

<b>NFL Football</b>	L.A. Raiders 40	New Orleans 28	Minnesota 38	Chicago 17	Phoenix 16	L.A. Rams 31
	San Diego 14	Dallas 0	Houston 7	Cincinnati 14	Detroit 13	Atlanta 21
Denver 34	Philadelphia 31	Cleveland 51	Tampa Bay 23	Buffalo 27	New England 27	San Francisco 30
Kansas City 20	Seattle 7	Pittsburgh 0	Green Bay 21	Miami 24	N.Y. Jets 24	Indianapolis 24

# SPORTS MONDAY

**Buffin nets 2 to tame Tigers — page 5**

10/The Daily Tar Heel/Monday, September 11, 1989

## D-Day! Tar Heels bomb VMI, 49-7

### Rookies impress Brown

By ERIC WAGNON  
Staff Writer

North Carolina head coach Mack Brown knew he had brought in a talented group of freshmen. That group carried with it an impressive list of high school honors. However, at the college level, even the average players were high school stars.

"This time last year they were playing in front of 800 people," Brown said. "That's a big adjustment for those guys. They should not have played as well as they did. That was my fear going into the ballgame. You never know how an older guy is going to respond, so you sure don't know about a guy who has never been out there before."

Fourteen freshmen were listed on the two- and three-deep lineup for Saturday's game against VMI and, yes, they did respond. For the UNC offense, freshmen accounted for 13 receptions for 179 yards and two touchdowns. On defense, freshmen were credited with a total of 28 tackles, one sack, two fumble recoveries and two interceptions.

"They're in a position where they've been very mature or we wouldn't have played them," Brown said.

A UNC true freshman had never started the season opener in his initial season since freshmen became eligible again under NCAA rules in 1972. Four true freshmen — Bucky Brooks, Julius Reese, Tommy Thigpen and Rondell Jones — started Saturday. Jones moved into a starting role after sophomore Doxie Jordan was injured in a motor-cycle accident.

Unlike Reese, Brooks and Thigpen, who expected some playing time in their first year, Jones certainly did not envision trotting into Kenan Stadium for the first time as UNC's starting free safety. "To be honest with you, I was just coming in here to help the team out," Jones said. "I was with Torin Dorn and he just told me to go out and play. Torin and the older players really calmed me down, so when I came out I had confidence in myself."

Ironically, Thigpen was matched up with veteran Bernard Timmons, whom Thigpen beat out for the starting spot at inside linebacker. "I was like, 'what can I expect, Bernard?'" Thigpen said. "He got me through that rough time. He said 'Just calm down and just play your game and you'll do well.' I'd like to thank him for that." Thigpen and Timmons each made nine tackles on Saturday. Thigpen's total included one sack.

One adjustment which the freshmen almost universally mentioned was surprisingly simple. College games are longer than high school games. "In the first half, I was like 'It's still the first half?'" Jones said. "In a high school game, it would have been over by then."

"I came into today just pumped up real early. I kind of wore myself down," wide receiver Randall Felton said. "So I'm going to try to be a little calmer next week, so I won't be tired. After the first catch I made I was hopping up and down and going crazy."

That first catch came on the third play of the game. On second and one from the UNC 29, quarterback Jonathan Hall dumped a short pass to Felton and he broke several tackles until VMI linebacker Jeff Barnes caught him from behind after a 40-yard gain. Felton said, "Every time I get the ball, I'm thinking touchdown."

Another freshman, second-team fullback Mike Faulkerson, was thinking touchdown and got it on his second collegiate reception, a 38-yard strike from Hall with 1:12 left in the first half.

North Carolina's most-heralded freshman, quarterback Chuckie Burnette, played the last four series of the game. On his first series, he led the Tar Heel offense on a 76-yard drive, capped by Eric Blount's 33-yard touchdown run.

"The game itself was a glimpse of the future," Brown said. "We lose very few players off this football team for the future, so I think we've made tremendous strides in just this one year."



DTH/Evan Elle

Sophomore tailback Randy Jordan racks up some of his 98 yards in UNC's opening day rout of VMI

### UNC equals victory total of 1988 season

By DAVE GLENN  
Sports Editor

What a difference a year makes. The North Carolina Tar Heels, often the victims of lopsided scores in last season's miserable 1-10 campaign, got a long look at the brighter side of football Saturday as they lambasted the Virginia Military Institute 49-7 in their season opener before 50,400 at Kenan Stadium.

UNC's triumph against the Division I-AA Keydets, who dropped to 0-2 on the season, marked its largest margin of victory since 1985, when Dick Crum's squad blasted (who else?) VMI by the score of 51-9.

UNC second-year head coach Mack Brown, though pleased with his team's performance, was quick to warn against false confidence.

"I think it was obvious that we had better players than VMI," Brown said. "And that's something that we need to understand. We've got a lot of young guys out there. I think we're an improved football team, but next week (at Kentucky) we're going to have a different kind of test."

On Saturday afternoon, however, the Tar Heels seemed to ace each and every question thrown their way.

Led by physically dominant offensive line, UNC scored touchdowns on four of eight first-half possessions, while gaining 286 yards to the Keydets' 135, en route to a 28-0 halftime lead. The Tar Heels' front six — tack-

les Kevin Donnalley and Andrew Oberg, guards Pat Crowley and Alec Millen, center Carl Watts and tight end Brian Bollinger — solved the VMI defense early and often by consistently knocking Keydet linemen three to four yards off the line of scrimmage.

That paved the way for UNC's three-headed tailback — senior Aaron Staples and sophomores Eric Blount and Randy Jordan — to rush for 260 yards on 35 attempts on the day for an average of 7.4 yards per carry.

The Tar Heels took control on their opening possession, as senior quarterback Jonathan Hall came out throwing to his cast of freshman receivers. On the second play from scrimmage, true freshman Randall Felton turned an innocent-looking flat pass into a 40-yard gain with a nifty inside-out move in the VMI secondary. Hall culminated the nine-play, 80-yard drive with a soft timing pass to red-shirt freshman Joey Jauch in the left corner of the VMI end zone for a touchdown. It was Jauch's first collegiate reception, and it gave the Tar Heels a 7-0 lead they would never relinquish.

Another true freshman, Rondell Jones — who started at free safety in place of the injured Doxie Jordan — set up the Tar Heels' second score with an interception that he returned 11 yards to the VMI 33 yard line.

Six consecutive running plays led to

See FOOTBALL, page 5

## Women's soccer shuts out Central Florida

By SCOTT GOLD  
Staff Writer

Wow. Competition. Of course, it took two Top 10 teams to produce it.

This weekend at Finley Field, the North Carolina women's soccer team reaffirmed itself as the best in the country, beating seventh-ranked George Mason on Friday and squeezing by eighth-ranked Central Florida 1-0 on Sunday.

"This was our first shutout of the year, and obviously it came at a good time, since we only scored once," coach Anson Dorrance said. "Central Florida is outstanding, and I wouldn't be at all surprised if they were in the Final Four. There is no question that was our toughest match."

Central Florida, the first team UNC has faced this year with a realistic chance of upset, entered Sunday's match with nearly everything needed to win.

The Knights came in with plenty of motivation, not only because everyone wants to beat the champ, but because the Tar Heels knocked them out of the NCAA tournament in 1988 with a 2-1 victory, ending their season and preventing a Final Four berth.

UNC has a tight, stifling defense, anchored by junior goalkeeper Karen Richter, who turned in more than a couple crowd-pleasers during the match.

In front of the defense stands a swarming midfield and forward line, hurt by the loss of former All-American Michelle Akers (now an assistant coach), but still strong enough to drive to the goal and score ...

... against any sort of mortal defense. That's essentially what it boils down to. The reason that UNC is so successful, the reason they never lose, is because woman-for-woman, they are just more talented than any other team in

the country. North Carolina starts six national team players. They make up nearly half of the All-ACC team every year. They have a record-setting defense, and their midfield line is generally agreed on as being the best in the nation. Boy, it's a good thing they got the best recruiting class in the country again.

Shannon Higgins, enough to designate any team as immortal, proved to the crowd and the teams once again that she is currently the best player in the nation. Higgins churned out a flawless game, pinpointing every pass, anticipating plays, setting up countless chances and leaving defenders shaking their heads behind her in utter disbelief.

Usually swarmed by at least two defenders whenever she comes near the ball, Higgins has been blessed with a raw talent to read not only the confrontation at hand, but those that will

follow after she has polished off the current one.

Dorrance, normally suave and composed, could barely contain himself as he raved about his star.

"I would just like to point out that Shannon Higgins was absolutely and utterly brilliant today," he said. "She rose to even another level. I can't see another player in the country even coming close to her if she keeps turning in performances like that one. Absolutely magnificent."

Higgins and freshman Mia Hamm, ranked numbers one and two on the team in points (13 and 12 respectively), worked like a right and left hand in Sunday's game; an Abbott and Costello routine. Though only one of the combos actually resulted in a score, each was prettier than the next.

Hamm scored the game's only goal 48:06 into the game on a Higgins assist.

While Higgins worked her way around most of the UCF defenders, Hamm streaked downfield. Higgins placed the ball precisely in front of her, exactly where it was needed for Hamm to avoid a diving Richter and politely nudge the ball into the right corner of the goal.

Hamm and Higgins headed a solid offensive barrage, which pounded the UCF defense with 27 shots (to the Knights' eight) and eight corner kicks, UNC's most prolific scoring device. The ball was on the Knight's half of the field for the majority of the game.

"Except for being lopsided shot-wise, I think it was a typical UCF-UNC match," said Knights coach Bill Barker. "We had our chances and didn't convert them. We were the first team with a chance at challenging them. A lot of teams forget that Carolina is human and can make mistakes."

We'll see.

## It's all UNC in weekend volleyball tourney

By DOUG HOOGERVORST  
Staff Writer

The All Carolina Classic was appropriately named as it was all Carolina (North Carolina that is) in Saturday and Sunday's volleyball action. The Tar Heels swept their in-state opponents, Appalachian State, UNC-Wilmington, UNC-Asheville and East Carolina, picking up four victories. However, UNC played without its co-captain and best hitter, Sharon German.

German, a 1988 All-ACC selection and ACC Tournament MVP, was admitted to UNC Memorial Hospital Friday night with a fever of 104 degrees and released at six o'clock Saturday evening. She did not play in the tournament.

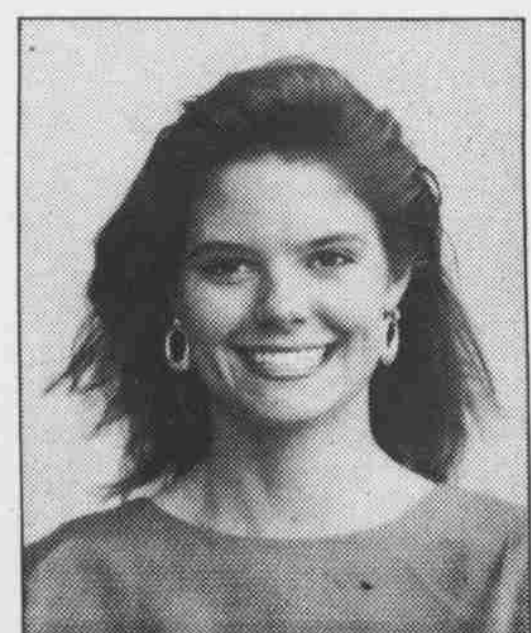
Saturday, North Carolina opened the Classic with an evening match with the Appalachian State Mountaineers. The Tar Heels adjusted slowly to life without German and were forced to five games by the gritty Mountaineer squad before winning.

After cruising in the first game 15-3, UNC lost the next two 12-15 and 11-15.

"When you have your MVP of the Atlantic Coast Conference and four-year starter out, it makes quite an impact," coach Peggy Bradley-Doppes said. "We had first-match jitters out there. It was the first time the kids had scrimmaged so I think that caused some of the jitters in games two and three."

Bradley-Doppes also juggled her lineup quite a bit, experimenting with size and speed to find the right combination without German.

"Playing without (German) made us find a lineup very quickly and I would



Lisa Joffs

up experimenting a little," she said. "The thought of losing never crossed my mind. I knew we could win. We just got very tentative for a little bit."

Following the script of the Andre Agassi-Jimmy Connors U.S. Open quarterfinal, the Tar Heels regained their composure and won the final two games easily, 15-4 and 15-1, to take the match.

Sunday, North Carolina continued its roll from the night before, beating UNC-Wilmington (15-6, 15-9, 15-10), UNC-Asheville (15-10, 15-5, 15-7) and East Carolina (15-1, 15-5, 15-2) in straight games.

"Against UNC-Wilmington this morning, we played well and then we got better as the day progressed," Bradley-Doppes said. "Everybody on the team got considerable playing time this weekend and we carry 17 players. It was a good opportunity for me to see

them all in action and to see what kind of chemistry we have."

And the Tar Heels needed to feel themselves out. With German on the sidelines, only two of the UNC starters, Liz Berg and Lisa Joffs, returned from last season. North Carolina started four newcomers: freshmen Amy Peistrup, Chris White and Carolyn Flanders, and junior college transfer Paula Martin.

Peistrup, pronounced (pie-strup), put a smile on Bradley-Doppes' face with her jelling play in her first collegiate matches.

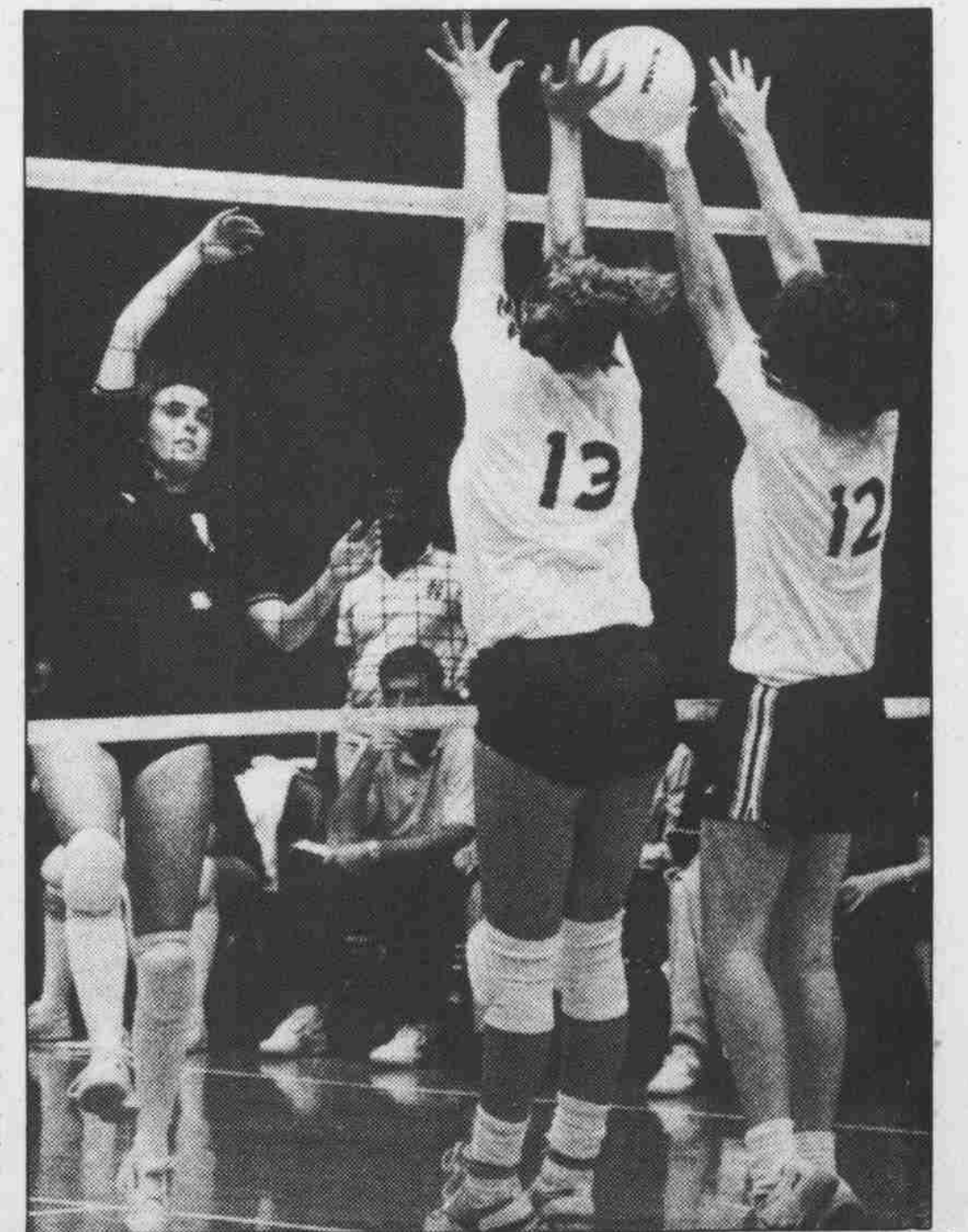
"One player that impressed me and why? Amy Peistrup. Hitting percentage. Kills. Assists. She did it all this weekend," Bradley-Doppes said.

Indeed, Peistrup did it all. She led North Carolina in kills with 33, in assists with 70 and hit over .500 for the Classic. And despite her freshman status, she was a leader on the floor.

Against Appalachian State, Peistrup totaled 26 assists and 9 kills, keying UNC's come-from-behind victory. Plays of Peistrup to Berg or Peistrup to Joffs looked as though they had been run thousands of times between seniors instead of for just two weeks.

The All Carolina Classic not only gave Bradley-Doppes a chance to see all of her players in action but continued to develop in-state rivalries and got the team out to a strong start. However, one could almost parallel the weekend scheduling to the Tar Heel football team scheduling VMI.

Nonetheless, Bradley-Doppes said, "Four wins any way you count it is a great start."



DTH/Schuyler Brown

The Tar Heels spiked ECU Sunday to win the All Carolina Classic