

Seniors go out with a bang Runners finish strong at ACCs

BY GRAY CALDWELL
SENIOR WRITER

On a day filled with emotion, the No. 8 North Carolina field hockey team celebrated its seniors as the team earned a victory in its last regular-season game.

The Tar Heels (12-7, 1-4 in ACC) defeated the Radford Highlanders 6-1 Sunday — Senior Day for the team — at Henry Stadium.

Many of the players said the special circumstances provided a little extra incentive, especially coming off of a three-game losing streak.

"We sure as heck didn't want to lose on Senior Day," said senior co-captain Brooke Miller.

Miller and fellow seniors Ashley Judge and Karen Mann were honored before the game, and Miller said emotions were running high.

"I was thinking about the first time I ever ran across the field,"

she said.

Mann said she caught herself reminiscing as well, and she doesn't want it to end just yet.

"It's forcing me to think about the real world, and I don't want to do that right now," she said, laughing.

"I'm delighted with the team that they were able to send the seniors out in such fine fashion," she said. "All three of them have had tremendous careers — they've been key players for us their entire careers."

Even though the seniors were the focus of the day, it was the junior class that stole the spotlight — juniors Alli Tanner and Jesse Gey each scored two goals.

Tanner started the scoring early, notching her first goal only 1:14 into the game.

Tanner stole a Highlander pass in the scoring circle and quickly flicked the ball into the goal. She repeated virtually the exact same play to score the Tar Heels' sixth goal of the day.

"We like to say you create your offense with your defense, and she

did that," Shelton said. "It was good to see her finish like that."

The seniors will get at least one more chance to play at Henry Stadium, though, as the Tar Heels host the ACC Championship beginning Thursday.

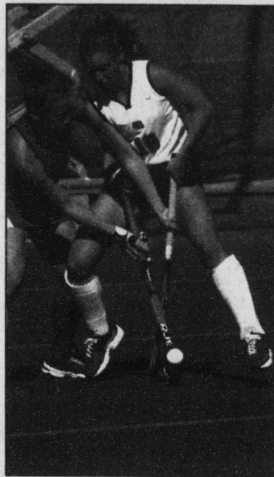
"I think that'll be a tremendous help," Miller said of the home field advantage. "It's the little things, like being in our own locker room, having Fever there, that are going to help put us over the edge."

As of press time, it was uncertain who the Tar Heels will play when the tournament opens Thursday, but Shelton said all of the ACC is stiff competition.

Sitting at sixth place in the conference, UNC looks to face Duke. The official bracket will be released today.

"I have a sneaking suspicion that we're going to surprise people at the ACC tournament," she said.

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.



North Carolina senior forward Karen Mann fights for possession during the Tar Heels' 6-1 win against Radford on Senior Day.

FROM WIRE REPORTS

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA. — Led by sophomore Brianna Feltnagle's 11th-place finish on the women's side and senior Pablo Durana's 25th-place finish on the men's side, the North Carolina women's and men's cross country teams finished sixth and eighth, respectively, at the ACC Cross Country Championships held Saturday in Charlottesville, Va.

The Carolina women were powered at the front by All-ACC efforts from both Feltnagle and junior Megan Kaltenbach. Feltnagle covered the 6K course in 21:36.1 to lead the way, and Kaltenbach was just behind in 21:45.9 to finish 14th.

Senior Cassie King's 22:05.7 time put her in 21st position. Laura Cummings, who placed 44th in 22:57.8, and Addie Bracy, who placed 49th in 23:07.5, gave the Tar Heels five top-50 finishers and rounded out the scoring for Carolina, which posted 138 points on the day.

Senior Georgia Kloss, sophomore Morgan Stengel and sophomore Emily Hoffman also competed for UNC.

After Durana's 25:26.1 8K effort, the Tar Heel men were paced by junior Alex Ray's 25:33.6 time, which put him in 28th position, and senior Victor Ornelas' 26:05.4 posting, good enough for 48th place. The rest of Carolina's scoring came from sophomore Jeremy Hyder, who finished 57th in 26:21.5, and Brock Baker, who finished 61st in 26:25.1. Sophomore Tristram Thomas and freshmen Zack Dawson and Duncan



UNC runners Brianna Feltnagle and Pablo Durana finished 11th and 25th, respectively, at ACCs.

Hoge also ran for the Tar Heels, who recorded 213 points on the Panorama Farms course.

Bumpers named co-NCAA Woman of the Year in ACC

Courtney Bumpers, a gymnast at UNC from 2002-06, has been named the Co-NCAA Woman of the Year for the Atlantic Coast Conference. Wake Forest cross country athlete Anne Bersagel was the other ACC recipient. Bumpers was one of 30 conference winners.

The NCAA Woman of the Year Award honors senior student-athletes who have distinguished themselves throughout their collegiate careers in the areas of academic achievement, athletics excellence, service and leadership.

Bumpers, from Stone Mountain, Ga., majored in environmental health science with a 3.49 grade point average. A two-time NCAA champion in the floor exercise, she was the 2006 East Atlantic Gymnastics League Gymnast of the Year and was named All-EAGL in vault, beam, floor, uneven bars and all-around.

Young class pushes UVa. to the brink

BY NATE HUBBARD
STAFF WRITER

Sometimes winning isn't everything.

The North Carolina women's volleyball team suffered its second consecutive loss Friday, but the team's mood was markedly more positive after a gritty comeback that fell just short.

Virginia (16-6, 9-4 in the ACC) looked as though it would have an easy night after claiming the first two games.

But the Tar Heels (6-16, 4-9) rallied before the Cavaliers (10-10) pulled out the deciding fifth game 15-13 for a 3-2 victory.

"I was proud of their effort overall that they stayed with it," coach Joe Sagula said.

Individually, four Tar Heels had banner nights, setting various career highs. Sophomore Brianna Eskola and junior Ashley Board both set career highs in digs with 39 and 21, respectively.

Freshman Megan Owens led the team with a career-high 20 kills and redshirt freshman Ingrid Hanson-Tuntland also added a career-high 15 kills along with an outstanding .538 hitting percent-

age.

"My confidence just keeps getting bigger and bigger," Owens said.

Although the Tar Heels were not satisfied merely with making the match close, Sagula said it was important for his team to not get swept.

"It was huge," he said. "A team has to get over a mental hump, not just a physical one."

"Every time we get some wins it just makes us feel like we're okay, we're doing the right thing."

As happy as Sagula was with winning the third and fourth games to extend the match, he was equally disappointed with losing a tight first game that was tied at every point between 18 and 28.

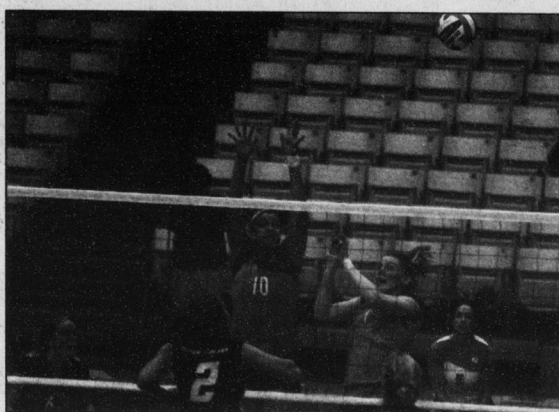
Sagula called two quick timeouts at the end of the game in an attempt to rally his team.

"You always want to win the first game," he said.

"I don't like calling a lot of timeouts, but at the end you want to do anything to upset the rhythm of the opponent."

The Tar Heels played with a lot of hustle throughout the match and showed a willingness to sacrifice their bodies to keep points alive.

Board nearly crashed into the stands chasing down a ball; Owens



UNC middle hitter Heather Brooks (10) and outside hitter Megan Owens (right) look to score during an Oct. 21 match against Boston College.

ran into the scorer's table and many of Eskola's digs came from sprawling dives.

"Those are the things that make a statement that say we're going to fight," Sagula said.

Eskola added that the team tries to make sure the opposition never gets an easy point.

"We always try to make it a point to have relentless pursuit and go after every ball," she said.

After the strong effort, Sagula said he believes it won't be long

until the wins follow.

"I don't think it is a lot of adjustments," he said. "I think everyone can leave this match a lot more proud of playing a quality volleyball match."

The Tar Heels will be taking on Wake Forest at Winston-Salem on Wednesday. UNC will look to avenge their earlier 3-1 loss to the Demon Deacons.

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FOOTBALL

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yards. On the next snap, as predetermined by the coaches, Dailey spiked the ball to stop the clock at 25 seconds. And it was on third down that Dailey threw his seventh interception of the year and second of the game.

"If we were gonna lose, lose that way," said Dailey, who finished 13-for-19 for 156 yards. "Let the blame be put on me rather than the team because I wouldn't want those guys to feel that pain of what's it like to be the guy to always pull the trigger and make a mistake."

But it was mistakes that plagued the Tar Heels all game. UNC found itself down 7-0 after its first possession of the game when David Wooldridge's punt was blocked and returned for a touchdown. And with the game tied at 17 early in the fourth quarter, it was a UNC fumble that led to the Demon Deacons (7-1, 3-1) game-winning touchdown. It required just one play after the fumble recovery for quarterback Riley Skinner to find Kenneth Moore for a 39-yard touchdown pass — his second score of the day.

"It was a pass on the flat and I reached out and grabbed it," said fullback Nick Starcevic, who had the fumble. "And as soon as I tucked it he grabbed it, I guess with his left hand, and ripped it out. It was a close play. I thought my knee was down but obviously it wasn't."

Despite the costly turnovers, the UNC offense moved the ball well, gaining 370 total yards of offense compared with WFU's 289 by rotating Dailey and Cam Sexton at quarterback every two possessions.

A 13-play, 80-yard drive in the first quarter was capped by a one-yard touchdown pass from Dailey to Andre Barbour, a left tackle turned tight end, to tie the game at seven. And Sexton orchestrated a nine-play, 72 yard drive that resulted in a one-yard touchdown run by McGill to tie the game at 14 with just under seven minutes left

WFU 24, UNC 17

WFU	7	7	0	10	24
UNC	7	7	3	0	17

Scoring Summary

First Quarter
WFU — Smith, A. 16 yd. blocked punt return. (Swank kick), 11:40.
UNC — Barbour, A. 1 yd. pass from Dailey (Swank kick), 5:09.
Second Quarter
WFU — Moore 34 yd. run (Swank kick), 14:41.
UNC — McGill 1 yd. run (Barth kick), 6:44.
Third Quarter
UNC — Barth 35 yd. field goal, 7:02.
Fourth Quarter
WFU — Swank 41 yd. field goal, 14:14.
WFU — Moore 39 yd. pass from Skinner (Swank kick), 11:55.
Attendance — 49,000

	WFU	UNC
First Downs	15	18
Rushes-Yards	40-200	40-134
Passing Yards	89	236
Comp-Att-Int	7-8-0	19-30-2
Total Yards	289	370
Punts-Avg.	4-36.2	3-27.3
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	3-1
Penalties-Yards	5-35	3-15
Time of Possession	28:34	31:26

Individual Leaders
Rushing: UNC — McGill 29-117.
WFU — Bryant 15-58.
Passing: UNC — Dailey 13-19-2 156.
WFU — Skinner 7-8-0 89.
Receiving: UNC — Foster 4-49.
WFU — Moore 6-82.

in the first half.

The Tar Heels then took their first lead in the second half since the Furman game on Sept. 16 when Connor Barth made a 35-yard field goal to put the game at 17-14 in the third quarter.

"It's frustrating as hell because we shut their offense out the whole game," said defensive tackle Kyndraus Guy.

"They had the first half 19 plays to our 40 plays offensively. We held them to seven points that they scored on offense. It's very disappointing because we worked so damn hard this week. ... We knew that we were the better team. We played like a better team today. We just didn't reap the benefits of it."

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SOCCER

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started in place of Engen and scored the game's first goal on a sniper-rifle strike from more than 25 yards out in the game's 17th minute. Senior Heather O'Reilly crossed the ball to freshman Tobin Heath on the left sideline, who in turn fed Gilbert in the middle of the field.

Her shot sailed over WFU goalie Laura Morse's head and generously smacked off the crossbar and in.

"Tobin passed it to me," Gilbert said. "And she yells 'turn,' and then she's like 'dribble,' and she said 'shoot.' I did everything she told me to do, so I kind of give Tobin credit for that goal, too."

Gilbert was rewarded for scoring in an odd way — Dorrance replaced her with freshman Casey Nogueira. Maybe Dorrance knew something the crowd didn't, because Nogueira made the game 2-0 less than 10 minutes after Gilbert's goal.

The second half didn't go much better for Wake Forest, as Yael Averbuch and Washington added goals in the game's 62nd and 79th minutes, respectively.

Averbuch's team-leading 11th goal of the season came on a cross from O'Reilly that was tipped through the box by Elizabeth Guess and found Averbuch's foot in front of an open net.

In her last career regular-season home game, O'Reilly got her third assist of the game — the most she's had since a four-assist performance in the 2004 NCAA Tournament — when her shot slipped through Morse's rain-soaked hands and bounced right to Washington for the rebound goal.

UNC goalie Anna Rodenbough survived a number of good WFU chances late in the game, but she made every save and preserved the shutout — her 13th of the season.

Both O'Reilly and Dorrance said they were extremely happy with the team's effort on Senior Night despite all of the reasons this could have been a let-down game.

"I remember waking up this morning and looking at it outside and one, I didn't want to wake up to go to class, and two, I said to myself, 'I can't believe we have to play in this tonight,'" O'Reilly said.

"But I think any competitive athlete, as the game approaches, you have to put all the elements aside and just make a decision that you are going to compete."

Dorrance called it a "very good win," and said, "Two starters down, and to have that kind of separation against an outstanding ACC team is wonderful. Great way for us to finish the regular season."

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BOBCATS

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campaign.

"I just feel like I've gotten better," Williams said. "I think I really concentrated on my physical strength this year. Last season, I wasn't as strong as I could have been, as I should've been. But this summer I really worked on my weights. I really changed my diet."

Felton has made the transition well to the NBA. He started 54 games for the Bobcats last season and averaged 11.9 points and 5.6 assists. Felton started Friday's pre-season game, and his signature speed was on display as he dished out five assists and scored four points. Like Williams, Felton said he learned a lot about the game last year.

"Nothing is as fast as it seems," Felton said. "It's a slow-paced game because everybody is just as quick, stronger. Everybody got the same skills you have. It's the best of the best."

May got a loud applause from the Smith Center crowd when he checked in at the end of the first quarter and responded by scoring 12 points in 18 minutes before fouling out in the fourth quarter.

On Friday May also found himself frequently matched up with former nemesis and Duke center Shelden Williams, who plays for the Hawks. But unlike May,



Former Tar Heel, and No. 2 pick in the 2005 NBA draft, Marvin Williams missed Friday's finale at UNC thanks to a broken left hand.

Williams was greeted with boos every time he subbed in.

Marvin Williams said Shelden Williams will help with the Hawks' inside presence this season but said the two have not traded UNC-Duke barbs.

"Nah, not yet at least," Williams said. "Maybe when the two teams play."

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