

# No. 15 UNC adds two aces

## Webb, Thornqvist join already talented Heels

By Jay Exum  
Staff Writer

The 1991 North Carolina men's tennis team has something to prove.

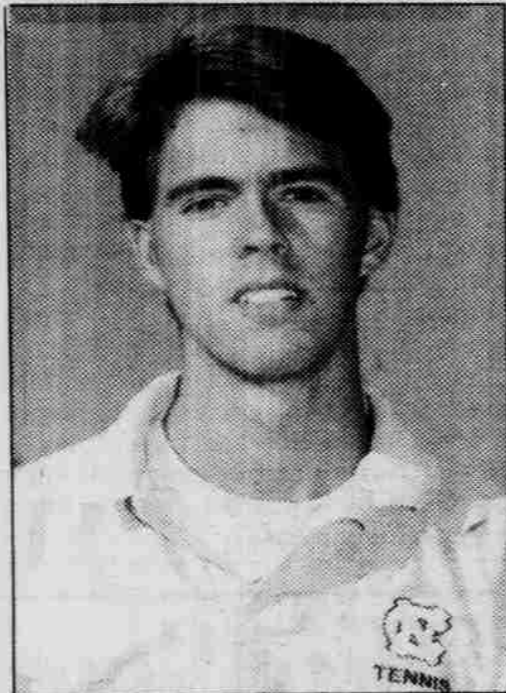
After a dry spell of 12 years, the Tar Heels claimed an ACC title last year to break the drought. Now they have to prove they're here to stay.

Head coach Allen Morris has a head start on his competition, though. Despite losing two seniors from the 1990 team, he still has the inside track to the title. As if that were not enough, he caught what seems to be a wonderfully contagious disease in the UNC athletic department: He managed to garner a top-notch batch of recruits.

So good in fact, that two of the newcomers are already filling the No. 1 and No. 2 singles spots. They might also be striking fear into the hearts of ACC opponents that know they must face these young phenoms for a few years to come.

Those two players constitute one freshman and one sophomore transfer. The freshman is Chapel Hill native Woody Webb, who played his high school tennis at nearby Durham Academy before deciding to attend Louisiana State. Webb, however, decided that LSU was not the place for him, so he did not play for the Tigers and retained all four years of eligibility.

"I went to Louisiana State because the coach was good at recruiting," Webb



Roland Thornqvist

said. "They were ranked second in the country at the time, and I also wanted to get away from this area for a little while because I had been living here my whole life."

Webb added that the UNC atmosphere has been a welcome change for him.

"I've grown up with most of the guys on this team in juniors, and most of them are my best friends," he said. "I like Coach Morris a lot (and) that makes it easier to work harder."

### Men's Tennis

**Head Coach:** J. Allen Morris (Presbyterian 1956)

**Career Record:** 181-103 (11th year)

**Record at School:** same

**Assistant Coach:** Sam Paul

**1990 Record:** 19-8, 5-2 ACC (champion), 24th NCAA

**Starters Returning/Lost:** 5/1

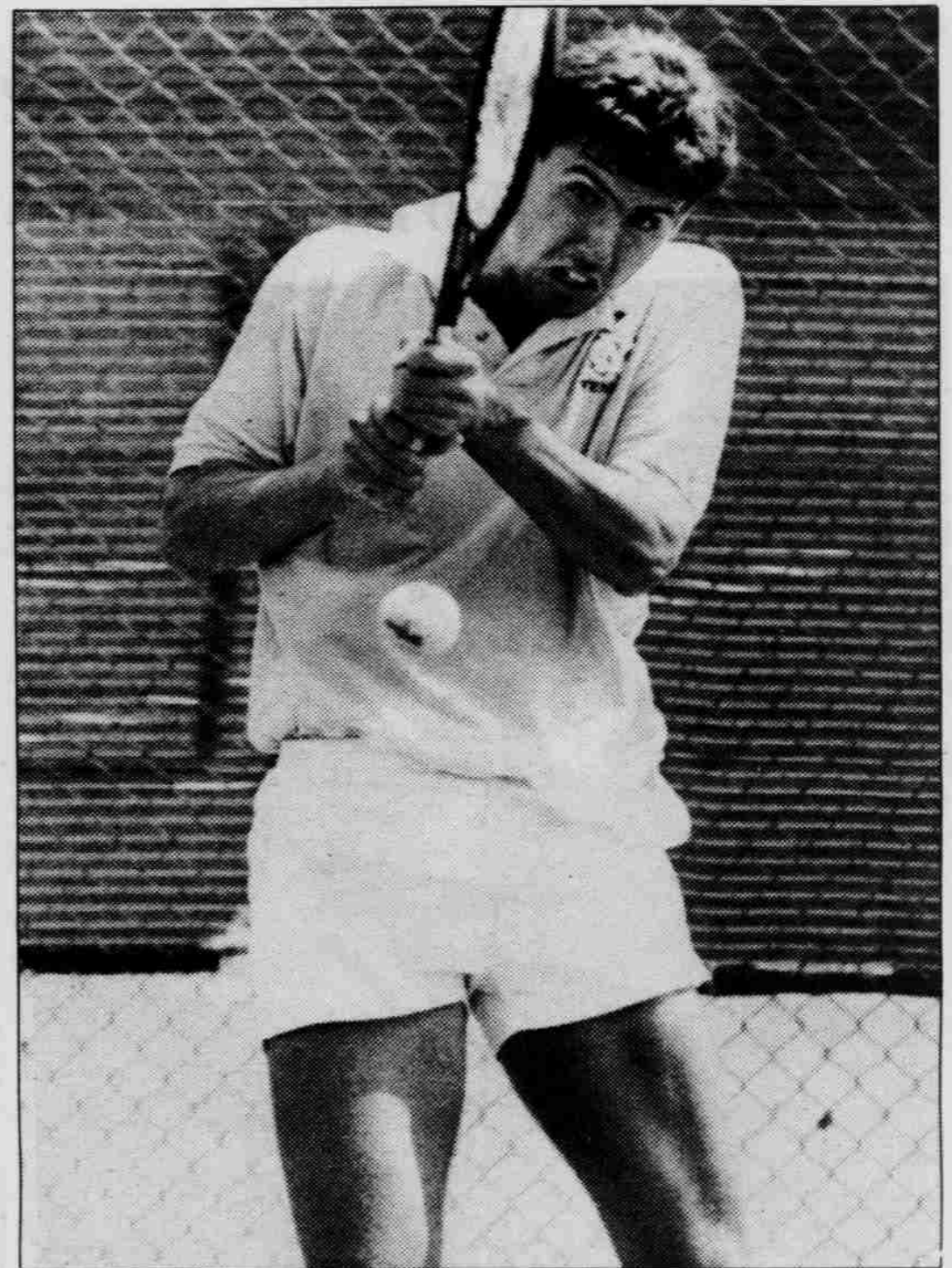
**Top Returnees:** Andre Janasik (Sr.), Bryan Jones (Jr.), Chris Mumford (Jr.), Sean Steinour (So.), David Sussman (So.), Thomas Tanner (Sr.)

**Top Newcomers:** Woody Webb (Chapel Hill), Roland Thornqvist (Farsta, Sweden), Wells Brabham (Greensboro)

**Facility:** UNC Tennis Center (1,000)

Webb's strength is his backhand. His ground strokes, along with an improving serve-and-volley game, have earned him the No. 28 Volvo Tennis ranking, and tied him for the fifth spot in Region II. He went 9-3 in the fall season and will likely play at UNC's No. 2 spot for a large part of the spring season.

The other outstanding newcomer, Roland Thornqvist from Sweden, brings his own list of accolades to the Tar Heels. Thornqvist played for Elon College last season and simply dominated, winning the NAIA singles and doubles championships and leading Elon to the NAIA title. His 37-0 singles record — and a 28-3 doubles mark — made his NAIA player-of-the-Year award little



DTH/David Minton

Sophomore Sean Steinour, a top-notch doubles player, was 31-14 at No. 5 singles in '90 more than a formality.

This is a new year, though, and Thornqvist must now play with the big boys in Division I. But the 20-year-old Swede is good at playing catch-up. He didn't even begin playing tennis until he was 14, an age when some are already thinking about turning pro. He currently plays as the Tar Heels' No. 1 seed.

Still another heralded freshman certainly will be heard from — though perhaps not as soon. Wells Brabham

would be an even more exciting prospect were it not for the long shadows cast by Webb and Lindqvist.

Brabham is ranked No. 84 nationally in his age group and saw most of his duties in the fall playing doubles, where he compiled a 4-2 record. Morris expects strong contributions from the Greensboro native in the future.

But before the rookies move into the

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