

SPORTS

'Dogs clinch top seed in Big South Tournament

Hollie Childers
Staff Reporter

The UNCA men's soccer team clinched the top seed in the Big South Conference after defeating Charleston Southern University Nov. 3 and High Point University Oct. 31.

The 'Dogs record is now 5-1-0 in BSC play.

"It feels good to be in first place," said junior forward Keith Painter. "We have all worked very hard this season, and everybody is very dedicated. We have a much better team mentality this season than in previous seasons."

"As far as winning goes, it is a new feeling, but it is very much deserved," said junior midfielder Spencer Hines. "The last couple of years, we have had a good team. We just haven't been able to score. But now, we have been able to find a way to score, so it's good to be on top."

UNCA was a preseason pick to finish in last place in the BSC race.

"What we are playing for is the right to call ourselves regular season champions," said Head Coach Steve Cornish. "There are no easy games in the Big South, and whoever we play is going to be very difficult."

Against CSU, UNCA won their third straight match, and seventh win in the last nine games.

Sophomore midfielder Greg Garrison scored the only goal late in the second half, giving the Bulldogs a 1-0 victory.

"The Charleston Southern game was different because now we are a marked team, and everyone knows that. We are the best team in the conference, so now everyone takes us seriously," said Hines. "CSU came out and played really physical. Just because a team is physical, we still should be able to beat them."

The 'Dogs dominated much of the game, as they outshot CSU 23-6. CSU goalkeeper Rob Tilley made 12 saves.

"CSU was a very, very strange game," said Cornish. "We outshot them 23-6. Their goalkeeper was just exceptional, and you have to give him a great deal of credit. It was a bit frustrating at times because we had some great opportu-



IAN BAILLIE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Junior Jeremy Shrader puts one in past the goalkeeper at a practice on Monday. The teams use their practice time to run drills in order to gain skills necessary to defeat the opponent.

nities but just couldn't finish."

"Garrison scored our only goal against CSU," said Painter. "He has really done well this year. He is the reason we won the game."

Although Garrison contributed tremendously to the 'Dogs' win, the whole team contributed, according to Cornish.

"The majority of times this year, someone could contribute tremendously during a game, but not necessarily get on the score sheet," said Cornish. "In the past two games, nobody has really stood out a great deal. It was really a good team effort all around."

Junior goalkeeper Andrew Heath

had his third straight shutout at CSU.

Heath faced six shots and made three saves.

He now has 10 career shutouts, which puts him in a tie for second place on UNCA's all-time career list, according to the Athletics Web site.

At home versus High Point, the 'Dogs posted another shutout victory, by a score of 4-0.

The Bulldogs had not beaten the Panthers since they joined the BSC three years ago, according to the Web site.

UNCA led 1-0 at the half, and scored early in the second half to

secure the win.

Sophomore forward Mike Kachan scored the first goal of the game off an assist from Garrison and senior midfielder Colin Barnes. Barnes scored the second goal, and freshman defender Kyle Britton scored the third goal.

Freshman forward J.J. Dore scored the last goal of the game off a pass from freshman midfielder Matt Jacobs.

"Recently, J.J. has been injured, but he used his limited playing time very effectively to score one against High Point, and to come close against CSU," said Hines.

The High Point game was not

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Steve Cornish
-Head Coach

one of the best games played by the 'Dogs this season, but the game showed how good the team can be under pressure, according to Hines.

"High Point was not one of our better games," said Hines. "When we don't play that well, and still win 4-0, it shows just how much potential we actually have this year," said Hines.

High Point played physical against the Bulldogs, and it was a rough game, according to Painter.

"Everybody got beat up, but we stuck it out," said Painter. "Everybody did their part to get an important win."

The Panthers' team has some tough players, but their team communication has not yet matured this year, according to Hines.

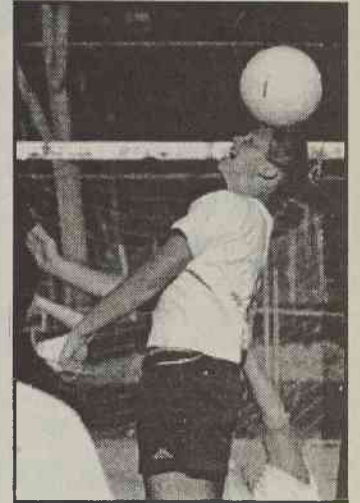
"High Point was a good team. They have one player who plays for the Trinidad & Tobago national team," said Hines. "It is really tough marking up against him because he is so quick. They have a lot of dangerous players, but their team doesn't play as well as ours. That is probably why we were able to beat them."

The Panthers were an uneven match, according to Painter.

"The High Point defense was pretty weak," said Painter. "We have a good offense, so when we match up against a bad defense like that, we are going to win the majority of the time. Everything else about our team is pretty solid too, so if you combine (a) good offense, a good midfield and defense against a mediocre team with bad defense, then we are probably going to win."

The 'Dogs are now looking forward to the BSC Tournament, and possibly even the NCAA Tournament, coming up in December.

"It is a different position going into the Big South Tournament being first because we are usually one of the lower seeds," said Hines. "It is different, but we are confident that we should be able to win it, and hopefully go to the NCAA tournament."



IAN BAILLIE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The women's soccer team practices heading the ball during a drill on Monday.

UNCA loses to High Point

Ben Martin
Staff Reporter

The UNCA women's soccer team finished up their regular season with a 4-0 loss against High Point University Nov. 3.

"We were all pretty upset because it was our last game of the season, and we were hoping for momentum to carry us to the (Big South) conference tournament this week," said junior midfielder Bridget Goss.

The Bulldogs finished the season 5-10-0 overall and 1-5-0 in the conference.

High Point improved to 4-11-1 overall and 2-4-0 in the conference.

The teams will head to Charleston, SC Nov. 8 to compete in the Big South Tournament.

"We're confident we can do well at the tournament," said Goss. "Hopefully our team can come together."

Sophomore forward Kelsey Dawson and junior defender Ellen Sims lead the Bulldogs with eight goals and 17 points on the season.

The Bulldogs finish the season 5-10-0. UNCA was shutout in their last four games against Charleston Southern University, Clemson University and Birmingham Southern College.

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Headwaters,

UNCA's creative arts magazine, is accepting entries in music, prose, poetry, art and drama from faculty and students for the 2001 edition. Pick up a submission form and drop off entries in the boxes in the Literature or Music Department, or at the Headwaters office in Karpen 240. For more info, contact Caroline Mann, Editor, at 251-6730 or creative@bulldog.unca.edu

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