

Blue days ahead for the Devils

By GEOFFREY MOCK
Assistant Sports Editor

Fourth in a series.
The renovation of Duke's Wallace Wade Stadium has made it one of the most impressive facilities in the Atlantic Coast Conference. But the home football team will probably continue to resemble the old Blue Devil squad that has impressed nobody with all of four wins in the past two years. Still, with the season two weeks away, there is hope in Durham that this could be the year to turn the football program around and produce the first winning season for the Blue Devils since 1974.

"I know we haven't set the woods on fire the past few years," Duke coach Red Wilson said, "but I think better things are ahead for Duke football."

The promises have been made to Blue Devil fans before, but players insist that this year will be different.

"Duke has always said that it was going to be good; then we die during the season," quarterback Ben Bennett said. "It's time to put up or shut up. If we don't do it this year, we should be quiet."

Duke won't be saying much next year unless Bennett can repeat his performance of 1980, when he set four Blue Devil passing records and was named ACC Rookie of the Year. Since his boastful manner and flashy style on the field led defenses to key on him, Bennett said he would be more controlled in his statements this year.

"I said things that I shouldn't have last year," he said. "It's not that they weren't true, but I still shouldn't have said them. I had an attitude that was positive. It was a slap in the face of a lot of teams, and Duke needed that."

Bennett will team up with a talented receiving corps led by wide receivers Cedric Jones, Chris Castor and Ron Frederick and tight end Mike Fuqua. Castor is a long-ball threat, grabbing one touchdown pass last year for 75 yards. Jones caught six touchdown passes to lead the team in that category.

The revival of the passing game at Duke coincided with the hiring of former Heisman Trophy winner Steve Spurrier as

offensive coordinator.

"Coach Spurrier showed us the tricks of the trade," Jones said. "He taught us to make head movements, read the defensive backs — things that opened it up for us on offense. Having a coach like him lets us always be prepared for anything the defense throws at us."

While the Blue Devil passing game prospered last year, its runners rarely pushed past the line of scrimmage, averaging only 2.2 yards a carry.

"The running game has been one of Duke's weaknesses the past four, five years," Wilson said. "We haven't had those guys that get you 1,000 yards. But we will do better this year because we have established a passing game, and the defense has to respect that. If we put in the draws, the screens, the misdirection of plays, our running game will open up."

Juniors Carl Franks and Greg Boone will share time at fullback, and the starting tailback will be either Joel Blunk or Mike Grayson.

One reason for optimism about the running game is an experienced offensive line led by two preseason All-ACC picks, Robert Oxendine and Brian Baldinger, at tackle. Tee Moomman and Greg Bamberger will play guard, and Philip Ebinger will start at center.

Preseason All-America cornerback Dennis Tabron leads the defensive unit. Tabron intercepted five passes last year, including three in one game against Clemson, and ran one back for a touchdown.

Beyond Tabron there is little experience in the secondary. Cornerback Keith Crenshaw is the only returning starter. The two safety spots will be taken up by senior Mike Armstrong and junior Darrell Deaton.

Both of last year's starting linebackers return: Emmett Tilley and Jimmy Tyson. Tyson led the team in tackles, and Tilley was third, even though he missed the last three games because of injury.

Four starters return to the five-man defensive line. It is led by senior co-captain Dan Yellott at nose guard, and defensive ends Larry LeNoir and Charles Bowser and tackle F.A. Martin are also back.



Sports

Carolina 12th in AP poll

From staff and wire reports

The University of North Carolina Tar Heels have been picked 12th in the initial AP football poll and 14th in the first UPI poll.

Both polls named the Michigan Wolverines as the preseason favorite for the mythical college football national championship. The Wolverines return 14 starters from last year's team, which went 10-2 and defeated Washington 23-6 in the Rose Bowl.

The Tar Heels, who finished last season with an 11-1 record, were the only Atlantic Coast Conference team to be named in either poll.

Michigan took 38 of 62 first-place ballots and 1,183 points in the AP poll to easily defeat second-place Oklahoma,

which had seven first-place votes and 1,100 points.

Notre Dame was third with seven first-place votes and 1,050 points, and Alabama was fourth with 1,014 points.

Rounding out the AP top 10 was Southern California, Nebraska, Penn State, Pittsburgh, Texas and defending champion Georgia.

Ohio State was 11th with one first-place ballot, followed by North Carolina. The rest of the top 20 was UCLA, Mississippi State, Washington, Brigham Young, Florida, Stanford, Florida State and Arizona State.

Oklahoma was also behind Michigan in the UPI poll, followed by Alabama in third place and Notre Dame in fourth. The rest of the UPI top 10 was Southern California, Nebraska, Penn State, Georgia, Pittsburgh and Texas.

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Soccer romps to win in opener

North Carolina's men's soccer team opened its season with a convincing 8-0 win over High Point College Sunday on Fetzer Field.

Captain Ricky Marvin said he was pleased with the opening performance. "In the past we've had problems with scoring," he said. "If we can continue to shut teams down as we did today, with our scoring we'll do real well."

UNC missed several good scoring opportunities early, but Ben Abell came off the bench midway through the half to score two quick goals that sparked the Carolina attack.

"We were having the problems putting

the ball in the net at first," Coach Anson Dorrance said. "Ben came in and got us going. If you're going to name a man of the match, he's it."

Several of the team's highly touted recruits also showed signs of playing up to pre-season expectations. Robert Kelly played strong defense. Ken West came off the bench to score a goal.

But Dorrance singled out the performance of Billy Hartman, who scored two goals and assisted on two others in his college career debut. "Even an untrained eye can tell that Hartman is going to contribute to this team," Dorrance said.

—KEVIN KIRK

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THE Daily Crossword By Susan Mindell

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1 Door part	32 Flexible	54 Atmosphere	new staff
5 Rang out	33 Singles	55 Merry in	Pasture
11 Derby, maybe	34 Exclamation of surprise	60 Eastern bigwig	sound
14 Room in the White House	37 Deputies: abbr.	61 Magician's word	24 Garrets
15 Make it	38 That is	62 Narcotic peace	25 Rockies: abbr.
16 Mine output	40 Decorated a cake	63 German art songs	26 Quarrel
17 Sleight of hand	41 Tic-toe	64 Othello, for one	27 Gymnast
19 One kind of artist	42 Maple tree	65 Leftover morsel	Korbut
20 Cut-and-dried	43 Length of time in office	66 Passover suppers	28 Voodooism
21 Line a roof	45 Robber action	67 Lima, for one	29 Owns
22 Necessity	47 Louise of TV	68 DOWN	31 Irritate
23 Namesakes of a Dillon	48 Religious groups	1 Shock	32 Above, poetically
25 Grandma	50 Monsters	2 Inist	33 Roll call word
26 Indifferent retort		3 Gift-bearing wise men	34 European river
		4 Fruit decay	35 Bypassed
		5 Launch site	40 — and outs
		6 Upright	42 Sloths
		7 Medieval helmet	44 Alluviated
		8 Trysts	46 Summer: Fr.
		9 Iniquity	48 Military dress hat
		10 Playroom	49 Fervent
		11 Conjurer's gimmick	51 Slope
		12 Rebellious	52 Athlete of a kind
		13 Camping shelters	54 Rose's love
			56 Docile one
			57 Wood-wind
			58 Malayan canoe
			59 Merit
			61 Hirt and Kaline
			62 — longa, vita brevis

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