

UNCW Surf club makes waves Perspective: My week of madness

EVAN SWINK
STAFF WRITER

Surf lessons, surf team, surf trips and more; the UNCW Wilmington Surf Club hopes to offer a variety of surfing experiences for anyone interested in the sport.

"Welcome to the Surf Club," club president Jason Carlisi said when he arrived at the 6:30 p.m. meeting Sept. 13. Carlisi, a senior from Ocean City, N.J., got the Surf Club back on its feet in January of this year. Before January 2000, the UNCW Surf Club had all but disappeared. Despite the inactivity the club is now in its beginning stages and looking to the future.

Membership to the club is \$20 and includes a UNCW Surf Club T-shirt. The Surf Club had a booth at the activities fair earlier this year where many students learned about the club for the first time.

With hopes of creating an active club here on campus, the UNCW Surf Club welcomes anyone from first time surfers to well-accomplished surfers, male or female. Inexperienced surfers will get surf tips from the more experienced members when the club paddles out for some club surf sessions. Proper equipment is essential in the winter months due to cold water.

The Surf Team has an exciting agenda planned. They are considering trips to destinations such as Florida and Virginia Beach for

some competitions against other universities' surf clubs. For example, the Florida Institute of Technology has a surf club that Carlisi plans to link up competing against. This is appealing to the competitive surfers at UNCW.

For the recreational surfer, the club hopes to offer trips "To places like Cape Hatteras and Carolina Beach," Carlisi said. Carolina Beach is less than half an hour from UNCW and sometimes provides a better wave to surf. The same goes for Cape Hatteras, however it is about five hours from Wrightsville Beach. Cape Hatteras is known as one of the most popular surf spots on the entire East Coast.

The club receives its funding from the SGA, but since the club is still in its infancy, much of the funding may have to come from fundraisers. The funds will go toward surf trips and perhaps equipment as well.

For more information about the surf club, contact the Campus Recreation Department in the Student Recreation Center. As a bonus, registered members of the club may take advantage of a 20% discount at Sweetwater Surf Shop on Lumina Ave at Wrightsville Beach.



Photo Courtesy: The surfers

Surfers aline themselves in the water awaiting the next set of waves at Topsail Island's Surf City pier.

BEN DEFOE
STAFF WRITER

Yes, as you know it by now, the madness is back for your UNCW Wilmington Seahawks. All across the nation, college basketball teams, including UNCW, cannot start their road to a great season until midnight Oct. 13, 2000. Of course, the question on everyone's mind is, can the men's squad repeat from last year's historic season?

The festivities did not consist of just one special night, but a whole week of fall madness. The week started with men's soccer vs. Stetson. Even though Stetson pulled out the victory, it was a great beginning to an exciting week.

Tuesday night, UNCW hosted the Washington Wizards in Trask Coliseum. If you were not one of the 6,000 fans that attended the inter-squad scrimmage, you missed NBA action on our own campus - although I do understand most fans probably showed up to see one of the greatest basketball players of all time, Michael Jordan.

Following the Wizards' last night in Wilmington, there was a replay of the Colonial Athletic Association Championship Game in the Hawks Nest. There was a quality turnout for the event, many of whom were freshmen.

Everyone loves ice cream, so what is better than handing it out for free? This is exactly what the basketball teams did last Thursday at the Commons. "I am here for the free ice cream," said senior Christopher Duffy. While most people attended for the free ice cream, it was also a great promotion for Friday night's festivities.

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five of Montoursville, Pa. "Being able to touch the basketball for the first time, and knowing that practice is going to start is just a great feeling."

Reactions were similar from the men's team. "I was really excited, but kind of sad, since this is my last one," said senior guard Marty Jarmond. "[Tonight] was for the people... and I just want to go out with a bang."

Other players shared similar feelings. "There was a lot going through my mind tonight, but I tried not to get too excited, nervous, sweating, or something like that,"

Friday night started out with a chance for some young fans and some not so young to meet the team. The players were meeting their fans and signing autographs in front of Trask Coliseum between 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. Outside on Eaton Place at 6:00 p.m., the inflatable games started along with some music from the band School Boys.

Between 9:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., the Pre-Midnight Fan Jam in Eaton Place was in full swing. "I think Midnight Madness is great, the hype is great, and it does a lot for reducing school apathy," said senior Stephen Johnson. This outdoor event really set the mood for the indoor event, which began at 10:30 p.m.

As all the fans piled into Trask, you could feel the excitement in the air. I knew it was time for another thrilling year of Seahawk basketball. The itinerary remained electrifying for fans to watch: Hugo the Hornet from the Charlotte Hornets; the UNCW Dance Team; a lip sync contest; the UNCW Cheerleaders; and of course, both basketball teams.

After both teams were introduced, there was a three-point contest as well as a dunk contest. Freshman Katie Hettler won the three-point contest, blowing the competition away. The dunk contest followed, highlighted by junior Ed Williams. Williams dunked two balls through the goal on the same dunk for the win. "The dunk contest was fly," Greyson Davis said.

"All we are trying to do here tonight is to get people thinking about basketball," said Rob Bricketts, director of Seahawk Sports Marketing. The goal was accomplished.

said Terrell. "People told me I was going to be nervous a little bit, but that after a while once I got into it, there wouldn't be any problems, and that's how I felt tonight. This is what we've been working up to."

"I think from a player's perspective, they are glad [preseason] is over with, and they're anxious to get on with practice," said Jerry Wainwright, who is entering his seventh season as head coach of the men's squad. "[Midnight madness] is a great kickoff to practice."

The men's squad will begin their season Nov. 17, when they play LaSalle in the Sooner Holiday Classic. The women will open their season Nov. 20 at Radford.

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