

Last Second Pass

# Who Really Needs Football Anyway?

By **MATT TERRY**  
ASSISTANT SPORTSATURDAY EDITOR



North Carolina's program isn't having much success, so let's just get rid of it.

It's once again that wonderful time of year. The temperature has dropped, creating a deciduous background of reds and dark oranges that eases the mind and slows the very pace of life.

The air fills with that distinct wood-chip smell, kids - young and old - get a kick out of seeing their breath materialize, and squirrels battle each other for tree-trunk dominance.

And, like every year, UNC longs, not for the days to become longer or for the return of short sleeves, but for the start of basketball season.

You know, this whole football thing just isn't working out. Yeah, North Carolina had it good about three years ago, but such an aberration does not a football program make.

Don't get me wrong. This isn't one of those get-rid-of-Torbush columns; it's not even a keep-Torbush-but-make-him-defensive-coordinator column.

And please don't confuse this with a why-did-we-let-Mack-Brown-go-because-everything's-gone-downhill-since-he-left-and-now-we-need-a-Bowden column.

(Even though I'd love to see Momma Bowden running the Tar Heel sidelines, matching wits with Duke's Carl Franks.)

This, quite simply, is a get-rid-of-the-football-program-and-find-something-useful-to-occupy-Kenan-Stadium-with column.

The Tar Heels can keep Torbush, O'Cain, Curry, Richard Moore, et al, but no more football - please.

For instance, why not combine the Carolina Hurricanes with the football program? Couldn't two apathetic fan bases come together and make one rowdy bunch of sports enthusiasts?

Sure, there's the problem of which sport the athletes would play, but I think hockey's a no-brainer, eh?

It doesn't matter that the Tar Heels can't skate. That's the beauty of the National Hockey League: There's always room for goons (hockey term).

Imagine a scoring line of future Hall of Famer Ron Francis, up-and-comer Bates Battaglia and Julius Peppers.

Lodged somewhere between slapstick and intellectual humor, there's seeing Pep smash some Canadian farm boy into four inches of plexiglass.

Put Torbush up in the TV booth with slicked-back hair (the Barry Melrose of the South) and just let him say what he wants to.

"Well, I feel like they gave their maximum effort out there. Any organ-eye-ZA-tion that finishes barely over .500 deserves to make the playoffs."

As far as Kenan goes: "Whose house? Anson's house!"

Let the women's soccer team take over. Kenan's a beautiful place; it deserves a championship atmosphere.

Don't like soccer? Well, let's turn Kenan into a NASCAR track. We all watch the football team to see it blow up every week anyway. Torbush as Richard Petty. It could work.

(Note: Just mentioning stock cars makes me feel dirty. Let's move on.)

How about a new soap opera with the football program as cast and crew?

"As the World Turns and Gets Blindsided By an Oncoming Defensive End"

It's got a nice ring to it. We've already got the soap opera names: Ronald, Bosley, Brandon, etc. It might go a little something like this.

**Ronald:** *Damn it, all I ask is for one simple favor! What's wrong with you?*

**Bosley:** *Ronald, this is neither the time nor the place...*

**Brandon:** *I heard shouting. What's going on in here?*

**Bosley:** *Ronald never thinks about MY needs!*

Yeah, the writing needs work, but I can already smell a Daytime Emmy.

The possibilities for post-football life in Chapel Hill are nearly endless.

Almost as endless as the potential on an underachieving college football team that is trying as hard as it can to cost its coach his job.

But that's another column.

Matt Terry can be reached at mterry16@email.unc.edu.

## DTH Sports Schedule

### NCAA Football

12:00 p.m.  
Pittsburgh at Miami (Fla.)  
Penn State at Michigan  
Houston at East Carolina  
Maryland at North Carolina  
West Virginia at Rutgers  
Syracuse at Temple

12:10 p.m.  
Northwestern at Iowa  
Wisconsin at Indiana

12:30 p.m.  
Alabama at Mississippi State  
Rhode Island at Connecticut  
Arkansas at Tennessee

1:00 p.m.  
Oklahoma at Texas A&M  
Purdue at Michigan State  
W. Michigan at Central Michigan  
N. Illinois at Eastern Michigan  
Duke at North Carolina State  
Ball State at Toledo

1:30 p.m.  
Ohio at Bowling Green

Vanderbilt at Kentucky  
2:00 p.m.  
Texas at Kansas  
Missouri at Baylor  
Army at Louisville  
Cincinnati at Memphis  
Oklahoma State at Texas Tech

3:00 p.m.  
S. Florida at Mid. Tennessee State  
New Mexico at UNLV  
Utah State at Boise State

3:30 p.m.  
South Carolina at Florida  
California at Oregon  
Boston College at Notre Dame  
Florida State at Wake Forest  
Southern Mississippi at UAB  
Iowa State at Colorado

3:35 p.m.  
Fresno State at TCU

4:00 p.m.  
Ohio State at Illinois

5:00 p.m.  
North Texas at Arkansas State  
Jacksonville State at La. Lafayette

Arizona State at Stanford  
6:00 p.m.  
Virginia Tech at Central Florida  
Colorado State at Air Force  
Navy at Tulane  
Utah at Wyoming

6:30 p.m.  
Washington State at USC  
7:00 p.m.  
UCLA at Washington  
Nebraska at Kansas State  
Buffalo at Akron  
Miami (Ohio) at Marshall  
La. Tech at Louisiana Monroe  
Tulsa at SMU

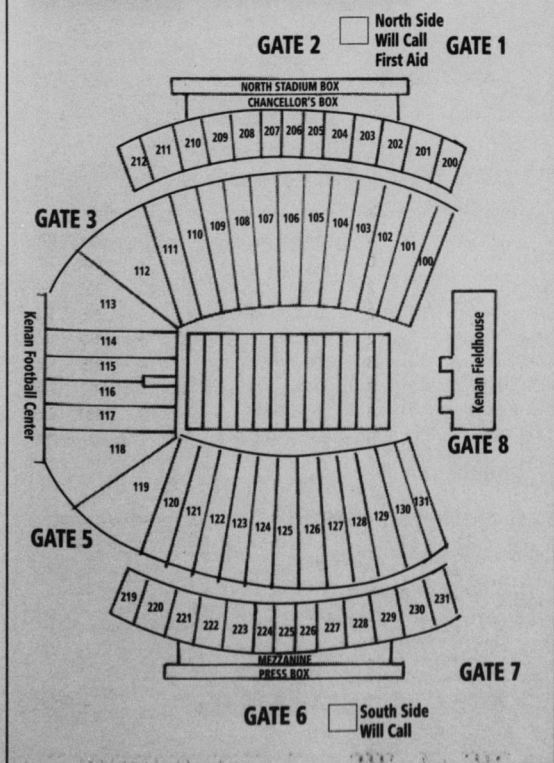
7:30 p.m.  
Georgia at Auburn

9:00 p.m.  
New Mexico State at Idaho  
LSU at Ole Miss  
Rice at Texas El Paso

10:15 p.m.  
Oregon State at Arizona

11:05 p.m.  
Nevada at Hawaii

## Kenan Stadium



### UNC SportSchedule

**Today**  
Men's basketball NABC Classic, 6:30 p.m.  
Cross Country NCAA District III Championships in Greenville, S.C.  
Volleyball at Georgia Tech, 7 p.m.

**Sunday**  
Men's Soccer ACC tournament at Winston-Salem  
Women's Soccer NCAA Tournament at Fetzer Field, 1 p.m.  
Rowing Rivanna Romp in Charlottesville, Va.

**Thursday**  
Volleyball ACC tournament in Winston-Salem  
Swimming Nike Cup in Koury Nadatorium

**Friday**  
Men's basketball at Appalachian State, 7:30 p.m.  
Women's basketball at Buffalo, 7 p.m.

**TRY OUR NEW WING FLAVORS!**

**Open Daily at 11am - Carry Out Always Available!**

**206 W. Franklin St. • 933-9453**  
Across from Granville Towers

- **BIG SCREEN SATELLITE SPORTS!**
- **BIG 23 OZ. DRAFT SPECIALS!**
- **GAME DAY CARRY OUT!**
- **AWARD WINNING WINGS & MORE!**

**5 Free Wings**

WITH ANY 12 WING ORDER  
- OR -  
1 FREE REG. BUFFALO CHIP  
w/ any sandwich or burger purchase

**206 W. Franklin St.**

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER COUPON  
Wings not valid on Tuesday  
Wing day exp. 12/31/00