North Carolina head football coach Mack Brown spoke to the media following the Tar Heels' 31-28 victory over the Virginia Cavaliers at Scott Stadium in Charlottesville, VA.

The victory moves the Tar Heels to 8-1 on the season and 5-0 in the ACC Coastal Division. With the win, the Tar Heels moved to 5-0 on the road, which is a big difference from where this team was last year as all six losses came on the road last season.

Coach Brown continues to see that his team is finding ways to win. "I am proud of this team and this year on the road we have won all of our games by six points or less," Brown said.

Quarterback Drake Maye continues to impress his coaches and teammates Brown said, especially for keeping his poise in the pocket and making the right decision with the football.

The freshman quarterback leads the ACC in touchdowns, passing yards, completion percentage, and total offense. Coach Brown says that his quarterback still has not yet had his "freshman" moment.

Although he has developed a connection with wide receiver Josh Downs, who Brown says that he is one of the best players he has ever coached.

"This guy just competes every day and he is elusive, hard to tackle, and he can catch the ball anywhere and he plays like that in practice as well," Brown said.

Downs had a career day recording 15 catches for 166 yards and a touchdown.

The defense needs to be more consistent for the Tar Heels as the Cavalier running game thrashed the Tar Heels in the first half, but the defense was able to settle down in the 2nd half and was able to contain a Virginia offense that had three starting wide receivers out for this game due to injury.

Brown looks for linebacker Cedric Gray to get the defense on track.

"He is the best player on our defense, and he is vocal because when he speaks other players listen up," Brown said.

  The Tar Heels play their final road game of the season next Saturday night at Wake Forest. This is one of the most crucial games for the Tar Heels not only because of the in-state rivalry but if the Tar Heels win, they clinch the Coastal Division and a spot in the ACC Championship game.

When talking about this year's Wake Forest team Coach Brown has nothing but respect for them. "

Coach Clawson always has his team ready to play and the past two times we have played them both teams have scored over 50 points," Brown said "They have one of the best quarterbacks in the country in Sam Hartman and they have an explosive offense so we will have to prepare for that after we enjoy this victory."

Kickoff is set for 7:30 pm at Truist Field and the game can be seen on ESPN2.