

Freshman forward Wes Shull (13) tackles the ball away from a Harvard defender. Shull had four shots in North Carolina's 1-0 win on Sunday.

Young Tar Heel team excels in close games

BY DAVID MOSES
STAFF WRITER

In soccer, it is not unusual for a team to play in a lot of tight games.

But what sets the North Carolina men's soccer team apart is its success in these games.

UNC pulled out yet another close victory on Sunday. Close wins, however, are nothing new for this Tar Heel team.

With UNC's 1-0 victory against Harvard, North Carolina improved to 5-1 in one-goal games this season. UNC coach Elmar Bolowich pointed to the team's tough schedule as a possible reason for the large number of close games.

"I don't know, maybe (the) other teams are good," he said.

With such a youthful team — UNC started four freshmen on Sunday — it might surprise some that the Tar Heels have been able to pull out these games.

Their success, however, is no surprise to freshman Corey Ashe.

"I think we are able to pull out these close games because of our intensity," he said. "We want to prove to the University and every-

body that we are a team to beat."

The 2003 Tar Heels might be young, but they certainly do not lack experience. Three star freshmen — Ashe, Jamie Watson and Michael Harrington — played together on the Under-17 U.S. National Team.

Watson scored the lone goal, as Ashe took a pass from Harrington and hit Watson in stride for a header that found the back of the net.

"We're so used to playing (together), we don't even think about it," Watson said.

The team's inexperience, though, might also contribute to the Tar Heels' inability to put teams away. While outshooting the Crimson 14-3, UNC only managed to net one goal.

With a game upcoming against No. 1 Maryland this Sunday, North Carolina hopes they can keep this important ACC contest close.

And if the game is decided by one goal, North Carolina certainly likes its chances.

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

Defense dominates in victory

BY MICHAEL CLARKE
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

With more than 75 minutes gone in a match between Harvard and No. 8 North Carolina, a defensive struggle had yielded a scoreless tie.

Then, in the 76th minute, freshman midfielder **Michael Harrington** broke free and dribbled the ball up the field toward the Crimson goal.

He passed off to forward Corey Ashe on the right side, who then sent a pass sailing across the goalie box to forward Jamie Watson at the far post, who headed the ball into the back of the goal for the first and only score of the game.

"It was awesome because it was my first home goal," Watson said. "And to be in a game like this, with a team like Harvard, they wanted to come in here and if they had gotten away with a tie, they would have been happy."

"So to get that goal, it totally disrupted their game plan and ended up being the game winner, so that made it even better."

Watson's goal was one of few exciting moments in a game that was dominated by defensive play.

"We tried to stay somewhat conservative," said UNC coach Elmar Bolowich. "We felt like in the duration of the 90 minutes, we could get an opportunity to score that one goal that would break the game open."

It was that conservative strategy of the Tar Heels (7-1-1) that paved the way to victory on Sunday. According to Bolowich, the strength of Harvard (3-2-2) on counterattacks led him to emphasize discipline on defense and staying back because one goal would most likely decide the game.

"You just want to go out there and you want to make something happen," Ashe said. "Coach has said, 'Let's get that one goal.' ... I knew, playing with Jamie and Marcus (Storey) and all these great players, something was going to

happen. And luckily, I got the ball and Jamie ran back post and headed it in."

Ashe came off the bench in both halves, jolting UNC's forwards into an offensive mindset after they were not really able to get into a rhythm under the oppressive Crimson defense.

"(Harvard) came out and starting off the game, they had five defenders and that never really happens," Watson said. "It got frustrating in a sense that we couldn't get anything early because they were just trying to make us play conservative, pass the ball around, and they weren't giving us any chances."

However, the Tar Heels managed to control the pace of the game and lead in shots. In addition, UNC maintained its focus in the face of the frustration created by Harvard's strategy.

"In the first half it was like Harvard defended with nine guys and continued to do that in the second half," Bolowich said. "But we didn't attack well out of the

flank positions in the first. We ran too much through the middle and the forwards were not really connecting, and in the second half that was much better.

"There was a little bit more flow in the game and our attacks coming out of the midfield."

With Harvard basically playing not to lose, it was up to the North Carolina offense, which had been relatively ineffective most of the game, to come up with the deciding goal or suffer the dreaded tie.

"I'm very pleased with the boys," Bolowich said. "The key thing was, versus Duke, sometimes we lost our composure, sometimes we lost our discipline in terms of our shape, and today that was much better."

"We improved, we made a step forward in this game. That may have not have looked as interesting to you as a spectator, but on the inside, within the team, we grew because of this game."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

Men's cross country finishes 15th

BY ANDY WALES
STAFF WRITER

CARY — The North Carolina men's cross country team approached Friday's meet against 22 strong teams with the desire to show the nation how well it could run against such stiff competition.

The team came away feeling disappointed with its 15th-place finish.

UNC raced against seven nationally ranked squads at the Great American Cross Country Festival at SAS Soccer Park, including No. 3 Northern Arizona, No. 6 Michigan, No. 14 N.C. State and No. 27 Duke.

Northern Arizona's Travis Laird won the 8K race with a time of 25 minutes, 33.9 seconds. Northern Arizona also won the team race, defending their title of a year ago.

UNC's top runner, junior Brian McGovern, led the Tar Heels. He finished 24th with a time of 26:23.3, just 50 seconds off the lead pace.

"Brian ran a really smart race," said North Carolina coach Michael Whittlesey.

Though conditions were tough, McGovern said he performed fairly well against some of the best

runners in the country.

The rest of the team, however, came away unhappy with its performance, believing it is better than what it showed on Friday.

The heat certainly was a big factor for the rest of the Tar Heels.

"Due to the heat and due to the tough course, they were hurting a little bit," McGovern said.

Junior Matt Daly and sophomore Tom Falvey echoed those sentiments — when asked how they would finish on a normal day, both answered simultaneously, "Better."

The two runners finished 94th and 95th, respectively, only eight spots behind senior Scott Price.

Whittlesey wanted the three runners to run as a pack.

"That was exactly the race plan," he said, but he also mentioned that the young runners lost confidence about a mile and a half in.

"They saw where they were at and rather than staying focused and confident that that's exactly where we need to be, they started

to lose a little bit of that confidence," he said. "They stopped executing the race plan."

Despite a 15th-place finish by the Tar Heels, the team believes it will get better over time.

"We're fine if we just continue to execute our plan," Whittlesey said.

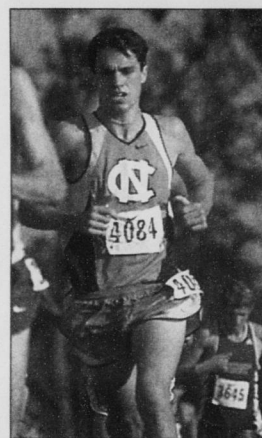
This race was the first big race of the season, run against several of the nation's top teams, and in the long run that can only help a young and inexperienced team.

"They refound themselves at the end of the race," Whittlesey said. "Scott Price was our sixth (or) seventh man at (the UNC Challenge) and today was our No. 2 man."

As the team gains more experience, adverse conditions will be less of a factor.

"Everyone has to deal with the heat," Falvey said. "Basically, we need to change some things. We have a much better team than that."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.



North Carolina junior Brian McGovern finished 24th in Friday's Great American Cross Country Festival with a time of 26 minutes, 23.3 seconds.

Ramsey scores 2 goals to lead UNC to win on road

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — Senior midfielder Maggie Tomecka scored two goals to pace the No. 1 North Carolina women's soccer team to 3-0 victory against Villanova at Glenn Warner Soccer Facility.

Junior Anne Morrell also scored for UNC (11-0).

Reddick scores twice in win

COLUMBUS, Ohio — North Carolina senior Catherine Reddick scored two goals to lead the United States to a 3-0 win against North Korea on Sunday.

Julie Foudy's header off a corner kick sent the ball to Reddick, who knocked it in with her right thigh in the 48th minute. Foudy later passed to Shannon MacMillan, who lofted the ball to Reddick in front of the net for a header.

"It was a shock," Reddick said. "It was the most exciting moment in my National Team career."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

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Chiropractic... The Choice For Me

Jason Kucma is a Third-Year student from Medford, NJ. He graduated from Ithaca College with a Bachelor's Degree in Exercise Physiology concentrating in Cardiac Rehabilitation.

"The only thing that has ever captured my attention was studying the human body. The more I learned in school, the more I needed to know. The most logical step for me was to become a Doctor of Chiropractic so I could truly help people".

Before making his decision to attend Logan, Jason visited nearly half of the chiropractic colleges in the United States. "Logan is in the perfect location in a safe, residential area. The Admissions staff are very friendly and helpful and the faculty are excellent."

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