

SPORTS

2003

YEAR IN REVIEW

Duke loss snaps 13-year streak

BY JAMIE AGIN
SENIOR WRITER

NOV. 22 — Like drivers passing a wreck on the freeway, some North Carolina football players were uneasy about what they saw, yet compelled to look. Others couldn't bear to.

Having just watched Duke defensive tackle Matt Zielinski sack Darian Durant to kill UNC's chances of rallying from a 30-22 deficit, the Tar Heels had to stomach something not seen since 1989.

The Blue Devils mobbed the Victory Bell and — with Zielinski riding on the cart — dragged it to midfield, where the picture posing began.

"I was crushed," said tailback Jacque Lewis. "Normally I'm the last person to leave the field at every game, but I left the field first. I ran in before everybody. I couldn't even be out there."

And this was after the good half. In a season full of inconsistent football, the Tar Heels saved their worst performance for Saturday's first 30 minutes and found themselves in a 23-0 hole at the break.

"Give me all the credit for not having the football team ready to play in the first half," said UNC coach John Bunting. "I never thought that would happen, but it did."

The Blue Devils (4-8, 2-10 in the

ACC) began their scoring with a 27-yard field goal set up by a 45-yard Chris Douglas run.

On the next series for UNC (2-10, 1-7), Ronnie McGill fumbled at the Tar Heels' 35-yard line. Duke recovered and tacked on another 3 points to make it 6-0.

After a UNC three-and-out, the Blue Devils drove down the field in 10 plays, eight of which were rushes. Cedric Dargan popped the ball in from the 1 to give the Blue Devils a 13-0 lead.

Duke's next possession was a particularly bad one for UNC cornerback Michael Waddell.

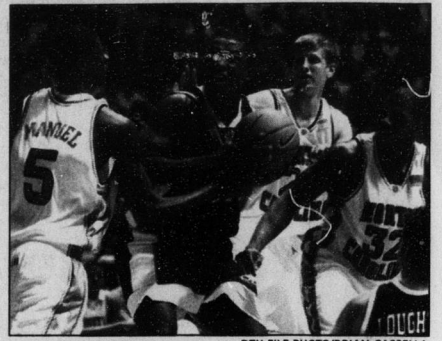
Douglas was stuffed on third-and-

short, but Waddell was flagged for a 15-yard personal foul in the secondary to keep the drive going.

The Tar Heel defense came up with another stop, forcing the Blue Devils to attempt a 41-yard field goal. The snap was high and Waddell appeared to have a clear lane for the block, but he stopped running. After the kick went through the uprights, Bunting grilled him on the sideline.

"I saw him stop," Bunting said. "And I'll have to review the tape there because he may have been bumped. I think he was afraid he was going to run

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DTH FILE PHOTO/BRIAN CASSELLA

Old Dominion center Arnaud Dahi (center) drives to the basket against Tar Heel guard Jackie Manuel (5) in the first game of Coach Roy Williams' tenure at UNC.

UNC opens season with decisive win

BY AARON FITT
SENIOR WRITER

NOV. 22 — It was mostly the same group of players that spent much of last season chucking up bad 3-pointers and playing half-hearted defense, but something clearly was different about the North Carolina men's basketball team Saturday.

For starters, the Tar Heels made more than 60 percent of their shots and held Old Dominion to less than 38-percent shooting in their 90-64 win at the Smith Center.

The game was only close for the first five minutes, and UNC (1-0) increased its 16-point lead to 34 during a seven-minute stretch in the second half during which it held the Monarchs (0-1) scoreless.

But the most striking change in the Tar Heels from a year ago is that they still aren't particularly pleased with their defense.

It seems new coach Roy Williams has raised the team's expectations.

"On a scale of one to 10, I'd give us about a seven," said UNC point guard Raymond Felton about the Tar Heels' defensive performance. "I think there's much more room for improvement, but we did do a lot of great things."

North Carolina was impressive on the defensive interior, blocking nine shots and grabbing 28 defensive rebounds.

The Tar Heels executed the trap very well at times, resulting in a number of their 13 steals. Several times during the game, North Carolina forced Monarch timeouts.

The defensive pressure facilitated better shot selection by leading to easy baskets in transition, largely accounting for UNC's high field-goal percentage.

Williams has preached about running the court and reducing bad three-pointers since he was hired, and his players apparently have been listening. The Tar Heels hoisted just eight shots from behind the arc -- and made only one of them.

"Our main goal is to get it inside first -- you know, inside-outside," said North Carolina guard Melvin Scott, who scored 15 points on 7-of-11 shooting. "We just want to take good shots. It's not a matter of cutting back on threes, it's a matter of taking good shots, and I think we're really focused on taking shots that the team wants and Coach wants."

Even in their half-court offense, the Tar Heels moved the ball well and took good shots in the post. Center Sean May finished with 17 points, forward Jawad Williams had 12 -- all in the second half -- and swingman Rashad McCants led all scorers with 18.

The three combined to shoot 73 percent from the floor.

Roy Williams' biggest criticism of his team was its offensive rebounding. UNC grabbed only nine offen-

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WOMEN'S SOCCER



DTH FILE PHOTOS/BRIAN CASSELLA

North Carolina's Lori Chalupny (left), Heather O'Reilly (center) and Lindsay Tarpley celebrate Chalupny's first-half goal in the Tar Heels' 6-0 victory against Connecticut in the NCAA championship game at SAS Stadium in Cary on Dec. 7. Tarpley and O'Reilly each added two goals to lead UNC to its 18th national title.

TAR HEELS WIN NCAA TITLE

BY BRIAN MACPHERSON SPORTS EDITOR
DEC. 7, CARY

As his team charged the field and mobbed one another at the top of the goal box at the north end of SAS Soccer Park, North Carolina women's soccer coach Anson Dorrance stood calmly in front of his bench.

He adjusted his sunglasses and walked across the grass to shake the hand of Connecticut coach Len Tsantiris and to congratulate the Huskies on their run through the Women's College Cup.

That run came to an end Sunday

as the Tar Heels dominated play on both ends of the field and took home both a resounding 6-0 victory and the NCAA title.

Dorrance's calm reaction to his 18th national championship was understandable. The game got so out of hand that Dorrance took time to answer a phone call from Tar Heel legend Mia Hamm with three minutes left in the game.

"She was very sweet," Dorrance said. "She basically told me to enjoy this moment, that I deserved it. She was just very, very sweet."

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Flanagan wins 2nd NCAA championship

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

NOV. 25, WATERLOO, Iowa — Flanagan won her second straight NCAA Cross Country Championship with a time of 19 minutes, 30.4 seconds in the 6K race.

The North Carolina women's team placed eighth overall with 294 points, 174 points behind first-place Stanford.

Flanagan finished 12 seconds ahead of second-place finisher Kim Smith of Providence. Rounding out the top five were Sara Bei of Stanford, Michaela Mannova of Brigham Young and Mary Cullen of Providence.

Flanagan has won ten meets in a row dating back to September, 2002.

UNC junior Carol Henry placed seventh in the individual race with a time of 19:59.3. Henry's performance was her career-best time.

Junior Erin Donohue placed 31st with a time of 20:40.2.

"Carol Henry had a great race today," said Coach Michael



UNC junior Shalane Flanagan won her second national cross country title; the UNC team finished eighth.

Whittlesey. "She did a fantastic job of getting into the front pack.

"Coming in seventh as a sophomore is a fantastic job, and that was a great finish for her. Erin Donohue ran a very solid race as well."

Other finishers for North Carolina were Megan Kaltenbach, Meghan Owen and Kristin Stroupe, all freshmen, and sophomore Jessica Perry.

Kaltenbach placed 157th and earned 124 points with a time of 21:36.9. Owen earned 134 points with a 170th place finish (21:43.8) and Stroupe placed 195th with a time of 21:59.5. Perry was able to finish despite suffering an injury

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Doherty resigns after subpar season

BY KELLY LUSK
SENIOR WRITER

APRIL 1 — Shortly after 8 p.m. Tuesday, North Carolina men's basketball coach Matt Doherty exited the Smith Center, a jacket slung over his arm. A fan approached Doherty, proclaiming his support for him and UNC basketball. A glassy-eyed Doherty shook his hand.

Inside the Smith Center, Sports Information Director Steve Kirschner read a statement from Doherty stating his resignation.

"Effective today, I have resigned the position of head basketball coach at the University of North Carolina," read Doherty's statement. "Clearly, this has been a most difficult day for my staff, our families and for me.

"Our responsibility has been immense given the outstanding history of the University of North Carolina, both academically and athletically."

When asked about his future Tuesday night, a visibly shaken Doherty paused before getting into the passenger's side of a BMW. He

said, "I'm not going to talk about anything."

And he didn't have to.

Director of Athletics Dick Baddour, Chancellor James Moeser and four players fielded all of the questions at the Smith Center.

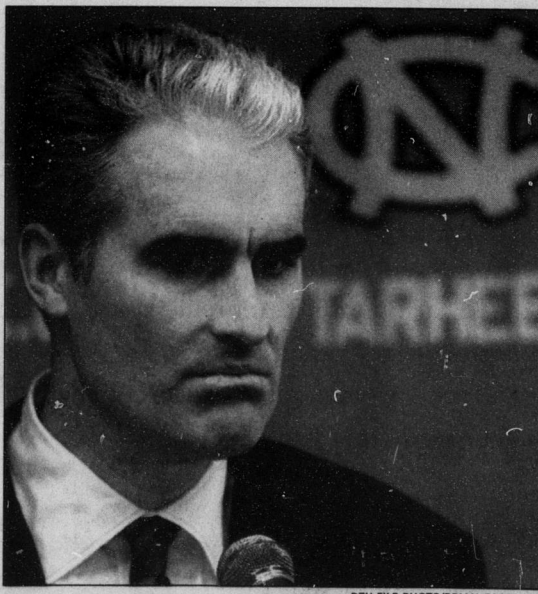
Baddour said Doherty, whose buyout will cost \$337,500, brought up Saturday the possibility of resigning. Doherty was 53-41 in three seasons, including 19-16 this season and a UNC record-worst 8-20 last year.

Baddour said, "Coach Doherty's resignation is not a result of the number of wins and losses we achieved this year or in the past three years. ... They accomplished a great deal for which we are very proud and thankful.

"At the same time, the players were constantly asked about their future in the program. They agreed out of respect for Carolina basketball to keep their feelings to themselves until after the season."

A group of nine players sat to

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DTH FILE PHOTO/BRIAN CASSELLA

Former North Carolina men's basketball coach Matt Doherty resigned on April 1 after his third season at the helm of his alma mater's team.