

Field Hockey Hurls Another Shutout

BY ROBBI PICKERAL
STAFF WRITER

WINSTON-SALEM — The North Carolina field hockey team opened up ACC play this weekend by sending a message to the rest of the state: It is the team to beat.

In battles with two intrastate foes, the Tar Heels used stifling defense and punishing offense to beat Wake Forest 2-0 at Campus Stadium Sunday and Duke 6-0 Saturday at home.

The No. 1 Tar Heels are now 8-0 (2-0 in the ACC). Wake Forest fell to 4-4 (1-3 ACC). Duke fell to 3-4 (0-4 ACC).

Defense was key to the Tar Heels' dominance. UNC did not score early in either game, but a gritty defensive attitude kept the ball out of the North Carolina goal.

"Defense is what we start practice every

year with," UNC head coach Karen Shelton said Saturday. "Our No. 1 goal is a stifling, smothering defense. It's really the heart of a good field hockey team."

Sunday's shutout was UNC's sixth in a row. Entering ACC competition, Tar Heel goalie Jana Withrow led the ACC with a 0.40 goals-against average and was tied with Maryland's Irene Horvat in shutouts.

At Wake, UNC's offense had problems early when it couldn't penetrate into Deacon territory, but the defense hung strong and allowed only three total shots on goal.

After the game was scoreless at the half, sophomore Cindy Werley broke the tie when her shot from the corner of the goal snuck through keeper Chaney Peavler's pads and barely skated over the goal line.

Werley also recorded an assist when she dribbled in on Peavler and centered the ball at the last moment for a Kate Barber score.

Werley led the offensive attack all weekend. The speedy scorer from Allentown, Pa., matched her goal production from 1993 by scoring four goals, including her

first collegiate hat trick.

"It was just awesome," Werley said of her three goals against Duke. "I can't explain it ... it was just great to open the ACCs with a win."

Saturday's shellacking was UNC's 29th consecutive field hockey win against Duke. Shelton has not lost to the Blue Devils since she took over the program in 1981.

"We expect a fight every time we play Duke," Shelton said. "They are an emerging team, and every year we play them the game gets better."

Although most of the Duke game was played near the Blue Devils' goal, it was extremely competitive.

Senior captain Sharon Moore opened the scoring late in the first half. Moore scored on a penalty stroke after Duke goalie Kim Makalusky knocked down Barber on a one-on-one breakaway to the goal.

"We lit a fire under them at halftime," Shelton said. "Most of our shots were just missing, and we knew we needed to be putting the ball in the net."

"We knew we needed to be more aggressive. We knew we needed to demand more of ourselves."

And the deluge began.

Werley scored on a penalty stroke, then scored less than two minutes later on a shot from the left side. Moore scored again at the 22-minute mark, then Werley achieved her hat trick, scoring from the right side.

Freshman Jen DiCuollo added the final goal with less than seven minutes left.

"They're a tough team," Duke head coach Jacki Silar said. "They have a lot of speed, mainly with their forward line. And they have an aggressive defense."

"Every year the game gets a little closer. The (UNC-Duke) rivalry adds to it."

But although UNC beat both intrastate foes this weekend, Shelton said the team still has a long way to go.

"We play both this team (Wake Forest) and Duke again this season, and we may meet them one more time in the ACC tournament," she said. "So we know we still have a lot of work to do."



North Carolina won its first two ACC games this weekend. Sunday's 2-0 victory over Wake Forest was UNC's sixth consecutive shutout.

this weekend ON THE ROAD

Women's Soccer Secures 90th and 91st Victories

The North Carolina women's soccer team won for the 91st time in a row Sunday with a 6-0 pasting of Saint Mary's in Moraga, Calif.

With the victory, UNC moved to 10-0 on the season.

Tisha Venturini netted North Carolina's first two goals of the match. The Modesto, Calif., native scored at the 20:57 and 25:36 mark.

Venturini found the lower-left corner of the net for her first goal off of an assist from Kerl Sanchez. Venturini's second goal came when she hit a wide-open goal.

One goal each by Angela Kelly and Vanessa Rubio and Robin Confer's two goals rounded out the scoring for North Carolina.

St. Mary's got off just three shots in the game. UNC attempted 26.

The Tar Heels also recorded a 3-2 win over Santa Clara Friday in Moraga.

UNC bolted to a 2-0 lead in the first 15 minutes, thanks to goals by Kelly and Sarah Dacey.

But the Broncos threw a scare at the Tar Heels in the last 15 minutes. Santa Clara netted a goal at the 78:53 mark to cut the UNC lead to one. However, Dacey netted a shot to the upper right corner of the goal at the 83:08 mark to push the Tar Heel lead back to two at 3-1.

Santa Clara battled back with a goal at

the 85:36 mark, but the rally was a bit too late.

Goalkeepers Tracy Noonan and Shelley Finger had to work like no other time this season. Noonan recorded five saves while Finger grabbed two.

Men's Cross Country 2nd At Greensboro Invitational

The UNC men's cross country team placed second with a score of 86 Saturday at the Greensboro Invitational.

Brevard College won the three-team meet with the lowest score of 53 points.

The Tar Heels had three runners in the top five, led by sophomore Brandon Coonse, who finished second. Sophomore David Mabe came in third, and junior Bryan Calloway placed fourth.

No team scores were kept for the women. UNC's top finisher was senior Holly Marquette.

Women's Tennis Struggles At Harvard Tournament

It was a rough weekend for the North Carolina women's tennis team at the Harvard Invitational in Cambridge, Mass.

The Tar Heels' No. 1-4 singles seeds — Ariana Cervenka, Freddy Uihlein, Alison Levy and Sara Cranford, respectively — each lost three matches to finish eighth in those four brackets.

The bright spot was No. 5 player Robyn Gurney, who beat Heather McEvoy of Tennessee and Jennifer Rhodes of Harvard in the losers' bracket to finish fifth.

In doubles, the No. 1 team of Cervenka and Uihlein went 1-2 and finished sixth. Glass and Cranford lost three matches at No. 2, and Gurney and Webb went 1-2 and finished seventh at No. 3.

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Freshmen Tennis Players Impressive in Tourney

BY ALEC MORRISON
STAFF WRITER

When the final matches had been played Sunday in the Tar Heel Invitational at the Cone-Kenfield Tennis Center, the North Carolina men's tennis team had seen the emergence of a group of freshmen whose ability could take the program to a new level.

One freshman singles player and two freshmen doubles teams survived to at least the semifinals of their brackets. Eric Gordon reached the semifinals in B1-level singles and teamed with freshman David Britt to reach the semifinals in B2 doubles.

Robert Tadesco and Tony Thomas made it to the B1-doubles final, eventually falling to Ryan Simme and John O'Brien of Notre Dame 8-6. The UNC tandem fell behind early on a service break and never fully recovered against two more experienced players.

Thomas said the support of teammates and UNC fans helped keep them in the match.

"We had a lot of support, and it was our home court," he said. "The whole team was watching, and we played off a lot of emotion. Even though we weren't playing real well, we tried to pick up our game and play off the emotion."

Tar Heel head coach Sam Paul said he was pleased with his new players in their first collegiate tournament.

He repeatedly said that the freshmen had much to learn but that he was excited about the talent and potential demonstrated in the tournament.

"(The tournament's) gone great," he said. "It's been exactly what I wanted. We've got a lot of work to do, a lot of teaching to do, but that's why we have the tournament. It's been good — I'm really pleased."

Paul said he still did not have an idea what the team's lineup would look like.

"It's way too early for that," he said. "We don't play our first match until February 12, and we don't get into the meat of the season until March and April, so we're just seeing where we are right now."

Throughout the weekend, UNC players turned in outstanding performances.

"I thought we played well. I thought we actually played better (Saturday) night than the matches before where we won."

DAVID BRITT
UNC tennis player

On Friday, junior Chris Hill defeated Mike Gabora of Old Dominion 7-6, 6-0. However, Hill fell to Furman's Eric Devries in Saturday's quarterfinals.

Thomas also played impressively on Friday despite losing to Juan DeAngelo of East Tennessee State 7-5, 4-6, 6-3. Thomas fell behind early in the match, yet recovered to challenge DeAngelo throughout the three-set marathon, which was filled with big serving from both players.

Britt had little problem reaching the quarterfinals, but he ran into trouble with Mike Sprouse of Notre Dame, the top seed in the A2 singles bracket.

Sprouse defeated Britt 6-1, 6-4, but not without a fight. Britt played every point with intensity, often pumping his fist and shouting words of encouragement to himself throughout the match.

On Saturday evening, Britt and Gordon faced Davidson's Holt Vaughn and Jon Pastel. Despite losing 8-6, Britt said he felt it was his tandem's best match of the tournament.

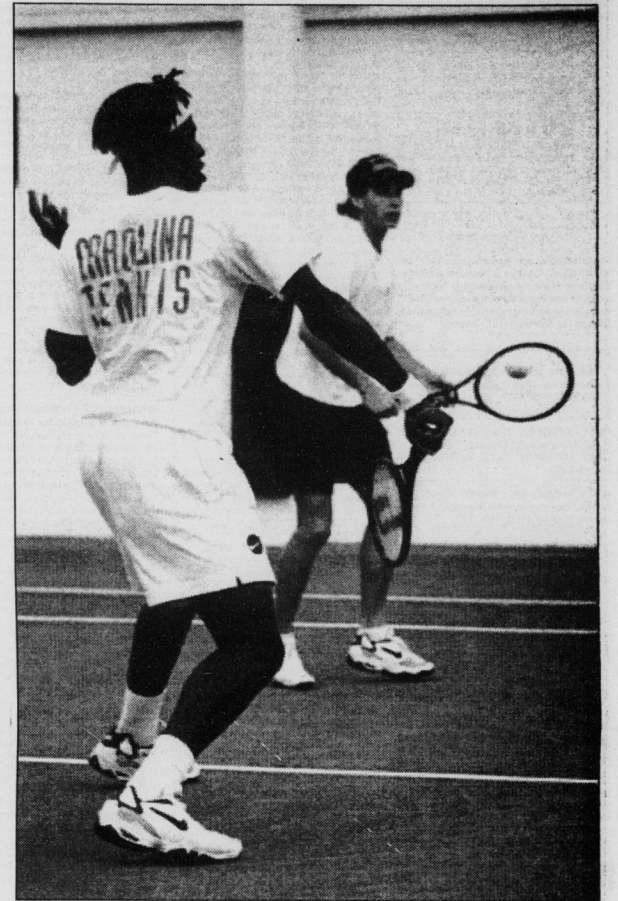
"I thought we played well," Britt said. "I thought we actually played better (Saturday) night than the matches before where we won. We started to jell as a team more. This is the first time we've played together, so I thought we did pretty good."

Britt was also pleased with the freshmen and the team as a whole.

"This is our first tournament as freshmen, and I'm pretty excited about how we did," he said.

Britt said he thought experience was the big difference between the Tar Heels and the other teams that played this weekend.

"There are a few tricks of the trade that we don't know, but I think we could be a



DTH/CRAG JONES

UNC advanced a freshman singles player and two freshmen doubles teams to the semifinals of their brackets in this weekend's Tar Heel Invitational.

solid top-10 team," he said. "With the coach that we have and these facilities, there's no reason we can't go to the highest level."

In the next few weeks, the Tar Heels should continue to improve their tennis as the competition grows in intensity.

UNC's top three players — David Caldwell, Brint Morrow and Paul Harsanyi — did not play this weekend. The trio of

veterans will play in the Sky Tel Clay Courts in Jackson, Miss., beginning Thursday.

The rest of the team will prepare for the upcoming South Carolina Invitational and Southern Intercollegiate. The entire team will play in Chapel Hill again in a few weeks, when UNC hosts the Rolex Indoors, one of the four tournaments that make up the collegiate grand slam.

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