

Need More Info on UNC Sports? A New WWW Homepage Has It

BY JAY STONE
STAFF WRITER

Except in the turnover column, the UNC football team has looked good - on paper. Thanks to a new World Wide Web site, it now also looks good online. The recently opened site has made information about UNC's fall sports only a click away for those browsing the Internet.

Upon accessing the homepage of the system, the user is greeted with a scanned image of the 1993-94 Sears Director's Cup, awarded to UNC for having the nation's best overall athletic program. The homepage also provides text options in a variety of sports information categories.

The online site was designed by Joe Bray, a University systems analyst. Bray worked on the project in his spare time over the course of a few weekends. He said the idea came to him after looking at several online athletic information services provided by other colleges.

"So many schools are out on the Web," Bray said. "Athletically, we are arguably one of the two best schools in the country, and sports lend themselves well to the Web. Basically, what you're trying to do with a project like this is to put your media guides online."

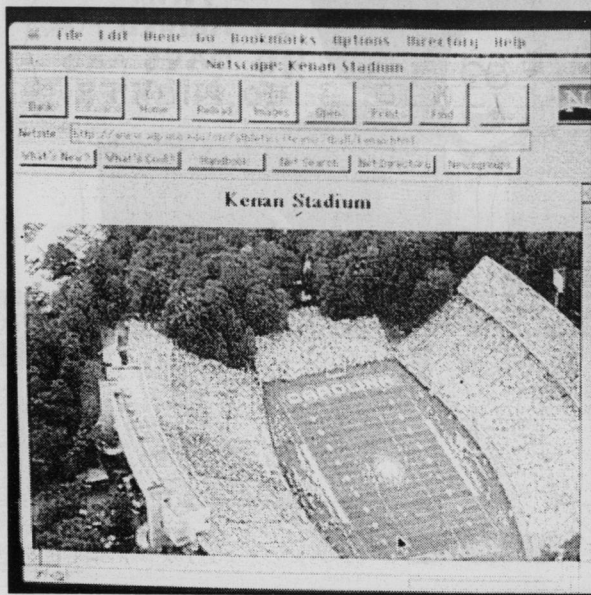
UNC joins N.C. State and Duke as ACC schools with Internet sites.

Once at the new site, the user can select from information on varsity teams, schedules, directions to facilities, sports administration, sports information, the ticket office and academic support.

If the varsity teams option is chosen, a graphic of the team picture appears on-screen. Here, the user can access the team roster, biographical information about the coach and the history of the sport at UNC.

For example, did you know that in addition to coaching UNC women's soccer to 13 national titles, Anson Dorrance has lived in Ethiopia, Kenya, Singapore, Belgium and Switzerland? Or that Charlie "Choo-Choo" Justice is the only player in NCAA history to have been runner-up for the Heisman twice without winning it?

If people need directions to the Smith Center, they can click on "Directions to Facilities." This provides detailed instruc-



This blimp's-eye view of Kenan Stadium is one of many campus photos available on the UNC athletic department's new World Wide Web Site.

tions and a map with roads highlighted.

"The graphics do give the site a little extra spunk," Bray said.

Throughout the system, the user will see pictures relevant to the information they are seeking. There are also several pictures of campus landmarks such as the Old Well and the Bell Tower.

"It's still in its infancy right now, but I expect it to keep growing over time," Bray said. "Right now, the information is being updated daily by Chris Schleiter, who is a programmer for the athletic department."

The user can also find out scores and other late-breaking sports news when accessing the site. The information is provided in the same format as a newspaper box score. For instance, to find out the results of last Tuesday's UNC women's

soccer match, click onto the appropriate site. There, you'll learn UNC won 3-0 over Wake Forest, Robin Confer had two first-half goals, and Debbie Keller scored early in the second half.

The athletic department will take over project maintenance for the winter sports. "After that, it will be off and running," Bray said.

To access the system, a user must first connect to the World Wide Web through a subscription service such as America Online, NandOnet or Compuserve. Another available route is the Netscape browser in the campus computer labs.

Users can access the system via the following address:
<http://www.adp.unc.edu/sis/athletics/home.html>

For PC Sports World, Becker Needs Speedos

Normally stay out of political discussions, because they have nothing to do with sports. As sports journalists, we must concentrate on more important topics, such as Tony Gwynn's batting average vs. lefties with two out, a runner shorter than 5'10" on third, the moon in its fourth phase and a guy in the bleachers who's had 18 too many. (It's .322, by the way.)

But I recently witnessed an unholy transgression. Sports commentary, normally reserved for large bar patrons named Fred and sports writers, was attempted by a writer not affiliated with the sports staff, whose anonymity I will protect by not saying his name is Andy Diamondstein.

Sports reporting can be mishandled by the untrained, causing readers to choke on beer nuts when encountering incomplete facts. So, I feel obligated to clarify a few issues brought up in his discussion of two time-tested sports topics: political correctness and women's tennis in bathing suits.

The first question is "What does PC have to do with sports?" Keep in mind, though, that people who would ask that question probably hold baseball bats the wrong way. True sports fans, who properly wield bats AND remember to cork them, know the dangers of political correctness.

It's obvious: Political correctness aims to destroy Monday Night Football. Sports fans picked up on this like Jerry Jones picked up on a Pepsi contract. As a society, we must prevent Monday Night Football from becoming Monday Night's Three Hours of Emotional Sharing. Consider this fictional but potentially horrific scenario:

DAN DIERDORF: Wow, Marino is standing on the sidelines with what looks to be a Chronic-Depressive Syndrome in its early stages. ...

ALMICHAELS: Well, the Niners have it now at the Dolphin Rational Discussion Line, looking to put it into the Conflict Resolved Zone after the turnover. ...

FRANK GIFFORD: Lemme tell ya, Marino better get on the phone to his Emotional Coordinator, Dr. Joyce Brothers, before he gets back out there and causes more Pent-Up Hostility among these Miami Dolphins.

I, for one, will never accept Al Michaels' commentary on Inner Questioning plaguing the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Now that the evils of political correctness have been clarified, I must tackle my next topic (or at least take out my knees).

A certain columnist has maintained that as long as professional male tennis players

hit the ball at speeds that sometimes break the sound barrier, professional females will never gain equal acceptance. Thus, his solution involves a dress code mandating scant swimwear for the ladies, in an effort to spice things up.

Astute sports fans, however, realize that the consequence of this new rule wouldn't just be a better tan for U.S. Open finalists. There is one catch that trips up the swimsuit theory: If the women play in bikinis, to



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be fair, the men must wear Speedos.

As far as I'm concerned, if you're wearing Speedos, you better be a 200-meter butterfly specialist or a 45-year-old, 245-pound ex-mafia don on the Jersey shore. Steffi Graf and Monica Seles in two-pieces might attract some revenue, but not nearly enough to compensate for Boris Becker sporting just Speedos and Nikes. Brrrrr.

So sports fans rest easy, knowing that your concerns are indeed represented amid columns that fail to cover the whole issue.

For columnists in general, I'll admit it's tough to leave sports alone; the subject matter is far too interesting. But one must realize that such in-depth, charged topics must be handled by a qualified sports journalist.

And if they're all busy, I'll handle it.

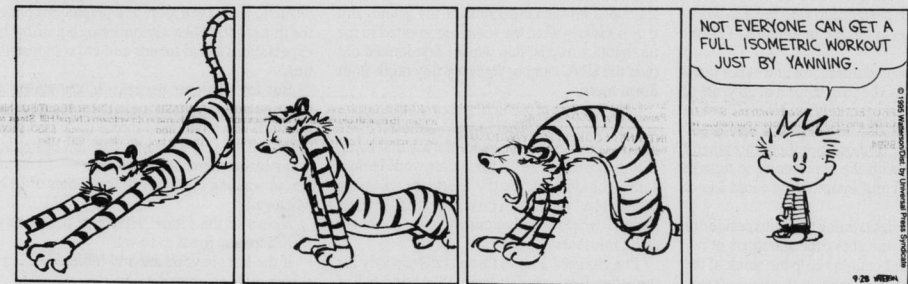
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Calvin and Hobbes



NOT EVERYONE CAN GET A FULL ISOMETRIC WORKOUT JUST BY YAWNING.

THE Daily Crossword by Frank L. Jackson

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ACROSS

- 1 Disappear gradually
- 5 Indescent gem
- 9 Fragment
- 14 In — (bored by sameness)
- 15 Gumshoe's concern
- 16 Bara of old movies
- 17 Stead
- 18 London gallery
- 19 Prepared
- 20 Gourmet salad fruits
- 23 Single
- 24 Intuitive letters
- 25 Work by Swift, e.g.
- 29 Precludes
- 31 Bikini section
- 34 Hold tight
- 35 Bounces over water
- 36 Crooked
- 37 Pogo the possum's milieu
- 40 Fire: pref.
- 41 Consumer
- 42 Reef builder
- 43 Overhead railways
- 44 Luge
- 45 Moon goddess
- 46 Colloid
- 47 Sty
- 48 Insincere

DOWN

- 1 FDR's dog
- 2 Seed cover
- 3 Sword fight
- 4 Small case
- 5 Motor fuel word
- 6 Dish
- 7 Self: pref.
- 8 Suggestive gaze
- 9 Accent
- 10 Tawdry
- 11 Raise
- 12 Totals
- 13 Wages
- 21 Deep ravine
- 22 Intrinsically
- 25 Range
- 26 Certain chemical
- 27 Rows
- 28 Pertinent data
- 29 Made a pie
- 30 Mimic
- 31 Strident sound
- 32 Nose or candle
- 33 Winesap, for one
- 35 Ply with medicine
- 36 Truant
- 38 Certain card game term
- 39 Fragrance
- 44 First also-ran?
- 45 Handsome
- 46 Hopeless one
- 47 Entreaties
- 48 Chatter
- 49 Tear apart forcibly
- 50 Coin
- 51 Brainchild
- 52 Poetically black
- 53 Of flying
- 54 Genuine
- 55 French town
- 56 Literary monogram

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