



Maggi Kelly, U.S. Women place third in Water Polo

When she is on campus, graduate student Maggi Kelly is a fine player with the UNC Water Polo Club. But whenever she leaves the confines of Chapel Hill to play the sport she loves, she turns her game up a level — to an international level.

Kelly and her teammates on the United States womens' water polo team recently returned from the World Aquatic Championships in Perth, Australia. And the long trip to the land Down Under was not all for naught. The team was rewarded with a solid third-place finish.

"The World Championships are held every four years opposite Olympic years," said Kelly, explaining the Jan. 3-13 event. "There are four sports each for men and women — swimming, diving, synchronized swimming and water polo."

The U.S. team finished the nine-team event behind gold medalist Holland and silver medalist Canada. "All nine teams had to qualify to be able to play," Kelly said. "We played five matches in the time we were there, winning three. We beat Hungary in our last game for third place."

Kelly started all five matches for the U.S., scoring one or two goals in every game. That's not bad, either, considering that "water polo scores usually range at 9-7 or 8-6."

Kelly said her next order of business is "finishing up this semester." Then, she will go back into training with the national team to prepare for the FINA Cup, which the U.S. will host this June in Long Beach, Calif.

"The FINA Cup is held every summer," Kelly said. "We're hoping to win it, but we're going to have to beat Holland. They've been on top in womens' water polo the last four years."

Kelly and her U.S. teammates are also waiting to hear a decision from the Olympics concerning their sport. Right now, womens' water polo is not a medal sport in the Olympics. "We're hoping to have a four-team exhibition tournament prior to the Olympics in Barcelona, Spain (in 1992)," Kelly said.

And she continues to cross her fingers, wanting to have that Olympic chance. "They haven't said no yet."

Carolina Blue Cup this weekend in Fetzer

The UNC Team Handball Club will hold the second annual Carolina Blue Cup this weekend in Fetzer Gyms A and B. The competition should be strong, as teams from Air Force, West Point, Ohio St. University, Arlington, Va. and New Jersey will participate, along with the Carolina A and B teams. The New Jersey club, also known as the Swim and Sport Club (SSC), defeated Carolina last year to win the tournament.

"We've got probably three of the top teams in the country in Air Force, West Point and SSC," said Carolina coach John Silva. "This will be a great opportunity for students to see an Olympic sport here at Carolina."

Games begin Saturday morning at 9:00 and will last until 9:00 p.m. The medal round will begin at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, with the gold medal game slated for 1:30 p.m. in Fetzer A.

Do You Know? knows womens' comp

They chose their team name from the popular Michael Jordan/Mars Blackmon Nike commercials — "Do you know, do you know, do you know?" Well, as the Wombats found out in a womens' comp game in Woollen Gym last week, this team certainly knows basketball. Do You Know jumped out to a big, early lead and coasted to a 43-23 triumph.

After Jennifer Kroner gave the Wombats a 2-0 lead on a lay up in the game's first possession, Do You Know scored 18 of the next 20 points to go up 18-4. Christy Grigg, also Do You Know's captain, led the way with four of those points.

The Wombats cut the deficit to nine at halftime, but they were simply outmatched in the first part of the second half. Do You Know scored six straight points on baskets by Grigg, Valerie Halman, and Jane Wyatt to extend the lead to 27-14.

"We went to a man-to-man in the second half after playing zone in the first half," Grigg said. "That was Jane's idea — I thought it was a good idea. We just wore them out after that because they only had seven players to our five."

"We also beat them on the boards. That really helped."

Do You Know stayed undefeated at 3-0 with the win.

The boxscore:

DO YOU KNOW? (43) — Christy Grigg 9, Jane Wyatt 7, Carol Gray 7, Mitzie Searcy 6, Georgina Wilson 6, Valerie Halman 4, Chris Tomberlin 4.

WOMBATS (23) — Jennifer Kroner 10, Jessica Hamilton 4, Elinor Bradshaw 4, Cherry Woodberry 3, Kim Whicker 2.

Halftime — Do You Know?, 21-12.

— Rodney Cline

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FEATURES

Crappy Valentine's Day

This is the day we've been avoiding all year, and here it is finally upon us. So what do we do about it? We wouldn't be faithful to ourselves if we didn't complain, so here we go. We've got the ins and outs of Valentine's Day gift-giving, as well as poetry by Cameron Tew (bet you didn't know he could write poetry) and our favorite couples. Devon Hyde gives her 67 cents worth, also. Enjoy!

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