

Sports

Football: Towels, fouls and growls

The following is an exclusive compilation of the many, many fun and interesting happenings that occurred before, during and after the Tar Heels' utter destruction of VMI on Saturday. In other words, this is all of the stuff I have left over after they didn't give me enough space in Monday's paper.

NOTES: After the game, as the players and coaches were running off the field, one of the VMI assistant coaches yelled some derogatory remarks toward the UNC side of the field. When someone said something back (which I didn't hear), the same VMI coach screamed "No more #1*@\$#! passes." He was referring, methinks, to the fact that the Tar Heels were still throwing passes with a 49-point lead at the end of the game, not to mention the times they went for the first down on a couple of fourth-down plays.

Which brings us to this question: Why in the world did Mack Brown call a timeout in the fourth quarter with the



Dave Glenn
Sports Editor

Tar Heels leading 49-0? "In the defensive line we're only two deep," Brown said after the game. "On the last drive our second-team guys got tired and we had to call timeout to let them catch their breath before they could go back into the ballgame and finish." Fair enough. After all, Brown knows a little bit about what it feels like to be on the other side of a lopsided score.

What were those guys on the Tar Heels special teams coverage unit doing out there before each kickoff? The 11-man towel-waving frenzy, used to in-

cite the crowd before each of UNC's eight kickoffs, was the brainchild of UNC defensive secondary coach Vince Hoch, who also handles some of the special teams coaching chores.

Junior linebacker Bernard Timmons, who played to the UNC faithful all afternoon on the kickoff coverage units, responded to his demotion to second team (freshman Tommy Thigpen started at Timmons' inside linebacker spot) with spectacular play on special teams and in his back-up linebacker role. Timmons said the towel waving is all part of the new attitude surrounding the UNC football program. "I love it," Timmons said. "I think it gets the crowd into the game. It's an attitude swing. I think we're closer as a team right now, and we know what we have to do. So we go out there and practice hard. It's at times like that (fans going crazy) when it all comes together."

Brown answered the first question about quarterback Chuckie Burnette by inserting the much-heralded freshman into the game for the Tar Heels' final four possessions against the Keydets. That means, of course, that he will not be red-shirted this year. Also, barring an injury to Burnette or Hall, it also means that is now likely that sophomore signal-caller Todd Burnett, who started five games a year ago, will be red-shirted for the 1989 season.

By the way, the picture accompanying this article is an example of one of the latest innovations at the Daily Tar

Heel. It is provided to you at no extra cost. Shock.

On VMI's first possession, there was a third-and-six play from the 48-yard line. The UNC faithful started the traditional "Fumble, Fumble" chant for the first time. Sure enough, on the very next play, UNC defensive tackle Dennis Tripp knocked the ball loose from VMI fullback Steve Roenker and Tar Heel linebacker Dwight Hollier recovered. Amazing.

Brown on the Tar Heels' first win: "They'll get a more true test next week, of what it is to play on the road — which is hard for young teams to do — and to play against one of the better football teams in the Southeastern Conference (Kentucky). We've got our hands full, and we'll know more about where we are (as a team) next week than we do right now."

UNC's record on opening day is now 67-28-4, including victories in 16 of the past 20 years. With the VMI win, the Tar Heels improved their record in home openers to 17-3 over the same time period.

Lost in UNC's offensive explosion was the way the Tar Heel defense cracked the VMI wishbone. Inside linebackers Hollier and Thigpen led the way with a combined 21 tackles. The defensive unit also proved it could come up with the big play by recovering three fumbles and intercepting two passes.

Field hockey takes two over weekend

From staff reports

The University of North Carolina field hockey team spent its weekend in the City of Brotherly Love.

And though the Tar Heels didn't make history a la Benjamin Franklin or Thomas Jefferson, UNC sure enjoyed what pop singer Elton John would term its "Philadelphia Freedom." The Tar Heels completed a season-opening sweep of Philly-area schools Sunday with a 5-0 shutout of Temple.

UNC had beaten Villanova, 6-1, on Saturday.

Against Temple, senior Kathy Staley and junior Laurel Hershey each netted two goals. Staley, a 5-foot-4 forward from Endicott, N.Y., also added an assist and has scored four goals in her first two games.

She netted the Tar Heels' first score at the 18:09 mark of the first half off an assist from Leslie Lyness. Staley then set up Hershey's first goal, which came at the 12:49 juncture of the opening half.

UNC took a 2-0 lead into the intermission and opened the second half with a score by freshman Imke Lempers with 29:14 left. Lempers, a native of Voorschoten, The Netherlands, who had two assists against Villanova, scored off Lyness' second assist of the contest.

Hershey and Staley closed out the

scoring for UNC, which outscored Villanova and Temple, 11-1, and opens the season with a 2-0 record.

The Tar Heels will host Radford College at 7 p.m. Thursday at the AstroTurf Field in their 1989 home opener.

Track finishes 1-2 in Georgia

Over the weekend, the North Carolina men's cross country team won a seven-team invitational meet at the University of Georgia, while the Tar Heel women finished second behind Tennessee.

Freshman Andre Williams of Richmond, Va., won the men's four-mile race with a time of 21:35. The Tar Heels' top woman was junior Jane Boulter of Saverne, France, who placed fourth on the five-kilometer course with an 18:49 time.

UNC's men snagged five of the top ten finishes, pushing them to a 27-point total. Georgia was second with 57 and Emory third with 101, followed by Western Carolina (103), UT-Chattanooga (116), Georgia Southern (154) and Vanderbilt (174).

The women finished second with 35 points behind Tennessee's 27. Vanderbilt was third at 95, Georgia fourth at 108, Georgia State fifth at 153, UT-Chattanooga sixth at 170, Emory seventh at 197 and Georgia Southern last at 220.

Cautious optimism rules UNC veterans

By DAVID J. KUPSTAS

Staff Writer

Imagine each UNC football game as a ride on a bicycle.

"If you get on there the first time and fall off, you're going to be skeptical about getting back on," said cornerback Torin Dorn.

The Tar Heels were undoubtedly a little skeptical after the 1988 opener, a 31-10 loss at South Carolina. That season promised to be difficult because Mack Brown was entering his first season as North Carolina's head coach, and the Tar Heels were not quite as talented as they had been in recent years.

Now, Brown is more familiar with the program, and UNC has added speed and strength to its lineup. The result: a 49-7 mauling of Virginia Military Institute on Saturday to kick off the 1989 season.

"What we did (Saturday) is we got on the bike and rode around the block," Dorn said. "Next week, we'll take another spin and try to go a little further."

Never mind that VMI is a Division I-AA school with 1,300 people enrolled. Or that the Keydets finished 2-9 last year, just one game better than the Tar Heels.

What's important to the young players is that they were winners in their first game. Big winners.

"I think (the win) is great for the team, especially the young guys," offensive guard Pat Crowley said. "It gives you a place to work from. It's not like you have to start from ground zero; you've got one win under your belt."

"That's what football is all about, winning the game."

The experts said the first win last season would come in the third game against Louisville, supposedly one of the lightweights on the schedule. That "lightweight" beat the Tar Heels 38-34 and went on to an 8-3 season. The young UNC squad had its pride bashed six times before finally edging Georgia Tech 20-17.

"I think that's where we lost a lot of our confidence last year, getting off to a bad start early," said defensive tackle Cecil Gray. "I think we can get the ball rolling and hopefully make something out of this season."

Fortunately for the Tar Heels, nobody is relaxing after the VMI win. They are aware that another 1-10 season is still a possibility.

"We were up, but everybody has in the back of their minds that we can do a lot better than we did today. It was kind of like cautious optimism," Gray said.

After the Tar Heels went ahead 7-0

against VMI on a Jonathan Hall pass to Joey Jauch, the kickoff unit charged onto the field waving white towels over their heads. The towel ritual continued after every UNC score and at the beginning of the second half.

(Secondary) coach (Vince) Hoch came up with that idea, and everybody liked it," said linebacker Bernard Timmons, one of the towel-wavers. "It seems to get the crowd into the game, and when the crowd gets into the game, it sets momentum for the rest of the team."

The crowd, which was already cheering loudly after the UNC touchdown, yelled even louder when the players waved the towels. Fifty-thousand screaming fans can look awfully intimidating to a team that plays its home games in a 10,000-seat stadium.

"When the crowd gets in it, you just don't know how my adrenaline flows," Timmons said. "It makes me want to play as hard as possible."

The last year North Carolina fans had a lot to cheer about was 1986. The Tar Heels posted an 8-3 mark, earning them an Aloha Bowl berth against Arizona.

The current senior class was part of the team in 1986. This group, which includes Dorn, Gray, Crowley and quarterback Jonathan Hall, experienced the highs of 1986 and the lows of 1987 and 1988. They can only hope that this is the year the roller coaster will start taking them back up to the level of old.

"When you're winning, there's just a whole attitude about winning," Dorn said of his freshman year of 1986. "When you're losing, it's a different attitude — everybody's down in the dumps. Right now, everybody feels great."

The word confidence seems to come up again and again when the discussion comes up of a young UNC squad putting victories on the board. Confidence is one element the Tar Heels evidently did not have last year.

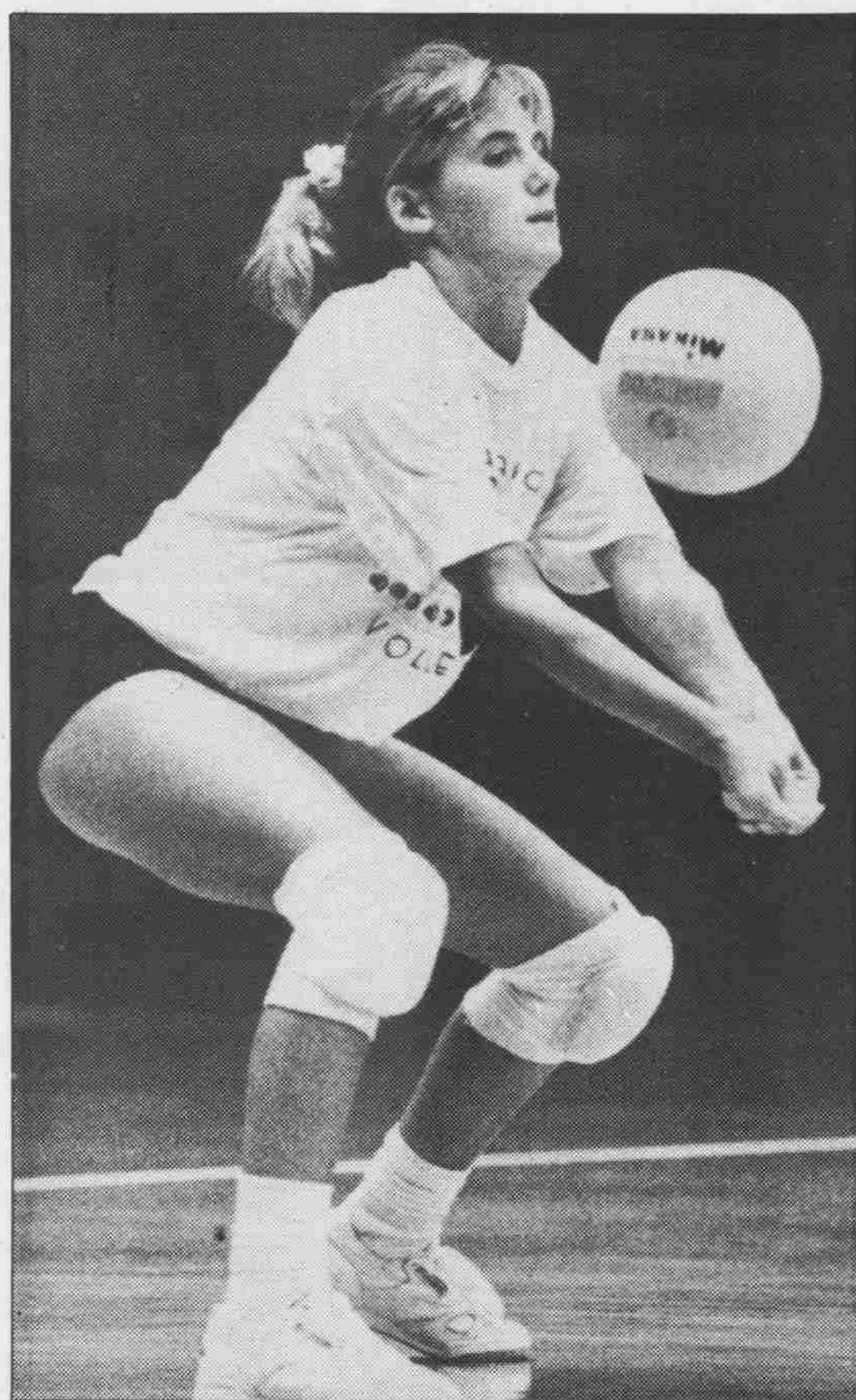
"Last year, we had new coaches that didn't know the personnel," said Dorn. "It was like a change. This year, we're more confident. We know what we're doing. If you have confidence, you can do a lot of things."

Dorn said he believes that if the Tar Heels can keep their heads straight and take each game one at a time, a bowl appearance would not be impossible.

A bowl game? After going 1-10 the year before?

"If you put your mind to it, there's nothing you can't do," he said. "If you had asked me (if UNC could go to a bowl) after the first game last year, that's one thing I really couldn't say."

Student-athlete



DTH/David Surowiecki

Miriam Fulford is one of 169 UNC athletes honored by the ACC

motivator and a calming force, and she's very coachable. She's found a way to contribute in a sport which has become a tall athlete's sport."

Participating in athletics while maintaining such a high GPA would tax anyone's time, but Fulford, as do all successful student-athletes, has found ways to manage both. Added to that, Fulford squeezes out a little free time.

"I find it easier to get things done if I set goals," she said. "If I know I'm going to have practice, I'll set a goal to get one class assignment done before practice and leave another assignment for after practice. By setting short-term goals, I get things done so I can have some free time."

"I think free time is just as important as study time and practice time. In the first semester, I didn't have any free time so I was stressed a lot. But when I

learned how to manage my time better, I started getting some free time, and it's really helpful to relax."

Fulford said no student-athlete could be successful without support from friends, roommates, family and most importantly, the team.

"The team is a good support for me," Fulford said. "When we travel, we all know we need to study so we help each other. It's like a family because we really get to know each other and support one another emotionally and physically."

Those factors lead to making a successful student-athlete and a successful person.

Bradley-Doppes described Fulford this way. "She's the type of kid you'd want your son to marry. I'm not kidding."

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