

The Daily Tar Heel SPORTS

Tar Heels rip Terps

By LEE ROBERTS
Staff Writer

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — On the line-up card on the wall of the visitors' dugout at Maryland's Shipley Field was written in bold black ink: "ACC Championship: Let's go!"

Go was what the North Carolina Tar Heels did from the first batter Sunday, earning a 7-2 victory over Maryland for a first-place ACC regular season tie with Clemson.

UNC jumped out to a 4-0 lead after three innings and starter Roger Williams coasted from there en route to a two-hitter and his eighth victory of the season. "Roger pitched as well as he has all season," coach Mike Roberts said. "He made the Maryland hitters put the ball in play because they were not going to score waiting for walks."

Williams gave up only three walks in eight innings, striking out eight Terrapin batters. "He was really going after them today," catcher Matt Merullo said. "He was throwing hard and challenging the hitters with his strikeout pitch. What was important was that they were hitting the pitches Roger wanted to make, not the pitches they wanted to hit."

North Carolina had started out with an early lead that it never lost. B.J. Surhoff, the leadoff hitter, drilled Maryland pitcher Alan Sadler's fourth pitch of the game over the left centerfield fence for a quick 1-0 lead. The home run was Surhoff's 10th of the year. "He (Sadler) got the pitch up," Surhoff said. "And in this park, if you get the ball up you're in trouble."

The Tar Heels went up 2-0 in the second when Scott Johnson walked, went to second on a wild pitch, to third on a

Mitch McCleney single and scored on a deep fly ball by Paul Will.

Two more runs scored in the third. Consecutive singles by Surhoff, Walt Weiss and Jeff Hubbard brought in one run and a passed ball by Terrapin catcher Tom Weider scored the second.

Williams, meanwhile, was retiring the first 11 Maryland batters and striking out five of them. "His curve ball was unhit-able today for the first four innings," pitching coach Howard McCullough said. "He had very good velocity on the ball until he tired in the seventh and eighth innings."

The cold, damp weather got to Williams in the eighth inning when his arm tightened up. But by then, UNC had a safe 7-1 lead.

"My fast ball was working well today," Williams said. "My breaking pitches were working well, too. Everything just seemed to be flowing well today."

Maryland gave the Tar Heels a mild scare in the ninth when they scored a run and loaded the bases off reliever Bob Mulligan. But Tim Kirk came in and induced pinch-hitter William Coyle to line a ball to first baseman Will, who stepped on the bag for a double play.

McCleney, who led a nice defensive play on the field and added three sharp singles on the day, talked about the importance of getting first place heading into the tournament Wednesday.

"We really wanted to win today because we wanted some momentum for the tournament," McCleney said.

UNC won a coin toss late Sunday and will be the No. 1 seed in the tournament.

"I'm as proud as I can be of this team," McCleney said. "We're a good team and a good bunch of guys."

Crenshaw's 68 wins Masters

The Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Ben Crenshaw scored a 68 on the final round Sunday to win the 48th Masters Tournament and give him his first major-tournament triumph of his 12-year PGA Tour career.

Twice a runner-up in this annual gathering at the Augusta National Golf Club, five times a second-place finisher in the Big Four events, Crenshaw finally claimed a major title with a 277 total, 11 shots under par and two strokes ahead of Tom Watson.

UNC edges Tigers in Tar Heel Invitational

By BOB YOUNG
Staff Writer

If the Tar Heel Invitational held this weekend at Finley Golf Course was any indication of the type of golf that will be played at the upcoming ACC championships, the people in Pinehurst better buckle up their safety belts.

The Invitational was a nail-biter, right down to the final stroke, but the Tar Heels came away victorious by downing Clemson on the first playoff hole.

Bryan Sullivan was the key to the North Carolina victory as he came back from a six-over-par score after 12 holes, to knock in four birdies in the final six and finish with a three-over-par 75.

But Sullivan's rally was just the beginning. In the first playoff hole, he placed his second shot within five feet of the cup and went on to register the only birdie in overtime to seal the win for UNC.

"Coach (Devon Brouse) kept me positive through the last part of my round," Sullivan said. "When we were about to start the playoff, he came up to me and said that this would be the perfect opportunity to redeem myself."

"I had really become disappointed today because I had shot so well yesterday," Sullivan shot a six-under par 66 on Saturday, the lowest 18-hole total registered by a Tar Heel golfer this season.

The final round of competition was close all day between UNC and Clemson. The two teams had started only one shot apart, with North Carolina holding the edge, 569-570. The battle between UNC's John Inman and Clemson's Dillard Pruitt was especially tense.

Pruitt played near-perfect golf for the first 11 holes before bogeying on 12 to bring his score down to one-under for the round. Inman, who was even par after

the front nine holes, had picked up a birdie and was even with Pruitt at that point. Then, Pruitt scored an eagle at 14. He had a chance to put Inman and the hopes of the Tar Heels away, but an errant tee shot on the par-three 15th resulted in a double-bogey.

The suspense lasted until the final hole, when a Pruitt bogey left the door open for Inman to win the tournament for his team. But, as was characteristic of UNC's putting all day, Inman lipped his birdie attempt to send the tournament into overtime.

UNC sophomore Davis Love was especially disappointed with his play on the greens.

"Nothing was going in for me, and that's the way it's been all week," Love said. "Even when I shot my 68 (in Friday's round), all of my birdies were two-putts. When I'm not putting that

well it puts a lot of pressure on my long game."

Even with his lackluster performance, Love still finished the tournament with a score of 213, second for UNC behind Inman's 212. The other official North Carolina scorers were Greg Parker (214), Bryan Sullivan (217) and Kurt Beck (231). Playing as individuals in the tournament were Todd Thiele (214), Jack Nicklaus II (231), Clavis Smith (237) and John Simkins (239).

The next test for the Tar Heels will be the ACC championships this weekend at Pinehurst's No. 2 course. By winning the Invitational and by virtue of its first-place ranking in the district, UNC should be the favorite. Davis Love, at least, is very much looking forward to the conference tournament.

"I saved all of my birdies for the ACCs," Love said.

Chambers winning after beach escape

By DAVID WELLS
Staff Writer

Jeff Chambers looks like he just stepped out of a Sunbust commercial — the one with wind surfers, bikini-clad beauties and the "Good Vibrations" jingle.

In fact, Chambers escaped to the beach bum lifestyle last summer. But the St. Petersburg, Fla., native has since resurfaced as the No. 1 seed of North Carolina's men's tennis team, compiling a 23-6 record.

Perhaps Chambers' opponents should work on their own sunbans. Whatever Chambers' trick is, the UNC freshman has taken to tennis at the collegiate level as would a champion surfer to an eight-foot wave.

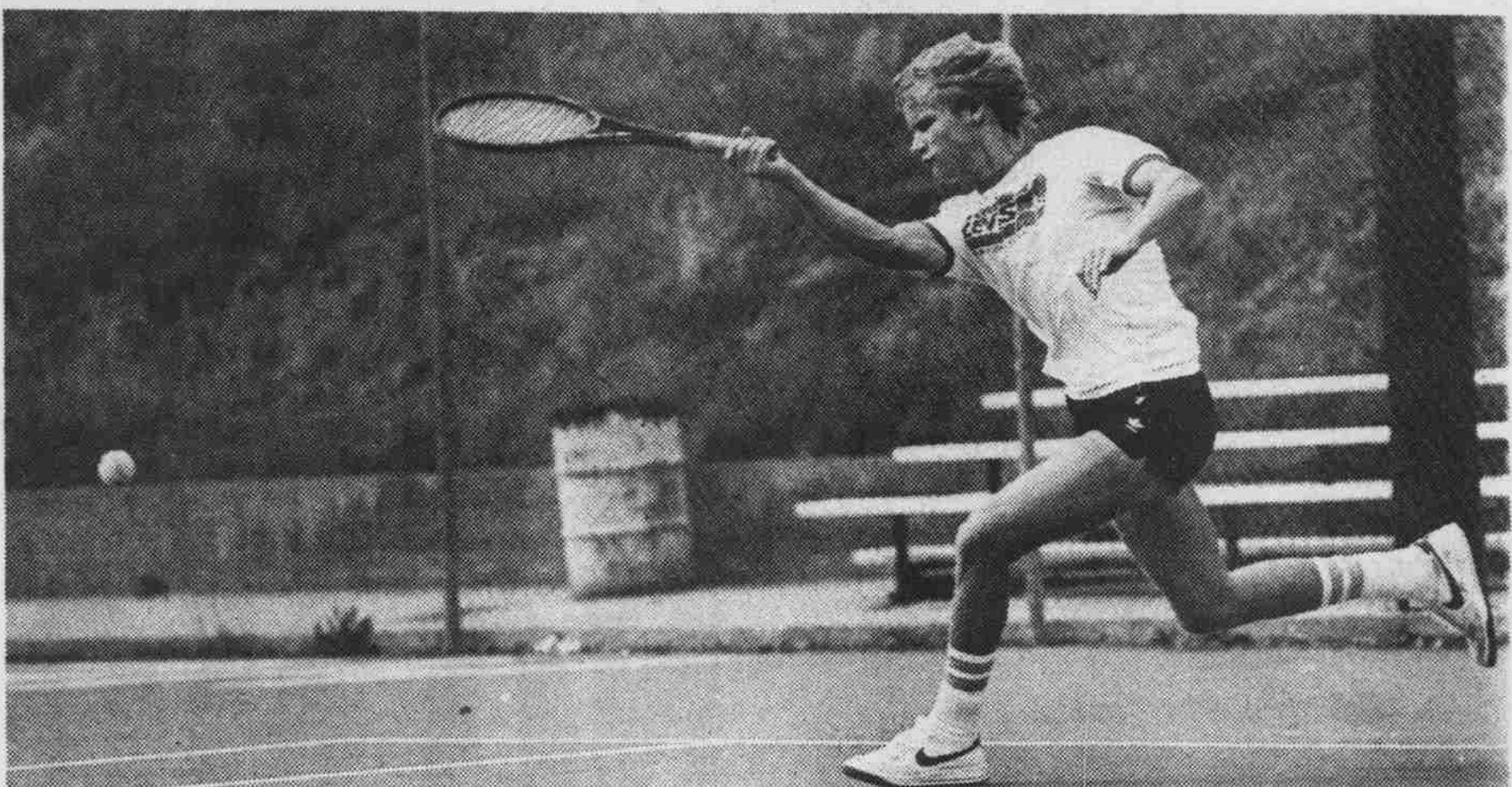
But before Chambers entered UNC last August, he took what he said was a much-needed vacation from the tennis courts.

"I didn't pick up a racket for two months," Chambers said. "I really got sick of tennis, burned out on it."

"Once you go to the beach a couple times, you see what you've been missing."

Judging from his play this year, Chambers' rest from tennis was a wise one. He has pulled off several upsets over higher ranked players and has moved up to No. 49 in the nation. He is also an impressive doubles player; he and Wayne Hearn have combined for an 18-4 record and are now ranked 26th nationally.

Chambers was extremely successful in high school, and he said that competition



DTH/Larry Childress

Freshman Jeff Chambers may qualify for the NCAA tournament in both singles and doubles

was hard to come by during his senior year.

"I would get to competition only at the state tournament," he said. "Local and conference matches would have very little (competition)."

Chambers was such a dominant player in high school that there is little wonder he lacked a challenge. Ranked 25th nationally and first in Florida as a junior, Chambers was a two-time state champion in singles and a four-time state champion in doubles.

Chambers said he was a little concerned about the effects his vacation might have on his play at UNC.

"I was a little worried about playing in the fall," he said. "My groundstrokes are the only weapon I have. If I get into a match and they aren't going too well, I'm in trouble."

Coach Allen Morris said Chambers has another weapon — his competitiveness. "He wants to win every ball," Morris said.

He said that Chambers has quick hands and excellent speed, which help him with his forehand.

Morris added that Chambers needs to use his next three years to improve his volley and serve. "He'll get better as he goes along," Morris said.

Chambers has reached the point where he may receive an NCAA bid in both

singles and doubles. But for now Chambers is concentrating on the remaining conference matches and the ACC tournament this weekend. Clemson has a commanding edge in the conference race and will be heavily favored to win the tournament, but Chambers said UNC will be in it if Ron Erskine can make a comeback from a recent case of tendonitis.

A teammate like Erskine has been one of the reasons why his college transition has been smooth, Chambers said. "I knew some of the players on the team before I came here," he said. "They haven't put any pressure on me or let me get nervous. We're pretty close as a team."

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BLOOM COUNTY by Berke Breathed

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