

SPORTS

Women's soccer team faces George Mason for NCAA championship

By SCOTT SMITH
Staff Writer

The North Carolina women's soccer team advanced to the finals of the NCAA tournament Saturday with a 2-0 decision over Massachusetts in Orlando, Fla.

The Tar Heels were scheduled to play George Mason Sunday in the championship game, but because of bad weather the game was postponed until today at 11 a.m.

Despite playing with what veteran defender Suzy Cobb called a "lack of intensity in the first half," the UNC women came out after the intermission and broke the scoreless halftime deadlock with goals from April Heinrichs and Amy Machin.

Heinrichs opened the scoring about eight minutes into the second half when she chased down a high Betsy Johnson through pass in front of the Massachusetts goal, went one-on-one with goalkeeper Jeanne Paul and pushed it into the right corner of the net from about three yards out.

Machin sealed the game for the Tar Heels with five minutes remaining with a header from eight yards out.

Forward Joan Dunlap set up the Machin goal when she dribbled the ball down the right sidelines past three defenders and crossed the ball in front of the Massachusetts goal to a waiting Machin, whose flick header hit the left post and bounced in.

The win put the UNC record at 18-1 for the season. The only Tar Heel loss

came at the hands of top-ranked Connecticut in the opening game of the season.

Unfortunately for the UNC women, they will not be given the chance of avenging that loss in the finals, as George Mason knocked off previously unbeaten UConn with a 1-0 victory in the other semifinal game.

In George Mason, the Tar Heels will be facing a team they have already beaten twice this season by scores of 5-0 and 2-1. UNC will be the prohibitive favorite today and George Mason the heavy underdog. Coach Anson Dorrance doesn't particularly like that position.

"To be perfectly frank, I think we'd rather have played Connecticut in the final," said Dorrance. "We'd have had the psychological advantage because they beat us early on in the season and we would have liked a chance to make up for that. George Mason will have the psychological advantage coming in (Monday) because we'd beaten them twice."

Dorrance said that if the game had been played under the rainy conditions Sunday, George Mason would have had a big advantage. He is confident about going into today's game on a drier field.

"The conditions today (Sunday) would have equalized things. Weather's a great equalizer, and I think it's to our advantage to play on the drier field," said Dorrance.

A UNC win today would give the Tar Heel women their third-straight national championship in as many years.

Bennett not very happy after game despite shattering passing records

By MICHAEL PERSINGER
Staff Writer

Ben Bennett sat dejectedly in front of his locker. More than 45 minutes had passed since his last-ditch fourth and four pass to fullback Joel Blunk fell incomplete, ending Duke's hopes for an upset of North Carolina Saturday.

After the post-game shower, the hugs from teammates, the slow, methodical ritual of dressing as he did on 43 previous Saturdays during his college career, Bennett succumbed to the wishes of waiting reporters.

He slowly walked to a trainer's table and sat down.

"Hey, guys," he said. "Can I ask you a favor? Don't ask me how I feel."

Bennett had every right to feel good. He had passed for 323 yards, completing 27 of his 35 attempts. His performance helped add to the long list of ACC and NCAA records Bennett had already set.

Bennett finished with 9,614 yards passing in his career, the most in NCAA Division-I history. Bennett surpassed Jim McMahon of Brigham Young, who finished with 9,536.

Bennett also set an NCAA Division I-A record for most plays in a career with 1,582, surpassing Toledo's Gene Swick, who had 1,579. He also set ACC standards with 300 completions, 469 attempts and 3,086 yards for the season.

He ended his career with 820 completions in 1,375 attempts, both NCAA Division I-A records. Bennett holds 13 ACC records, more than anyone else in league history.

But even with his individual accomplishments, Bennett was not happy. And he blamed himself for his unhappiness.

"We didn't win any ACC championships, we didn't go to any bowl games, and we had only two winning seasons in my four years here," Bennett said. "And we didn't beat Carolina today, and if you don't do that, you can't be happy with anything. I blame myself for all that."

a highly regarded high school senior coming out of San Francisco, he wrote a letter to Dick Crum seeking a scholarship. Crum paid little attention, and Bennett signed with the Blue Devils.

Saturday, Crum showed Bennett the respect he had denied that California high school senior four years ago. On behalf of the North Carolina team that spurned him, Crum presented Bennett with the game ball.

"All of our kids wanted to give Ben Bennett one of the game balls," Crum said. "We've played against him for four years, and he's a great competitor and a great quarterback."

Crum's presentation seemed to lessen Bennett's animosity toward Crum and the Tar Heels.

"When a class organization like the Carolina football program sends its head coach over to give you the game ball, it makes you feel good," Bennett said.

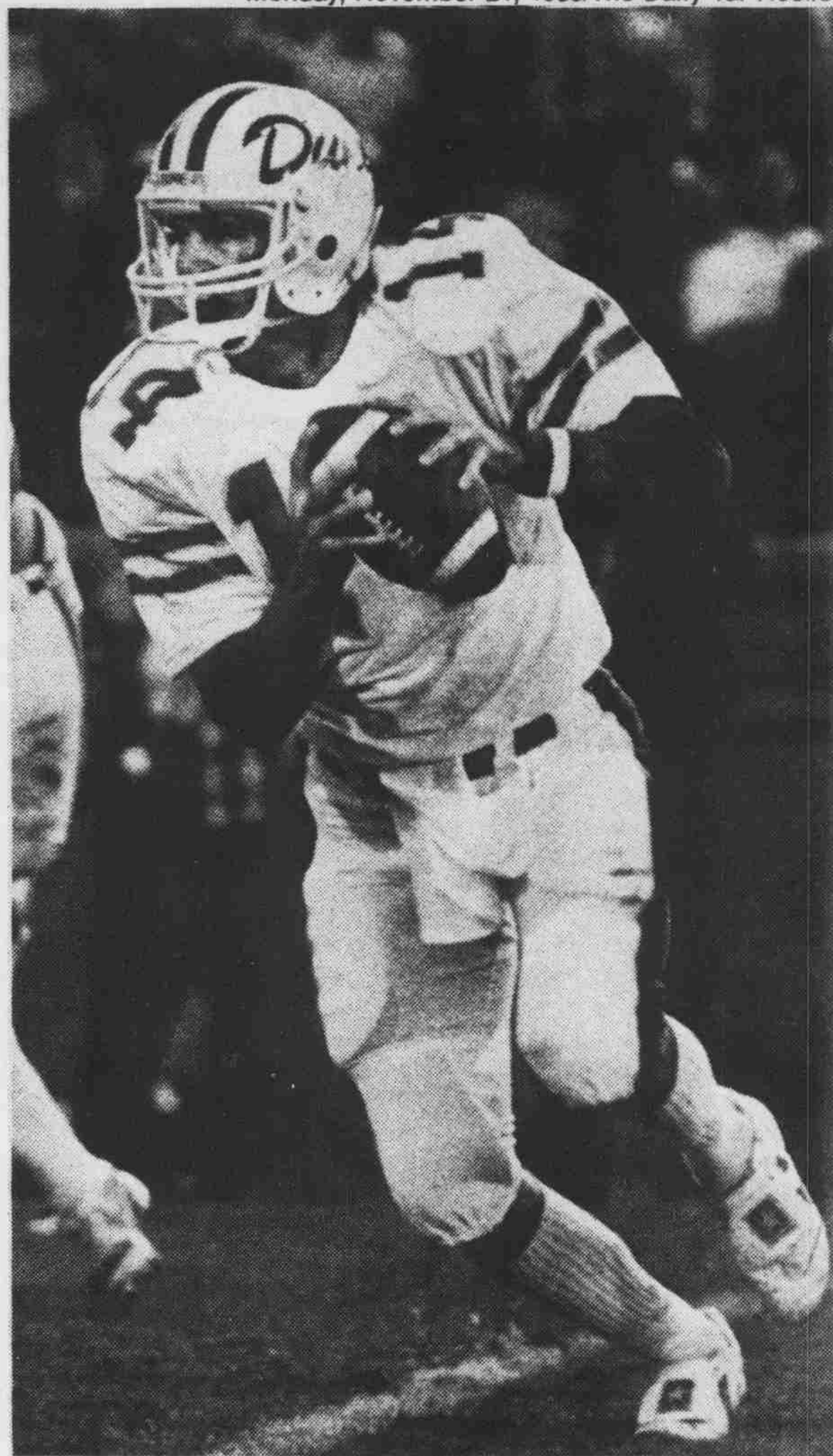
Bennett wasn't feeling quite so good at the end of the first quarter Saturday. At that point, Duke was trailing 7-0, and Bennett was tight and struggling in the face of a strong pass rush. He had completed just 3 of 6 passes in the quarter for 7 yards. But suddenly in the second period, Bennett caught fire to finish the half 11 of 17 for 104 yards and a TD.

"I was thinking a little bit about the records," Bennett said. "But I finally realized that the only reason we were here was to beat Carolina. Once I got that into my thick skull, I played better."

He also removed all doubt that he would indeed get the yardage record. Bennett came out in the second half and completed 16 of his 18 pass attempts, including his first 15. His 24-yard pass to freshman wide receiver Doug Green with 11:12 left in the fourth quarter put him ahead of McMahon.

When his accomplishment was announced to the crowd of 49,500, Bennett waved weakly in recognition of the ovation.

"It's a very hollow feeling," Bennett said of the passing record. "Everybody's mind was on beating Carolina. We didn't do that, so we can't be happy about anything."



Duke quarterback Ben Bennett finished his career in style, becoming the NCAA's all-time leading passer Saturday.

Tar Heels win ACC volleyball championship

By MIKE WATERS
Staff Writer

North Carolina's volleyball team captured its fourth consecutive ACC championship in a four-game victory over Duke Sunday in Durham.

For the second year in a row the Tar Heels and the Blue Devils met in the tournament's final match. This time UNC downed Duke 15-6, 11-15, 15-9 and 15-13.

Just as they had done in the semifinals last fall, the Blue Devils upset powerful N.C. State in the semifinals

on Saturday. Duke continued to be N.C. State's Achilles heel Saturday by rallying from a 2-1 deficit in games.

Duke coach Jon Wilson's pre-tournament prediction that the team with the toughest semifinal game would be at a disadvantage in the final came true, and to his misfortune.

N.C. State was the tournament's top seed, but the Blue Devils, who had defeated State in last year's tourney and in their final regular season game could hardly be counted out.

The Devils struggled from behind to win 11-15, 15-11,

13-15, 15-13 and 15-8. UNC didn't have it much easier on Saturday. The Tar Heels survived a tight five-game match against Maryland 18-16, 16-14, 13-15 and 15-11.

The tournament championship should qualify UNC for the NCAA championship. North Carolina had entered the tournament with a 6-1 conference record and seeded second. UNC downed Wake Forest on Friday while Duke advanced to its showdown with N.C. State by beating Clemson.

Jordan scores 26 in Blue-White; women's basketball wins opener

From staff reports

Michael Jordan and Brad Daugherty led the White team to a 77-69 victory with 26 and 22 points, respectively, in the second Blue-White scrimmage Saturday. However, coach Dean Smith was not particularly pleased with what he saw.

"There were lots of exciting plays, but not good basketball," Smith said. "Unless our defense is far ahead of our offense, we didn't execute our offenses very well. We had a lot of mental lapses."

Smith's observations were backed up by the fact that 37 turnovers were committed in the game.

Warren Martin, who started in the previous Blue-White game, sat out this contest with leg injuries. Also, starting point guard candidate Buzz Peterson had to sit out the second half because of weakness due to a bout with the flu. Peterson had 5 assists in the first half for the White team.

Sam Perkins led the Blue team with 25 points. He was followed by Cecil Exum with 6 points; Dave Popson, 6; Curtis Hunter, 15; Kenny Smith, 12; Steve Hale, 4 (first half); and Timo Makkonen, 1 (second half).

For the White team, Jordan and Daugherty were aided by Matt Doherty, 7 points; Joe Wolf, 11; Hale, 8 (second half); and Makkonen, 3 (second half).

Tresa Brown scored 23 points and grabbed seven rebounds to lead UNC to a 98-68 rout over Oklahoma City in the championship game of the Lady Jayhawk Tip-Off tournament Saturday in Lawrence, Kan.

UNC reached the finals of the classic by coming from behind to defeat Northwestern State 69-68 in Friday's opening round.

Pam Hammond pushed the Tar Heels to victory by converting a 15-foot jump shot with eight seconds remaining.

Brown contributed 17 points and 11 rebounds while Pam Leake chipped in 10 points for UNC. Kim Taylor's 16 points topped Northwestern State, which had four players in double figures.

Brown was named as the tournament's MVP and was joined on the All-tourney team by Leake, a sophomore guard.

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