

ACC Offenses Super Charged

By CHRIS COBBS
DTH Sports Writer

1968. The year college football offenses had get-up-and-go. The year college football defenders had to get up and go after the offenders who fled in record numbers.

Nowhere is the chase pursued with more vigor than in the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Every league team is averaging better than 300 yards a game total offense. Virginia and Duke are above the 400 yard mark and headed for seasonal marks for total offense and passing.

The contest for individual honors is also a matter of breaking new statistical ground. Carolina's Gayle Bomar covered more ground against Wake Forest than any ACC performer had ever traversed on a single Saturday.

A second look at the conference stats shows the significant fact that seven of the teams are averaging more than 4.2 yards a play. This includes incomplete passes, fumbles and losses.

Virginia leads in total offense, total defense and both rushing categories.

A comparison of the positions of UNC and N.C. State in these listings reveals why the Tar Heels and the

Wolfpack occupy their respective positions in the race for the ACC championship.

The Heels rank sixth in total offense, fifth in total defense, fifth in rushing offense and seventh in rushing defense. They are last in the league in won-lost record.

The Pack is fifth, second, second and third respectively. What the statistics do not explain to Virginia's satisfaction is why State is on the verge of sewing up the ACC title.

A Wolfpack win over Clemson Saturday would thrust State to the throne for 1968.

Carolina quarterback Bomar gained 416 yards total offense

Saturday, but fares no better than third for the year in the category.

Last year's leader, Freddie Summers of Wake Forest, had 342 total yards against UNC and took over the top spot in total offense with 1302 yards in six games. He is trailed by Duke's Leo Hart.

Summers' 1967 aggregate was a comparatively modest 1419 yards for ten games.

Hart is the passing leader with 87 completions, and the Blue Devils' Henley Carter tops the pass receiving department with 40 grabs.

Wake's Summers comes second in passing, South Carolina's Fred Zeigler has the runnerup spot in receiving.

Their figures are 78 connections and 37 receptions.

UNC represented in pass-nabbing by end Peter Davis, who has 15 catches, good for ninth in the ACC.

Maryland's Billy Lovett is making a determined run at Virginia's Frank Quayle for the rushing title.

Lovett now has 654 yards and has reduced the Cavalier's once substantial margin to a slim 54 yards.

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