

# Volleyball determined to improve

By TIM CROTHERS  
Staff Writer

The UNC Women's Volleyball team could be found in Carmichael Auditorium on Monday afternoon; setting and hitting, diving and digging, grimacing and always encouraging one another. This may not seem unusual, but it is.

This is the first year the team has ever gathered before the start of the school year for its grueling three-day practice schedule. The reason for the extra effort stems in part from four banners that loom over the court as they scrimmage. Four ACC championship banners hang from the rafters in Carmichael Auditorium, reminding these women of four straight years of conference dominance from 1980-1983 and three NCAA bids.

This tradition of superiority was broken last year by a disappointing 13-21 season under first-year coach Peggy Bradley-Doppes. Looking back on the poor season, Bradley-Doppes attributed the sudden decline to an improved dedication to volleyball programs around the ACC and to a lack of UNC recruits caused by the coaching change. In fact, over half of the 1984 team was made up of walk-ons for the first time since the program became established.

"We had a lot of desire, but we just didn't have the talent or experience we needed," Bradley-Doppes said.

In Carmichael, another girl screeches across the varnished floor and you realize that this team is serious about a turnaround. Bradley-Doppes said she has combined last year's scholarship athletes with five recruits of her own in an effort to "build a strong foundation right now."

This foundation will be built around the leadership of returning junior hitters Jill Berkebile and Dawn Wood, as well as Julie Neal, a junior setter/hitter who is a transfer from Indiana University. The coach is reluctant to speculate about who her standout players might be, preferring instead to emphasize the team concept. She is impressed by the overall strength of her lineup "In the past, it's always been one or two players that have carried the team," she said. "This year we're a quicker team, we're better all around."

Back on the court, one of the girls collapsed on the floor under the banners after netting an easy smash. Her teammates laughed with her. It has been a long practice and this is one of the lighter moments distinct to this sport born on the beach. Two teammates help her to her feet and on the very next point she pounds a difficult slam with post-season intensity. This team has something to prove.



North Carolina's Jill Berkebile goes for the spike in a match last season.

Sept. 13	Florida at Columbia, S.C.	Oct. 8	at Duke
Sept. 13	Rice at Columbia, S.C.	Oct. 11-12	Maryland Invit. at College Park at N.C. State at Western Kentucky
Sept. 14	at South Carolina	Oct. 16	at N.C. State
Sept. 17	ST. AUGUSTINE	Oct. 17	at Western Kentucky
Sept. 20	at N.C. State	Oct. 18-19	Eastern Kentucky Invit. at Richmond, Ky.
Sept. 20	James Madison at Raleigh	Oct. 21	at Louisville
Sept. 21	Duke at Raleigh	Oct. 26	DUKE
Sept. 21	South Carolina at Raleigh	Oct. 31	CLEMSON
Sept. 21	Pennsylvania at Raleigh	Nov. 1	at Hofstra
Sept. 24	N.C. STATE	Nov. 2	Miami at Hampstead, N.Y.
Sept. 27-28	Lady Kat Tournament at Lexington, Ky.	Nov. 2	Princeton at Hampstead, N.Y.
Oct. 4	Duquesne at Morgantown, W. Va.	Nov. 2	Lehigh at Hampstead, N.Y.
Oct. 5	at West Virginia	Nov. 7	GEORGIA
Oct. 5	Temple at Morgantown, W. Va.	Nov. 8	GEORGIA TECH
		Nov. 9	FLORIDA
		Nov. 11	at Wake Forest
		Nov. 15	VIRGINIA
		Nov. 16	RUTGERS

## 1985 Tentative Volleyball Schedule

Sept. 6	at Rhode Island
Sept. 7	Minnesota at Kingsport, R.I.
Sept. 7	Providence at Kingsport, R.I.

# Harrison tired of bridesmaid position

By LEE ROBERTS  
Sports Editor

North Carolina women's tennis coach Kitty Harrison is sick and tired of finishing second.

For the fourth year in a row last spring, Harrison's Tar Heels were behind Clemson in the ACC race.

"We've been second for four years," she said recently. "We've been close, but absolutely no cigar."

That frustration was deepened when North Carolina's finish in the top 20 rankings was — you guessed it — 21st.

But things don't look all that bad for this team as it heads into its fall season. It loses only one senior off last year's 24-10 squad, Stephanie Rauch, whose injuries kept her from being a critical factor in the team's fortunes anyway.

This will be the Tar Heels' first season in the sparkling new UNC Tennis

Center as well. "It should make a tremendous difference in recruiting and team morale," Harrison said, "and it's beautiful, too."

No matter about the scenery, though. If this team doesn't bond together quickly and pull together on and off the court, it could be an ugly season, like last spring was in the beginning. "It was a team that never quite reached its potential," Harrison said. "We'd sleep when we couldn't afford to."

However, Harrison said, by the end of the season they had woken up and finished strongly.

The core of that team returns, as well as some hopeful newcomers.

The senior threesome of Eileen Fallon, Nancy Boggs and Liz Wachter is back, as is last year's no. 2 player, sophomore Elizabeth Alexander, who racked up a 41-7 record. Petra Wessels, a junior from Holland, returns, and a

promising freshman named Ann Stephenson will probably challenge for a top spot, Harrison said.

There are several potential walk-ons this season, as well. "It's going to be tough to cut a team," she said.

The Tar Heels will use the fall season to play around with doubles teams and check out the new players. However, UNC will play three dual matches which, unlike men's fall tennis, will count in the team's overall year record.

During those matches the Tar Heels will try to inch closer to Clemson in the hopes of finishing ahead of the Tigers in the ACC race for the first time since 1981.

How well they do this fall will determine whether Kitty Harrison will be smoking a cigar next spring. *The Women's Tennis schedule was not available at press time.*

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