

## SPORTS

## Tar Heel defense takes a stand against pressure

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Staff Writer

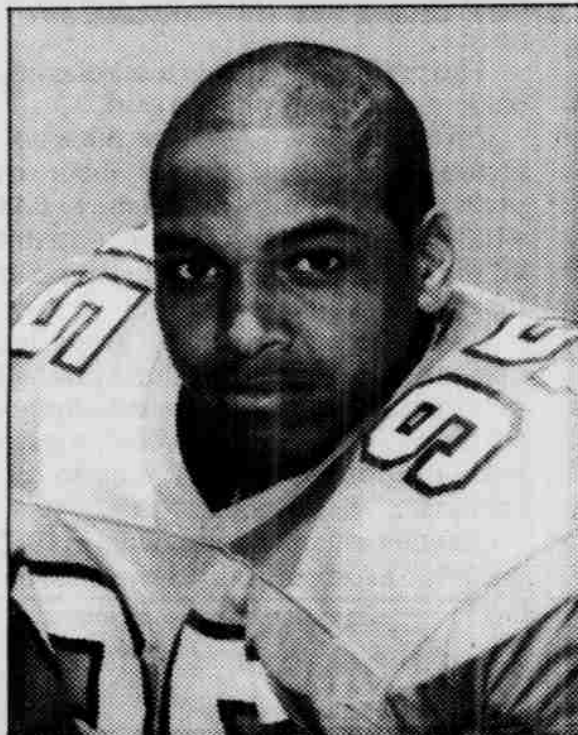
The UNC defense gave up 435 yards to Georgia Tech on Saturday — not exactly a stingy effort.

However, when the going got tough, the UNC defense got going. Three times the Yellow Jackets pushed the ball inside the Tar Heel 5, and all three times they came away with a field goal or less. The only costly defensive lapse was quarterback Shawn Jones' 26-yard second-quarter touchdown run in which he scampered virtually unscathed into the end zone.

Considering the nearly 3-to-1 advantage Tech had in total yardage, a 13-13 tie doesn't look too bad for UNC head coach Mack Brown and his squad.

"Today (Georgia Tech) had too many long runs, but when it counted on short yardage and goal-line, our defense hung down there and forced the 11th best team in the country to take a tie against us," Brown said.

**The Stand, part 1:** Midway through the second quarter, Jones' 25-yard pass to Bobby Rodriguez set up first-and-goal at the UNC 5-yard line. Jeff Wright carried the ball up the middle to the 1.



Eric Gash

Jones handed off to Wright again on the next play, but he was stuffed for no gain by linebacker Dwight Hollier.

On third-and-goal, Jones ran the option to the left but was dragged down from behind for a 2-yard loss by line-

backer Tommy Thigpen, who found a hole in the Yellow Jacket line.

After an 11-play, 83-yard drive, Georgia Tech head coach Bobby Ross had to settle for a 20-yard Kevin Sisson field goal that extended the Jackets' lead to 10-3.

**The Stand, part 2:** Then, after the Tar Heels took a 13-10 lead early in the fourth quarter, Georgia Tech put together another time-consuming drive. The Yellow Jackets kept the ball on the ground, driving from their own 14 down to the North Carolina 4. On first-and-goal, Jones overthrew tight end Anthony Rice cutting toward the right corner of the end zone.

Tech then tried to pound the ball up the middle again. On second down, tailback William Bell powered his way off right tackle down to the 1, where he was stopped by linebackers Reggie Clark and Jonathan Perry. Then, in almost an instant replay of the first goal-line stand, Hollier stopped Bell up the middle for no gain.

Instead of trying for a game-tying field goal, Ross went for it on fourth down. Fullback Stefan Scotton went off left tackle but was undercut by outside

linebacker Eric Gash, saving the touchdown and frustrating Tech once again.

"On the previous goal-line attempt, they had run a power play at me, and I saw the same familiar set and I knew what was coming," Gash said. "I just played it, because I knew what was going on. They had their best blocker over there (tight end Tom Covington), and I just felt the play coming."

"We tried not to put ourselves in that predicament, but when it got down to that point, we knew we had to tighten up and play good, hard, tough defense."

**The Stand, part 3:** After the Tar Heels went three downs and out on their next possession, Georgia Tech got the ball back at the UNC 46. Jones connected with a wide-open Covington for 38 yards to set up yet another first-and-goal at the Tar Heel 8. Wright carried left for 3 yards, then Gash and Thigpen combined to drop Jones for a 3-yard loss on the option right. On third down, Jones screened left to Scotton, but Thigpen stepped him for a 2-yard loss.

"I felt like it was going to be a flood route the whole time because of the way

(Scotton) was positioned out so far," Thigpen said. "I just sort of ran with him, ran right into him."

Tech finally settled for a 27-yard Sisson field goal that tied the game at 13-13.

"Anytime you have a goal-line stand, after one you're like 'OK, we've come a long way since last year,'" Thigpen said. "You make two, and you make three, you know you've come a long way, and you know you're a good defensive ball team. That's what we did today."

"If we can stop the Yellow Jackets, we can stop anybody."

So three goal-line stands left a potent Tech offense with a whopping 6 points. Brown couldn't ask any more of his defensive unit.

"It would have been very easy for our defense to lay down on the next to last goal-line stand — much less the last one, when we're sitting there with the losses we've had in our past — and to say 'Oh no, here it comes again,'" Brown said. "There wasn't any of that. They said, 'They make make the field goal, but we're going to make them kick it, Coach.'"

TECH	0	10	0	3	13
UNC	3	0	3	7	13

First Quarter	
UNC	— FG Gwaltney 32, 11:09
Second Quarter	
TECH	— Jones 26 run (Sisson kick), 12:21
TECH	— FG Sisson 20, 5:34
Third Quarter	
UNC	— FG Gwaltney 25, 3:09
Fourth Quarter	
UNC	— Means 5 run (Gwaltney kick), 13:18
TECH	— FG Sisson 27, 1:01
A	— 27,711

	TECH	UNC
First downs	24	9
Rushes-yards	50-252	39-103
Passing yards	183	48
Return yards	20	28
Comp-Att-Int	13-28-2	8-20-0
Plays-Avg	3-43.3	9-42.3
Fumbles-lost	4-2	0-0
Penalties-yards	4-20	3-26
Time of possession	36:34	23:26

Individual Statistics	
Rushing: UNC — Means 20-79; Faulkerson 7-26; Marshall 4-8; Watkins 1-5; Runyon 1-4; Burnett 6-(-19). TECH — Bell 21-123; Jones 10-83; Wright 11-47; Scotton 6-12; 2-7.	

Passing: UNC — Burnett 8-20-0-48, TECH — Jones 13-28-2-183.	
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Receiving: UNC — Means 4-16; Jauch 1-16; Faulkerson 1-7; May 1-6; Holliday 1-3. TECH — Merchant 4-71; Covington 2-48; Rodriguez 2-38; Wright 2-10; Gilchrist 1-10; Goolsby 1-8; Scotton 1-(-2).	
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Missed Field Goals: Sisson 37.	
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you're expected to win. There's a lot of pressure, and some athletes can't handle that.

"These players aren't necessarily the most talented. In fact, some of them aren't — some of them have worked hard to attain their status. There's a very unique quality that you have to have to become a Tar Heel."

**The recruiting visit**

Most visits for non-revenue recruits have an agenda, but the schedules aren't exactly set in stone.

"We don't choreograph their week-ends," Scroggs said. "We like it to be very unstructured."

Scroggs said that he liked to have recruits on weekends in January or February so that the prospect could see practice and, if possible, take in a basketball game at the Smith Center.

Freshman field hockey player Jennifer Blizzard made her recruiting visit during the weekend of Jan. 13, 1990, the day of the UNC-Virginia basketball game. Blizzard, an Ocean City, N.J., native, explained why she picked North Carolina.

"First of all, I liked the (Kenan) Academic Center," Blizzard said. "I went to five other schools and didn't see a center like that at all. When I came here, we didn't go out to any fancy restaurants. She (head coach Karen Shelton) treated me like a college student, which is what I was going to be."

"A lot of other schools red-carpet you. It's really different — it puts a facade in front of your eyes."

The NCAA sets guidelines for a recruiting visit. For example, the recruit is only allowed to stay on campus for 48 hours. The host player can receive up to \$20 per 24-hour period for entertainment purposes — dinner, a movie, etc. This money, according to Shelton, comes from each team's recruiting budget, with the amount depending on the financial situation of both the host player and the recruit. Shelton said she doesn't really get involved in planning the prospect's weekend.

"I rely heavily on the student-athletes on our team to try to do a good job of entertaining and giving the prospect a picture of what it would be like to attend Carolina and be a part of the field hockey team," Shelton said. "We try to be as realistic as possible without painting any colorful pictures or misleading them."

**The selling points**

"The single biggest selling point here is the University itself — the kind of school it is, the quality of undergraduate education and the comprehensive and successful athletic program that it has." — Willie Scroggs.

In lacrosse, Scroggs said UNC is comparable to Ivy League schools and that most of the prospects are looking at an Ivy institution or Johns Hopkins and Syracuse — schools that are renowned for their academic success and lacrosse prowess.

Scroggs also said that in many non-revenue sports — "dead-end" sports that offer few opportunities for play after college — many student-athletes are coming to get an education first.

"The focus is a little different than in golf, football, baseball and basketball," Scroggs said.

Dorrance said UNC's facilities and its proximity to soccer powers N.C. State, Virginia and Duke make it even more attractive. But, despite facilities and a great training environment, Dorrance gushed most about the Chapel Hill atmosphere.

"We can sell the whole package here — a great year-round climate, an excellent academic environment, athletic tradition, but also a great social life. Let's face it, UNC-Chapel Hill has everything for an undergraduate. We've got the archetype for the college town. If someone had to create a college town, they'd call it Chapel Hill and construct it right after the town we have here. Franklin Street is like a playground for 18- to 22-year-olds. It's the perfect college town. The campus is beautiful, the academic reputation is great and athletics top to bottom are tremendous."

**Scholarships**

"It makes my job difficult in that I have to recruit players who play more than one position," Papa said. "I have to rely a lot on walk-ons and dual-position players."

Papa said with the lack of scholarships, she is fortunate to get out-of-state prospects who want to attend UNC for its academic reputation.

"A player, a lot of times, will go where the money is. So, I'm on the losing end of that," Papa said. "I've lost some players along the way to UVa., South Carolina or Florida State because I can't be competitive financially."

**The prospect search**

Except for the numbers that each team has to work with, recruiting themes

seem fairly similar among non-revenue coaches. Willie Scroggs, UNC's lacrosse coach until last year and still one of its assistant athletic directors, said the lacrosse program's recruiting process started when prospects were juniors in high school.

The coaches would gather names of junior standouts, Scroggs said, then go to camps in the summer, and then identify them — i.e., match them up with the list they already have.

According to Scroggs, the Tar Heel program is so appealing to high school players that the recruit often times will make the first move.

"One factor we always look for is that the recruit has an interest in the University of North Carolina," Scroggs

said. "We have to say no to five times as many guys as we say yes to. We don't go out and drum up business."

"We identify someone that we think has the right matches for our school. Those matches are, obviously, some ability and some academic ability. We don't sacrifice character for athletic ability."

Dorrance said he searches for a player that wants to make the sacrifices necessary for soccer excellence.

"What we look for is a kind of player," Dorrance said, "the kind of player that wants to be the best. We want the sort of athlete that is ambitious to be the best — to come out and state it, and then demonstrate that they're willing to work for it. When you come here,

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