

# Tar Heels defense tough test for Gamecocks

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Carolina's defense will be able to stay in Ehringhaus Saturday and watch *Wide World of Sports*. Ron Bass, the Gamecock quarterback, is completing over 53 percent of his passes this season and has rushed for 214 yards.

"It seems like he's been around forever," UNC coach Bill Dooley said earlier this week. Bass filled in for an injured starter against Carolina in 1974, rushed for 211 yards and directed the Gamecocks to a 31-23 win.

When Bass gets protection from his line, he likes to throw to split end Philip Logan, who has pulled down 17 passes for 302 yards this season.

"He hasn't had a chance," Carlen said of Logan. "There are two things in a passing game—a thrower and a receiver. And when you don't have a line to block, those two are negated."

Fullback George Rogers has rushed for 348 yards this season, averaging 4.6 yards per carry, while tailback Spencer Clark has rushed for 336 yards—4.4 per carry.

And Carlen is worried about the Tar Heel defense. He is very much aware of the mincemeat made of the N.C. offense last

week by Carolina's defensive line in a 27-14 victory over the Wolfpack.

"We haven't played such an outstanding defense all season," he said. "They're very large. The size of their people is enough to intimidate any team."

Carolina snuffed nearly any semblance of an offensive attack by State, allowing only two clutch fourth quarter touchdown passes by quarterback Johnny Evans.

But Carolina's defense is not the only part of the Tar Heel team Carlen is worried about. He said he knows how the offense got on track against State, with quarterback Matt Kupec back to full strength after recovering from a leg injury and scrappy freshman tailback Amos Lawrence spinning, twisting and plain outrunning defenders for big gains.

"I wish we could've played them earlier before they put it all together," Carlen said.

Lawrence, now starting for Carolina, picked up 216 yards in 28 carries against State and earned national weekly honors for his performance, which included a dazzling 53-yard scamper.

Carolina's offensive line, for the most part, cannot accurately be called "inexperienced" anymore. Led by guard Mike Salzano, the unit has faced tough

defenses in Kentucky, Texas Tech and State and still was able to knock holes open for the Carolina attack. It suffered one setback when senior guard John Rushing suffered a leg injury against Wake Forest two weeks ago, but freshmen Donald Lucas filled in against State and did what Dooley called "a fine job."

A major job for the offensive line will be to contain middle guard Roscoe Watson. Rather than knock opposing centers out of the way to get to the quarterback, Watson (5 feet 11, 195 lbs.) likes to leap frog the center, Dooley said.

"Watson is quick," Carlen said, "but not very big. We have a small team."

The Gamecock secondary is very quick and, in free safety Curtis Boyd, has a prime pro prospect.

"This is a very capable football team," Dooley said. "They're a lot better than a 4-3 record indicates."

The games South Carolina has lost this season have been by two points (Georgia), four points (Duke) and seven points (Mississippi). The Gamecock's trip to North Carolina is only the second trip they have made this season. The first was last week when they traveled to Oxford, Miss., where they lost 17-10.



Defensive end Ken Sheets is one of the reasons Carolina's defense is leading the ACC in total rushing and scoring defense. Staff photo by Mike Sneed.

## Curry

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"While I'm here, I want this team to win an ACC championship. We're ahead right now, but the toughest games are still to come. None will be easy. (Maryland, Clemson and Duke all remain). I'd also like to go to and win a big bowl game, and I guess you could say I'd like to be on the All-ACC squad."

Curry, like most Carolina players, enjoys the home field advantage the Heels will have Saturday against South Carolina.

"Having everyone stand up and yell when we run out onto the field is really a great

feeling. My adrenalin gets going, and I get very excited. I love to play at home."

By lifting weights in the off-season and over the summer, Buddy devotes much of his time to football. He says he doesn't think there's any other way to do it. He's got to give it his best effort.

"If you're going to do something well, you should be willing to give it the best you have. I play football, so I try to go out and give it the best I have."

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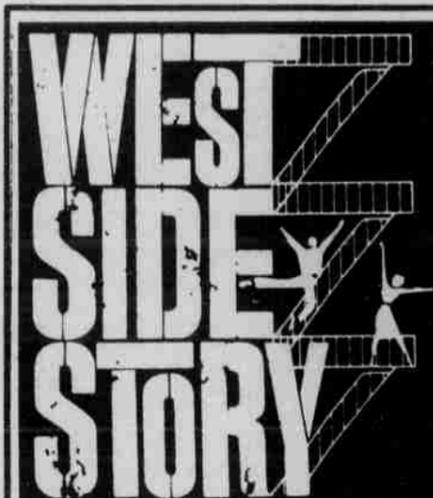
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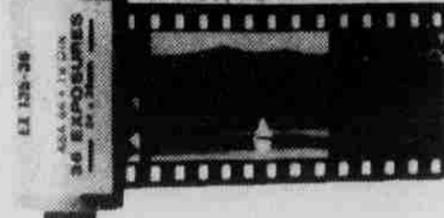
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