

SPORTS

football picks of the week

Overconfidence is biggest threat vs. VMI

By SCOTT FOWLER
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How do you get ready for a doormat team, one which your coach might politely ask you to wipe your feet on before stepping into the house?

Don't get overconfident, is the obvious answer. That might be difficult. VMI limps into town Saturday, coming off two games in which they allowed more than 400 yards and lost by a combined score of 68-29. The last three times these teams have met, UNC has waxed the floor with VMI by an average score of 60-8. 1970 was the most recent meeting, when UNC blasted the Keydets 62-13.

First-year coach Eddie Williamson is off to an 0-2 start, losing 40-15 to Virginia and 28-14 to Richmond.

Despite VMI's less-than-impressive statistics, UNC coach Dick Crum would no doubt have been proud of C.A. Brooks, North Carolina's starting offensive right guard. Brooks, when asked his forecast for Saturday's game, pulled out just the right cliches for the occasion.

"On any given day any team can beat any other," said Brooks, whose team is 1-1 and coming off an off week. "You've got to play the games one day at a time. I don't see them being that bad. You can't overlook them at all."

Bravo. But UNC can't help but feel slightly overconfident. The Tar Heels' offensive line, usually considered small by ACC standards, will outweigh the VMI front four by an average of 42 pounds (267-225). UNC's defensive front five will have a lesser advantage, outweighing the Keydets by 11 pounds. "Sure, we're looking for a shutout," said UNC defensive end Ron Burton.

"But mainly we want to play tough football. If it comes, it comes."

VMI has offensive statistics somewhat like UNC's. Both teams average less than 80 yards per game rushing and more than 240 passing. Senior quarterback Al Comer of VMI has completed 35 of 60 passes for 409 yards, and his freshman backup Dave Brown has thrown for 80 more yards. Tight end Steve Pancham is far and away the Keydets' leading receiver, having caught 15 passes in two games.

On defense, VMI also outwardly resembles UNC, as both teams play an eight-man front. Safety Mike Mayo and inside linebacker Louis Rucker lead the Keydets in tackles.

For the Tar Heels, Kevin Anthony's right ankle should be back at near full strength. He may not have to use it to back up in the pocket as much this week, as Crum has said that the Tar Heels will concentrate more on running the ball against VMI. Earl Winfield will be trying for his third consecutive 100-yard plus receiving game.



Fullback Brad Lopp has scored three touchdowns this season

Series Record

North Carolina leads, 14-6-1
First Game: VMI 10, UNC 4, 1893
Last VMI victory: VMI 7, UNC 0, 1927
Last Meeting: UNC 62, VMI 13, 1970

scoreboard

Major League Standings

as of Thursday morning

American League

| East | | | |
|-----------|----|----|------|
| Team | W | L | Pct. |
| Toronto | 95 | 56 | .629 |
| New York | 89 | 62 | .589 |
| Baltimore | 79 | 71 | .527 |
| Detroit | 79 | 73 | .520 |
| Boston | 78 | 78 | .500 |
| Milwaukee | 67 | 84 | .444 |
| Cleveland | 55 | 99 | .357 |

| West | | | |
|-------------|----|----|------|
| Team | W | L | Pct. |
| California | 85 | 66 | .563 |
| Kansas City | 78 | 73 | .517 |
| Oakland | 74 | 78 | .487 |
| Seattle | 71 | 81 | .467 |
| Minnesota | 70 | 82 | .461 |
| Texas | 57 | 94 | .377 |

National League

| East | | | |
|--------------|----|----|------|
| Team | W | L | Pct. |
| St. Louis | 96 | 56 | .632 |
| New York | 92 | 60 | .605 |
| Montreal | 79 | 73 | .520 |
| Philadelphia | 71 | 79 | .473 |
| Chicago | 71 | 80 | .470 |
| Pittsburgh | 52 | 98 | .347 |

West

| Team | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|---------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Los Angeles | 89 | 63 | .586 | — |
| Cincinnati | 82 | 68 | .547 | 6½ |
| Houston | 78 | 74 | .513 | 11 |
| San Diego | 77 | 75 | .507 | 12 |
| Atlanta | 62 | 89 | .411 | 26½ |
| San Francisco | 59 | 93 | .388 | 30 |

Men's Soccer

| Team | W | L | Pct. | GB |
|------|---|---|------|----|
| UNC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| USC | 1 | 1 | .500 | 2 |

Goals — USC: Bill Hency, Doug Allison
Assists — USC: Dan Ratcliffe, Scott Cook
Corners — UNC 6, USC 16
Shots — USC 16, UNC 14
Fouls — UNC 30, USC 19
Records — UNC 5-3

Calendar

Wednesday
WOMEN'S SOCCER vs. N.C. State, Fetzer Field, 12:30 p.m.
MENS SOCCER vs. Catawba, Fetzer Field, 3:00 p.m.

Pro Football
Sunday
Dallas (2-1) at Houston (1-2)
Green Bay (1-2) at St. Louis (2-1)

Thursday
L.A. Raiders (1-2) at New England (2-1)
Minnesota (2-1) at Buffalo (0-3)
N.Y. Giants (2-1) at Philadelphia (1-2)
Seattle (2-1) at Kansas City (2-1)
Tampa Bay (0-3) at Detroit (2-1)
Washington (1-2) at Chicago (3-0)
New Orleans (1-2) at San Francisco (2-1)
Miami (2-1) at Denver (2-1)
Indianapolis (1-2) at N.Y. Jets (2-1)
Atlanta (0-3) at L.A. Rams (3-0)
Cleveland (2-1) at San Diego (2-1)

Friday
Cincinnati (0-3) at Pittsburgh (2-1)

Saturday
FOOTBALL vs. Virginia Military Institute, Kenan Stadium, 1:00 p.m.
MENS AND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY, Tar Heel Invitational, Finley golf course.
FIELD HOCKEY at Temple, 1:00 p.m.
VOLLEYBALL at Lady Kat Tournament, Lexington, Ky.

Sunday
FIELD HOCKEY vs. Cal-Berkeley, Philadelphia, Pa., 11:00 a.m.
MENS SOCCER at Virginia, 2:00 p.m.
WOMEN'S SOCCER at Virginia, 4:30 p.m.

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