

Nets 1987

Volleyball looks to overcome inconsistency, graduation losses

By JIM MUSE
Staff Writer

Commitment. That's the catch word of this year's volleyball media guide, and that's the theme of the 1987 UNC volleyball team.

Last year's "growing season" for fourth-year coach Peggy Bradley-Doppes netted a 25-13 record, including a spotless 7-0 regular-season record in the ACC. Even though the team lost five seniors to graduation, this year's squad returns an excellent nucleus of established talent.

Sophomore Sharon German,

along with juniors Andrea Wells and Ann Schildmeyer, are three of the best hitters in the East. Wells, a fierce outside hitter, earned all-conference honors last season.

Schildmeyer and German played in the U.S. Olympic Festival during the summer, and German has been invited to try out for the national 'B' team, which is sort of a second-string pool of players for the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

The team also has one of the top setters in the nation in junior Sherri Vogel. Vogel ranked third in the nation in assists her freshman year

on her way to an All-ACC season, and last year earned second-team All-ACC. Versatile sophomore Lisa Joffs also contributed solidly while placing second on the team in both assists and solo blocks.

The addition of an exceptional freshman class will add tremendous depth to this already talent-laden team, and will make things easier for everyone. The freshmen bring in some great experience because most have been playing for several years, so they should be able to adjust to college volleyball well. Liz Berg, Patti Hopkins, Sara Wilson and Susan Andrews of Chapel Hill High are the four freshmen, and Bradley-Doppes expects significant contributions from the group.

One thing that Bradley-Doppes said she hopes to correct was a tendency for last year's team to be inconsistent — hot one day, cold the next. To that end, she has put the team through an intensive offseason of conditioning and tournaments.

The entire team qualified for the AAU Junior Tournament, where the UNC contingent finished fifth in the nation. That team went from January to April without losing a single tournament.

Formal practice began August 19th, and the team is currently going through the grueling two-a-day practices that are so notorious. With the season opener against Virginia

Tech in Blacksburg just two weeks away, Bradley-Doppes said "things are moving fast, and all the loose ends are coming together for us."

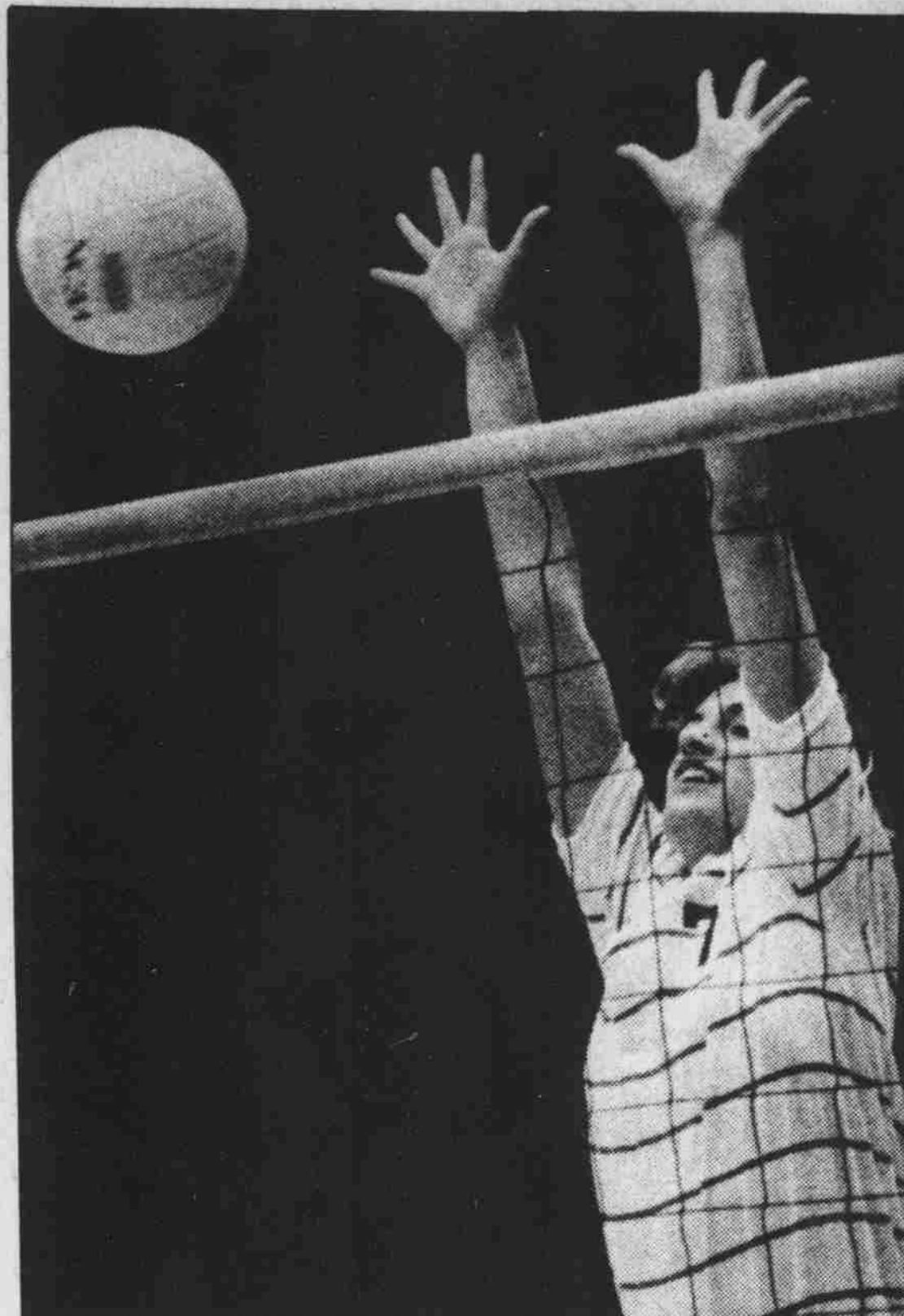
Improvement upon last year's record will not come easily. North Carolina will face fierce competition against traditional conference rivals N.C. State, Duke and Virginia, as well as national powerhouses Penn State, Louisiana State, and Florida.

North Carolina has 11 home games scheduled, the first of which will be Sep. 17 in Carmichael Auditorium against powerful Florida. The week-end of Sep. 18-19 brings the Carolina Classic to Chapel Hill. The four-team tournament includes James Madison, Western Kentucky and American, as well as the host Tar Heels.

UNC also will travel to such faraway places as Carbondale, Ill., College Station, Tex., University Park, Pa., Tampa, Fla., and Williamsburg, Va., for various tournaments.

With such a difficult schedule, there is an attitude of cautious optimism in Bradley-Doppes' volleyball camp. The coaches just want to avoid any distractions and pre-season hype and concentrate on the business at hand — winning volleyball games.

After two consecutive regular-season ACC championships and no tournament titles, the Tar Heels hope to experience a greater degree of post-season success.



Jill Berkebile's loss should be felt this year by the UNC volleyball team

Football

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latives to describe him. Maye's career has been a checkered one, as he was redshirted in 1983, played sparingly in 1984 and missed all of 1985 with recurrent shoulder problems.

Those shoulder problems seem to have cleared up, and Maye is no longer throwing with pain. The question for the Tar Heels is whether Maye's receiving corps will be up to the standard set by his arm. Randy Marriott (17.2 yards per catch) and Eric Lewis (18.9 yards per catch) provide big-play potential, and Quint Smith's 17 catches last season were second only to Eric Streater. New tight end John Keller has drawn raves from Crum for his ability to hang on to the ball.

The offensive attack will be balanced, but Maye's ability will undoubtedly keep the accent on the air attack. Keeping that accent under control, though, will be Crum's memory of 1985, when the Tar Heels set all sorts of passing records but went 5-6.

The defensive situation is less certain. Last year, the Tar Heels had all kinds of problems keeping their opponents out of the end zone, yielding a total of 279 points. And that total does not reveal the true depth of UNC's defensive woes, as in seven of the Tar Heels' last eight games, the opposing team scored 30 points or more.

UNC will not be showing the same defensive visage this year, though.

New defensive coordinator Marc Dove will oversee the switch from an eight-man front to the 50 set, a scheme which made UNC synonymous with defense in the early 1980's.

Key to this scheme is the front line, and Dove smiles when he talks about that subject. At the two tackle spots are Tim Goad and Reuben Davis, while Carlton Bailey will be the nose guard. Goad was All-ACC last year with 40 solo tackles, while Davis garnered similar honors in 1985. Bailey is a senior with enormous potential. Dove said of him, "He has the potential to be as fine a nose guard as there is in the country."

Other keys on defense are inside linebackers Mitch Wike and Brett Rudolph. Wike was the team's second-leading tackler last year, while Rudolph will be seeking to bounce back from injuries which have hobbled him. In the secondary, Derrick Donald provides the leadership and most of the defense, with his six interceptions. Sophomore Larry Whiteside had a brilliant spring and should challenge for a starting position.

Waiting for this defensive unit are some of the most powerful offenses in the nation. With Oklahoma, Auburn and Clemson just over the horizon, the defense must mature quickly and find the consistency it never knew last year. If it doesn't, maybe we'll find out if Maye and the offense can score 40 points a game.

Do you want the good or the bad news first?

Out of Bounds Mike Berardino

The first few days of the new semester are a fine time for sports-writer reflection — classes haven't started yet, so free time actually exists for you, and besides, you're supposed to write a column of some sort for the first Daily Tar Heel issue of the year.

So reflect I will, on the good and the bad of covering sports in Chapel Hill:

GOOD — Having the opportunity to watch Mark Maye's senior season, as the Rifleman takes aim on every UNC passing record in the book, many of which he already owns. Not only is Maye the Big Man on Campus, he's also a genuinely nice guy.

BAD — Having to accept the ugly ending to Derrick Fenner's UNC career. Besides being an outstanding running back and a solid NFL prospect, Fenner may have been the most quotable athlete ever to hit this school. He may be gone from Chapel Hill, but anyone who braved the icy

rain on a dreary Saturday last November and saw Fenner rip through the Virginia defense for 328 yards will never forget him.

Whatever the final outcome of his October murder trial (and a source close to the situation predicts all the charges will be dropped), it's this writer's hope that Fenner is remembered favorably.

GOOD — Watching Anson Dorrance's women's soccer dynasty roll on. Despite the loss of all-everything forward April Heinrichs, the Tar Heels are a good bet to win their sixth national championship in seven years.

BAD — Having to dispatch writers to Fetzer Field for women's soccer games, knowing full well their game

story will once again detail an 8-0 UNC blowout of Erskine or Barry.

GOOD — Looking forward to a free lunch of chicken and biscuits served in the Kenan Stadium press box every football Saturday. The key is to show up early so you can go back for seconds and even for thirds.

BAD — Knowing that this year's Tuesday football press conferences will be in Koury Natatorium instead of at Slug's. And sensing, instinctively, that the food somehow won't be quite as good.

GOOD — Watching coach Karen Shelton's field hockey team give free clinics to opponent after opponent, delighting the small but vocal crowds that come out to AstroTurf field for its games.

BAD — Wondering why every non-revenue sport besides lacrosse and baseball toils in relative obscurity, even though the quality of play is exceptional almost across the board.

GOOD — Being able to sit inside the enclosed press box in Kenan Stadium, not having to deal with any drunk fraternity brothers who happened to have seats next to yours. And better yet, not having to listen to them try to explain what a first down is to their sorority girl dates.

BAD — Not being able to yell approval for a beautiful Maye touchdown pass or a clutch Tim Goad quarterback sack. Instead, as a member of the working press, having to react with a curtailed smile and a quick nod.

GOOD — Having the opportunity to pose questions to Dick Crum, Dean Smith and their players after the game ends.

BAD — Knowing that no matter how eloquently the question is worded, the answer will always be cautious, and rarely completely candid.

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Trouble

He took six hours of correspondence courses in the spring, and was taking six credit hours in the first summer session at UNC when he was arrested. Regardless of the outcome of his trial, Fenner would not be academically eligible to play for the Tar Heels this season.

Boon, who played tackle for Hoover High in North Canton (Ohio), pled guilty to and was

convicted of delinquency by reason of assault and petty theft. The charges arose from an April 10 incident in which a pizza delivery man was assaulted and two pizzas were stolen.

The victim, William Naumovski, suffered a broken nose, two broken teeth, facial cuts and a black eye. Six North Canton football players, including Boon, were arrested in connection with the assault. An initial

charge of robbery, a felony, was reduced to a misdemeanor with the approval of the victim.

"Our department didn't want these people (the athletes) to lose scholarships for what was a teenage prank," Sheriff J. Babe Stearn said.

The final entry on the Tar Heel police blotter came courtesy of highly

touted point guard King Rice, who this August was charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest after police and youths clashed outside a Binghamton, N.Y., bar. Rice claimed he had been injured slightly and filed a complaint charging the police with using excessive force in breaking up the fight.

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