



QB Dantzler Leads Tigers To Victory

Clemson quarterback Woodrow Dantzler said he was disappointed with his performance in the Tigers' win against Central Florida. See Page 7

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- Wake Forest defeats ECU in first game. Page 7
- Barry Bond hits his 58th homer. Page 7
- Florida State butchers Duke. Page 7

The Miracle Walks Back To Stardom

Few people will ever experience the rush of running onto a stadium field and being engulfed by the screams of tens of thousands of people. Adam Taliaferro felt that Saturday, without any intention of playing a single snap.

The once-paralyzed 19-year-old stood in the tunnel leading onto Beaver Stadium before Penn State's season opener against No. 2 Miami, clad in sweatpants and a No. 43 jersey. It was a magical moment. The scoreboard flashed the words, "We Believe." Flashbulbs illuminated the newly renovated stadium. The crowd roared, giving a standing ovation to the Nittany Lions' very own miracle.

Many football players dream of running out of a tunnel at a Division I powerhouse such as Penn State. But Taliaferro never could have imagined that merely running from the tunnel would be the culmination — not the jumping-off point — of his dream.

What happened on the field Saturday was merely a game. Statistics and scores meant so little, while Taliaferro's jog onto the field pierced so many people's hearts. He swatted teammates' hands, raised his arms to the crowd and broke out in a full jog at the 15-yard line.

An amazing feat for someone who only 11 months earlier lay motionless on the moist grass of Ohio Stadium. In an effort to tackle Jerry Westbrook Sept. 23, Taliaferro shattered a bone in his neck and bruised his spinal cord. His parents, Addie and Andre, watched on TV as Westbrook stood up and regained his composure while their son remained immobile on the field.

He didn't move a muscle — because he couldn't.

Doctors told Taliaferro's parents that he had little chance of ever walking again.

Paralysis is a horrible blow to anyone, but to a football player who dazzled recruiters as a two-way standout during high school and promised to make big plays for the Nittany Lions as a true freshman cornerback, the injury more than smashed part of his spinal cord — it crushed his dreams, his heart.

But it didn't take Taliaferro long to rebuild quite a different dream. One not quite as flashy as becoming a pro football star, but a simpler dream. Taliaferro was determined to walk again.

Only 12 days after his injury occurred, Taliaferro entered Magee Rehabilitation Hospital. For three long, frustrating weeks, he couldn't move at all. He struggled through six-hour therapy sessions of merely trying to wiggle his toes — a challenge the athlete would have scoffed at a month earlier when he was running alongside many of the nation's top football players.

But Taliaferro persevered, and, in the wake of his journey, he has made more of an impact on people than he ever could have as just another football player.

Scott Brown and Sam Carchidi encapsulated Taliaferro's inspiring story in the recently released book "Miracle in the Making." The fact that you cannot get your hands on a copy of the book anywhere in the Triangle is a testament to how much Taliaferro's tale has moved people.

So much of the attention surrounding football players is negative. And many times the players bring it on themselves.

Dozens of players are kicked off their college teams every season for stupidity involving drugs, alcohol, fighting or worse. Players trying to be badasses throw away their careers for no good reason.

And then there is Taliaferro, a redeeming face in an increasingly troubled sport. His run onto the field symbolized more than just a personal comeback. It inspired everyone to take a deep breath and take one step — no matter how difficult that may be — in the right direction.

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Field Hockey Sets Record In Weekend Barrage

By BRAD BROTHERS, Assistant Sports Editor

With time winding down against Virginia Commonwealth on Sunday, North Carolina field hockey coach Karen Shelton was stuck with a dilemma.

Pass the ball around or let the youngsters play. The Tar Heels, having already tallied 10 goals through the contest's first 50 minutes at Henry Stadium, could either stop scoring or continue their offensive onslaught.

"We kind of wanted (Dorrance) rule where he gets to nine as quickly as possible and then passes it around," Shelton said.

"But it got to the point where we were putting in kids who were playing for the first time. We didn't want to humiliate VCU; that was not our intention."

Shelton's efficient youngsters did continue to

score, pushing three more goals home in the waning minutes to set a school record in the 13-0 victory.

The triumph came a day after UNC (3-0) defeated ninth-ranked Penn State 3-1.

The Tar Heels' previous high mark for goals was 10, most recently attained on Oct. 10, 2000 against Radford.

Though the team didn't intend to set records Sunday, the final score was somewhat mind-boggling.

"Normally, you don't aim to score that much on a team because it's not really good sportsmanship," senior forward Abbey Woolley said. "But (the goals) came, and there were the opportunities, and you couldn't pass them up."

From the opening faceoff against VCU, the Tar Heels were able to perpetually keep the ball on their side of the field.

North Carolina's aggressive offense led to 11 penalty corners, two penalty strokes and 35 shots on goal.

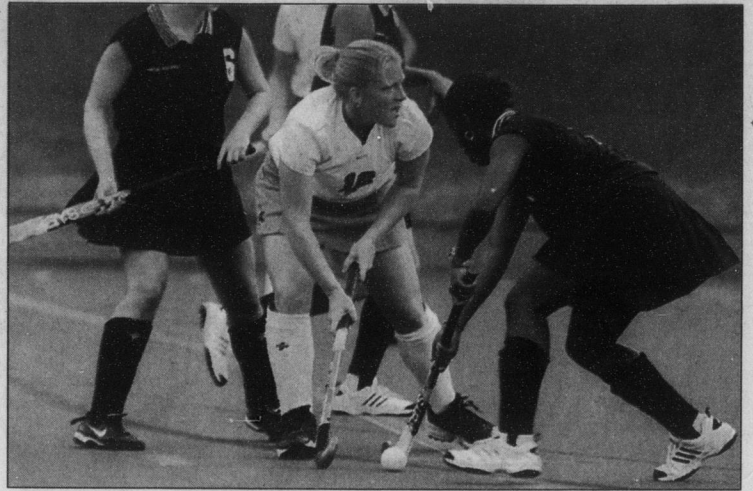
UNC's backs applied constant defensive pressure as well, holding VCU without a shot on goal the entire 70 minutes of action.

Field Hockey

VCU0
UNC13
Penn St.1
UNC3

Martin Leadership Key In Weekend Offensive Effort
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North Carolina sweeper Abby Martin (center) tries to take the ball from Virginia Commonwealth. Martin scored 10 points with four goals.

Maryland Runs Through UNC's 'D'



Maryland tailback Bruce Perry (1) tries to evade North Carolina linebacker Quincy Monk (41) and the rest of the UNC defense. Perry rushed for 116 yards on 21 carries, the longest a 21-yard run in the fourth quarter.

Terrapin tailback Bruce Perry rushed for 116 yards on 21 carries for 5.5 yards a run in Maryland's 23-7 win against the Tar Heels.

By RACHEL CARTER, Sports Editor

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — For Ralph Friedgen, it was a joyous beginning, a glorious start to his first year as Maryland's football coach.

For John Bunting, it was a bitter disappointment, a depressing start to his first year as North Carolina's football coach.

Sweet redemption for the Terrapins, a squad whose doubters were many and loud. Stinging defeat for the Tar Heels, suddenly weary faced with the long and difficult season ahead.

As the Tar Heels trudged off Byrd Stadium's field to gather in the locker room, to puzzle over what had gone so wrong and to ponder when a win would come, Friedgen and the Terps ran in front of the student sections, singing the fight song, laughing at the coach's uncharacteristic display.

The rotund Friedgen climbed on top of a platform to lead the song as the 23-7 Maryland victory burned into the scoreboard and into the Tar Heels' hearts.

"No, we certainly can't feel very good about it," Bunting said. "I don't think there's a guy in there who feels good about what just took place. I know I feel horrible about it."

Two games into the season, and North Carolina finds itself in a 0-2 hole, with Texas, Southern Methodist, Florida State and N.C. State looming in the near future. If the Tar Heels made any progress from its opening day 41-27 loss to defending national champion Oklahoma, no one could tell.

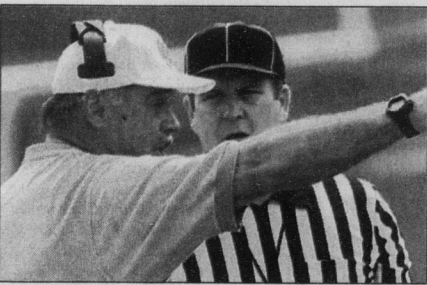
The running game could not get going. The passing game was not much better. Even North Carolina's talented defense

Football

UNC7
Maryland23

Durant's Day Raises More QB Questions
See Page 9

See FOOTBALL, Page 9



North Carolina first-year coach John Bunting (left) said he felt horrible about UNC's loss to Maryland.

Barnard's Punts Frustrate Tar Heels

By KELLY LUSK, Assistant Sports Editor

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Maryland punter Brooks Barnard didn't need to eat any Wheaties to play like a champion.

This was fortunate for his team, because Barnard, whose long punts gave the North Carolina football team such poor field position that it couldn't move the ball, missed the team breakfast Saturday morning in the Byrd Stadium fieldhouse.

Stadium fieldhouse.

"I had to go," said Barnard, who was fourth in the country in punting last season. He rushed to the restroom just seconds before Terrapin coach Ralph Friedgen locked the door to the cafeteria.

"I couldn't hold it anymore, so I was in a dead sprint to the bathroom. Breakfast started at 8 o'clock and I probably showed up there at 8 o'clock and 30 seconds. (Friedgen) said 'Out.'"

Despite missing breakfast, Barnard didn't take long to make an impression on UNC's offense. The junior's first punt only sailed 27 yards to go out of bounds at the Tar Heels' 23-yard line.

UNC running back Willie Parker scored on a 77-yard run on the next play, but that was the last time the Tar Heels would break through Maryland's defense — a fact largely due to Barnard's superior boots down the field.

See BARNARD, Page 9

Tar Heels Endure ASU Fouls

The Mountaineers compiled two red cards and 29 fouls in a physical, losing effort against 12th-ranked UNC.

By OWEN A. HASSELL, Assistant Sports Editor

Appalachian State used about every aggressive tactic possible to stymie a bigger and stronger North Carolina soccer team.

But the Mountaineers' 29 fouls and seven cards did not keep the Tar Heels from scoring, as UNC defeated ASU 3-0 Monday night at Fetzer Field.

The game's physical nature placed a strain on the Tar Heel offense, but it was the first-half's overall effort that concerned UNC coach Elmar Bolowich.

"I was not very pleased at halftime with the way we performed in the first 45 minutes," Bolowich said. "They played extremely hard and they tried to not let us get into our rhythm."

ASU coach Dave Golan wanted his players to play hard, even if it meant attaining a few fouls in the process.

Men's Soccer

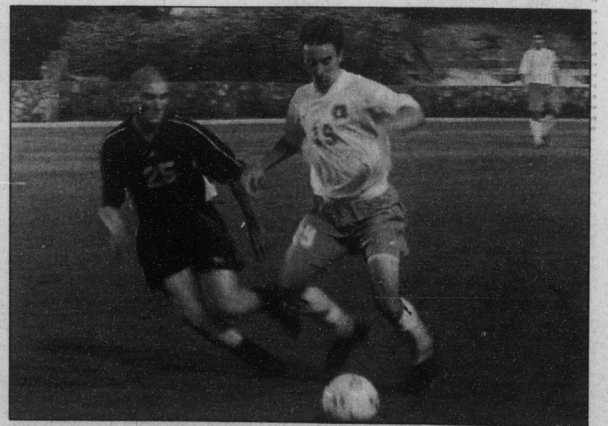
App. St.0
UNC3
ECU1
UNC8

"We knew to play a team of this caliber that we'd have to play aggressive," Golan said. "It is not like we went after any of the players, but we wanted to play hard and come out with the victory."

Tar Heel Mike Gell posted the first goal for the second-straight game, scoring in the 11th minute of play on an assist from Chris Leitch for the 1-0 game.

Gell scored against East Carolina in the Tar Heels' (2-0) season opener, an 8-1 home victory against the Pirates (0-1) on Friday night.

But it was the hard-nosed play of the



UNC midfielder Matt Crawford (right) tries to keep the ball from Appalachian's David Edison. Crawford scored a goal against ECU on Friday.