

# The Daily Tar Heel

Chapel Hill's Morning Newspaper

Vol. 83, No. 51

Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Saturday, November 2, 1974

Founded February 23, 1893

## HOMECOMING

### *Tar Heels host the Virginia Cavaliers at 1:30 p.m. today*

by Elliott Warnock  
Sports Editor

Ahhh . . . it's homecoming.

The weather is supposed to be in the pleasant-to-excellent range; the temperature is reported to be warm, in the high 80's at least; and North Carolina is hosting the University of Virginia in a football game, starting at 1:30 p.m. in Kenan Stadium.

It is especially fitting that the UNC-UVa game is homecoming. Old grads of Carolina probably remember the days when the sport of football was merely a pastime, something to watch on Saturday afternoons with a girl and a basket of fried chicken.

The matches between Virginia and North Carolina were fierce back in the days when they were two of the

small number of southern schools. The Cavaliers and Tar Heels would often meet to decide the "Championship of the South" as one newspaper put it, years ago.

During the 1920's, Carolina won one of the "Championships" at Kenan in a battle that was as hot as the noonday Carolina sun. Tar Heel students were so ecstatic they set fire to a medical school building.

The rivalry between Carolina and Virginia is as strong as it is old. Many Virginia fans considered the 44-40 win over the Tar Heels as the high point of the season last year.

This year, the game has been labeled as the crossroads of the Carolina season. The Tar Heels are currently 4-3 after losing to South Carolina in Columbia last week, 31-23.

It's been up and down on the yo-yo for Carolina this

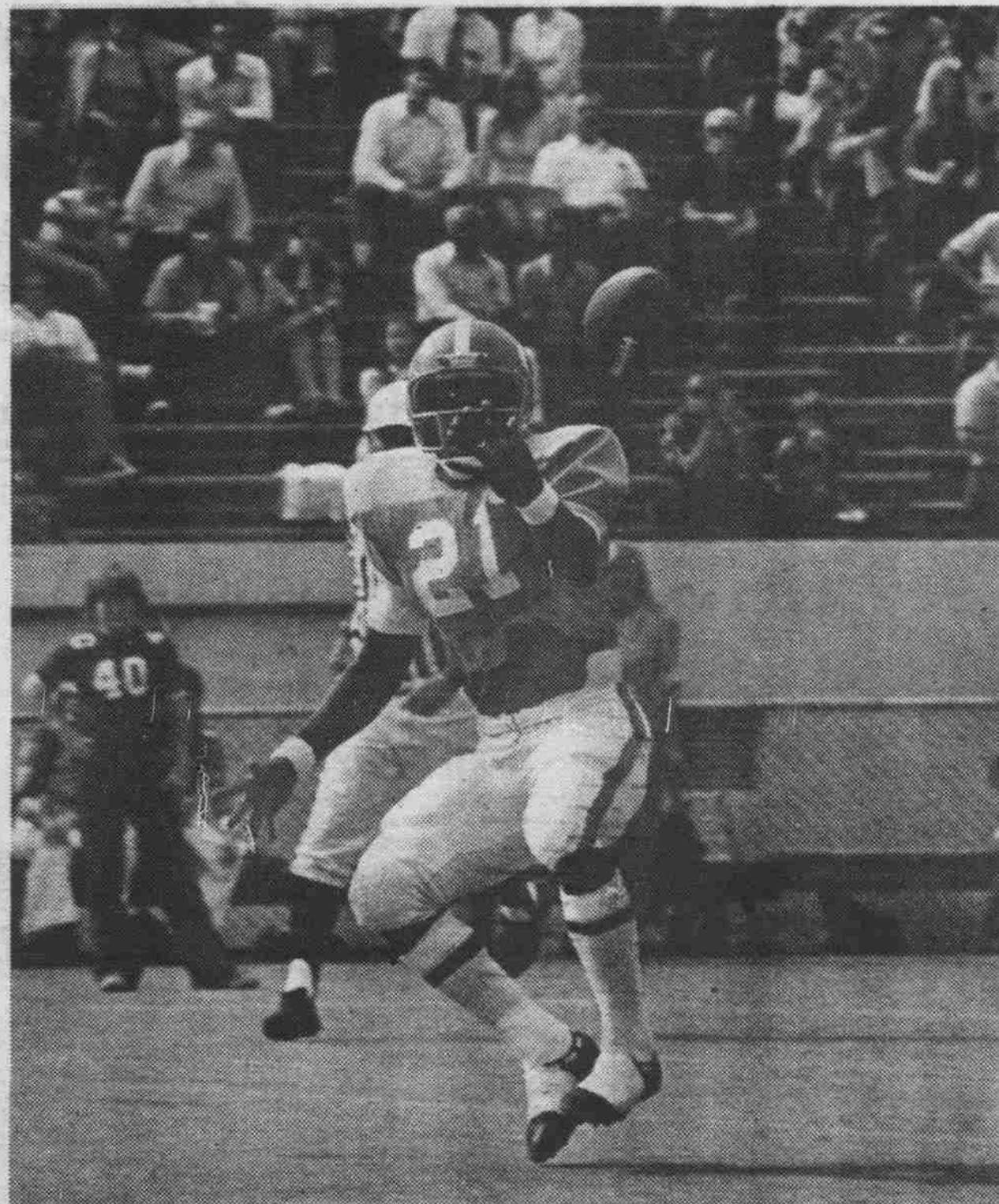
season. The Heels opened with wins over Ohio and Wake Forest, then lost to Maryland in College Park. UNC zipped to a 3-1 record after demolishing Pitt in Kenan, then lost on the road to Georgia Tech.

North Carolina State fell to Carolina in Kenan, but the road-jinx hit UNC last week at South Carolina. In essence, the Tar Heels completely dominate visiting teams in Kenan, and with the exception of Wake, can't seem to win on the road to save their lives.

UVa star quarterback Scott Gardner, the number one total offense man in the nation is out with a leg injury, so the powerful Virginia offense will probably be running a little low on gas.

Gardner will be replaced by Andy Hitt, one of the highest recruited players in the South.

But, even without Gardner, Virginia is still Virginia and fans will get their money's worth this homecoming.



Things can just . . .

. . . get away from you sometimes. Last week in Carolina, the Tar Heels got stuck on a yo-yo and lost to South Carolina, 31-23. The Heels host Virginia today at 1:30 p.m. in Kenan Stadium, trying to get back on the winning track.

(Staff photo by Bill Wrenn)

## Gardner is definitely out of today's game

by Susan Shackelford  
Asst. Sports Editor

Last year as a sophomore, Virginia quarterback Scott Gardner was named Atlantic Coast Conference offensive back of the week after his team's 44-40 win over Carolina. But today in Kenan Stadium his headlines must bow to the sidelines.

Gardner, suffering muscle swelling that pinched two nerves, underwent leg surgery earlier this week and his chances of starting are "absolutely nil," said UVa publicity director Barney Cooke Friday.

This injury, which has ended other athletes' careers, said Cooke, "has been exaggerated. There is some possibility of permanent damage, but I would say the chances are only one-half of one per cent it would not heal properly."

The 6-3, 200 pound Gardner, last week's national total offense leader, has thrown for 1,344 yards, completing 100-195 tosses that include 14 touchdowns. He played last weekend in the Cavaliers' 14-0 victory over Wake Forest, but by the second half of that game he encountered leg problems.

The previous week Gardner was kicked in practice. Then, after playing every play but punts, field goals and extra points against Wake, Cooke said, the muscle pressure increased. Eventually the pinched nerves deadened his foot, preventing any up-and-down movement.

To relieve the leg tension, which unattended could cause paralysis, team physician Dr. Frank McCue made three one-and-one-half-inch incisions that each

required six stitches and forced the junior star to the sidelines at least until Nov. 9 when UVa battles Virginia Military at home.

The loss of Gardner to the Cavalier team, now 3-4, means finding a new team leader and rallying point. Overall, the Sarasota, Fla. junior stands third nationally in total offense and fifth with the passing component. He averages 5.7 yards a play and 225.1 a game for 1,516 season yards.

Last year he accumulated 2,120 yards in total offense, finishing with a seventh national ranking.

Filling this overwhelming void will be either sophomore Andy Hitt, 6-4, 195, who this season has only run six plays (against Duke) or Jim Pruner, 6-1, 180, a sophomore who was red-shirted last season. Both are considered good passers but lack experience.

Also, many followers of the Charlottesville orange and blue remember what happened after a Gardner injury last year in the West Virginia game. Gardner injured his Achilles tendon and left the game at halftime with a 17-14 UVa edge. But without the aerial artist in the second half, West Virginia stormed ahead and held the Cavs scoreless for the period: 42-17 was the final score.

Describing Hitt, Cooke said, "He's a passer as opposed to a runner — almost a pocket passer, not a sprint out. The key to his performance Saturday is whether he can overcome the inexperience."

"But — Andy last year on the jayvee, and this year are two different folks," Cooke analyzed. "This fall he has shown more poise and confidence. Last year he was getting acclimated to college."