

# Sports

## Sports feature of the week

### Row with the paddling club



PHOTO BY PATRICK BRASWELL

Members of the UNCA paddling club learn new techniques in a weekly session at the Justice Center pool.

**Amanda Anderson**  
Staff Writer

UNCA's paddling club offers kayaking for students and anyone else interested.

"Anyone is welcome to come," said Huma Alvarado, vice president of the paddling club and a junior environmental science major.

"It is free to students. We ask for a donation for non-students," said Alvarado.

Currently, the club has an estimated 25 members, but others are welcome to attend paddling club activities, according to Alvarado.

"We include anyone who is on the boats, according to Alvarado.

"Wednesday is a rolling session," said Aman Shuman, an undeclared freshman "We get to know our boats and other

people."

"The main thing that we do is have lessons at the pool every Wednesday night," said Alvarado.

"We teach beginners, or anyone who wants to learn, how to roll their kayak," said Alvarado.

Rolling involves flipping the boat upside down in the river, and knowing how to come back up. Learning rolling is a good first step in learning how to kayak, according to Alvarado.

"At the pool, we mostly teach people to roll," said Alvarado. "It usually takes several sessions to learn."

Though rolling is an important part of the Wednesday evening session, it is not the practice tricks, such as the water cartwheel."

For a better understanding of the sport, students should venture out of the pool and into the river, according to

Alvarado.

"You really need to get on the river to learn about it," said Alvarado.

The paddling club is something for beginners and more advanced kayakers, according to Alvarado.

Activities done outside of the pool tend to be more advanced, according to Alvarado.

"Some of the trips can be more advanced," said Alvarado. "Last year, we took a trip to the Gully River (in West Virginia), which is more advanced."

In the past, members of the paddling club have entered competitive events.

"Some members of the club have competed," said Alvarado. "This is a major part of our budget. Most of the newer stuff that we have is from the school."

"It is not required to have equipment to join the paddling club," said Alvarado. "You can come without anything."

petitive event," said Alvarado. "People would go and do tricks on a section of the French Broad River. Points would be given for number of tricks and difficulty."

Some students are looking forward to the upcoming creek season.

"Creeking season is starting," said Shuman. "When it rains, the narrow creeks get high. You can paddle off of the waterfalls."

Currently, the club is receiving some funding from the school, according to Alvarado.

"We get some gas money from the school to get us to and from the rivers," according to Alvarado. "This is a major part of our budget. Most of the newer stuff that we have is from the school."

"We applied to the campus commission to do a rodeo in the spring, which is a com-

## Bulldogs overruled by Supreme Court

**Luke Knox**  
Staff Writer

A second-half comeback fell short for the UNCA women's basketball team, who lost 77-71 to Supreme Court, a traveling exhibition women's basketball team, in a game Nov. 12 at the Justice Center.

"They went on the run late in the game, and this is part of our growing as a team," said sophomore forward Jessica Guarneri. "It was good that it happened in an exhibition, but we hate to lose. The game showed some kinks that we have to work out before we start our real season."

Freshman guard Joanne Stephenson led UNCA with 18 points in the game, and hit four of six shots from three-point range. Sophomore center Tonisha Jackson posted a double-double with 14 points and 10 rebounds, and Guarneri added 11 points and 12 rebounds for the Bulldogs.

Stephenson started to hit her shots in the second half, and she hit the big three-pointers," said senior guard Emily Hill. "If freshmen can step up, that is fantastic. You always anticipate that your upperclassmen will do it, but I was really pleased with the way that she was able to handle the pressure and knock her shots down."

"I think Jo really picked up her game," said Guarneri. "She knocked down some key shots, getting us back into the game."

"She is a really good three-point shooter, and she is a good jump-shot shooter too," said senior guard Denise Wilbanks. "She played well, and it is good that she has given us this much depth in the guard positions."

The Bulldogs trailed the game at halftime by 10 points, told us to go out there with a mental edge, because we had not been ready to play in the first half," said Guarneri. "We did not play near our potential, and we had to show them what we really had."

"We picked up our intensity in the second half," said Hill. "Coach Weber said that if we picked up our intensity and defense, we could crawl back into the game. We were dragging a little, and we had to pick up the pace. It was good to see that we could make that



PHOTO BY ANTHONY GRECO

Sophomore centers Tonisha Jackson, No. 35, and Jessica Guarneri, No. 31, battle opposing players.

comeback, and it was a team effort."

"We started out pretty slow, so our focus in the second half was to run up and down the court, and get back on defense," said Wilbanks.

UNCA held a 70-67 advantage after Stephenson hit a three-point shot with 5:08 remaining, but then, Supreme Court took control of the game. Supreme Court guard Julia Burton, who led her team with 25 points for the entire game, scored eight points in the final four minutes to lead a 10-0 run.

"We missed some lay-ups, we missed some free throws, did make some improvements."

"I do not think we were tired when they made the run, but we were not going as hard as we could," said Wilbanks.

The Bulldogs said they were hurt by their free-throw shooting. They hit 13 of 26 free throws in the exhibition.

"Coach Weber made a good point about the game," Hill said. "She said that everything that went wrong against Supreme Court can be fixed."

"It is all little things like free

throws," Hill said. "If we made our free throws, we could have closed the gap."

The Bulldogs head south to begin the season with a three-game road trip. They play Georgia State University Nov. 17, Florida State University Nov. 19, and Auburn University Nov. 22.

The women's team said they are prepared to upset the larger schools.

"They will open the season with us because we are a small Division I school, and they think they will get a big blow-out win," Hill said. "That is not how we are looking at it, and we would not put them underdog position," said Wilbanks.

"If we come out and play hard, we can win these games. Auburn will probably be our toughest opponent, because they are big and quick."

"The Auburn game is going to be tough," Guarneri said.

"They are one of the top 10 schools in the country, so you have to go in there with a mental edge. As far as the Georgia State and Florida State games, we have to go into those games confident."

## Sports Brief

### Ultimate wins tournament

**Troy Revell**  
Guest Writer

UNCA Ultimate frisbee team scored their first ever tournament win Nov. 11 and 12 in Fletcher, N.C.

The tournament was the inaugural "Coach 'n' Poach," a coed tournament at Fletcher Community Park.

Nov. 11 began with the 10 attending teams divided into two pools of five. UNCA defeated Guilford 12-6, and then lost to Virginia Tech 13-8 and Furman 13-10.

A 10-9 loss Nov. 12 to

"Poachemon," from Columbia, S.C., finished out pool play and left UNCA with the seventh seed heading into the final bracket.

Facing the second seed, "Sugarbuzz," from Raleigh, N.C., UNCA found their chemistry and scored an impressive 13-6 upset.

Waiting in the semifinals for the ultimate team was a rematch with Guilford.

A now confident Ultimate team won again 13-5, with two huge goals from the limping Justin Smith.

In the other semifinal, top-seeded VT defeated Warren

Wilson, setting up another rematch for UNCA in the finals.

VT and UNCA battled throughout the first half, with VT leading at halftime 7-6. UNCA opened the second half with a 1-3-3 zone, and soon after began a victory charge, scoring four straight goals to lead 11-8.

VT closed to 11-9 and then 12-10, but Troy Revell caught his sixth goal of the game, a long huck to the far right corner. This goal, which won the game for UNCA, and the tournament 13-10.

For their victory, the Ulti-

mate team was awarded a large travel cooler to take to future tournaments.

Clare Cain was voted the team MVP for playing nearly every point and helping bust other teams tough zone defenses.

This is the first year UNCA has competed in preseason tournaments, and their preseason record stands at 8-10.

The Ultimate team looks to build upon their first tournament victory going into the spring regular season.

On Nov. 20, they play a home match against Warren Wilson at 8 p.m.

### Shuttle bus to WCU game

The UNCA athletic department is providing a free shuttle service for the UNCA men's basketball game Dec. 4 against Western Carolina University. The shuttle will provide service to students to the UNCA/WCU game at the Asheville Civic Center.

The shuttle will run every 15 minutes, beginning at 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m., and will depart from UNCA's dining hall. It will run after the game and return students to campus. For more information, call 251-6923.