



West Point nips SSC to win second annual Blue Cup

Going into last weekend's Carolina Blue Cup Team Handball Tournament, Carolina Coach John Silva knew there were three things his team must do in order to win the gold medal: "I always tell my teams the key to winning games is passing, patience, and taking care of possessions. For us to play consistently, we must always do these things."

Unfortunately, Carolina was not consistent enough in the second annual event, held in Fetzer Gymnasium on Saturday and Sunday. The A-team took sixth place in the eight-team event, while the B-team finished eighth. Perennial team handball national powers, West Point A and SSC (Swim and Sport Club, N.J., last year's Blue Cup champion) fought it out for the gold medal, with West Point winning 19-17 in two overtimes. Air Force won the bronze medal, Ohio State was fourth, Arlington fifth and West Point B seventh.

"We knew we had some formidable opponents in the tournament," Silva said Monday. "West Point is always good, and SSC picked up two foreign players they didn't have last year."

In the gold medal game, Silva said the key to West Point's victory was the defense it played on SSC's two-time Olympian Jimmy Buehning. "Buehning was SSC's top scorer, and West Point really disrupted him," Silva said. "They sent a couple of different guys out on him, and it was effective. SSC couldn't respond to West Point's physical play."

SSC looked as if it would capture the gold, leading 15-13 with less than a minute left in regulation. However, Silva said West Point's composure in the last minute enabled it to score two goals late and then outscore SSC 4-2 in the two overtime periods.

The tournament split the eight teams into two four-team brackets, with each bracket playing a round robin against itself. The records during the round robins enabled tournament officials to create a medal round, with the best teams playing each other.

Carolina A-team won its first game by beating West Point B, 13-7. "We basically just went out and took care of business," Silva said. "We substituted liberally, and Rik (Wall, the goalie) had a sharp first game."

Silva pointed out the team's turning point as being the next game against Ohio State: "If we had beaten Ohio St., we would have virtually been assured of being in the medal round. We led by one at halftime, and it was a nip-and-tuck, see-saw game. We really pelted their goalie in the second half, but he was a big saver for them. They won 12-10, and they deserved to win."

The A-team concluded its tournament by losing to SSC 20-11 and to Arlington 18-14. The B-team failed to win a game, after being shorthanded an injury to starter Vic Rouse, who suffered a sprained ankle. "Mark Fucito had a good tournament at goalie for the B-team. He made a lot of saves," Silva said.

The next action for Carolina will be the West Point Tournament in April. "Some people think that is an even bigger tournament than nationals," Silva said. "Canadian teams will be there."

"But we have the potential to play with those teams. We have good athletic talent, but we have to be more effective when we're behind. This tournament (the Blue Cup) didn't turn out the way we had hoped. However, the experience should help in the long run — if we choose to learn from it."

Last Week in Club Sports

- The Equestrian Club competed against eight other schools in a Region 4 Horseshow at Southern Seminary Junior College in Buena Vista, Va. Meredith Douthit finished second in novice over fences and sixth on the flat. Stacy McMillian won fourth place in advanced walk/trot, and Stephanie Spiegel and Katie Shoner each participated in beginner walk/trot/canter, with Spiegel finishing fourth and Shoner sixth.

The club's next show is Sunday afternoon at Quail Roost Farm in North Durham.

- The Rugby Club upset fall state champion East Carolina 15-6 last Saturday, improving its spring record to 2-0. This came after a 17-3 win the previous week against St. Andrews. Another home game is on tap Saturday as UNC hosts the Duke Graduates at Carmichael Fields at 1:00.

IM-REC Dates To Remember

- The deadline for Blue Heaven Basketball entries is today at 5:00 in the IM-REC office. This is for all basketball teams who failed to win a game in the regular season. Play begins Monday night.

- Mandatory captains' meetings for IM-REC softball are March 4 and 5. Captains must attend one of these meetings in order to enter their team for the season, which starts the week after spring break.

— Rodney Cline

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1991

OMNIBUS

THE DAILY TAR HEEL WEEKEND MAGAZINE

FEATURES

On the road again

Come join us for a road trip extravaganza. We have all the places to go — from down South all the way up I-95 to the great, Big Apple.

PAGES 8 & 9

DEPARTMENTS

Music

Tim Little's column, Nikki Meets the Hibachi and Sting

PAGES 4 & 5

On Stage

Phish at Cat's Cradle

PAGE 6

Arts

Deathtrap Preview, Arts Briefs

PAGE 7

Movies

Green Card

PAGE 10

Calendar

As always, it's in here

PAGE 16

STAFF

DEVON HYDE, *Editor*

LAYTON CROFT AND MONDY LAMB, *Assistant Editors*

CHARLES MARSHALL and TIM LITTLE, *Senior Writers*

GIGI BRANCH, RANDY BASINGER, RODNEY CLINE, SCOTT GOLD, AMANDA GRAVES,

GRANT HALVERSON, JASMINE HIGHTOWER, MIKE LONG, GREG MILLER,

DAVID MINTON, SAM RUFF and BRIAN SPRINGER, *Writers*

CLARE WEICKERT, *Copy Editor*

MONDY LAMB, *Arts Coordinator*

CHIP SUDDERTH, *Layout and Production*

ALISA DEMAO, *Production Assistant*