly with



Mike Voight

Carolina's Mike Voight had only 48 yards Saturday against Duke, but that was enough to move him into second place in Atlantic Coast Conference single season rushing. He finished with a 1,250-yard total. The junior tailback eased in front of former Duke fullback Steve Jones, who had 1,236 yards in 1972. Voight had 4,202 yards going into the game, which was the last for the 1975 Tar Heels. The conference record is held by another Carolina player, Don McCauley, who rushed for 1,720 yards in 1970. Voight was the only player in the ACC to achieve the 1,000-yard goal this season.

reporters. But there was one player who seemed visibly upset by the game. Defensive back John Daw, who had played only in the final few minutes of the fourth quarter, shook his head in disbelief.

"I could have blocked that punt," he said referring to Blue Devil Bob Grupp's kick from the endzone with six seconds left in the game. The Tar Heels had put on a heavy rush in an attempt to block the kick.

"The Duke fullback (who was standing five yards deep between the right guard and

the punter) didn't have anybody to block, so he came all the way across the center and blocked me." Daw was coming from the right side of the Carolina rush.

According to Daw, the play was designed to send three people over Duke's center and right guard, in an attempt to get one player through the line.

This person was to be blocked by the Blue Devil fullback. Daw, coming from the opposite side of the Carolina defense, was to have a clear path to the punter and block the kick.

"The three guys going over center apparently got caught in the line and nobody could get through," Daw said. "The fullback didn't have to pick anybody up, so he was free to block me."

"The thing is, I've never seen that happen," he said. "The fullback has never come all the way (laterally) across to block me. I can't believe it. I had that punt all the way."

Head Coach Bill Dooley confirmed that the play didn't work as planned, but seemed relaxed nevertheless. Perhaps he was grateful he hadn't lost to the favored Blue Devils. Perhaps he was relieved that the nightmare of the past 12 weeks was over and that he was able to salvage a win and a tie in his last two outings. His players reflected similar sentiments.

"We were picked to lose and although it would have been nice to win, at least we didn't lose," said center Mark Cantrell, who is up for All-Atlantic Coast Conference honors. "Duke was talking 50-0. It was just one big play that killed us. (A fumble by fullback Bob Loomis on the Duke 15-yard line with 47 seconds remaining). But you can't get down on him. He was hit really hard. He is a freshman who has proven himself all season and played great today."

Split end Ray Stanford, playing his last game, said, "I guess we're just disappointed to see when we could've won. But I'm sure Duke feels the same way."

"I guess this game was typical of our year," senior defensive back Bobby Trotter said. Carolina lost three other games this season on a crucial play. "But (Duke Coach Mike) McGee was saying UNC was gonna lose it 50-0. He was doing a lot of talking."

Sophomore defensive tackle Dee Hardison, who will begin varsity wrestling this week, is looking forward to spring practice and next fall.

"Oh, spring will be rough, all right," he said, "but I have to get tougher. It will have

### Record for Paschall

Senior quarterback Billy Paschall completed nine of 18 passes for 124 yards Saturday against Duke to surpass Charlie "Choo Choo" Justice in career passing yardage with 2,324. Justice had 2,249.

to make me a better player. I'm definitely looking forward to next year."

And what of next year? While some Tar Heel fans are probably more than willing to let football take a backseat to basketball for now, a season like the one Carolina has just finished has to have some effect on the future. With all but six members of this year's team returning, inexperience and depth won't be a valid excuse.

Senior Stanford spoke of next season, which he will have to watch as an alumnus. "On paper, this team will be by far the best Carolina has had—maybe ever. They ought to be really good. But one thing will have to change," he said thoughtfully. When they play they will have to go out to win, instead of trying to keep from losing."

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60

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who caught eight passes for 151 yards.

After the second half kickoff, the Tar Heels drove 77 yards in 14 plays, with Paschall keeping around right end for the final nine yards, to tie the score 10-10. But the Blue Devils came right back eight plays later to go back in front on tailback Mike Barney's five-yard run over right tackle with five minutes remaining in the third quarter.

After an exchange of punts, Carolina moved 69 yards in 11 plays, with a 23-yard pass to tight end Mike Corbin, a 13-yarder to wingback Charlie Williams and an 11-yard sneak by Paschall accounting for most of the yardage, for the day's final score. James Betterson went over right end from three yards out to tie the game 17-17 with 13:24 remaining.

Duke won the statistical battle, outgaining Carolina 471 yards to 382 in total offense. Barney led the Blue Devils in rushing with 129 while Bob Corbett, who alternated with Dunn at quarterback, completed 13 of 17 passes for 162 yards.

For the Tar Heels, Loomis had his best day rushing with 75 yards in 17 carries while Betterson had 59. Voight gained a subpar 48 yards to move into second place on the All-time ACC single rushing list with 1,250 yards. Paschall complete nine of 18 passes for 124 yards to surpass Charlie "Choo Choo" Justice in career passing with 2,324. Justice had 2,249.

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