

Sports

Soccer picks up 2 wins

Men's soccer triumphs over Warren Wilson and the Virginia Military Institute

Luke Knox
Staff Writer

The UNCA men's soccer team recorded their first two victories of the season when they defeated Warren Wilson College on Sept. 8 and Virginia Military Institute (VMI) on Sept. 10 at Greenwood Field.

"It takes the pressure off," said head coach Steve Cornish. "We dropped the first two games, and players have to get a sense that they can win. Hopefully, we can build on this."

UNCA (2-2-0) bounced back from season-opening losses against East Carolina and Kentucky to pick up the victories.

The Bulldogs picked up their first win of the year when they defeated the Warren Wilson Owls 7-0. The Bulldogs had 33 shots on goal in the match, while holding the Owls (1-3-0) to one shot on goal. Freshman forward Mike Kachan scored two goals in the match, leading a group of six Bulldogs who found the back of the net.

Among all of the good performances in the match for the Bulldogs, Cornish said he was most impressed by sophomore midfielder Spencer Hines.

"Above all, I was very pleased with the way Spencer played," said Cornish. "He took the midfield role. Spencer is a great player who hasn't had as much playing time, and he really got into a rhythm."

Warren Wilson could have given up once the game got out of hand, but their attitude was admirable, according to Cornish.

"Warren Wilson came out and tried to play good soccer," said Cornish. "They gained much more respect in doing that than in just setting six people in the penalty box to stop us from scoring. I have the utmost respect for Warren Wilson and their coaching staff and players for trying to play us straight up."

On Sept. 10, UNCA gained a 2-0 victory over visiting VMI (1-2-0). The Bulldogs outshot the Keydets 14-8.

Kachan began the scoring at 29:05 on a pass from junior midfielder Brian Domby. Kachan was left with a one-on-one matchup against VMI goalkeeper John Simmons, and slipped the



UNCA's Arin Glass, a senior defender, maneuvers his way past an opponent in a recent game.

PHOTO BY ANTHONY GRECO

ball past Simmons into the right side of the net.

Senior forward Kane Lawson tallied the second goal at 70:40 on a pass from sophomore midfielder Brad Falk, and the Bulldogs held the Keydets scoreless for the remainder of the match. Sophomore goalkeeper Andrew Heath had three saves in posting his first shutout of the season.

The UNCA coaching staff told the players before the game that passing would be important in countering the superior athleticism of VMI, according to the athletics Web site.

"We thought that our best chance to succeed against a faster team was that they can be faster than us, but they cannot be faster than the ball," said Cornish. "If we kept our ball movement going, we would be able to create a number of scoring opportunities from crosses. In fact, that is what happened, and it happened from the very start."

"Before the game, the emphasis was on possession of the ball," said Lawson. "We talked about playing simple and just getting rid of the ball."

Junior defender Nick Sands and sophomore defender Jeremy Schrader played important roles in the victory, according to Cornish.

"We released Sands a number of times," said Cornish. "We looked to play him in deep, and he had a lot of success in the first half. Once they tried to deny us doing that, it opened things up around the goal a little bit."

"When we moved Schrader to midfield in the second half, he did very well," Cornish said. "All of a sudden, we had a defensive presence in midfield that perhaps we did not have in the first half."

After Kachan scored three goals in two games, other Bulldogs talked about his early success this season.

"Kachan gave us a spark in the

first half. He is playing extremely well right now," Cornish said. "He works hard and makes it difficult for teams to play their game."

"When you can get a freshman to come in and be an impact player like Mike has, there's a lot to be said for that," Lawson said.

Cornish discussed the Bulldogs' performance in the close game with VMI as opposed to their play in similar situations last season.

"Last year, we lost five or six games 1-0," Cornish said. "We would squander opportunities, and we never really thought that we could come back. The important thing for today was, we went up 1-0 and got the second goal in a tight game."

"We were able to sit on the lead a little bit. We've rarely been in that position, so that was good for us," Cornish said.

The Bulldogs played at Georgia State on Sept. 13, and return home to play Charleston Southern.

Sports Commentary

Indiana ends a "Knight" mare

Lena Burns
Sports Editor

Ben Ezell
Staff Writer

At Indiana University (IU) on Sept. 10, head basketball coach Bob Knight was fired after coaching for thirty years due to an alleged verbal and physical assault on a player.

This was the final violation of the "zero tolerance policy" initiated by the university after several alleged assaults on players and others at the university, according to www.cnn.com.

While IU president, Myles Brand has no qualms about the decision, some students, including players, are protesting, according to CNN.

Students at IU plastered dorm windows and fraternity balconies with signs such as "Bob Knight is God."

How can those students possibly want Knight to remain at their school? The only thing Knight did for IU was bring three National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) championships in 1976, 1981 and 1987.

Not only was Knight a Hall of Fame coach, he also led IU to 11 Big Ten titles and coached the 1984 men's Olympic basketball team to the gold medal.

Obviously, Knight has abundant

coaching knowledge and an uncanny ability to extract every ounce of effort from his players.

However, for the past six years, Knight's team has not gotten past the second round of the NCAA tournament.

Knight may be a legend at IU for his coaching ability, but his resume, especially in the state of Indiana, has blinded people from seeing his true persona, which is a violent, foul-mouthed tyrant who evokes fear in players, fans and coworkers through intimidation and threats.

His rap sheet includes allegedly choking former player Neil Reed in 1997 (which CNN/Sports Illustrated caught on camera), showing his players a soiled piece of toilet paper to motivate them and allegedly punching former players, not to mention several other incidents with athletic faculty.

How can people possibly respect or revere a person who uses fear as a motivational tool with his players and to manipulate others? This type of behavior is not only dangerous, but also an embarrassment to the school.

Coach Knight does not serve as a model for affective coaching. Violence, threats, foul language and assaults are not viable means to convince a team to win.

Knight may be a legend in IU's eyes, but the only way Knight knows how to coach is through inducing fear into others. Is this the way to succeed? Not anymore.

Tennis opens

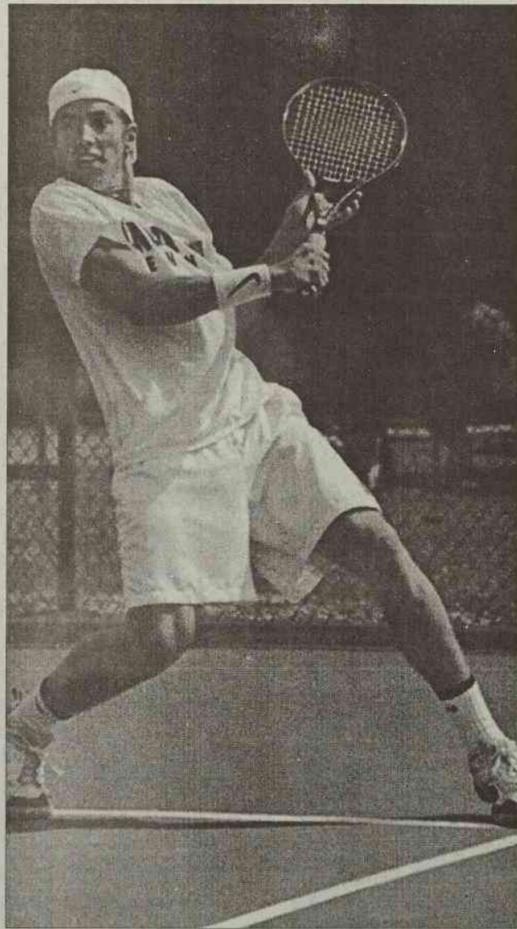


PHOTO BY ANTHONY GRECO

Sophomore Stephen Poulos swings his racquet to launch the ball over the net. Poulos won his singles match, and said the win "clenched the team's victory."

Around the Big South Conference

www.BigSouthSports.com



www.Oldsmobile.com

Oldsmobile

Big South Conference Adds Birmingham-Southern

The Big South Conference recently announced that it has accepted Birmingham-Southern College's application for membership, making it the ninth Big South Conference institution. The Panther athletic program will become NCAA Division I and a full Big South Conference member in the fall of 2003. The Big South Conference's Council of Chief Executive Officers voted unanimously on Wednesday, August 30 to accept Birmingham-Southern's application for membership. It will become the third institution to join the League since 1997. A private liberal arts college that is making the transition from NAIA to NCAA Division I, Birmingham-Southern is located in Birmingham, Alabama, and has a student population of 1,528. The Panther athletic program currently sponsors 10 sports and will be adding four more prior to its official admission in 2003. Founded in 1856, Birmingham-Southern will become the first Alabama-based school to join the Big South Conference. Currently, the Big South has institutions in Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Coastal Carolina Scores Big Men's Soccer Win

Coastal Carolina handed the UNC Greensboro men's soccer team its first home opening loss since 1988 winning 2-0. The Chanticleers, one of the favorites in the Big South Conference, scored the only goal they would need in the 25th minute and sealed their second straight shutout win with a penalty-kick goal in the 56th minute. The Spartans, 1-1, turned up the heat in the last 32 minutes of the contest, attempting all nine of their shots in that span. It was UNCG's first loss in 10 home openers in UNCG Soccer Stadium and first in an opener on campus since Appalachian State won 2-1 12 seasons ago. It was the first time the team was shut out in a home opener since 1973.

Lady Eagles Win Micro-Tel Invitational, Erin Lehman Voted MVP

The Winthrop University volleyball team captured the Microtel Inn & Suites Winthrop Invitational. September 2 as the Lady Eagles captured two of three matches. The Lady Eagles dropped their final match of the tournament to East Carolina, 3-1, but defeated Samford University earlier in the day 3-0 and were crowned tourney champs by virtue of the first tie breaker based on winning percentage. Winthrop had a 7-3 record in its three matches. Samford University was the runner-up, East Carolina finished third, and Bethune-Cookman was fourth. Erin Lehman was named to the All-Tournament Team and was also named the tournament's Most Valuable Player.