## Sports

## Crum disappointed in passing game, defense in Clemson loss

By SCOTT FOWLER Sports Editor

Coach Dick Crum soberly recounted the details of a nightmare Tuesday at his weekly press conference.

The Tar Heels lost 38-10 to Clemson Saturday to almost extinguish their hopes of even a share of the conference championship. To tie for the ACC lead, the Tar Heels will have to beat Virginia and Duke and hope Clemson loses to Maryland this weekend. If UNC had won, the team would have been in first place in the ACC and in line for a good bowl

"We had put ourselves in position for the championship, but just couldn't finish the job," Crum said. "The team realized they blew a big opportunity, no question about it. But these kids have worked hard, and they didn't do it on purpose."

Crum said that Clemson played a close-to-perfect game, but that the Tar Heels should have been more prepared. "They just lined up in their base offense and defense," he said. "We were ready for every single thing they did, they didn't try to fool us. We went on the field physically but certainly not mentally.

Crum said he was disappointed in

the passing game led by Mark Maye, which had produced numerous records in the past few weeks. "In the early going we had people open, and just couldn't get the ball to them," the coach said. "The passing game hurt us."

The other big disappointment was the defense, which allowed 30 or more points for the fifth straight game. "I've never had a defense that's given up this many points consistently," he said. "I believe we have very good defensive players, and it's frustrating to them not to be playing better."

Center Jeff Garnica said the team

still didn't know how or why they were beaten so badly. "A lot of people are upset and kind of confused," he said. "We can't explain what happened. The first couple of days after a loss like that are really the worst."

Crum said he wasn't sure how to give the mental edge back to the Tar Heels. "It's not like fixing an automobile engine," he said. "You're dealing with 120 different personalities out there. That's the toughest part about coaching football."

Oddly enough, Crum said UNC had enjoyed its best week of practice before the Clemson game. This week,

he characterized the mood of the team as somber. It's a mood Crum can understand. "There's no reason for them to feel good or feel happy after what happened," he said.

TEAM NOTES: As far as possible bowl bids for the Tar Heels, don't expect the team to necessarily accept one if it splits these last two games. "We'd have to think long and hard about that," said UNC athletic director John Swofford. If the Tar Heels do win both games, however, they still should be in line for a minor bowl. Seven bowl scouts attended the Clemson-UNC game Saturday.

## **Sports List**

Most Consecutive Non-Losing College Football Seasons

1. Penn State — 47 years

2. Texas — 29 years 3. Nebraska — 24 years

4. Oklahoma — 20 years 5. Ohio State - 18 years 6. Michigan — 18 years

tie. Arkansas — 18 years

Source: NCAA and SFS Research

## **UNC Athlete of the Week**

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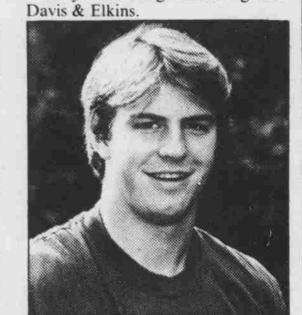
There was a dearth of good performances among Tar Heel athletes last weekend, what with football, men's soccer, volleyball and field hockey all getting defeated in crucial games.

However, the wrestling team and Rob Koll saved us from awarding the Athlete of the Week to an athlete from a losing team. Koll was named the outstanding wrestler at this past weekend's Eastern Nationals tournament, which UNC won for the second straight time. The junior who has been a two-time All-America at 158 pounds won his division at 167 when he pinned Kevin Turner in

Koll, who led the ACC in victories with 34 last season and came in third in the NCAAs, will move back to his championship weight of 158 later this year.

Honorable mention should go to

detensive back Walter Bailey, one of the few bright spots in UNC's 38-10 loss to Clemson, and Julie Blaisse, who scored three goals in field hockey's winning effort against



Rob Koll



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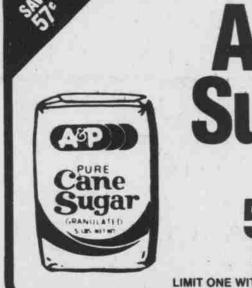


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