



Staff Photo By Karen Brinson

The women's volleyball team won over UNCC on Sept. 4 in a Chapel Hill tournament.

## Lady Bulldogs clinch opener

Kursten Cofer  
Sports Writer

Freshman forward Kristi Cummings scored one goal in each period and two more in overtime as the Lady Bulldogs defeated College of Charleston 5-2 in overtime in the soccer season opener Saturday afternoon at Greenwood Field.

Coach Alfred Randall sees a promising future for this team which has 14 freshmen players. The women's soccer team had a disappointing record of (1-13) last season. This year should be different according to Randall.

Ten freshmen started the game against the Cougars on Saturday. Randall says that the freshmen mistakes will end as the team gets more experience.

"They'll play like upperclassmen," said Randall. "They won't make those

mistakes anymore."

The Cougars took an early lead when midfielder Meg Stevens scored at the 4:55 mark. UNCA retaliated with two goals by Cummings, including a header off an assist from freshman midfielder Lynae King.

College of Charleston tied and sent the game into overtime with a goal late in the second half. However, in the two overtime periods, UNCA blistered the Cougars for three straight goals while shutting their opponents out.

UNCA recorded 26 shots on goal while College of Charleston was limited to only seven. Goalies Jill Young and Dawn McDonald recorded one save each for the Bulldogs.

The next three days saw the Bulldogs lose two close games. UNCA lost a disappointing 2-1 overtime away match to Radford University on Sunday and a 2-0 match to Catawba

College at home on Tuesday. Randall said fatigue from two straight overtime games played a big part in the loss to Catawba.

UNCA begins a six game road trip on Friday at the University of Maryland-Baltimore County. The Bulldogs also play at Campbell University and Virginia Tech before returning to host Vanderbilt and UNC-Greensboro on September 26 and 28. Randall expects these two games to be the most important and hopes UNCA students will show their support by attending.

He thinks the Lady Bulldogs will improve on this road trip before they take on Vanderbilt and UNCG. However, Coach Randall hopes it will be a while before the team has two overtime games in a row again.

"Overtime games wear you out," said Randall. "All we need to do now is get over the fatigue."

## Volleyball team wins against UNC-Charlotte in tournament

Jennifer Hutchins  
Sports writer

The volleyball team defeated UNC-Charlotte Saturday during the UNC tournament in Chapel Hill. The Bulldogs beat the Forty-Niners in four games, 8-15, 15-8, 15-8, 15-12.

Junior Elissa Steffen and freshman Kimberly Osborne each had 19 kills to help lead the Bulldogs to their first seasonal victory.

Senior setter Danielle Meyer had 44 assists. Senior Jennifer Hutchins had 14 blocks, including seven block solos.

Earlier in the day, the Bulldogs were beaten by UNC. The Tarheels defeated the Bulldogs in three games, 14-16, 5-15, 3-15.

Steffen led the team in digs, with 12, followed by Osborne and freshman Lisa

Fields.

Friday evening, the Bulldogs faced UNC-Wilmington, where they fell in four games, 15-10, 10-15, 9-15, 11-15. Fields had 12 digs. Meyer and Osborne each had 11.

Hutchins was named to the All-Tournament team.

Despite the Bulldogs two losses at the opening of the tournament, Steffen felt the Bulldogs would bounce back to cinch a win against the Forty-Niners.

Steffen said, "I think the freshmen just had a case of the 'freshman jitters'. Everyone seemed to be easily frustrated.

"I feel like the returning players on the court were able to keep their cool and remain consistent throughout the tournament."

Steffen said a team discussion after the Carolina game helped eliminate any frustrations or confusions the freshman might have had.

"Everyone was able to get out their feelings, and get in touch with the mental aspects of our game," said Steffen.

"After we played Charlotte, there was such an incredible difference," said

Steffen. "I think that has a lot to do with communication on the court, and feeling comfortable with the people you're playing with."

Only three of the team's starters are returning from last year's team. However, Meyer feels this is not to the Bulldogs' disadvantage.

"We have a lot of new faces out there this year, including a new left-handed hitter, which gives teams something new to look at," said Meyer.

She feels the newcomers have already begun to work together well with the rest of the team.

Meyer said, "We still have a lot of work to do, but we're going to be really good. We have a lot of young talented people to work with."

Besides lack of experience, the Bulldogs also lack height. Meyer also feels this will not threaten the outcome of the season.

Meyer said, "We have no control over the appearance of the team (height), but we have plenty of control over what kind of team we will become."

"I think we're gonna have an awesome season," said Steffen. "After playing Charlotte, I saw how capable we are of working together."

## Guy Stuart

Above  
the Rim

### Bidding farewell to Durham Athletic Park

Nowadays, I wonder if baseball will ever recover from the slide it has managed to put itself in. It seems like the last year has been nothing but a continued soap opera with bats. From Commissioner Fay Vincent's forced resignation to the antics of the lowly New York Mets, one wonders if baseball can really hold up to being called America's pastime.

With all of this in mind, it is with sadness that I find I must say goodbye to something that is what baseball is really all about. The first place I saw a pro baseball game was not at a major league park where big celebrities hang out and the food prices require you to auction off your first born, but rather at a minor league park.

Durham Athletic Park (DAP) was one of my favorite places the very first time I walked into it. From the second I came through the door, I knew this was baseball as it was meant to be. The smells, the sounds, the people were exactly perfect and it left me with a feeling I have felt in

few other places.

You have probably heard and even seen DAP, even if you haven't been into baseball, since it was featured in the hit movie "Bull Durham" starring Kevin Costner and Susan Sarandon (and was about sex, growing old, and oh yeah, baseball.) A lot of people have blamed the popularity of DAP in the last few years on the movie, but I think this is half right.

The movie did not create DAP, it just gave it exposure. DAP is not great because they filmed a movie there, but rather I think they filmed the movie at DAP because it is great. And for me it's impossible to not go to the park and feel the baseball that is so much a part of its life.

Since that warm day in June, I have been back many times over the years and enjoyed every moment, from the hottest day to a rained out game that turned into a big party. Some of my best friendships have been nurtured at Durham, and I have met some incredibly neat people from all over the country that had just happened to end up in Durham on summer nights.

With all this in mind, it may be easier to see why I am so sad that this is the final season of DAP. Soon the gates will close for good, the Bull will be taken down and the small stadium just beyond the factory buildings will be gone and nothing will ever bring it back again.

The Durham Bulls will move to a modern stadium in a more central location in the city and who knows what will happen to the spirit of baseball that seems to live in DAP. I try not to get sentimental too often, but in these times of big money and sports gone horribly awry, it was nice to know that DAP would still be the same and the Bull would still be on the back wall. Even our favorite places must sometimes disappear, but they will always be our favorite places as long as we don't forget them.

Like Kevin Costner said in the movie, "Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose, and sometimes it rains." Playing above the rim, I'm Guy Stuart.

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