

## SPORTS CALENDAR

## FRIDAY, SEPT. 9

■ **MEN'S SOCCER**  
vs. Rutgers, 7:30 p.m.  
Fetzer Field

■ **WOMEN'S SOCCER**  
at San Francisco,  
7:30 p.m.  
San Francisco

■ **VOLLEYBALL**  
vs. Purdue, 7 p.m.  
Carmichael Auditorium

■ **MEN'S TENNIS**  
at Napa Valley Invitational,  
All Day  
Napa Valley, Calif.

## SATURDAY, SEPT. 10

■ **FOOTBALL**  
at Georgia Tech, 3:30pm  
Atlanta

■ **VOLLEYBALL**  
vs. Coastal Carolina,  
10 a.m.  
Carmichael Auditorium

■ **VOLLEYBALL**  
vs. South Carolina,  
7:30 p.m.  
Carmichael Auditorium

■ **FIELD HOCKEY**  
at Temple, 1 p.m.  
Philadelphia

■ **MEN'S TENNIS**  
at Napa Valley Invitational,  
All Day  
Napa Valley, Calif.

## BLOGGIN'

■ **BUNTING'S BOYS**  
DTH football beat writer Jacob Karabell posts more tidbits from Tuesday's press conference, as well as his own predictions for the Tar Heels' season. Check it out in View from the Press Box at: <http://apps.dailytarheel.com/blogs/pressbox.php>

## Bolowich and Shelton deserve student support

First, an admission: I have never been to either a North Carolina men's soccer or field hockey game.

Like most other students on this campus, I've been to my share of football and basketball games, even a handful of volleyball and baseball games. But never men's soccer or field hockey.

Second, a revelation: On Saturday, field hockey coach Karen Shelton won her 400th career game with a 3-1 win at William & Mary, and the next day, men's soccer coach Elmar Bolowich notched his 200th win behind a 3-0 shutout at Richmond.

Shelton, who's in her 25th season as the UNC head coach, has logged all 401 of her wins while in Chapel Hill. (The team won its home opener Monday against James Madison.) Her squads have won four national titles while winning games at a rate of 78 percent.

Under Bolowich, the men's soccer team won the 2001 national championship and placed two players on the 2002 U.S. World Cup team and 15 on pro rosters this year. He was the 2001 national coach of the year.

Continually overshadowed by the University's big-ticket sports and their coaches, Shelton and Bolowich have quietly built programs whose national prominence and supremacy rival that of most on campus and around the country.

And you shouldn't be surprised that they're up to it again this year — the Tar Heel men's soccer team is ranked No. 2 in the country.

While field hockey national rankings haven't come out yet, rest assured that North Carolina will get consideration for the top spot. The country's finest field hockey is played in Winston-Salem, Chapel Hill and Durham, and expect the top three positions in the first poll to be distributed along I-40.

The exemplary programs that Karen Shelton and Elmar Bolowich have orchestrated are extensions of the exceptional people they are.

Bolowich's players routinely



MATT ESTREICH  
STREICH ZONE

appear on ACC and national honor rolls, and in 1999 he was recognized by the NCAA with a merit award that praised his coaching style as respectful and professional.

Shelton is the only collegiate field hockey player to win player of the year honors three times in a row, and it's appropriate that the only challenger to that feat was Cindy Werley, who twice won the award at UNC — under Shelton.

Third, a challenge to you and me both: Attend either a field hockey or men's soccer game here on campus. They're easy to get to and free with a UNC OneCard.

Think of it as fulfilling your General College perspectives — except in terms of sports. You'll always have your "major" teams whose games you look forward to attending. Now is your chance to branch out and try other sports.

In lieu of a pickaprof.com for this type of thing, allow this column to serve as a recommendation.

May I suggest soccer's Friday game against Rutgers; the 7:30 start is the opener of the Carolina Nike Classic. At 7 p.m. on September 23, field hockey hosts Duke. I'll be at both, learning along with you (I hope) the finer points of penalty corners and corner kicks.

These fine ambassadors to UNC have lurked in the background long enough. On the heels of their striking milestones, we should give them and their first-class teams the recognition they deserve.

Besides, you never know when that one required class you didn't think you were going to like turns out to be the best one you ever had.

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## Baker's backup still unknown

BY JACOB KARABELL  
SENIOR WRITER

The last time Matt Baker attempted to slide during a game, it didn't look very pretty.

"I don't know if you remember, but back in Little League Baseball, you were pretty bad," Baker's father told him recently.

"For whatever reason, you just couldn't figure out the slide, so you'd go in there and you'd just look awkward all the time."

While the parental reminder was in jest, Baker knows that an efficient slide could be the difference between a promising and a disastrous season for the North Carolina football team in 2005.

That's because the Tar Heels' backup quarterback situation looks as tenuous as ever heading into Saturday's season opener against No. 17 Georgia Tech.

As of Tuesday, UNC coach John Bunting had not decided whether redshirt freshman Joey Bozich or walk-on sophomore Ben Johnson

will back up Baker in Atlanta.

Neither player has played a snap in college — the two players likely would have battled for third-string duties had Roger Heinz not undergone season-ending back surgery Aug. 24.

A couple weeks ago, it seemed that Bozich had secured the job, and his name has surfaced on the depth chart for the past two weeks.

But Bunting steadfastly has maintained that the position remained open, a stance he kept after Johnson completed eight of 13 passes in the team's final scrimmage Aug. 31.

A recruited walk-on that played on the scout team — at wide receiver — last season, Johnson thinks that he has surprised some of his teammates during training camp.

"I dreamed something like this would happen, but I really had no idea that an opportunity like this would come," said the Fairview, N.C., native. "I'm really, really grateful right now that things have happened the way they are."

And while Bunting has lauded Johnson's preseason performance, don't be surprised if the fifth-year coach gasps if Baker fails to slide.

"I'm sure if he went in the game, he'd certainly be pressed," Bunting said of Johnson. "It's different from high school. It's a lot different."

### Carey, Edwards set to start

While Bunting left the door ajar for either Bozich or Johnson to win the backup quarterback spot for Saturday's game at Bobby Dodd Stadium, the coach has nearly finalized the rest of his starting lineup.

Senior Mahlon Carey will start at strong safety, emerging victorious in a camp-long battle with sophomore Trimane Goddard.

The coach also said that junior Larry Edwards will begin the game at strong-side linebacker after starting in just two games in 2004. He received the nod in place of senior Jeff Longhany.

"I can't tell you how proud I am of both (Carey and Edwards)," Bunting said. "They have really put their nose to the grindstone in terms of learning what to do, focusing in on the right keys and leads and responding in a way that makes them successful."

Contact the Sports Editor  
at [sports@unc.edu](mailto:sports@unc.edu).

## UNC's trip answers few questions

BY BRANDON PARKER  
SENIOR WRITER

A curious buzz surrounded Coach Roy Williams and his North Carolina Tar Heels when they departed last Friday for the Bahamas.

But after handily defeating the Real Deal Shockers and the Y-Care Wreckers, Williams returned Tuesday with few conclusions to quiet the constant questioning of his young team.

"I'd like to tell you all these great things (that I learned), but it was just a couple of good pickup games," he said. "I'm not trying to downplay it, but these games did not show me anything glaring that I did not perceive or did not expect. The freshmen gained more from it than anybody."

While it's true that UNC gained a taste of the all-important experience and chemistry, several first-year players brought back a lot more.

Forward Danny Green suffered a thigh bruise Saturday, forcing him to sit out Sunday's game, while

guard Bobby Frasor sustained a shoulder stinger that limited his play during the weekend. Neither injury will force the players to miss any significant playing time.

But freshman guard Marcus Ginyard will need an estimated month and a half to recover from his injury. He underwent successful surgery for a broken left wrist Tuesday, an injury sustained in July during — what else? — a pickup game.

As a result, the burden of showing just where the freshmen class stands fell upon forwards Tyler Hansbrough and Michael Copeland. Williams said that both provided solid play off the bench, though Copeland has lots of room for improvement on the defensive end.

"The freshmen could have gained so much," he said. "Tyler and Michael did, but the rest of them didn't because of the health situation."

As for the "veteran" players, junior forward Reyshawn Terry displayed his ability to score by averaging 23.5

points a game — a number that could be adjusted, depending on who or which box score you consulted.

And Williams voiced satisfaction with the play of sophomore point guard Quentin Thomas, who recorded 15 assists and just three turnovers, according to the box score estimate.

Guard Wes Miller and forwards David Noel and Byron Sanders also started, but all 10 active players logged significant playing time.

The trip also allowed UNC to take part in four 75-minute practice sessions before departure. But Williams understands that it will take more than just two "pickup games" to prepare this bunch for the 2005-06 season.

"(Chemistry) was the biggest benefit from the trip," he said. "I've never had this kind of situation, so it's probably an approach where we've got to be more patient."

Contact the Sports Editor  
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