

<b>NFL Football</b>	Buffalo 9	Washington 30	Tampa Bay 13	N.Y. Jets 23	Houston 38	Seattle 31
	Miami 6	Pittsburgh 29	Green Bay 10	Cleveland 3	L.A. Raiders 35	Kansas City 10
Chicago 17	New Orleans 29	San Francisco 20	Denver 34	Minnesota 36	L.A. Rams 17	Cincinnati 28
Indianapolis 13	Atlanta 21	N.Y. Giants 17	San Diego 3	New England 6	Detroit 10	Philadelphia 24

# SPORTS MONDAY

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## Tar Heels crack under Sooners' wishbone



Oklahoma running back Anthony Stafford leaps over the goal line for the third touchdown of Saturday's 28-0 Sooners win

## Oklahoma rolls up 463 yards, wins 28-0; UNC drops second straight

By MIKE BERARDINO  
Sports Editor

An interesting parallel existed Saturday between the North Carolina football team and its home field, Kenan Stadium.

For starters, both underwent extensive offseason renovations, the aim of the projects being to bring both entities into the modern era of college football.

Moreover, on Saturday, just as the remodeling of Kenan was still slightly incomplete, so was that of the Tar Heels. In that respect, first-year UNC coach Mack Brown and the Metric Construction Company were in the same boat, as fourth-ranked Oklahoma and ESPN's national television cameras came to town.

And while some "cosmetic" work in the next two weeks should finally have Kenan up to snuff, Saturday's 28-0 loss to the Sooners provided at least some evidence Brown's program may look a lot better, too, when the hapless Louisville Cardinals arrive Sept. 24.

"We're disappointed in the loss, but we played an outstanding team," Brown said of Oklahoma, where he was offensive coordinator in 1984. "The old saying, 'They don't rebuild, they reload,' was pretty obvious. But our young guys hung in there and fought 'em."

North Carolina dropped to 0-2 with the loss, which came one week after a 31-10 pasting courtesy of then-No. 19 South Carolina. Oklahoma

won its season opener in its first game action since losing 20-14 to Miami in January's Orange Bowl showdown for the mythical national championship.

The final score was identical to that of last year's game in Norman, Okla.

The Sooners' vaunted wishbone attack sputtered on the first series of the game, but Oklahoma came back with touchdown drives of 71, 80 and 79 yards on its next three possessions. Senior quarterback Jamelle Holieway led the first and last of those marches, while his backup, super-quick sophomore Charles Thompson, supervised the middle one and completed it with an 8-yard jaunt.

The Sooners' other two first-half TDs came on a 2-yard plunge by Leon Perry and Anthony Stafford's 1-yard trampoline tumble on fourth and inches.

Oklahoma's final points came on the Sooners' initial possession of the third period, as Holieway steered the team 88 yards in 12 plays and capped the drive himself with a 4-yard run around left end.

"They have outstanding speed; it's just unbelievable," Brown said. "We were concerned coming into the ballgame that you cannot near put on the picture of their speed during the week (in practice). But we had to adjust to those angles because they just beat us outside for the first two touchdowns and were making some

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## For Oklahoma, 9 out of 10 ain't bad

By ANDREW PODOLSKY  
Assistant Sports Editor

Okay, so North Carolina got zapped 28-0 by Oklahoma — again. You know the score, but how about an explanation?

I submit two reasons for Saturday's result: Oklahoma's speed and Oklahoma's Option Offense (believe me, it warrants capital letters).

Did UNC do a good job stopping it? Was it clicking for Oklahoma? Will OU be able to effectively run it for the rest of the year? Answers: no, sort of and probably.

Saturday's game didn't present much of a test for the fourth-ranked Sooners. It just gave them a chance to look at the condition of their offense.

Notice how Oklahoma didn't celebrate after every score, simply looking around and trying to figure out what worked and what didn't on each touchdown run. They were quiet and efficient.

Yes, the Sooners executed the option well on Saturday, and much of their success can be attributed to the fact they are simply a much, much faster team than the Tar Heels.

But Oklahoma was deceptively successful. Time after time, the UNC defense seemed to have a pretty good angle to cut off the corner and stop the option, but the Tar Heels kept getting burned. It is by design that the OU offense gets into a position where its superior athletic ability can take over.

As if to make the Tar Heels feel even worse, Sooner coach Barry Switzer said his squad is not as fast this year as they were last year. But they were fast enough.

On almost every one of Oklahoma's 71 running plays, the quarterback (either Jamelle Holieway or Charles Thompson) flipped to a trailing tailback (usually Anthony Stafford), or simply tucked the ball under his arm and ripped upfield. Either way, the result was the same — gobs and gobs of yards, 391 of them by game's end.

Simply, the Sooners just couldn't be stopped. There are only two reasons why the score wasn't worse — one is that the

wishbone-set offense was slowed by muddy, slightly wet conditions, and the other is with seven fumbles the Sooners missed a lot of open-field opportunities.

"We still need to work on some things," Stafford said. "We're good, but we could be better. We really need to hold onto the ball better."

Holieway also explained the potential the option gives the Sooners. "We ran the ball really well, and the option was working today," he said. "If we can keep doing what we did today, no one can stop us."

It's clear that the Tar Heels never really stopped the option. But what may not be clear is that they were successful in containing it, but with very broad boundaries. After all, Oklahoma didn't bust any 85- or 90-yard runs, just a lot of 10- and 15-yarders.

But that's just the way Switzer likes it. Consistent, but not flashy.

It seems as though Switzer has his team operating on a much more subtle offense. It's early, but this year may see a change in the way football is played in Norman, Okla.

Switzer may finally realize that if Oklahoma is ever going to beat teams like Miami and win another national championship, he's going to have to try some new things.

They don't want to be flashy (like Miami) and fill the air with passes. They don't want to be brash (like Nebraska) and jam the ball down opposing defenses' throats with up-the-middle running. Rather, they just want to win. The Sooners want quiet efficiency, and the consistency to run for about 10 yards on every play.

If they can do that, Oklahoma will be successful. Every Saturday Beano Cook will cut into a game and show a 93-yard pass from a Miami game, or a 75-yard tackle-breaking run from a Nebraska game. But if Switzer has his way, every Oklahoma highlight will be the same — a Sooner option play that picks up a first down every time.

So how much of that success

See SOONERS page 4

## Young UNC team learning quickly

By CHRIS SPENCER  
Assistant Sports Editor

They've played at home and they've played away. They've seen top passing, and they've seen the best running game in the land. And they've played two of the top teams in the nation in the process.

But the best thing about North Carolina's early-season football schedule is that it's over.

"Right now, after this game, I consider us 0-0," Tar Heel defensive tackle Cecil Gray said after Saturday's 28-0 loss to Oklahoma. "That was the opening part of our season, and it's over. That's the thing I want

to tell anyone who comes to see us play — I guarantee we will be better."

Gray didn't seem too upset with his squad's loss, which came one week after Todd Ellis and his merry band of Gamecocks downed the Tar Heels 31-10. He shouldn't have been worried about his performance — all he did was net five tackles and the Tar Heels' only sack.

He sat there in a grey, sweat-soaked UNC football T-shirt and game pants, seeming disappointed with the loss, but not too upset. After all, this was Oklahoma, and the Tar Heels knew that speed was going to be a big factor in the game. They also

knew that they would see more running plays than they would ever want to.

But one thing that seems to set this Tar Heel team off from past ones is its use of young players. Saturday, the Tar Heels started three redshirt freshmen and three true freshmen. Junior-college transfer Willie Joe Walker, a defensive tackle, could also be counted among those new to the program.

One of the true freshmen, linebacker Karekin Cunningham, had seven tackles Saturday, giving him 18 for the season's first two games. Pretty impressive numbers for a

freshman.

Eric Blount, another true freshman, made his first start Saturday. The 5-foot-9, 170-pound Ayden native returned punts and saw plenty of action at flanker, snaring two passes for 37 yards.

"I knew when I signed with UNC that we would play teams like Oklahoma, so I wasn't really surprised," he said. "At first, I was kind of scared, but as it went on, I got more confidence. They had great team speed on defense, and they're not ranked third (actually fourth) for

See HEELS page 10

## German stars as netters cruise at home

By DOUG HOOGERVORST  
Staff Writer

North Carolina's volleyball team was a double-winner on Saturday, beating UNC-Asheville in an afternoon matchup and East Carolina later that same evening.

The two victories, combined with one Friday night over Appalachian State, gave the Tar Heels a perfect 3-0 record in the All-Carolina Classic over the weekend. Those victories also ensured that North Carolina will be an undefeated 4-0 heading into its first ACC matchup at Virginia Tuesday.

North Carolina had little trouble defeating UNC-Asheville, sweeping three games, 15-2, 15-3, 15-5. The Tar Heels raced out to an early 10-0 lead in the first game and never looked back.

The Tar Heels' Sharon German set the tone for the match when she spiked through a Bulldog block to get the side-out. German was dominating throughout the tournament, hitting massive kills from what seemed to be all angles. That dominance earned her the classic Most Valuable Player award.

German wasn't the only player causing the Bulldogs headaches; seniors Sherri Vogel and Andrea Wells along with sophomore Liz Berg were causing plenty of trouble. Wells, like German, was dominating at the net, causing the Asheville blockers to tremble with each UNC set.

Vogel was the prime setter for the hard-hitting combo of German and Wells. With near-pinpoint accuracy, Vogel could set the ball for either German or Wells to kill with ease. The sophomore Berg seemed to be wherever she was needed to earn the

point; whether it was at the net for a kill, on the floor for a dig or behind the baseline hitting one of her effective jump serves.

Though Vogel, German, Wells and Berg were instrumental in the opening run, the match was a team effort. UNC used all 14 players, giving coach Peggy Bradley-Doppes a good opportunity to look at her younger players.

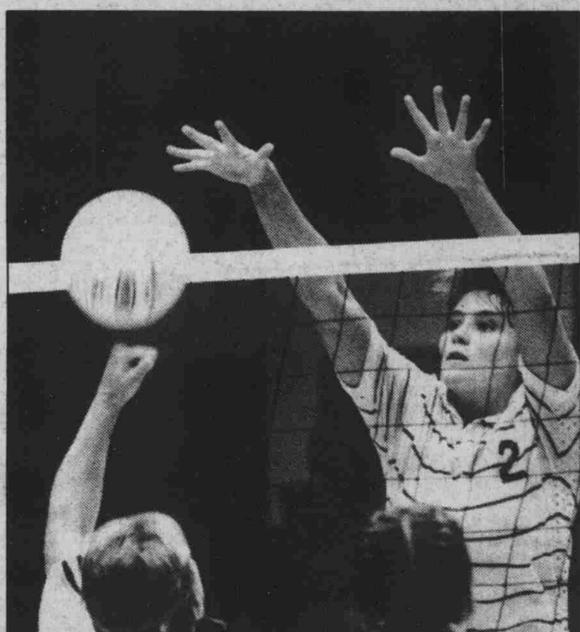
"It's been a great opportunity for me to see the younger players come up in a starting position and to see how they handle the pressure," Bradley-Doppes said. "I'm real pleased with the performance level and I think our intensity was real good."

In fact, the "inexperienced" underclassmen — six freshmen and three sophomores — looked very poised.

"Sometimes when you're playing against a team that either isn't that experienced or just isn't having a good day, there is a real tendency to let down," Bradley-Doppes said. "Especially if you're playing younger players, it's almost like 'We'll come down to your level,' and I think the kids did a good job of keeping a high level of play with using all the different personnel."

Bradley-Doppes was also able to experiment with different lineups by using so many players.

"What we're trying to do is to use as much manpower as we can to give us five or six different lineups," she said. "We want to establish a tall blocking lineup; we want to establish a quick defensive lineup; then we want to establish a nice combination of the two. That is what these matches



UNC's Ann Schildmeyer goes up for a block in a volleyball win

are giving us an opportunity to do."

North Carolina's matchup with East Carolina went much the same way the match with UNC-Asheville did. The Tar Heels swept the Pirates in three games (15-2, 15-2, 15-7), and Bradley-Doppes utilized all 14 of her troops once more.

After four tune-ups, the Tar Heels

head into their tough ACC schedule. Bradley-Doppes said she expects Duke, N.C. State and UNC to be the favorites in the race, but expects a tough match with Virginia. The Tar Heels "spanked" the Cavaliers in three games last year, and Doppes hopes to visit Charlottesville Tuesday and repeat last year's result.