

Sports

Soccer loses to Citadel

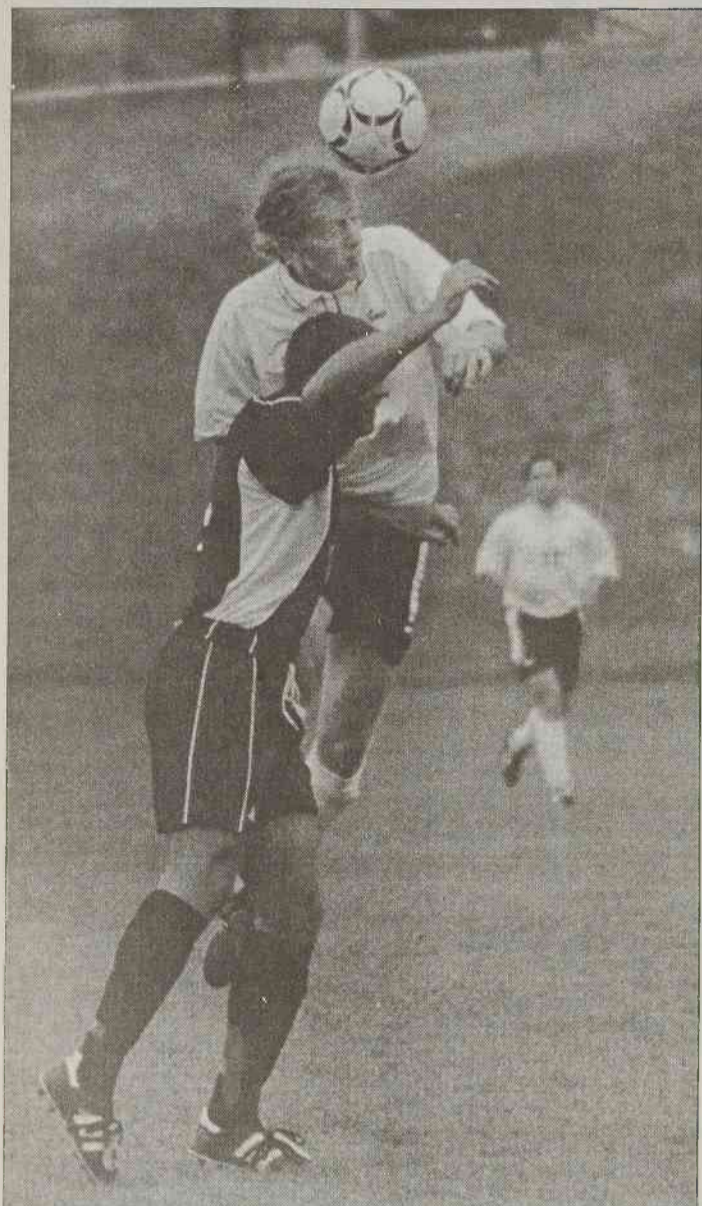


PHOTO BY ANTHONY GRECO

Senior forward Kane Lawson heads the ball away from a Citadel opponent during the game Sept. 20.

Luke Knox
Staff Writer

The UNCA men's soccer team lost to Citadel 3-0 Sept. 20 at Greenwood Field.

"It was a disappointing loss," said head coach Steve Cornish. "It was as difficult a loss as I have ever had in my career, because we did not play for 90 minutes to the best of our ability. Too many players played as individuals, not collectively."

The Bulldogs (2-5-0) outplayed Citadel (2-4-0) for most of the first half, and outshot them 10 to 3 in the half.

Citadel went ahead at 40:59 on a goal from Johnnie Keen. Keen stole a UNCA pass and scored from 25 yards out, giving Citadel a 1-0 lead going into halftime.

"Keen, who is a potential All-American player, just caught the goalkeeper a couple yards out," said Citadel head coach Joel Christy. "It was an amazing shot. That gave us a little bit of momentum."

"From Citadel's perspective, it was

a nice shot. From our perspective, we gave him too much time," Cornish said. "We really had sufficient players around him to be able to press him a bit more, but we did not do it. We paid the price."

"We did a good job of denying him any forward progress, but we never took the initiative to step up and put him under pressure," said senior midfielder Jeremy Wisdo. "We gave him five yards, and he just had a go at it."

"It was a simple mistake, and kind of deflated us at halftime," said junior midfielder Mike Roach. "The ball was not closed down fast enough, and he fired a nice shot."

Citadel increased their lead to 2-0 when Joseph Mosser scored on a pass from Hamilton Peters at 61:31. Before the Bulldogs could counter, Citadel scored again in the 65th minute on a penalty kick. Ben Wilson converted the penalty kick for his first goal of the year, according to Citadel's Web site.

Much like the first goal scored by Citadel, the penalty kick was a result of a defensive lapse, according to Cornish.

"[Senior defender] Arin Glass chose not to one-touch the ball out of the back, which is what he would normally do," Cornish said. "For some reason, he chose to control it first, and the Citadel player came in and took it. All of a sudden, we were down 3-0."

The Bulldogs received a scare in the second half when sophomore midfielder Brad Falk left the game with a knee injury. Falk's teammates were concerned about the loss of the University of Maryland transfer, and they questioned whether it was a legal tackle that injured him.

"[Citadel's] player came in with a dirty tackle and caught Brad's knee with his cleat," said Roach. "We are hoping Brad is going to be fine, because he is a vital player for us. We are crossing our fingers."

"It looked like Brad got bladed a bit. It was a dodgy tackle," said Wisdo. "He got cleated right on top of the kneecap. That was a bad tackle."

"You cannot lose players who are the quality of Falk and not feel some impact," Cornish said. "Credit goes to the other players who came in and tried to minimize that, but we play better when he is in there. It looks like a bruised patella tendon."

Despite the disappointing result of the game, Cornish said that Colin Barnes continues to play well and improve.

"He is a competitive player who has the ability to hurt other teams," Cornish said. "He hurts them with his passing ability, his long range shooting ability and his tenacity. He played well and is developing into a great player."

"We have other players who can hurt teams as well, but Barnes is more consistent," Cornish said. "I think he played especially well."

UNCA will focus on improving its defense, based on the performance against Citadel.

"Defensively, we have still got to be less porous than we are," said Cornish. "The tough thing about being a defender is you can do the right thing nine times out of 10, but that one time you do it wrong costs you the game. A 70 or 80 percent success rate from our defenders is completely unacceptable."

"The focus is on defensive communication," Roach said. "We feel really confident in our ability to create through midfield. We are just working on team defense and closing people down really quickly."

"We are trying to get our shape in the back, and really work on our defensive unit," Wisdo said.

"We have had a little bit of indecision at times. Everybody has not been on the same page, so we are working on that," Wisdo said.

UNCA will play Elon Sept. 30 at 2 p.m. at Greenwood Field.

Sports Commentary

Who really deserves the WWF championship title?

Lena Burns
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So who really does deserve the title? Benoit, Kane or the Undertaker?

Chris Benoit definitely does not deserve it. Who does he think he is, coming into the WWF from World Championship Wrestling, or more commonly known as "We Can't Wrestle"?

Benoit, with his crossface submission move, has no real skills to even qualify for the championship title. His moves did not even work in WCW, where he was unable to attain the title. Unless he can spit something effective out, such as the choke-slam, or maybe even a Stone Cold stunner, maybe he can be considered qualifiable.

The Undertaker, who underwent a complete personality change after his long duration away from the WWF to recover from groin surgery, does not deserve it either. Think back to a couple years ago, when the "Corporate Ministry" was the big hoopla. Undertaker beat Stone Cold Steve Austin for the championship and retained the championship for quite some time.

Undertaker has a cocky attitude that says "I should be the champion just because everyone thinks I'm

scary." Uh, no. His youthfulness has left him, and a champion over the age of 50 is reserved for WCW.

If anyone, the title belongs to Kane. Kane has always been the neglected one. Let's not forget that Kane's supposed brother Undertaker burned his face, leaving him scarred. Also, up until recently, Kane would not talk, and used a voice box instead. Let's also not forget when Kane's only friend X-Pac suddenly turned against him to rejoin Degeneration X, and when Kane's girlfriend Tori left him for X-Pac not too long ago.

Kane has only recently been able to overcome his hearaches and emerge from his shell created by the likes of Undertaker, X-Pac and Tori.

He had the title for one day a few years ago. His strength and physique is immeasurable compared to several other wrestlers such as Triple H, X-Pac, Stone Cold or the Undertaker.

Out of every single wrestler in the WWF, Kane is the only one fit enough, skilled enough and deserving enough of the title. Take it away from the People's Champion and hand it over to the Big Red Machine.

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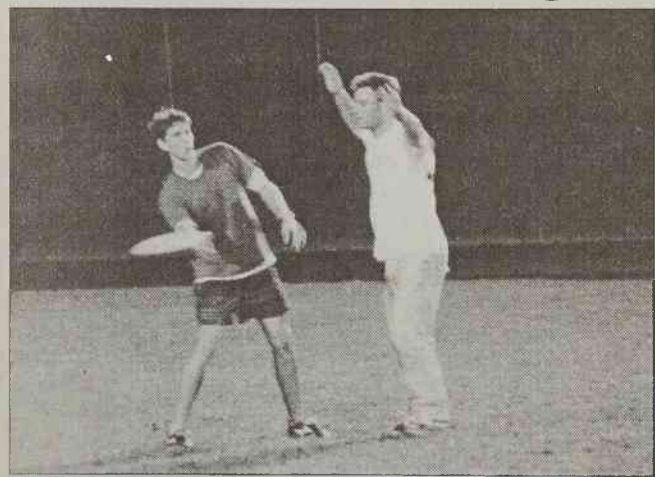


PHOTO BY ANTHONY GRECO

Two members of the Ultimate Frisbee team battle it out during practice before their game at Warren Wilson College.

Women of Wisdom presents "A Gathering of Women" Oct. 5 from 7 to 9 p.m. The presentation will be given by Sara Deutsch at the Artists' Loft, located at 28 Wall St. For more information call 299-4702 or 683-0166.