

# SPORTS

## Tonietto overcomes obstacles to lead gymnasts

By PETE FIELDS  
Staff Writer

As a sophomore at the University of Louisville in 1982, Sue Tonietto was the 14th-ranked all-around gymnast in the country and was enjoying her finest year in the sport.

As a junior transfer at North Carolina in 1983, she was a spectator who could only watch helplessly as her teammates barely missed a trip to the NCAA regionals.

Near the end of her sophomore season at Louisville, Tonietto tore a stabilizing ligament in her left knee, confining her to a cast for six weeks and to an extensive rehabilitation program that lasted more than a year.

Also after her sophomore season, Louisville discontinued its gymnastics program. That was when Tonietto began getting calls from North Carolina gymnastics coach Derek Galvin.

Galvin had been warned that the type of injury Tonietto had sustained is often

devastating to a gymnast's career, that she might never be able to contribute to his program, that he might be wasting his time.

"Still," Galvin said, "I just had a gut instinct about her. I just knew that somehow, some way, someday that girl would make a big contribution to this gymnastics program."

He has not been disappointed. As the most consistent, versatile and, perhaps, top all-around performer to date for the Tar Heels, Tonietto is again striving for the heights she reached as a sophomore at Louisville.

"I'm as healthy as I was at Louisville," she said. "Physically, I'm 100 percent. I just haven't been able to tap that area that will take me to where I was my sophomore year."

Tonietto said she never considered not competing again. "I had seen a lot of girls who had had knee surgery, and they came back, so I just expected to come back."

She did wonder, though, if she would be able to regain her old form. "If it wasn't at-

tainable, I could accept that," Tonietto said, "but after the last couple of meets, maybe it isn't so unattainable."

She finished first all-around against N.C. State two weekends ago and third all-around against Duke last weekend.

Maybe a complete comeback isn't so unattainable anymore, but Tonietto has not gained sight of it without her share of hard work.

After spending six weeks in a cast, Tonietto was faced with more than a year of rehabilitative exercises and weightlifting to strengthen the knee. At the same time, she was trying to break into a new program at UNC.

"I was a little intimidated coming here," she said, "but when I watched the meets, I couldn't wait to get out there again."

Sitting back and watching was hard.

"When I finally got to start again, I was a little apprehensive about working out every day and being sore all the time and being tired all the time, but the competing has really kept me going. I really love to compete."

Tonietto loves competing so much that she believes the best way to get to know her is to watch her at a meet. "I'd invite everyone to come to a meet," she said. "I get along with people very well, and the best way I show that is through gymnastics. I love to show people what I can do and how I feel."

She does indeed show how she feels. If you have trouble picking out Tonietto at a meet, she'll be the one distributing the most hugs, cheering the loudest and jumping around the most.

"I have fun out there, and hopefully it rubs off on a few others," she said. "I really can't relax until I show a little emotion. Some people psych themselves up by sitting in a corner and staring off into space. That's fine for them, but I psych myself up by jumping around."

Which is understandable. As Tonietto will tell you, jumping around is a lot more fun than sitting around.



DTH/Charles Ledford

In her first year of competition at UNC, Sue Tonietto has come back strong from a serious knee injury.

## Cavs pull away in second half, stop UNC women

By MICHAEL PERSINGER  
Assistant Sports Editor

CHARLOTTEVILLE, Va. — After Saturday's 57-52 loss to Maryland, UNC women's basketball coach Jennifer Alley said the key to the game was the number of second shots her team allowed the Terps.

That being the case, the Tar Heels concentrated on rebounding in the practices that led up to Thursday night's showdown with league-leading Virginia.

For a half it looked as if the work UNC had done would pay off, but the Cavaliers came out in the second half and collapsed to the inside, gathering in rebound after rebound on both ends of the floor, and cruised to an 88-72 win.

Virginia, which never trailed in the game, led by just three at the half, 42-39. But the Cavaliers ran off 11 straight points after a Pam Leake jumper had pulled the Tar Heels to within one at 42-41. North Carolina spent the rest of the game playing catchup.

The win improved the 14th-ranked Cavaliers' record to 18-3 overall and 9-1 in the ACC. Fifteenth-ranked North Carolina fell to 17-4 and 7-2 with its second straight conference loss.

Nancy Mayer led the Cavaliers with 21 points, while Cathy Grimes added 18 and Lyn Anastasio had 15. Leake led the Tar Heels with 19.

Tresa Brown added 14 for UNC, but scored just four points and didn't get a shot from the field in the second half. Dawn Royster had 10 for UNC.

"I thought we were well prepared," Alley said. "The first half we did a good job and I thought our defense was good, but our rebounding failed. Our practices leading up to this game were aggressive and intense. We did a good job practicing, and then it didn't carry over into the game."

"The thing that really hurt us was our impatience," Alley said. "We were very impatient

during that stretch of about seven minutes in the second half, and our starters were showing a little fatigue."

"Virginia played real good defense and collapsed on Tresa on the inside. We let them have too many second and third shots on the offensive boards and we weren't getting the same thing on our end."

The Cavaliers began the game in a full-court zone press and jumped out to an 8-1 lead. The Tar Heels closed to within one point only once in the first half, at 36-35, on a pair of Marlene List free throws. North Carolina had several opportunities to take the lead, but was unable to convert.

Virginia switched to a man-to-man defense for the second half and Cavalier coach Debbie Ryan said the change was the key to the Virginia surge.

"I guess we should have been playing man-to-man the whole game," Ryan said. "When we went to the man-to-man we pressured the ball more and forced more turnovers. We played very good defense on Tresa

Brown," Ryan said. "We were sagging with two men instead of just one and I noticed that whenever she got the ball there was a swarm of white shirts around her."

UNC will try to get back into the win column Saturday against N.C. State in Carmichael Auditorium. Game time is 2 p.m.

### NORTH CAROLINA (72)

Royster 3-6 4-6 10, Killian 4-12 1-2 9, Brown 5-6 4-4 14, Leake 7-17 5-6 19, Hammond 1-2 0-0 2, Dingle 2-4 0-0 4, Cannon 0-3 0-0 0, List 1-4 2-2 4, Israel 2-2 2-3 6, Mapp 2-3 0-0 4, McCann 0-3 0-0 0.

Totals: 27-62 18-23 72

### VIRGINIA (88)

Mayer 6-9 9-11 21, Grimes 6-15 6-6 18, LaPaglia 1-3 2-2 4, Anastasio 7-9 1-2 15, Silloway 2-6 5-8 9, Young 4-5 1-2 9, Lewis 1-2 0-0 2, Lank 3-5 0-0 6, Thomas 1-2 2-3 4.

Totals: 31-58 26-34 88

## Wrestlers edge Wolfpack to break four-year slump

By BOB YOUNG  
Staff Writer

The only thing more intense than the crowd in the Carmichael Auditorium bleachers Thursday night was the intensity on the wrestling mat as the North Carolina Tar Heels defeated the 19th-ranked N.C. State Wolfpack, 20-16.

The Tar Heels' most crucial victory came in the 177 pound class as freshman Craig Spivey pinned Norm Corkhill with four seconds remaining in the match to give UNC a 17-13 lead with two matches remaining. This, combined with a victory by Bob Shriner over State's John Connelly at 190 gave the Tar Heels a lead that even All-American Tab Thacker couldn't overcome, as he struggled to beat UNC's Tommy Gorry, 3-2.

The UNC wrestlers jumped out to a quick lead when Chip McArdle and John Aumiller scored victories at 128 and 126, respectively. The Tar Heels then lost or tied their next five matches until Spivey broke the dry spell with his pin.

"It feels great," Spivey said. "We've worked too hard these last few days to give up on the mat tonight. I decided not to let up even

though time was nearly up." "That pin took a whole lot of pressure off us," said coach Bill Lam. "Especially for Bobby (Shriner) and Tommy (Gorry)."

The win is the first UNC victory over State in four years, and raised the Tar Heels' record to 11-5 and 3-1 in the ACC.

"I'm very happy right now," senior Bill Gaffney said. "What makes it even better is that we beat their best possible lineup tonight. These are the guys who are going to wrestle in the ACC tournament."

"We did a great job and wrestled well," Bob Shriner said. "Now we just have to take care of Virginia, but we'll be ready." Virginia defeated N.C. State earlier and is 4-0 in the ACC.

Results: 118-McArdle (UNC) def. Starke, 15-4; 126-Aumiller (UNC) def. Wentz, 3-1; 134-Bynum (NCS) def. Hallman, 9-6; 142-Turner (NCS) def. Lowery, 13-7; 150-Mondragon (NCS) def. Card, 7-5; 158-Wilson (UNC) tied Murray, 6-6; 167-Gaffney (UNC) tied Fatool, 2-2; 177-Spivey (UNC) pinned Corkhill at 6:56; 190-Shriner (UNC) def. Connelly, 4-1; HWT-Thacker (NCS) def. Gorry, 3-2.

## Women's swimming team defeats South Carolina while men lose

The UNC men's and women's swimming teams traveled to Columbia, S.C., to swim against South Carolina Wednesday and left with mixed results, as the women won, 73-67, and the men lost, 59-54.

The loss dropped the men's dual meet record to 8-3, and the women improved their record to 9-0 in dual meets.

The women won both relay races with Sue Walsh, Jenny Strickland, Betsy Mitchell and Amy Pless winning the 400-yard medley relay, and Pless, Mitchell, Walsh and Sue Scott taking the 400-yard freestyle.

Walsh, Strickland, Mitchell and Sarah Durstein provided the individual wins for the Tar Heels. Walsh won the 50-yard

freestyle and the 200-yard backstroke, and Strickland won the 100- and 200-yard breaststroke. Mitchell won the 100-yard butterfly and the 100-yard backstroke, and Durstein was the winner of the 1,000-yard freestyle.

The men's team also won both relay races, as Eric Ericson, Doug Sawyer, Dirk Marshall and Geoff Cassell took the 400-yard medley relay, and Ericson, Marshall, Cassell and Todd Deckman won the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Individual winners for UNC were Chris Stevenson in the 200-yard freestyle and 200-yard butterfly, Kevin O'Neal in the 50-yard freestyle, and Ericson in the 200-yard backstroke.

—GLENN PETERSON

### UNC Weekend Sports Calendar

Friday, Feb. 10: Men's and women's swimming at Southern Intercollegiate Championships, Athens, Ga.

Saturday, Feb. 11: Women's basketball — vs. N.C. State in Carmichael Auditorium, 2:00 p.m. Women's fencing — vs. Hollins (Va.) College and Fairleigh Dickinson in Fetzor Gym, 9:00 a.m. Gymnastics — at Mid-South Invitational, Jacksonville, Ala. Men's and

women's swimming — at Southern Intercollegiate Championships, Athens, Ga. Men's and women's track — Olympic Development Meet in New Tin Can. Wrestling — at Virginia, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 12: Men's basketball — at Arkansas, 1:00 p.m. Wrestling — at Maryland, 4:30 p.m.

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