

# Grit Pays Off as Tar Heels Tally Win

BY KURT TONDORF  
STAFF WRITER

For the third consecutive match, the North Carolina volleyball team displayed gritty determination and tough resolve against an ACC opponent.

And it finally paid off with a win. The Tar Heels defeated archrival Duke, 15-12, 15-11, 9-15, 15-11 Tuesday night at Cameron Indoor Stadium.

Lately, UNC (15-12, 7-7 ACC) has not played like a squad enduring a four-match skid. The numbers showed that the Tar Heels had played their best volleyball of the season over that stretch, but just couldn't get the necessary breaks to obtain a 'W'.

But the Blue Devils (7-15, 6-6 ACC), with whom UNC has been battling for the fourth position in the ACC, provided all the incentive the Tar Heels needed to improve its good fortune.

"Oh yeah, it's good to beat Duke," UNC freshman setter Erin Berg said. "It's great to get a win, because we have been playing so well, and things just haven't been going our way. The scores didn't do this team any justice."

The match was a preview of a probable meeting between the two clubs on Nov. 17, when the ACC Tournament begins at Clemson.

The Tar Heels sweeping Duke during the regular season? The thought of such a shift in the ACC hierarchy was once unheard of — until now.

"As coaches we talked about how critical this match could be for us," UNC coach Joe Sagula said. "We knew we had to come out there and just play our best against

the rival team up the road, and hopefully catch some breaks. And that's what happened here tonight."

UNC, which had been featuring one or two players at a time in previous matches, showcased a balanced offense led mainly by their middle attackers. Anissa Cronenberg erased a poor hitting performance against Georgia Tech (one kill in 17 chances) by tallying 17 kills in 31 chances, and sophomore Jill Peden (10 kills, 14 digs) rose to the occasion as well.

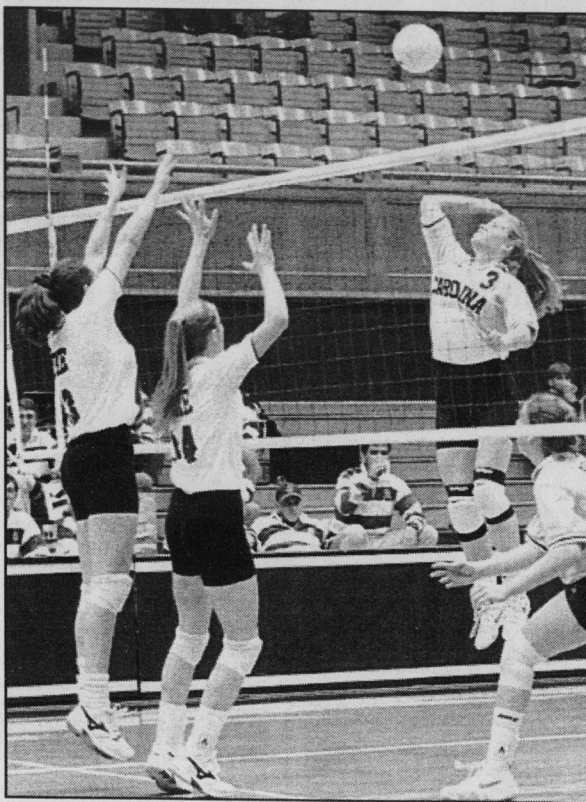
But the match's real story was UNC's defense against Duke's top player, last year's ACC Freshman of the Year Maureen Reindl. The Duke outside hitter could only manage a .039 hitting percentage after being shut down by aggressive Tar Heel blocking early in the match.

Berg, a strong candidate for ACC Freshman of the Year, gave all the credit to her middle hitters, whose aggressive blocking made the difference.

"We kept the pressure on them, and we didn't give them anything," she said. "We played great defense again tonight, been working on it really hard in practice, so it was easy to pick up on their hitting and tipping."

The Tar Heels have been plagued lately with an inability to assert themselves offensively in the early stages of a match, often letting the other team establish a lead and finding themselves always on the defensive. That was a factor missing from the Duke match, in which UNC set out to dominate and accomplished just that, a task difficult to fulfill against a team of Duke's reputation.

"When we put together a complete match, we're pretty much unstoppable," Berg said. "Now we have to set our sights on the ACCs, and just hope that the momentum stays with us."



After struggling through a four-match losing streak, UNC's determination paid off Tuesday as it beat Duke 3-1. The Tar Heels swept the Blue Devils this year.

# Even if NFL Nixes Deal, Modell Will Move Browns

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GRAPEVINE, Texas — Art Modell declared Tuesday that the Browns' move to Baltimore is all but irrevocable, but he also joined fellow owners in calling for stability in the NFL.

"It's a very, very serious problem," Modell said of franchise movement after the Browns joined the Raiders and Rams as the third team to move within a year. "It's something we have to address with the utmost urgency."

Modell argued his case at the NFL owners meetings, while Cleveland mayor Michael White appealed to the group to stop the Browns from leaving.

"They are the Cleveland Browns, and they will be the Cleveland Browns until the owners in the NFL say they are no longer the Cleveland Browns," White said.

The 70-year-old Modell, however, ruled out any chance of the Browns staying in Cleveland — even if the city builds him a new stadium or improves the old one.

"The bridge is down, burned, disappeared," Modell said. "There's not even a canoe there for me."

While commissioner Paul Tagliabue said he had no idea how the owners would vote on the move, an informal poll indicated that while there was initial opposition, the owners are likely to let Modell, a league insider for 35 years, move on.

The approval of 23 of 30 owners is needed.

Modell denied a report on ABC's Monday night football that he was \$50 million in debt, claiming the Browns have lost \$21 million over the past two years.

The Browns-to-Baltimore bombshell gave the meetings an entirely new focal

point. There was even a demonstration of about 30 people protesting against the move outside the hotel where the meetings took place.

Tuesday's meeting also featured dueling news conferences featuring Modell and White, who each argued their case over the Browns' relocation to Baltimore.

Modell, who hadn't missed a game in the 35 years he's owned the Browns before his no-show Sunday, said he won't attend the three remaining games in Cleveland.

It was White who best stated the problem facing the NFL — the "franchise free agency" that the Browns' move implies.

"What's the impact for the NFL if it allows that team to kick the city in the teeth?" Cleveland's mayor asked.

"It happened to Oakland, nobody said anything. It happened in Los Angeles, nobody said anything. It's happening in Houston, nobody said a word. How many cities are going to be threatened in this way before the NFL recognizes that it's bad for the country and bad for the league?"

And that's the problem the league is facing.

While the Browns' move tops the agenda, the owners were also preparing to take up Bud Adams' desire to move the Oilers from Houston to Nashville, Tenn., something Adams discussed again on Tuesday.

Tagliabue has already pledged to fill the void in Los Angeles, perhaps with the Seattle Seahawks, and Tampa Bay could move after the season — in this case, about 90 miles east to Orlando.

Denver, Chicago and Cincinnati also want new stadiums, as do Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Washington.

# Netters Hope to Repeat Caldwell's Success at Rolex Regionals

STAFF REPORT

The Rolex Region II Tennis Championships open today with qualifying rounds at Cone-Kenfield Tennis Center. The tournament, hosted by UNC, features several Tar Heels who will vie for a spot in the main draw, which begins later in the week.

In addition, players representing various schools throughout the Southeast will compete in the tournament.

The semifinal winners in the main singles draw will proceed to the Rolex National Indoor tournament, which will be held in January. Semifinal matches for the regional will be played Sunday. Doubles competitors may also qualify for the national tournament.

In today's qualifying action, UNC play-

ers Sean McDermott, Nate Lipson, Chris Hill, Shawn Fleming, Eric Gordon, John Balch, Adam McNab and Fred Lidskog will compete in singles.

First-round qualifying matches begin at 8 and 9:30 a.m. A second round of qualifying will be played in the afternoon.

UNC coach Sam Paul said that this tournament will give his players valuable playing time against some of the best players in the region.

"We've got players who will be playing 4, 5, 6 (seeds) for us, who will be playing the top seeds from other schools," he said. "Everybody's going to get to play, and that's important."

In doubles, the tandems of Tony Thomas and Tripp Phillips; Balch and

McDermott; Lidskog and Fleming; Godron and Lipson; and McNab and Hill will compete for UNC. Tar Heel matches have starting times ranging from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., though times will be subject to the completion of singles competition.

All of the UNC players have seen action at Cone-Kenfield this fall, competing in the Tar Heel Fall Invitational and Carolina Classic tournaments. Thomas and Phillips won their doubles draw at the Fall Invitational, the only title captured by North Carolina during the tournament.

Last year, seniors David Caldwell and Brint Morrow competed as a doubles tandem at the Rolex National Indoors. Caldwell was also a finalist in the Rolex Region II tournament, giving him a spot in

the singles draw at the national tournament as well.

Caldwell will not compete this weekend though, since he is taking the fall semester off from school.

"We just miss David, period, especially from a leadership standpoint," Paul said. "We've missed him all fall. But preparation has been the same as it's always been. There's not going to be any easy matches."

Thomas, Paul Harsanyi and Robert Tedesco were the only other Tar Heels to compete in the regional tournament in 1994.

Former UNC standout Roland Thornqvist is the only player from this region to ever win the Rolex national tournament.

# The Daily Tar Heel Athlete of the Week



**Debbie Keller**  
Women's Soccer

The ACC coaches may not credit her talent, but the DTH will.

This week's Athlete of the Week honors go to women's soccer standout Debbie Keller. The junior forward from Naperville, Ill., scored an ACC tournament-setting record five goals last weekend in College Park, Md., to lead the Tar Heels to their seventh-straight title.

She was voted MVP of the tourney Sunday, but was snubbed by the league coaches when she failed to be named ACC Player of the Year despite leading the league with 50 points on the year.

The Premier Soccer Conference in the Country presents the

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\$5 Adults  
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## Game Times

Thursday, November 9 ..... 3, 5:30, 8

SEMIFINALS ..... Friday, November 10 ..... 4:30, 7

CHAMPIONSHIP .... Sunday, November 12 ..... 4:00

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