

Tigers set to tackle USC with state title at stake

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Coach Brad Scott brought South Carolina its first bowl victory a year ago. Now, the Gamecocks have given Scott another, far more distressing, first.

By losing Saturday night, 63-7 to No. 3 Florida, South Carolina (4-5-1) fell from bowl contention, the first time that's happened in Scott's 13-season career.

"I guess I'm going to get to find out what happens at Christmas time," he said Monday, only half-kidding.

It was a formidable streak of success and Scott took tons of pride in it. For 11 seasons as a Florida State assistant coach, he went to a bowl game. Then last year he led South Carolina to victory in the

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Clemson at South Carolina



7-3



4-5-1

Time: 12:37 p.m.
Site: Williams-Brice Stadium
Television: SEC-TV
Series record: 54-34-4 Clemson
Key players: TB Raymond Priestner (Clem.), QB Steve Taneyhill (USC)

'Pack, Wake play for pride

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WINSTON-SALEM — This year's Wake Forest football team is the best Jim Caldwell has had, the Demon Deacon head coach said Tuesday.

Coming off a one-point loss to Georgia Tech in which quarterback Rusty LaRue completed 41 of 65 pass attempts for 501 yards and three touchdowns, Caldwell said he has seen enough improvement to call this team the best he's had since taking over the reins at Wake Forest three years ago.

"There is no question in my mind," Caldwell said at his weekly news conference.

"We've had some tough, hard-nosed contests that we've played, but we just had a couple of things that took us out of games."

With one game remaining on the schedule, Caldwell is hesitant to look

N.C. State at Wake Forest



2-7 (1-5 ACC)

Time: 1 p.m.
Site: Groves Stadium
Television: None
Series record: 53-29-6 NCSU
Key players: TB Tremayne Stephens (NCSU), QB Rusty LaRue (Wake)



1-9 (0-7 ACC)

back on this season, but eager to ponder the future of his team.

One bright spot for Wake Forest (1-9, 0-7 ACC) was its ability to red-shirt 20 of the 23 freshmen on scholarship. Last season, when Caldwell was able to red-shirt just seven freshmen.

"We bit the bullet now," he said. "We did something that very few teams were capable of doing in terms of the number of kids that we red-shirted."

"There's no question that if we had

played some of those freshman, maybe that would have gotten us a couple of games. But in the long run, in terms of the program, I think we'll be better for it."

As for the prospects of winding up this season, Caldwell is cautiously optimistic that the Demon Deacons might get their first conference win.

"We're not done with this season yet," he said. "I keep telling the kids not to start

SEE WAKE-STATE, PAGE 15

VPI, UVa. clash for 100th time

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — Virginia Tech and Virginia — each at least co-champions of their respective conferences — will play on the 100th anniversary of their first clash today.

It all began on October 5, 1895, when the Cavaliers manhandled the Hokies 38-0. A century later, however, things will likely be much different.

At stake for the winner is a ninth victory on the season and, more importantly, the opportunity for a major New Year's Day bowl.

"It could make a big difference to them," Virginia coach George Welsh said Monday of the Hokies. "They'd be 9-and-2 and could be outright Big East champions. They could be going to a better bowl."

"For us, it's important. It would be our ninth win," Welsh said.

Virginia Tech at Virginia



8-2

Time: Noon
Site: Scott Stadium
Television: ABC
Series record: 37-34-5 VPI
Key players: QB Mike Groh and TB Tiki Barber (Virginia)



8-3

Virginia enters the game ranked No. 13 and tied with No. 6 Florida State for the lead in the ACC after beating Maryland 21-18 last weekend.

The Cavaliers pulled off one of the season's most stunning victories on Nov. 2 when they beat the Seminoles 33-28 at Charlottesville — Florida State's first ACC defeat.

The Cavaliers jumped in front of Florida State early and rode a superb third-quarter defensive effort to victory.

The win wasn't without its thrilling moments, though. Cornerback Percy Ellsworth rammed into Florida State running back Warrick Dunn on the game's final play to stop Dunn short of the end zone and preserve the Cavalier win.

Now the Seminoles and Virginia are competing for the best bowl berth.

Virginia Tech, which beat Temple 38-16 last weekend, is ranked No. 20 and

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ACC Standings

	Conference					Overall				
	W	L	T	Pts	OP	W	L	T	Pts	OP
Virginia	7	1	0	242	157	8	3	0	315	207
Florida State	6	1	0	362	137	8	1	0	449	168
Clemson	6	2	0	193	133	7	3	0	265	161
Georgia Tech	5	3	0	173	198	6	4	0	243	226
Maryland	4	3	0	133	134	6	4	0	193	192
UNC	2	4	0	118	128	4	5	0	206	158
N.C. State	1	5	0	136	244	2	7	0	180	311
Duke	1	6	0	199	293	3	7	0	258	358
Wake Forest	0	7	0	106	242	1	9	0	167	308

Today

Duke at UNC
 Clemson at South Carolina
 Maryland at Florida State
 N.C. State at Wake Forest
 Virginia Tech at Virginia
Thursday, Nov. 23
 Georgia at Georgia Tech
Friday, Nov. 24
UNC at N.C. State

Saturday, Nov. 25

Florida State at Florida

ACC Bowl Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 30

CarQuest Bowl, Miami, 7:30 p.m.
 Peach Bowl, Atlanta, 8 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 1

Gator Bowl, Jacksonville, 1 p.m.

Fresh Tex-Mex in North Carolina?



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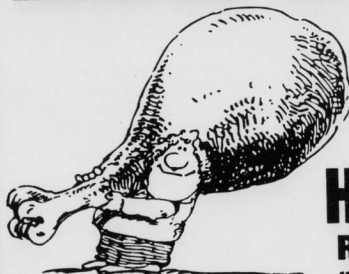
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