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The best year ... almost the best

North Carolina fans could almost look back on the year past and say it was the best of all years. Almost. There was the almost undefeated football team, which lost big at Oklahoma but finished in the Top 10, winning the Bluebonnet Bowl. The basketball team almost won the national championship, losing to Indiana after beating Virginia in the semifinals and setting off a rollicking celebration. The baseball team almost made u for an up-and-down year, almost winning the ACC tournament. One Tar Heel did win a national title — swimmer Sue Walsh took first in the 100 freestyle at the U.S. Indoor Championships. The women's swimming team won the ACC and finished third in the nation. Nancy Radford went to the nationals in women's cross-country and the women's soccer team went to the first-ever national tournament. The UNC men's golf team, behind individual champion John Spelman, upset perennial team champion Wake Forest in the tournament to take ACC honors. Now, with the year almost over, the lacrosse

team might turn out to be the most successful of them all. They're undefeated and ranked second in the nation.

Meanwhile, downtown was almost painted completely Carolina Blue as city police ignored the old ordinance and allowed students to cut loose on Franklin Street as the Tar Heels made it to the finals of the NCAA basketball championship.

Former presidential candidate John Anderson won the mock national election held on campus over Jimmy Carter and Reagan in October.

UNC did not lack other special speakers and guests and almost had enough of them hear to discuss every kind of problem in the world.

Betty Friedan, Phyllis Schlafly, Jesse Jackson, G. Gordon Liddy, and political activist Stokely Carmichael also offered their opinions on the world, the nation and UNC.

