

Wolfpack Upsets Top-Ranked UNC

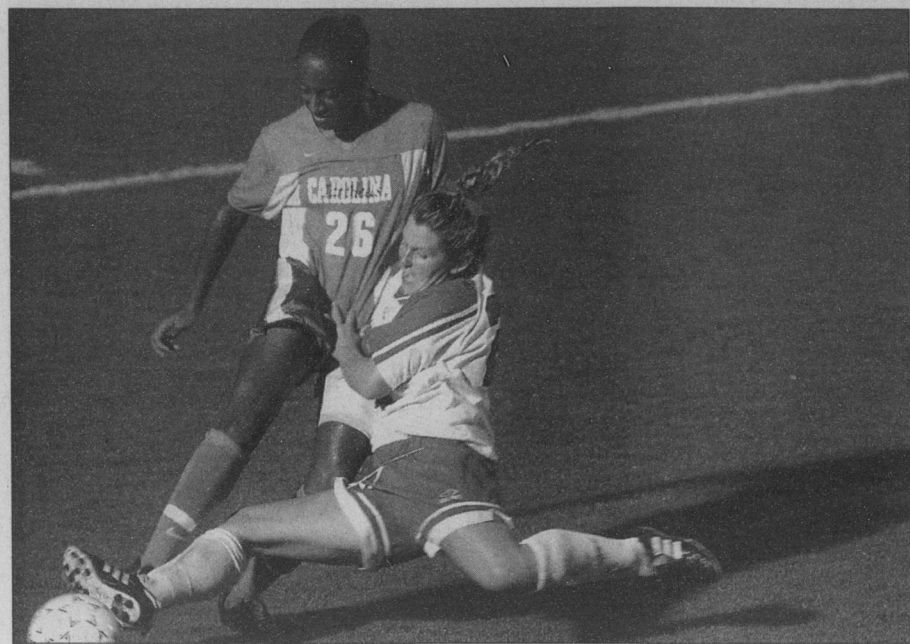
By KELLIE DIXON
Assistant Sports Editor

CARY — As the final whistle sounded, the N.C. State women's soccer team erupted into cheers and its foe, No. 1 North Carolina, slumped away into the locker room. In their 17 years of competing against each other, neither

team had experienced this outcome. The Wolfpack notched an early goal in Thursday's game at SAS Stadium and went on to defeat the Tar Heels 2-1. UNC (10-1-2, 0-1 in the ACC) showed more than one moment of weakness as the Wolfpack (8-3-1, 2-0-1) made itself only the fifth team to upset the Tar Heels in 117 ACC games. Less than two minutes into the match, State found a hole in UNC's defense. Wolfpack forward Adrienne Barnes reacted to ball a deflected off

goalkeeper Aly Winget and returned the shot for an unassisted goal. "The first goal was miscommunication between our goalkeeper and defender," said UNC midfielder Maggie Tomecka. "It was just an unlucky goal." After State took the early lead, the Tar Heels struggled to regain a sense of composure that had eluded them since before the first whistle. The team arrived late to SAS Stadium due to traffic and bad weather. And while UNC stood off its usually

stately guard, State rose to the occasion. Wolfpack goalkeeper Gretchen Lear tied an ACC record with 19 saves. Wolfpack coach Laura Kerrigan said she was impressed by Lear's performance, especially after a particularly rough game against Maryland last week. "For her to come up with this type of performance after being injured almost the whole week was unbelievable to me," Kerrigan said. "She really shows what she's made of."



N.C. State forward Jordan Allison tackles the ball away from UNC defender Carmen Watley (26) in the Wolfpack's 2-1 win against the Tar Heels on Thursday. The win was State's first ever against UNC.

Coming out of the half, UNC coach Anson Dorrance replaced Winget with veteran Jenni Branam, who has been battling a nagging knee injury all season. "Coach put me out there for my leg to launch some balls into the box," Branam said. "Unfortunately, I never got the chance to use my leg. It's my biggest weapon." UNC finally got on the board in the 56th minute when freshman forward Lindsay Tarpley finished a cross from Elizabeth Ball. Tarpley nailed the shot, which went just over the outstretched hands of Lear. But the momentum wouldn't last. Just minutes after Dorrance opted to sub Winget back in the game to prevent Branam from reinjuring her knee, the Wolfpack made another charge. With the clock at 64:55, Barnes assisted forward Lindsey Underwood, who placed the ball past Winget for her fourth game winner this season. "Your confidence has to skyrocket on something like this, so obviously UNC is a great team so we'll take it," Kerrigan said. However high the Wolfpack is soaring, several Tar Heels said they will use the loss for motivation. Branam said, "A loss can send a team downhill, but not our team."

Tar Heel Offense Key To State Showdown

Rivers, McLendon will torment UNC defense

Game and time: No. 14 N.C. State at North Carolina. Kickoff is at 12:08 p.m.
Site: Kenan Stadium.
TV/Radio: Jefferson-Pilot Sports will televise the game. The Tar Heel Sports Network will provide live radio coverage; its flagship station is WCHL 1360-AM.
Records: N.C. State is 6-0, 1-0 in the ACC. North Carolina is 2-3, 0-1.
Series: North Carolina leads 60-25-6.
Personnel update: N.C. State — None reported. North Carolina — DT Eric Davis (knee) out for season; DE Issac Mooring (hand) out.
The key matchup: With all the new talk of Philip Rivers for the Heisman and the continued problems of the North Carolina secondary, N.C. State could get up to its 45 points per game average just by staying in the air.
But they don't have to. And that's what has UNC worried. True freshman tailback T.A. McLendon has built on his impressive high school résumé and has become the featured back in Raleigh. He's gained national attention by rushing for 421 yards on 93 carries and scoring 10 touchdowns this season, none of which has gone unnoticed in Chapel Hill. Nor has the play of the offensive line that blocks for McLendon and Rivers. "Their offensive line is real well-coached, and it looks like they're fighters, you know, scrappy guys," said UNC defensive tackle Chase Page. "But we can't really worry about what they do. We have to worry about us." So far this season, there has been plenty to worry about. The defensive problems have been well-documented, and it has gotten to the point that people wonder if last week's 38-35 points-a-palooza is the only way the Tar Heels can win. If UNC can slow McLendon, who has suffered from a wrist injury lately, it might be able to put some extra pressure on Rivers, although the Wolfpack has allowed just five sacks this season. "You've got to make a move," Page said of the Tar Heels' pass rush, which has made seven sacks this year and will be without Issac Mooring again this weekend. "You can't blank out in a

game and just run into people, which is what we've been doing lately." **Final analysis/prediction:** It's rivalry week in college football, even here in the Triangle. While State-UNC isn't exactly Texas-Oklahoma, Kenan Stadium still should be pulsing with excitement. It was only two years ago that a Wolfpack win in Chapel Hill caused an impromptu stomping of the "NC" logo at midfield by N.C. State players, upping the ante that much more. That said, the team from Raleigh is simply better than the Tar Heels. The 'Pack's schedule has been notably weak so far, with the exception of a surprising Texas Tech team, so it has been hard to see if the team is worth its No. 14 ranking. Regardless, State will put points on the board. How quickly it puts them up and how many the Tar Heels counter with early could shape the game. "We've been playing from behind," said UNC quarterback Darian Durant. "I think if we could get ahead, then we could put more pressure on the other team, instead of putting that pressure on ourselves." The burden could fall on Durant and his newly clicking offense to score and score often. After shattering Arizona State's fragile defense a week ago, UNC might have the confidence to take early chances — and might have to do so. "We're definitely not looking at the Arizona State game as a formula for success," Page said. Even so, if the Tar Heels can't put up some big numbers against a defense better than the one they faced last week, it could be over early. And if State takes control, expect the red-clad crowd in the far corner of Kenan Stadium to start getting rowdy. **N.C. State 35, UNC 28.**



N.C. State QB Philip Rivers has thrown for 1,481 yards and 13 touchdown passes through six games.

Volleyball Extends Winning Streak

By BEN COUCH
Staff Writer

The No. 11 North Carolina volleyball team is off to the best start in the program's history after defeating Duke 3-1 on Thursday. However, the Tar Heels should hope that the match isn't a microcosm for the entire season.

A torrid start was followed by a tepid second game, in which the Blue Devils (14-6, 2-3 in the ACC) dominated a sloppy UNC squad.

But the Tar Heels (16-1, 4-0) turned things around, winning the last two games for the victory. However, the win didn't erase North Carolina's mid-match missteps.

"This is one of those ones that leaves us very unsatisfied in the level of play," said UNC coach Joe Sagula. "When we came out, I was so excited with how well we were playing early, and I just want to see us maintain that level."

One Tar Heel who maintained it throughout the match was outside hitter Molly Pyles, who led the team by matching her career-high with 18 kills and recording a personal-best 17 digs.

Middle hitter Aletha Green also had an above-average day, tying her career-best with 11 kills. The Duke-UNC rivalry was omnipresent and emotions ran high — notably in UNC senior Malaika Underwood. Underwood let loose primal screams after making big plays and constantly implored her teammates to pick up their games.

"Every time we play Duke, we want to get up and have a good game," she said. "There's the rivalry, and we play hard every minute. So I am a little more emotional when we play Duke."

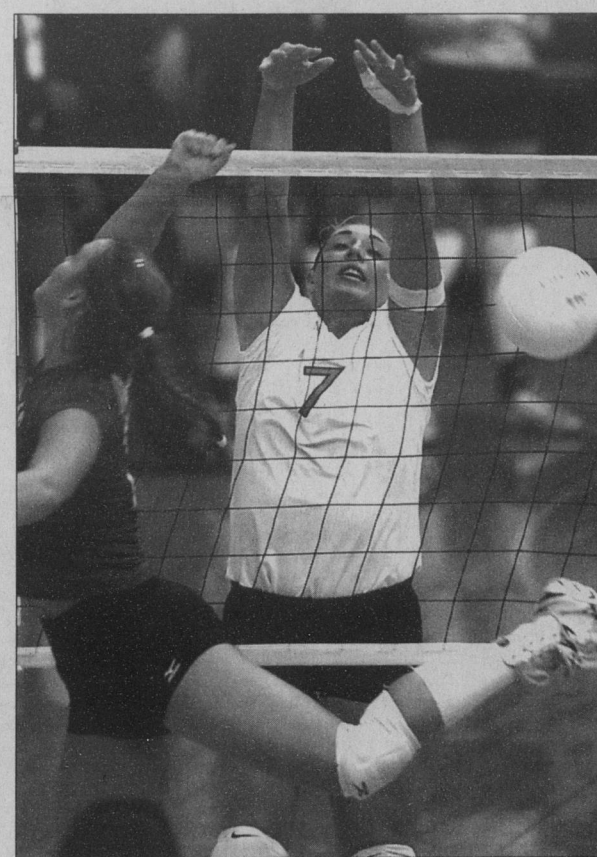
UNC used the rush to handily win the first game. The Tar Heels dropped the first point of the match, but never trailed again on their way to a 30-22 win. In game two, however, it was Duke's turn to be fired up. After UNC went up 6-5, the Blue Devils took over, and the Tar Heels looked out of sorts.

With North Carolina behind 19-14, a visibly upset Sagula called a timeout. He fired a quick comment at his players before stalking away from the huddle and facing the empty court for all but the last few seconds of the break. "I was disappointed with our effort, level and focus," he said. "I was trying to get this team pumped up."

The message didn't sink in, and UNC dropped game two to the Blue Devils, 30-20. The Tar Heels came out with renewed vigor in game three, going up 7-1 on the strength of two services aces from freshman Taylor Rayfield. UNC never trailed in game three and won, 30-23.

Game four was a back-and-forth battle until the Tar Heels scored four consecutive points to close out the match. "We're struggling right now to play our hardest game, but we're still searching for it, and we're still winning," Green said. "We just need to learn to finish teams, and finish games and know that we're the No. 11 team in the country and play like it."

The Sports Editor can be reached at sports@unc.edu.



UNC setter Eve Rackham (7) blocks a Duke kill attempt in the Tar Heels' 3-1 win against the Blue Devils on Thursday. Rackham also earned five kills.

Papa Hires 2 Assistant Coaches to Softball Staff

Staff Report

North Carolina softball coach Donna Papa has announced the addition of Connie Miner and Noleana Woodard as assistants to her staff. "I'm very excited about having both of them on the staff," Papa said. "Connie brings a wealth of experience. She's been

a head coach and knows about developing young players and programs. "Noleana brings tremendous experience as a player, both as a collegiate All-American and as a professional. And the fact they've worked together makes the transition of having two new coaches even smoother." Miner comes to North Carolina from

the University of California-Riverside, where she was the associate head coach. She has had two stints as a head coach, at San Jose State from 1996-2000 and at Eastern Michigan from 1988-96. Woodard coached as an assistant on Miner's staff at San Jose State from 1996-00. Woodard earned All-America honors in 1992 as the Spartans' right

fielder and went on to play professionally for the Tampa Bay Firestix. She will be inducted into the San Jose State Hall of Fame on Nov. 8. Miner will focus on pitching, catching, the infield and oversee the camps and clinics. Woodard will oversee the outfielders and hitters. Both will assist with all other areas of UNC softball.

The Lowdown on Saturday's Game

	N.C. State Wolfpack at North Carolina Tar Heels	
(6-0, 1-0 in the ACC)	Kenan Stadium, 12:08 p.m.	(2-3, 0-1 in the ACC)

Head to Head

<p>N.C. State's Rush vs. UNC's Front Seven:</p>	<p>T.A. McLendon is the truth. The Tar Heels' D-line has struggled, and Issac Mooring won't play again to due his hand injury. McLendon could go into should State get him 25 carries. Edge: State.</p>	
<p>N.C. State's Pass vs. UNC's Secondary:</p>	<p>Philip Rivers for the Heisman? Maybe not, but he still has thrown for 13 touchdown passes, and a reeling Tar Heel secondary could just help to pad those stats Saturday. Edge: State.</p>	
<p>UNC's Rush vs. N.C. State's Front Seven:</p>	<p>Jacque Lewis is tough and strong, but the State defense is decent against the run. Since the UNC offensive line hasn't proved it can dominate an opposing D-line, advantage visitor. Edge: State.</p>	
<p>UNC's Pass vs. N.C. State's Secondary:</p>	<p>Darian Durant is coming off a career day and will face an aggressive State unit that mirrors that of Syracuse, a team Durant burned for 284 yards and two TDs earlier this season. Edge: UNC.</p>	
<p>Special Teams</p>	<p>Lamont Reid has brought back two kicks for touchdowns this season, and the Pack can be dangerous when it comes to blocking kicks. Dan Omer continues to shine for UNC. Edge: State.</p>	

The Bottom Line — N.C. State 35, UNC 28

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