

Sports

Gamecocks struggling, but Heels struggling more

By JOHN BLAND Staff Writer

Last year, in UNC head coach Mack Brown's first game as a Tar Heel, the University of South Carolina Gamecocks rocked his world, 30-10, at Williams-Brice Stadium in Columbia. This year, the tables are turned. Sort of. First-year USC coach Sparky Woods brings his 5-3-1 squad to Chapel Hill this Saturday to meet Brown's hapless Tar Heels (1-8). But don't expect the Tar Heels to give Woods the same greeting the Gamecocks gave Brown last year. The Gamecocks are coming off two straight losses to N.C. State and Florida

State, respectively, but have suffered a more important loss in the injury to starting senior quarterback Todd Ellis, now out for the season. The Gamecock ground game is led by senior Harold Green, a bruising tailback who has 866 yards on 166 carries. Robert Brooks leads the team in receptions with 432 yards on 30 catches. The loss of Ellis might or might not be a blessing for the Tar Heels. Ellis, who had a strong arm but a poor eye, went down with a knee injury during a loss to N.C. State and is out for the season. His replacement, Dickie DeMasi, has played in two losses, going 14 for 30 for 161 yards and one touch-

down. He's also slung two interceptions. If the Tar Heel defense can shake up DeMasi enough while containing Green, it ought to be a close contest. Until the UNC offense takes the field, that is. Let the statistics speak for themselves. Catchphrase — er, Slogan of the Season: "Pass intended for..." UNC's three quarterbacks have completed a total of 97 passes (out of 230) for 962 yards, a 42 percent rate. And two touchdowns. And 15 interceptions. Freshman wide receiver Randall Felton has caught the brunt of them (28) for 369 yards. Nowhere to run to, baby: Tar Heel

tailbacks have gained a total of 325 yards in the last four games. Last week against Clemson, they had minus six yards rushing. Aaron Staples leads the team with 385 yards on 92 carries. Nowhere to hide: Well, maybe. Tar Heel running backs are hiding in piles of uncomplicated secondaries and Tar Heel quarterbacks...well, Tar Heel quarterbacks are not hiding behind their offensive linemen. Sometimes it's more like the other way around. Defensively, the Tar Heels are not playing poorly, just too much. Linebacker Dwight Hollier is second in the ACC in tackles, but the defense is still

last in the ACC against the run, as evidenced against Clemson. Perhaps a more startling note is the play (or total lack thereof) of the UNC offense in the last three games. After having a very respectable (for this team) showing against Virginia four weeks ago, the offense seems to have up and vanished. Receivers can't get open, tailbacks can't find holes and Clint Gwaltney can't continue to destroy his average by going for fifty-yard-plus field goals. Is it the exceptional defensive play of UNC opponents? Hardly. Is it the hesitancy of Mack Brown to take a few offensive risks? Doubtful. The very

fact that UNC has gone for first down on fourth-and-whatever on several occasions indicates a willingness to take a few chances. Brown is not afraid to fake a punt or a field goal here or there. Unfortunately, as happened two weeks ago at Maryland, they often go for naught. UNC simply needs, as Brown has repeatedly stressed, "good players in the skill positions," i.e. quarterback. And until either Todd Burnett or Chuckie Burnette gets the experience to lead this offense, it will be another long Saturday afternoon for UNC and another long, excuse-ridden press conference for Brown afterwards.



Peggy Anthon (25) and the UNC field hockey team begin NCAA tournament play Sunday in Boston

Volleyball hosts Georgetown, Florida to end regular season

By DAVID J. KUPSTAS Staff Writer

The UNC volleyball team gets its final test before the ACC tournament when Florida and Georgetown visit Carmichael Auditorium tonight and Saturday night. The 18-7 Tar Heels are coming off a 15-3, 15-11, 15-7 pounding of N.C. State Tuesday night. The victory gave UNC a perfect 6-0 mark in the ACC entering next weekend's conference tournament at Hilton Head, S.C. By winning the regular season title, the Tar Heels would receive a first-round bye in the tournament. "Getting two wins under our belt before the ACC tournament is what we're looking for, but by no means will they be easy wins," UNC assistant coach Eddie Matthews said. Marilyn McCreedy's Florida Gators finished fifth in the Southeastern Conference, just missing a berth in the four-team SEC tournament. Matthews said the Tar Heels must be wary of a team like Florida, one that is in the midst of a down year. A win over a regionally-

ranked team like UNC would do much to build momentum into the offseason and help recruiting for next year. Florida, which is usually a highly-ranked team, has struggled to a 13-12 season due partly to injuries to its experienced players. A group of talented young players has stepped in, however, and made the Gators still a dangerous team. Anchoring their attack is senior outside hitter Roni Armeta, who leads the team with 3.93 kills per game and 3.74 digs per game. Georgetown features a solid, all-around attack with an aggressive offense and stingy defense. North Carolina and Georgetown already met on October 21, with the Tar Heels winning, 13-15, 15-8, 9-15, 15-4, 15-7. The Tar Heels would rather not have that close a match this time, however. "I think the girls are pretty pumped up because their first match went five games," Matthews said. "The girls just want to go out there and prove, 'Hey, you caught us on a down day, but this is how we really look.'" In order to defeat either Florida or

Georgetown, UNC will have to establish its tempo early. These two non-conference matches give UNC a chance to work on its defense and on getting the middle hitters and blockers more involved in the attack. As of Tuesday, UNC hitters Sharon German and Liz Berg essentially controlled the top of the ACC statistics. German, who has won ACC Player of the Week honors three times since returning from her bout with pneumonia, leads the conference with 5.08 kills per game and a .375 hitting percentage. Berg is second in both kills (4.42 per game) and service aces (0.65 per game). "The past couple of weeks, Sharon and Liz have been exceptionally hot on the outside," Matthews said. "No one has seemed to be able to totally shut them down." Another player who has come on strong late in the year is setter Amy Peistrup. Her judgment in knowing which players to set up has improved, and her mixing up her sets and using her own attack is a lot better. She is fourth in the ACC in assists with 9.31.

Runners prepare for regionals

By MARK ANDERSON Staff Writer

North Carolina cross country coach Dennis Craddock doesn't want to hear "Wait 'til next year" just yet. After the Tar Heels turned in disappointing performances at the ACC Championships last week, many people have written them off. Craddock reminds the naysayers, however, that UNC has a chance for redemption Saturday, when the women's squad and three men will compete at the NCAA Region III meet in Greenville, S.C., on the Furman golf course. An excellent women's performance would give UNC an outside chance to qualify for the Nov. 20 national championships in Annapolis, Md. The top two teams from each of eight national regions will advance automatically, while six more teams will be selected as at-large teams. The women were fifth in the conference, losing to fourth-place Georgia Tech, a team they had beaten earlier.

"We conceded the top three (Top 20 teams N.C. State, Clemson and Wake Forest), but I thought we could beat the others," Craddock said. The Tar Heels will face the nation's largest regional field of over 50 teams, including the rest of the ACC and strong Kentucky and Tennessee programs. Last year, UNC also had a disappointing ACC meet but rebounded with a strong 10th place regional finish. "We bounced back last year," Craddock said. "Anything can happen. We have to go in with the goal of qualifying. I don't want to place any limits on them." Junior Jane Boulder, who finished 12th in the ACC, and senior Chryssa Nicholas, who finished 13th, have a chance to qualify as individuals. The top three finishers from non-qualifying teams automatically advance to nationals, while a maximum of two more runners from each region can receive at-large invitations. "Jane and Chryssa will have to be

on top of their game and have their best race," Craddock said. The men's squad finished seventh in the ACC, and despite its inexperience, Craddock was disappointed. "I don't believe we're the seventh-best team in the ACC," Craddock said. "We're better, and we should have run better. We don't have great talent with experience, so we have to have five to seven great performances instead of two." Freshman Andre Williams, who battled the flu to finish 23rd in the ACC, will try to complete an outstanding season by qualifying for nationals. Sophomore Vince Howard, 25th in the ACC, and junior Chris Kendrick will join him.

Field hockey heads north in search of national title

By NEIL AMATO Staff Writer

Whoever said field hockey wasn't a Northern sport is at least half right. The NCAA Tournament, which starts Saturday in four different cities, has a field of 12, with seven teams from the New England area. But the two top-ranked squads — No. 1 Old Dominion and second-ranked North Carolina — are strictly Southern. To make matters worse, three of the four sites are in the North, and two are in Boston. Sunday in Beantown, 17-2 UNC takes on the winner of host Northeastern (14-5-2) and New Hampshire (14-4). ODU also plays in Boston against the Massachusetts vs. Boston University victor. Why did neither of the top-rated teams get to host a regional? "It's cheaper," UNC coach Karen Shelton explained. "Instead of flying four Northeast teams down to Old Dominion and to North Carolina, they sent two Southern teams up to the Northeast." According to Shelton, her squad is excited just to compete in the tourney, where the Tar Heels will attempt to qualify for their fourth Final Four in five years. Shelton also said her squad is more at home on the road. "Personally, I think we're a better group when we're away. I have more

control, and we're together as a team," she said. "When we're at home, everyone's kind of going in a different direction. When we're away, we don't have those distractions." Except for losses to Northwestern and ODU, the Tar Heels have not been bothered by distractions. One hindrance for this weekend, though, could be the nippy Boston weather. "We're going to try not to focus on the weather," Shelton said. "It would be unfortunate if we started dwelling on it. That's something we have absolutely no control over. We need to steer away from the things we can't control and worry about the things we can control." So far this season, North Carolina has been able to exercise some control over most aspects of play. The most outstanding item is the 81-10 goal margin. For example, the Tar Heels' third-leading scorer, junior Laurel Hershey, has scored more goals than all of UNC's opponents combined. Yes, senior Kathy Staley has tallied 26 times and freshman Imke Lempers has 24 scores, but the unheralded defense has performed superbly, too. Shelton rarely singles out players, especially on defense. But this time, she mentioned one fullback who has stood out. "Nancy Lang. I'll point her out —

she's been playing great," Shelton said. "She's been working hard in practice, and she's more confident. Her attitude is just wonderful." If Northeastern wins Saturday, Lang had better continue to play well. The Killingworth, Conn., native will most likely be assigned to mark the Huskies' fleet-footed wing, Deb Sweeney. The secret of UNC's success is senior captain Leslie Lyness. From her position at center midfield, Lyness has dished out 21 assists. For her career, the 1988 first-team All-America has 35 assists, putting her within three of the UNC all-time record. Recently, UNC has fared well against its two possible opponents. Last season, the Tar Heels beat the Wildcats, 4-0. Earlier this year, UNC nipped Northeastern, 2-1. "I think it's going to be a dogfight," she said. "Either team can win; both teams are very talented." The Tar Heels, whose last game was Oct. 29 in the Atlantic Coast Conference final, is ending a two-week layoff from competition. Shelton thinks the break has been good for the team. "If anything, it will make our kids more anxious and hungry to play," Shelton said. "At the end of the ACC Tournament, our legs were tired. We needed a couple of days off. Now, we're ready to play."

DTH Picks of the Week

Table with columns for Record, Winning Percentage, Games of the Week, and various teams like USC, N.C. State, Duke, etc.

(Editor's note: Hey you reprobates! Just because you're the only reason people read this liberal rag doesn't mean you can ignore the basic standards of journalism and good taste. From now on, no more references to beer, sex, illegal activities and Playboy centerfolds!) Did you hear something? Anyway, on with the show...

Ahhhhh. I feel much better now. I hope she didn't censor too much of that illuminating prose. So this week, we all sat down, had some milk and cookies, read the Bible, watched Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs and started working on our popcorn and cranberry strings for Christmas. It was then that we came up with that picture of purity. Dave's mom — yes, Mrs. Patricia (I never figured out where we went wrong with David) Glenn — as the immortal Guest Picker in Week Eleven. Last week, Dave (I'm really just a mamma's boy when it comes right down to it) Glenn coasted in last week with an 8-2 mark, and stretched his lead to a whopping three games. Jamie (C'mon, c'mon, C'MON wait for ME! I'm telling mom!) Rosenberg went an abysmal 6-4, John (Ooooh that Night Train is a mean wine) Bland moved up to third with a sparkling 9-1 record, to tie Andrew (Crack that whip, Lee) Podolsky at seven games back.

Catch a ride home for Thanksgiving in the DTH classifieds.

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TAR HEEL SPORTS SHORTS SUNDAY WOMEN'S SOCCER VS. UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD 2nd Round - NCAA Tournament 1:00 PM FINLEY FIELD Hardee's

CRIMES AND MISDEMEANORS WOODY ALLEN MARTIN LANDAU MIA FARROW ALAN ALDA WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY WOODY ALLEN 2:15 • 4:30 • 7:15 • 9:30 'sex' is even better the second time around sex, lies, and videotape 4:15 • 9:15 MUST END NOV. 16 HURRY - MUST END NOV. 16 the little thief 2:05 • 7:05