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Sports

ACC loss doesn't prevent soccer from NCAA bid

CLEMSON, S.C. - First things first . .

After Sunday's 2-1 loss to topranked Virginia in the finals of the ACC Tournament, the UNC men's soccer team tried to hide its anxiety over whether or not the NCAA Tournament Selection Committee would award the Tar Heels' fine lateseason play with an at-large bid.

"I certainly think we're good enough to play (in the NCAAs)," UNC coach Anson Dorrance said after the game as he caught a few bites to eat in the tournament's press room. "I don't think there's any team in the country who has beaten more playoff-bound teams than we have. There's no question we played the toughest schedule."

thought the Tar Heels should make are 11-4-4 on the year. They lost in it in.

"I said it (Saturday)," he said. "We have five of the top teams in the country in this conference, and Carolina is one of them."

Reaction differed among Tar Heel players. "Are we gonna get in?" anxious sophomore forward Derek Missimo queried.

Senior Donald Cogsville bounced the idea up and down, noting that, traditionally, in this type situation, the Tar Heels have been kept out of the tournament. But, of course, he wanted in.

Chris Spencer Asst. Sports Editor

you have a week between games," he said, "and that gives you more time to relax and prepare for the next team."

Relax, guys. You made it.

Monday, those select few who have the power to snuff out one team's season while extending another's, handed down their decree from on high: UNC will play Wake Forest in the first round of the South Regionals. The site and time still has yet to ACC's leading scorer with 14 goals be revealed, though.

The Deacons, whom the Tar Heels Even Virginia coach Bruce Arena downed, 2-1, Oct. 5 in Chapel Hill, the first round of the ACC Tournament last Thursday, 2-1.

> The winner will play South Carolina, probably at The Graveyard in Columbia. The Gamecocks played the Tar Heels to a scoreless tie Sept. 28 in Chapel Hill.

> So what made the committee look a little harder at the Tar Heels than their ACC mates? First, UNC almost upset top-ranked Virginia Sunday and took the first two matches in the tournament against two teams they had lost to earlier this season.

Just like college football, it's better "The tournament's great because to lose early in the year, on the road

"'EVERYBODY'S ALL

and to ranked teams, which both Duke and Clemson, whom the Tar Heels defeated 2-1 Thursday, were this year. Oh, and a late-season streak of wins doesn't hurt, either.

Ironically, that streak ignited against the Gamecocks, for in that match, freshman Richard Wachsman began playing sweeper after not seeing a minute of action up to that point.

That move enabled junior playmaker Chad Ashton to return to his normal midfield position, where he controls the Tar Heel offense much as a conductor directs an orchestra.

It also allowed Cogsville, the and three assists, to work his magic from a forward spot.

In that streak, the Tar Heels are 9-2-1, losing only to the Cavaliers in Chapel Hill and UNC-Charlotte on the road.

But the Tar Heels might have gotten in for other reasons. They are a fun team to have around, and they typically go far in the NCAAs. Also, Dorrance has to be an influencing factor because of the success he's had with the women's squad. You know the man can coach some soccer and that his teams are going to be tough. Indeed, that's precisely what he said Sunday.

"If there's a characteristic we have, we're tough," he said. "We run hard, and this is an environment where that pays off. We like the pressure."

Okay, so we know he's the Jimmy Valvano of college soccer. But can his squad continue its late-season



UNC's Tom O'Connor (3) fights with Virginia's John Maessner for the ball in Sunday's 2-1 loss

Tips and hot hints from the real 'Lord of the Hoops' — Sorry, J.R.

Hoop — what a word! When you think of "hoop," you don't see the Celtics, the Lakers, and certainly not

David Surowiecki

principles of hoop, I can proudly say that I can lose at will, and often do. Doing this lulls your opponent into a false sense of security and enables you to turn the tables on him when he least expects it, thereby destroying his confidence and leaving him in the same emotional state as a bowl of grits. (I was planning on saying oatmeal, but then I said to myself: "Dave, you're in the South now, and you'll just have to learn to adjust your writing in order to appeal to the masses.) Finally, and perhaps most importantly, you need to practice. It is essential, however, that you do so with the utmost secrecy because this enables us to once again use those helpful little psychological ploys. When you waltz onto the court, basketball in hand, act as if you are on a strange planet or some other mysterious and foreign place - hey, pretend you're at the library. When you take your practice shots, miss them badly - I always do - and explain to everyone that you haven't played in a few months. All this will contribute to your already miserable reputation on the courts and make people believe that you're really not that good. That's what they all think about me. (We, however, know the truth.) But then, the real me emerges, and they are faced with the fact they are being blown off the court by some shrimp. who hasn't played hoop in three months. This can do wonders for those oversized Barkley-wanna-be's with egos to match, and as a result, the rest of the game is a piece of cake. Anyway, I think for now I might just bum around the country for a couple of months, looking for players who are good enough to provide at least a little hoops competition. What's that? J.R. Reid, you say?



improvement in the NCAAs?

The Tar Heels have proven they can beat the Deacs. Assuming they get by Wake, they will then have to go up against USC in an almost identical situation as last year, when the Tar Heels won a thrilling, 2-1 overtime match in Columbia in the second round of the NCAAs.

But whatever happens, you can bet on one thing when you're talking about the Tar Heel men's soccer team: it's gonna be exciting.



TODAY

VOLLEYBALL at East Carolina, 7:00 p.m. BOWLING for presidents, your nearest voting location, 6:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. FRIDAY MEN'S GOLF at College of Charleston

nvitational, All Day MEN'S and WOMEN'S TENNIS at ITCA/Rolex Regional, Winston-Salem,

N.C., All Day SATURDAY

FOOTBALL - vs. Virginia, Kenan Stadium, 2:00 p.m.

MEN'S and WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY at NCAA Region III Championship, Greenville, S.C., 10:00 a.m.

CINEPLEX ODEON AND **PLITT THEATRES Gorillas In The Mist** 7:00 • 9:15 PG **They Live** R 7:15 • 9:30 CAROLINA East Franklin Street 942-3061



the Hornets. Instead, it conjures up visions of New York playgrounds, small towns and wooden backboards in Indiana and, of course, Woollen Gym.

Yes, Woollen, the bastion of pickup games on this basketball-crazy institution of higher learning, is the essence of the word "hoop" - at least when I'm playing.

Following one of my many basketball victories during these past few days, I was reminded of an insightful warning written by fellow DTH staffer, Doug Hoogervorst. In a recent article, he cautioned us not to confuse hustle with talent. Due to this, I finally realized I had been doing exactly what he had just warned us against.

I had always seen myself as someone who hustled a lot and, as a result of my hard play and determination, usually won. But now I realize that it wasn't my hustle that won games, but rather my unbelievable natural talent. Thanks, Doug.

You see, after a weekend of dominating the courts, I thought it only fair to let those poor souls less fortunate than me in on some of my secrets.

First of all, you must realize that I stand a menacing 5-foot 81/2 inches (I have to make sure I keep all those halves), so admittedly I do possess an unfair advantage. For those of you not blessed with such prodigious height, however, work on your jumping ability. Hell, I can almost this skill can take a lot of time. get net!

The way I look at it, basketball is all psychological. If you can intimidate your opponent with your size, by all means do so. But what I do is make them emotionally distraught.

Lasorda named top manager

pionship, received 97 points in voting

by a nationwide panel of sports

writers and broadcasters. Boston Red

Sox Manager Joe Morgan was

second with 26 points, Oakland

Manager Tony LaRussa was third

with 25 points and Detroit Tigers

Manager Sparky Anderson was

Lasorda said the award was more

From Associated Press reports

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NEW YORK - Tommy Lasorda, already named manager of the year in the National League by the Baseball Writers' Association of America, now has received the same honor for both leagues from The Associated Press.

fourth with 11 points. Lasorda was the overwhelming choice as the AP Major League Manager of the Year for 1988 in a tribute to the Dodgers organization voting announced Monday. than himself.

The Los Angeles manager, who led his team to the World Series cham-

FREE.

Staff Writer

(that is a word, isn't it?) dribble around the court, as if I really don't care, and then out of nowhere I sink the most unbelievable, off-balance, out-of-focus, Pee-Wee Hermanesque shot you've ever seen.

This way, my opponents begin to lose the confidence they had when they first saw me trip onto the court wearing my squeaky clean Nike Air Trainer SCs. Bo Jackson wears them too, so you can see the shoes bring with them an aura of athletic invincibility unmatched even by my own.

Well, anyway, let's get back to those nerve-shattering, off-balance shots that can allow you to become a superior player, albeit not as dominant as I.

You know the ones I'm talking about - the shots only Bird and I can make consistently, the ones where you're falling out of bounds, behind the basket without a chance in hell of making? Practice them until they become second nature, for they will become the single most effective weapon in your basketball arsenal the dunk is also good, but it's kind of risky if you don't have my leaping ability.

Another psychological ploy I have found worthwhile is losing games on purpose. I do this a lot, a whole lot. But, hey, it works. I'll admit, however, that for some of us, developing

I remember back when I was still learning this technique, and no matter how hard I tried, I couldn't lose. I'd put up turnaround jumpers from 22 feet without looking, and wouldn't you know it, they'd just go right in. Sure it was frustrating at first, but I lethargically and uncoordinatedly after years of dedication to the true

> Series, it was a shining example to all people of what you can accomplish and what can happen in life if you really and truly believe in yourself," he said.

"Nobody thought we had even a slight chance of beating the Mets in the playoffs. Nobody thought we could even come close to beating them. And then when we went into the World Series, no one thought we could come close to beating the "It was just not a victory of a World Athletics.

Ha!! I want Jordan.

THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING!

Student tickets are available for a basketball game between UNC and the Olympic star-studded USSR national team on November 12th in the Smith Center after the UNC-UVa football game.

How To GET YOUR TICKETS:

Present your student ID and athletic pass at the Smith Center Ticket Office between 8:00 am-5:00 pm. Students may also purchase guest tickets in addition to their complimentary student tickets.

BLOCK SEATING AVAILABLE: Student groups of 50 or more are welcome to send a representative to the Ticket Office with the group's athletic passes for block seating





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