

Tar Heels easily defeat Wolfpack

Small crowd turns out for 9th ACC win

BY MARY DUBY
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The presidential election loudly raged on national television, but Carmichael Auditorium was relatively quiet as the North Carolina volleyball team defeated N.C. State 3-0.

The 'Pack has not won an ACC match since 2001.

"You can't draw as much from them," said libero Caroline deRoock. "We didn't have as big of a crowd, and the crowd wasn't as into it as they normally are, so we really have to look inside and draw stuff from ourselves."

Despite the quiet crowd of 305, the Tar Heels easily routed the Wolfpack 30-20, 30-17, 30-18 on Tuesday and recorded their fourth straight 3-0 sweep.

At times UNC (16-11, 9-4 in the ACC) looked as if it was going for a leisurely jog — the team did not have to earn a large number of its points. N.C. State committed 23 errors in the match.

"You're getting points, but you're not really earning them," said co-captain Katie Wright. "It's hard to really focus and start earning points in a match like this, but I feel like as the match progressed we became more intense and more focused."

The 'Pack (10-17, 0-13) gave UNC the first two points of the match by hitting the ball into the net. The Tar Heels led by as much as 13 en route to the 30-20 game-one win.

In game two, the Tar Heels earned more points because of their offensive effort, tallying 17 kills as a team. They recorded a hitting percentage of .500 in the game.

Taking advantage of a less-

intense match, UNC tried some new plays on offense, including combination plays where the right side and middle hitters crossed, Wright said.

"In game one we stunk at it, in trying to run some play sets," said UNC coach Joe Sagula. "We were not connecting. But if we do get it, I think that will help."

Even though the team struggled because of miscommunication on the new plays, UNC still recorded a season-high hitting percentage of .375 for the match.

Wright led the team with 17 kills and a .577 hitting percentage, and outside hitter Molly Pyles added 15 kills.

"I owe it all to the setter and passers," Wright said. "They just put the ball right in my hands tonight."

The Wolfpack put up more of a fight in game three and led by two points at 7-5. But the Tar Heels went on a 6-0 run and put the game away 30-18.

DeRoock led UNC on defense with 16 digs. Pyles added eight digs to move into a tie for third on the UNC career-dig list with 1,258.

Thirteen Tar Heels saw playing time, including freshman Christie Clark, who had a strong game with seven kills on nine attempts.

UNC's winning streak comes at an opportune time, and the team hopes to build confidence going into the ACC and possibly the NCAA Tournaments.

"To build momentum at the end of the year is really good for the team," Sagula said. "We're not thinking about what we've done in the past. We're thinking about the next match. All we want to do is keep winning the next match."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

Few lines, shuttles aid voters

BY KATIE HOFFMANN AND CHARLOTTE MURPHY
STAFF WRITERS

The prospect of voters spending hours waiting in line failed to materialize Tuesday, as many UNC students found voting surprisingly easy at Orange County precincts.

Precinct volunteers said that with the exception of early-morning crowds, lines were relatively short.

"We had a line out to the parking lot at 6:30 a.m.," said Olga Eyre, a Lincoln precinct volunteer. "After that it has just been a steady flow."

Many students said the state's early-voting program contributed to the ease of Tuesday's process.

"I expected voting to take several hours, but I only waited five or 10 minutes for the shuttle," said freshman Jessi Kemp. "It only took 30 minutes for the whole thing."

Students said VoteCarolina, student government's voter initiative, also contributed to the ease of the process by providing transportation to four of the five campus precincts.

VoteCarolina recruited drivers and other volunteers from campus organizations.

"This is just my way of helping out democracy," said senior John Troutman, a member of Young Democrats who volunteered to drive voters.

Troutman said that of the 25 or 30 students he shuttled during his shift, a vast majority were first-time voters.

Junior Leah Kimbrell, a first-

time voter, said VoteCarolina's efforts to increase awareness of the election process led to a high turnout of student voters.

"They have made a good effort to get people out there registered and aware of the issues," she said.

Many of these young voters said they were hesitant about voting early because they didn't fully understand the issues.

"I didn't vote early because I wanted to read up on the candidates," said medical student Liz Frye. "I didn't do my work like a good voter."

Of the students voting today, many said they tried to vote early but encountered obstacles in the registration process.

One such student was sopho-

more Victoria Kamenel, who tried to register in the Pit this fall.

Problems in the system prevented her from voting early, and so she was out again Tuesday.

"It was pretty convenient until I got a letter saying I had to mail in a photo copy of my ID," she said.

Despite some obstacles encountered during the election process, students remained optimistic that their votes will count.

"I didn't really know which way I wanted to go," Kemp said. "I hope my vote makes a difference, but at the same time I hope whoever is supposed to be in office will be elected."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

Justice praised for defensive effort

BY JACOB KARABELL
SPORTS EDITOR

While Chad Scott and Connor Barth earned much of the attention after North Carolina's stunning upset of Miami, the Tar Heels' defense played an equal or greater role in the victory.

Yes, the same unit that surrendered a school record of 669 yards against Utah on Oct. 16.

Yes, the same unit that was ranked 116th out of 117 teams in the country in 2003 and holds that same ranking in 2004.

Yes, the same unit that lost its signal caller, middle linebacker Fred Sparkman, to an indefinite suspension three weeks ago.

But that same unit kept the Hurricane offense in check Saturday, allowing 77 rushing yards, the fewest given up by the Tar Heels since their 52-17 win against Duke on Nov. 17, 2001.

"It was really good to see us, for the first time, stop the run some," said UNC coach John Bunting at his Tuesday press conference. "That was exciting to see, and hopefully we can build on that, because we'll certainly need to."

Bunting said the coaches named Doug Justice the defensive MVP of the game. Justice made his first start of the year Saturday, totaling five tackles and earning another starting spot for this Saturday's game against No. 18 Virginia Tech at Kenan Stadium.

"He's a very positive force on our defense," Bunting said. "He'd tell you he's limited somewhat speed-wise and size-wise, but he's very bright. ... He understands this game extremely well, and he's a coach on the field."

UNC's starting linebacker corps — Justice, Jeff Longhany and Tommy Richardson — helped prevent Miami from converting on the type of game-breaking plays that have haunted the Tar Heels the past couple of years.

The Hurricanes' longest dash of the game was a 14-yard run by Iyrone Moss. Miami's lack of ground-game success forced Hurricanes' coach Larry Coker to rely more heavily on a passing attack.

"It was great because they'd run a play, and we'd stop them, and then they'd get a little frantic," Justice said. "That was exciting for us because we stopped the run, and they wouldn't try it again because we had stopped it so much."

running back Jacque Lewis did not receive a carry in the game because of a back injury.

That will likely change for this week's tilt against Virginia Tech, as Bunting said that Lewis is practicing "full go" so far this week.

Scott, meanwhile, was limited in practice Monday, and Ronnie McGill hasn't practiced since re-aggravating his ankle on Oct. 16.

"I don't know if (McGill's) going to practice today," Bunting said. Injured tight end Justin Phillips (knee and ankle sprain) and defensive tackle Kyndraus Guy (bruised quad) are both expected to play this week, Bunting said.

RB Lewis practicing 'full go'

Though he played sparingly in the fourth quarter Saturday after Scott suffered a hip pointer, UNC

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

Media should take responsibility

North Carolina wide receiver Jesse Holley strutted into Saturday's postgame press conference shouting at the top of his lungs like he was Muhammad Ali.

Just a few minutes earlier, the super-talkative loudmouth had been stunned into silence by Connor Barth's game-winning field goal that gave the Tar Heels a shocking 31-28 win against Miami.

But when Holley marched into the lounge, he was on a vendetta, singing out ESPN's Lee Corso and Kirk Herbstreit, who had been saying all week that the Tar Heels' chances of pulling the upset were slightly less than none.

Holley's rant didn't end with ESPN, though.

"We believed when all the odds were against us. They was Ivan Drago, we was Rocky, everybody said we didn't have a chance," Holley shouted to the mass of media members that had gathered around him. "Forty-one-10, some of you wrote, whoever does the DTH. You said 41-10, I read it."

I was called out. There was only one thing for me to do.

"Actually," I responded while raising my hand, "it was 48-10." I had been wrong. I wasn't ashamed that I was, so I admitted as much.

Clearly, I wasn't alone. The Daily Tar Heel's banner headline Monday morning read simply, "Unbelievable."

Not as many people would have stormed the field and tore



DANIEL BLANK
BLANK EXPRESSION

down both goal posts if it wasn't a stunning, unexpected result, and people wouldn't be entertaining the argument that Saturday's victory was the biggest win in the program's history if they weren't.

But none of those people had their names next to the line, "Miami 48, North Carolina 10." So it's refreshing to see the likes of Corso and Herbstreit eating their words — if not their pencils — immediately following Saturday's game, even if Herbstreit is still convinced that senior strong safety Gerald Sensabaugh is a freshman.

Unfortunately, some of their colleagues refuse to do that.

Instead of admitting they got it wrong, ESPN's Mark May and Trev Alberts tried to make excuses for Miami's defeat.

But there were no excuses that needed to be made.

For one night, UNC was better than Miami. Plain and simple.

What May and Alberts should have done is not just follow the

lead of Corso and Herbstreit, but that of the coach who proved them wrong.

It was nearly a year ago that UNC coach John Bunting was blasted for what Corso and Herbstreit are being lauded for — calling himself out.

Last year, the Tar Heels lost to Duke for the first time since 1989.

Just as Saturday's win ranks among the greatest victories in program history, that loss was among the worst.

After the Duke game, Bunting followed the maxim that players get credit for the win and coaches get blamed for the loss.

"Give me all the credit for not having the football team ready to play in the first half," he said.

Many fans wanted Bunting fired simply for losing to the Blue Devils, and there were those who thought a pink slip should've been awaiting him as he exited the press conference, based on those comments alone.

But Bunting did exactly what he should've done. He jumped in front of the bullet and faulted himself before anyone could heap the blame on his players.

Bunting made a stand by taking the fall. It would be nice to see more media members do the same.

Contact Daniel Blank at danblank@email.unc.edu.

THE Daily Crossword

By Allan E. Parrish

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ACROSS

- 1 Thailand, once
- 5 Burn with hot liquid
- 10 19th-century actress
- 14 Distaff hoops grp.
- 15 Chick of jazz
- 16 Former Italian currency
- 17 Comet rival
- 18 Drive, as from bed
- 19 Spot
- 20 Bar
- 23 Record intro?
- 24 Friend in Paris
- 25 Actors' platform
- 27 Passover meal
- 29 Invasion beach
- 33 Word with head or noodle
- 34 Mauna
- 36 Colombian gold
- 37 Director Kazan
- 38 Bar
- 43 Leafstalk angle
- 44 Dumbo's wing
- 45 Na Na
- 46 Guys
- 47 Send packing
- 49 Fringe
- 53 Lingo
- 55 Tempe sch.
- 57 Charlemagne's realm: abbr.
- 58 Bar
- 63 Actress Cameron
- 64 Refuse
- 65 Lanchester or Maxwell

DOWN

- 1 Flooded bottomlands
- 2 Harm
- 3 Humbled
- 4 Long skirt
- 5 Get outta here!
- 6 "Gangsta's Paradise" rapper
- 7 Calla lily family
- 8 —majesty
- 9 Information
- 10 Native Alaskan
- 11 Benjamin of Britain
- 12 Chord played tone by tone
- 13 Part of a stable diet?

21 Seasonal song
22 987-65-4321 grp.
26 First governor of Alaska
28 Carrier to Israel
30 Garry or Roger
31 Yelp from Fido
32 Gardener's tools
35 Top point
37 Biblical twin
38 Tibetan priest
39 Work out
40 Certain cotton fabrics
41 Utter sharply

42 Cry to be heard
47 & more
48 Second of two mentioned
50 "___ and Louise"
51 Chalk remover
52 Makes roof repairs
54 Seeps
56 Tarot users
59 Temple athletes
60 Secular
61 Movie canine
62 Not counterfeit
63 ___ Leppard

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SHALL WE DANCE? REX 1:45-4:00-7:00-9:30

SHARK TALE REX 1:00-3:05-5:10-7:15-9:20

SURVIVING CHRISTMAS REX 1:40-7:20

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS REX 4:10-9:45

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SHARK TALE* REX Daily 12:50, 3:00, 5:05, 7:10, 9:20

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS* REX Daily 1:00, 3:30, 7:15, 9:50

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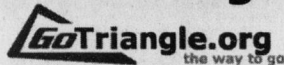
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