

## SPORTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, SEPT. 16

■ **WOMEN'S SOCCER**  
vs. San Diego, 5 p.m.  
Durham

■ **VOLLEYBALL**  
at Rhode Island, 10 a.m.  
Kingston, R.I.

■ **VOLLEYBALL**  
vs. Connecticut, 4 p.m.  
Kingston, R.I.

■ **MEN'S TENNIS**  
at N.C. State  
Invitational, All Day  
Raleigh

■ **WOMEN'S TENNIS**  
at William & Mary, All Day  
Williamsburg, Va.

■ **WOMEN'S TENNIS**  
at Tennessee  
Invitational, All Day  
Knoxville, Tenn.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 17

■ **FOOTBALL**  
vs. Wisconsin, 7 p.m.  
Kenan Stadium

■ **CROSS COUNTRY**  
Carolina Challenge, All Day  
Ranson-Hamrick Cross  
Country Course

■ **FIELD HOCKEY**  
vs. Old Dominion, 1 p.m.  
Henry Stadium

■ **VOLLEYBALL**  
vs. Arizona, 12 p.m.  
Kingston, R.I.

## BLOGGIN'

## ■ AN EYE TO '07

Some big-time recruits will be in town this weekend for the football game, but they aren't gridiron prospects. Which three hoopsters will be in Chapel Hill?  
go to: <http://apps.dailytarheel.com/blogs/pressbox.php>

## Tar Heels stymied by overtime tie

BY DEREK HOWLES  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

CARY — With about 13 minutes to play in Wednesday's soccer game at SAS Soccer Park, N.C. State forward Aaron King corralled a through ball, threw a fake and deposited a shot into an open North Carolina net. The goal — the first of the night for either team — looked like enough to win the game.

With about 56 seconds to play, UNC forward Ben Hunter, an NALA transfer who had converted a penalty shot

for his first Tar Heel goal only minutes earlier, struck a beautiful direct free kick that sailed directly over the head of Wolfpack keeper Jorge Gonzalez and into the back of the net. The goal, which put No. 2 UNC up, 2-1, looked like enough to win the game.

Enough, that is, until King literally kick-started one of the most remarkable sequences you'll ever see — one that knotted the score and sent UNC (4-0-1, 0-0-1 in the ACC) back to Chapel Hill with a 2-2 tie rather than a 2-1 win.

With just two seconds left to play, King knifed through the UNC defense and blasted a shot that struck the crossbar, ricocheting away harmlessly. Or so it seemed.

N.C. State midfielder El Hadj

Cisse knew better, though — and he took advantage, tapping the rebound past Ford Williams, the stunned UNC goalkeeper, with just 0.5 seconds remaining. Tie game.

"That was a hell of a shot," said UNC coach Elmar Bolowich. "Ford did what he could, but the guy nailed it. ... It was a nice play on their part."

Williams, rendered helpless by the long rebound, couldn't believe what he'd seen.

"It was pretty shocking," he said. "I've never had that happen before."

So shocking, in fact, that Williams immediately ran to the referee and began pleading his case to disallow the goal.

"I felt like it's kind of hard for a clock to stop on 0.5 seconds," he said. "I was just speaking my mind there, seeing if I could get something out of it. You always gotta try."

The game went to a pair of 10-minute overtimes, but neither team scored — giving the Tar Heels a tie in a game they should have won.

"A tie always feels like a loss," Williams said. "Obviously we want victories, but at the same time, we battled, and the team last year wouldn't have pulled through that game the way we did."

Williams was referring to the fact that UNC had a chance to win at all, an outcome that seemed unlikely



DTH/STEVE ANDRAWES

North Carolina forward Corey Ashe (15) goes for a header in the first half of Wednesday's match against N.C. State at the SAS Soccer Park in Cary. After two 10-minute overtime periods, the game ended in a 2-2 tie.

after King's goal — the first of the season against the Tar Heels.

"We came through pretty well in the second half," Hunter said. "We can hold our heads high — we played well."

After a first half that was about as exciting as a Friday morning recitation, Hunter was the main reason for UNC's improved play in the second.

His first goal came on a penalty

shot awarded after an N.C. State defender's hand clipped a Brian Shriver shot just inside the box with 6:48 to play.

"I just pick my spot," Hunter said. "He (guessed the location) right, but it went in anyway."

And Hunter's second score appeared to give the Tar Heels the lead for good.

Disappointing as it was, Williams said he thinks the tie against the

Wolfpack (3-2-1, 0-0-1 ACC), will prove to be a mere bump in the road as UNC heads into a brutal five-game stretch that includes four games against ranked teams.

"I feel like we can definitely go ahead and go on a streak again," Williams said. "It won't be difficult to do."

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

## Run defense may find itself in hole vs. Badgers

## Calhoun heads up Wisconsin attack

BY JACOB KARABELL  
SENIOR WRITER

Throughout the preseason, North Carolina players and coaches stressed that the run defense, ranked 109th in the nation last season, had turned the corner toward respectability.

This week against Wisconsin, that assertion will be strongly contested. The Badgers rushed for 651 yards in their first two games and boast one of the country's most physical ground attacks, led by Brian Calhoun.

"I call it bludgeon ball," said UNC coach John Bunting. "They will bludgeon you. If you are to stop them eight out of 10 times,

those two other times Calhoun can take it the distance. He has incredible acceleration."

Two years ago, the Tar Heels ventured up to Madison, Wisc., and lost to the Badgers 38-27. Wisconsin running back Booker Stanley filled in effectively for injured star Anthony Davis, amassing 119 of the team's 209 rushing yards.

Davis exhausted his eligibility at the end of last season, but Stanley was passed on the depth chart by Calhoun, a junior transfer from Colorado, before the season started.

And he immediately proved his worth in the season opener, tallying 258 rushing yards in a 56-42 win

against Bowling Green on Sept. 3.

"He really likes to run outside," said defensive tackle Chase Page. "We have to fit it up. We have to create an edge to the defense so that he can't break to the outside, so he can come back to the pursuit."

Page has some familiarity with the Wisconsin attack, as he started against the Badgers in 2003. The senior is one of four current defensive starters — along with safety Mahlon Carey, cornerback Cedrick Holt and linebacker Doug Justice — who started in that game in Madison.

"It's hard-nosed football," Justice said. "It's downhill. They're coming to get you, and they're saying, 'I'm more of a man than you are.'"

Much of the historic success of

"They will bludgeon you. ... Calhoun can take it the distance. He has incredible acceleration."

JOHN BUNTING, UNC COACH

the Wisconsin ground game, from Ron Dayne to Michael Bennett to Davis, has stemmed from the physicality of the offensive line.

This year's Badger front features three seniors, including Donovan Raiola, who is considered one of the nation's best centers.

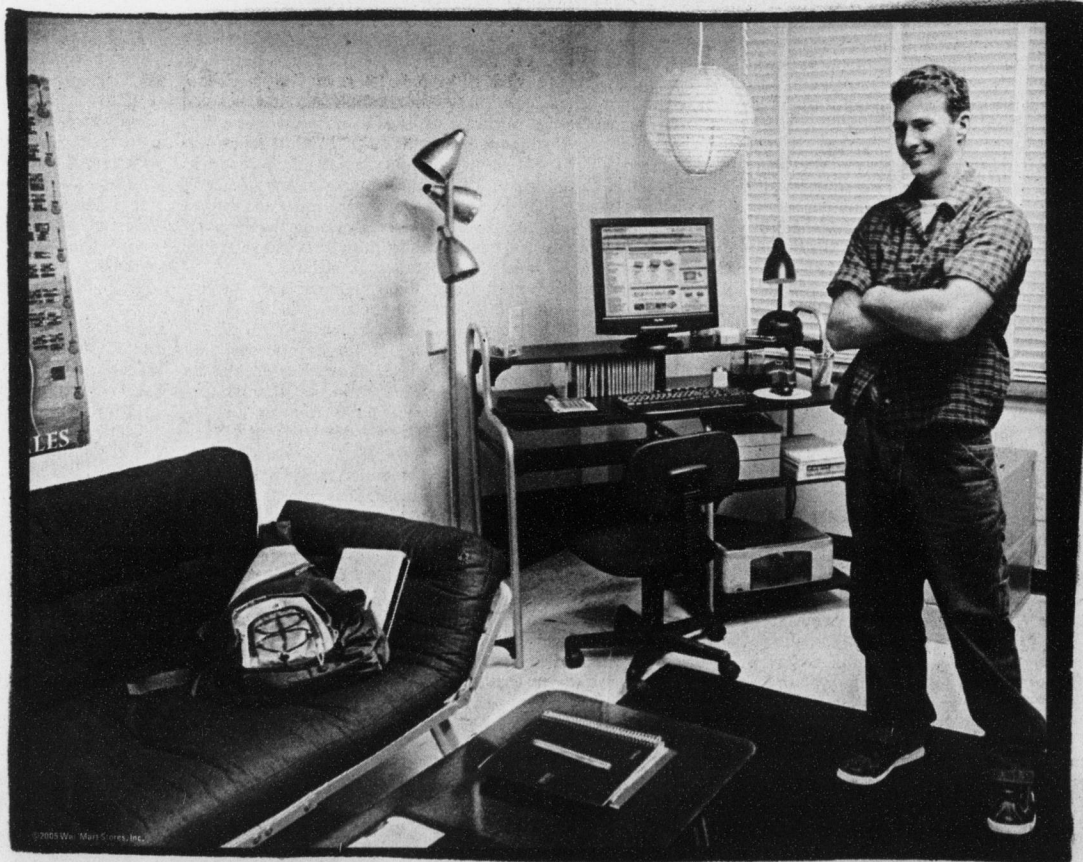
What's more, the five offensive line starters for Wisconsin boast an average weight of 302 pounds. The Tar Heel defensive front four, meanwhile, weighs in at a mere 271.

"We're just going to get ready for a dang dogfight," Page said. "You just have to make sure you get your hands on them and keep a wide base — they're strong guys."

"The thing about good offensive linemen is not only are they good at executing their assignments, they're tenacious. They stay after you, they hit you, they hit you after the play — get you frustrated."

Contact the Sports Editor  
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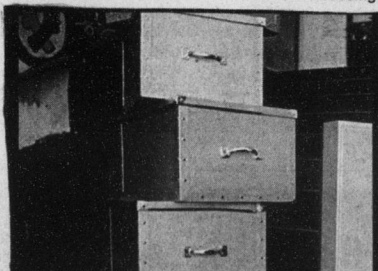
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