

SPORTS

Terrapins take mistakes to bank

By MICHAEL DeSISTI
Sports Editor

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — North Carolina's Scott Stankavage walked slowly toward the sideline after his pass on a two-point conversion attempt had sailed wide of tailback Tyrone Anthony with 0:22 left to play in the game.

The quarterback sifted his way through the frenzied mob of spectators streaming across the field toward the Maryland bench, pretzel-rolling the South end zone goal post along its way.

Stankavage stopped to give offensive tackle Brian Blados a hug, took off his helmet and continued toward the sideline. He glanced at the scoreboard above the North end zone stands, which read Maryland 28, North Carolina 26.

The clock eventually wound down to zero. The score never changed.

The Maryland Terrapins, No. 13 and No. 10 in the wire service polls, took a firm hold on an ACC championship and a big step toward a major bowl Saturday with a hold-on-while-ahead, upset victory over a third-ranked and mistake-prone North Carolina team that did just the opposite in front of 51,200 fans in Byrd Stadium.

The Terps (7-1, 4-0 ACC) converted errors by the North Carolina (7-1, 3-1 ACC) specialty teams into touchdowns in both the first and third quarters, turning an interception into a field goal and watched as the Tar Heels missed a field goal, had a touchdown called back because of a holding penalty and fell short on the conversion attempt to tie the game.

"We can get away with mistakes against lesser teams, but we can't against

Maryland," Stankavage said. Ironically enough it was a possible mistake made by the officials, not North Carolina, that cost the Tar Heels one last opportunity to win the game.

After North Carolina's two-minute offense had moved the ball 90 yards in 13 plays (Anthony diving into the end zone from one yard out) and the two-point conversion attempt had failed, the Tar Heels attempted an onside kick.

With the Terps being assessed a 15-yard unsportsmanlike conduct penalty because of the spectators on the field, Rob Rogers dinked a short, spinning kick to his left and fell on it near the Maryland 35-yard line, apparently giving North Carolina one more shot at the win.

But the officials ruled that Rogers had touched the ball before it had traveled the required 10 yards, nullifying the attempt and giving Maryland the ball.

Rogers said a Maryland player had touched the ball first, which would have made the question of distance traveled meaningless.

As it had in the previous half, Maryland struck quickly in the third quarter, taking both the lead and momentum from North Carolina, which led at half time, 17-10.

The Terrapins capped a 79-yard drive with fullback Rick Badanjek taking Boomer Esiason's screen pass in hand and running 14 yards for the touchdown.

Maryland feigned an extra point attempt and Esiason, holding for placekicker Jess Atkinson, stepped up and hit tight end Chris Knight for two points and an 18-17 lead.

The Terrapins increased that to 21-17 some ten minutes later when defensive back Clarence Baldwin stepped in front of a Stankavage pass at the North Carolina 35 and Atkinson converted a 19-yard field goal 12 plays later.

Maryland had moved to the Tar Heels' six-yard line before tailback Willie Joyner

fell one yard short in a third-and-five situation.

On the ensuing kickoff, UNC's Mark Smith almost broke loose near his 5, but let go the ball while cutting right and switching hands.

Maryland recovered at the 30, and after a 6-yard run by Joyner, Esiason hit wide receiver Sean Sullivan on the right side for a 24-yard touchdown reception and a 28-17 lead.

North Carolina placekicker Brooks Barwick's 22-yard field goal brought the Tar Heels within eight after a 49-yard drive had stalled on the Maryland four, but Barwick's 32-yard attempt sailed wide to the right on North Carolina's next possession. Maryland ran 5:16 off the clock before the Tar Heels regained possession for the final series.

"I wasn't disappointed in the way the kids played," North Carolina coach Dick Crum said. "I was disappointed with some of the mistakes they made."

Crum also noted the disallowed touchdown just before the half as being costly. North Carolina was forced to settle for a 31-yard field goal by Barwick when wide receiver Earl Winfield's 21-yard touchdown reception was called back for offensive holding.

Just eight plays into the game North Carolina's snap from center on a punt had skidded into the turf, Maryland recovering at the Tar Heel 24. Six plays later Joyner scored his first touchdown of the year on a seven-yard draw.

Atkinson's 29-yard field goal with 1:33 left in the first quarter gave the Terps a 10-0 lead before North Carolina began moving the ball.

Stankavage threw a touchdown pass of 13 yards to Smith at the end of an 80-yard drive on the ensuing possession, then followed up on UNC's next series with a 10-yard pass over wide receiver Larry Griffin's shoulder to put the Tar Heels in front 14-10.



UNC quarterback Scott Stankavage hands off to fullback Eddie Colson during Saturday's 28-26 loss. Stankavage completed 19 of 35 passes for 211 yards, and Colson ran for 53 yards.

Women take 3rd, men 6th in ACC X-country meet

By GLENN PETERSON
and
JOHN HACKNEY
Staff Writers

N.C. State scored a victory for American athletics as the Wolfpack's women's cross country team defeated Clemson's foreign-dominated team, 31-37, in the ACC Championship race Saturday in Charlottesville, Va. North Carolina finished third with 78 points, while Virginia was fourth with 103 points.

State's Betty Springs won the 5,000-meter race with a time of 16:47. State and Clemson alternated through the first six places, with State finishing one-three-five and Clemson two-four-six. The victory was a mild upset for State since Clemson came into the race ranked third in the country while the Wolfpack was sixth.

Joan Nesbit came in first for the Tar Heels — seventh overall — with a time of 17:36. Holly Murray finished ninth, Madlyn Morreale 17th, Karol Dorsett 22nd and Kathy Norcross was 23rd to round out the Tar Heel scoring.

Many of the UNC women had some nagging illnesses, according to coach Don Lockerbie, but they still managed

to top 14th-ranked Virginia by 25 points. Both Morreale and Dorsett were fighting the flu. Even though there were health problems, most of the women ran better in this race than they did at Virginia last month. Norcross improved her own time by 40 seconds.

This race gives the women confidence in going into the district race (Nov. 12), which will determine who will be represented in the national championship race. "I was excited by our performance — particularly by our beating Virginia by 25 points," Lockerbie said. "We know we can improve, and we feel we are going to be ready for the district race."

In that race, there will be six good teams competing for the four spots reserved for the South region at the national championship. N.C. State, Clemson and Tennessee figure to take three of the spots while UNC, Virginia and Florida will battle for the final spot.

UNC's men's cross country team "met expectations" Saturday in the ACC Championships, Lockerbie said. North Carolina finished in sixth place on the conference's toughest course in Charlottesville, Va.

Despite a poor performance by its upperclassmen, UNC got outstanding results from all three of its freshman runners and senior Dick Larson, who rose to the occasion in his final ACC race.

Freshmen Walter Deneen, Jim Farmer and Mike Currier finished first, third and fourth for UNC and 29th, 33rd and 36th overall, while Larson placed second among his teammates and 31st overall. All four runners ended the race within 17 seconds of each other but over two minutes behind the winner, Hans Koeleman (30:58.9), who led Clemson to its third consecutive title.

"This is the worst finish we've had since I've been here," Lockerbie said, "but we're a real young team. I think our freshman class is one of the finest in the country."

Both Deneen and Farmer were high school All-Americans.

"I think these guys will be potential champions down the road," Lockerbie said.

"We totally reversed the way we were racing at the first of the year," said Lockerbie in response to the way his freshmen outran the upperclassmen. "Our upper class had a good year, but they did not have a good day."

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