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Former Players Sue Dorrance, UNC

In a 19-page lawsuit, UNC women's soccer coach Anson Dorrance and his staff were accused of behaving inappropriately toward players.

BY EVAN MARKFIELD
Assistant Sports Editor

Two former North Carolina women's soccer players filed a lawsuit Tuesday alleging various forms of misconduct on the part of head coach Anson Dorrance.

The 19-page suit, leveled by former Tar Heels Debbie Keller and Melissa Jennings in U.S. District Court, alleges that Dorrance used his position as head coach to make uninvited sexual advances toward Keller and encourage Jennings to consume alcohol while she was under the legal drinking age.

The suit also accuses assistant coach Bill Palladino of participating with Dorrance in the alleged sexual harassment and providing alcohol to members of the team who were underage.

The University, Chancellor Michael Hooker, Athletics Director Dick Baddour, several of Dorrance's assistant coaches and other members of the University administration were also named as defendants in the suit, which was filed in the Northern District of Illinois.

Keller and Jennings are seeking \$1 million each in damages, along with \$10 million in punitive damages. The suit also calls for an injunction barring Dorrance from coaching or being associated with a program in which he would have occasion to come into contact with female athletes or minors.

Dorrance, who has coached UNC to 14 NCAA titles, denied the charges and said he would defend himself and the program vigorously.

"I am shocked and saddened by these allegations," Dorrance said in a prepared statement. "I have never and would never abuse my position in any way. I've respected every player I have ever coached both as an individual and as a member of my teams."

Baddour said the players' charges had previously

been brought to the attention of the University and the Department of Athletics but the subsequent investigation did not show any misconduct on the part of Dorrance or members of his staff.

"The record in this matter demonstrates that University officials and coach Dorrance have fully and promptly responded to concerns expressed by these students and their parents," Baddour said.

Marcy DeFalco, the lawyer representing Jennings and Keller, acknowledged that the former players each attempted to work things out with UNC officials before filing the suit.

"The parties had been trying individually to resolve this issue with the University before seeking legal counsel," DeFalco said. "We're confident that the allegations we've alleged will be proven in court."

The suit alleges that Dorrance used his position to coerce Keller into meeting with him in a secluded area and made an uninvited sexual advance towards her in October 1996 and again in 1998. It also alleges that in November and December of 1996, Dorrance made inappropriate and uninvited physical contact with Keller.

The suit also claims that Dorrance used his position to intimidate team members into reporting the sexual activities of their teammates and that he would constantly interrogate players regarding their personal lives, including their sexual activities.

But players were strong in their defense of Dorrance following the announcement of the suit.

"I have no reason to believe that any of the allegations were true," forward Cindy Parlow said. "I

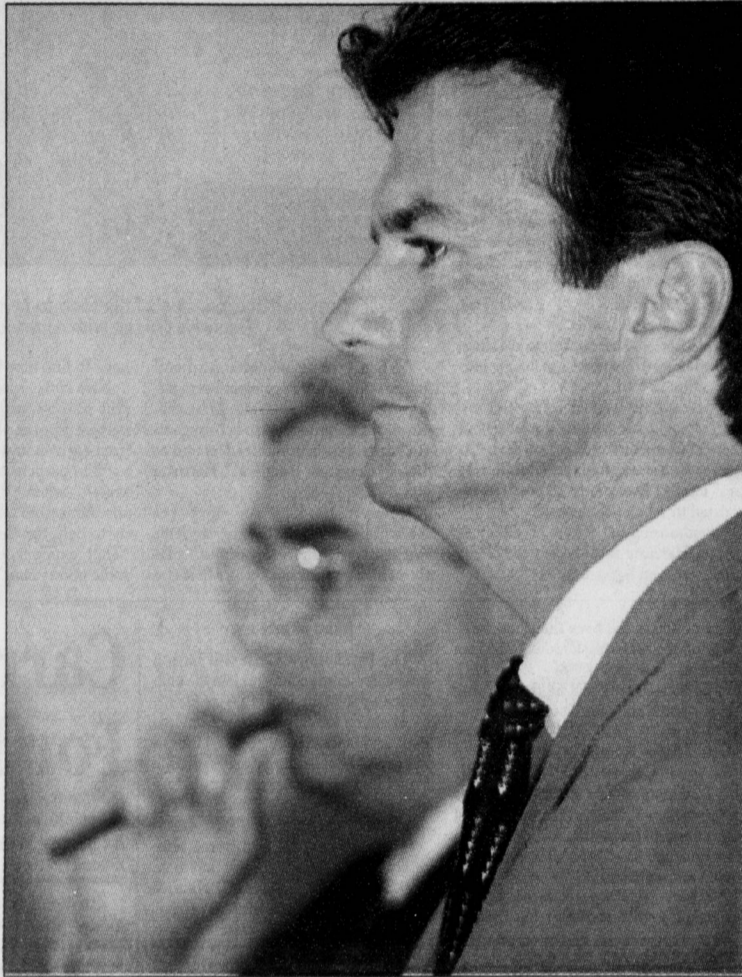
See LAWSUIT, Page 4



Former UNC forward Debbie Keller accused Anson Dorrance of sexual harassment in the lawsuit.



Former UNC player Melissa Jennings left the women's soccer team prior to the 1998 season.



UNC women's soccer head coach Anson Dorrance addresses a lawsuit filed against him. Two former players have accused Dorrance of sexual harassment.

Team Rallies To Battle Accusations

BY AARON BEARD
Sports Editor

Former North Carolina women's soccer player Staci Wilson left little doubt where her allegiances lie.

In a sign of solidarity equaled only by the on-field resolve that has won an unprecedented 14 of the last 16 NCAA

titles, Wilson and current Tar Heels stood in support of coach Anson Dorrance after Tuesday's lawsuit filed by two former players accusing the coach of misconduct and sexual harassment.

"I feel a lot of sympathy and my prayers go to Anson and his family," Wilson said. "My reaction is one of support for my coach, my program and my school."

The lawsuit, filed by Debbie Keller and Melissa Jennings in U.S. District Court, seeks \$12 million in damages. But the players - current and former alike - stand fast beside their mentor.

Members of the 1998 team attended Tuesday's news conference in the Hill Ballroom South at the Carolina Inn. With faces strained with concern and



Former UNC Player Staci Wilson called the accusations "insulting" to the program.

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Bonnie Sends UNC-W Students Packing Storm Strikes Coast, Spares Chapel Hill

A few out-of-state students unable to evacuate campus are excited about riding out their first hurricane in style.

BY COURTNEY WEILL
State & National Editor

WILMINGTON - The campus of UNC-Wilmington resembled a ghost town early Tuesday evening as Hurricane Bonnie made its way toward the North Carolina coast.

With increasing winds and stormy clouds rolling in, only a few straggling students could be found on campus after the 5 p.m. mandatory evacuation.

Most students traveled back to their hometowns or to those of their hall mates, said Dick Scott, head of the emergency management team on campus.

But for the few on-campus residents with nowhere to go, the University Union has become a luxurious emergency shelter equipped with all the basic amenities and more.

"They're feeding us on a regular schedule," said Chris Parella, a freshman from Wayne, N.J.

"They have a generator here so you've got all-night TV. They're supplying mattresses, sheets, blankets. They surprisingly even got a shower for us."

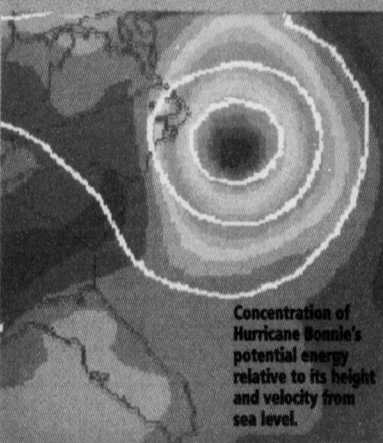
Along with resident directors, campus police, the campus emergency management team and some staff volunteers, eleven students will wait out the storm in the center of the hurricane-doomed campus.

"Everyone will ride out the storm here so that we can immediately take care of all the people," Scott said.

For a majority of the students,

See WILMINGTON, Page 4

Bonnie Packs a Punch



Hurricane Bonnie, as of 11 p.m. Tuesday:

Top Speed: 12 knots
Coordinates: 31.6 N, 76.9 W
Eye expected to hit land at Cape Lookout by noon.

SOURCE: INSTITUTE OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY

DTH/MELINDA GONZALEZ

With winds of 30-40 mph, the hurricane should have little effect on the Triangle area, state officials predict.

BY TRISHA L. DABB
State & National Editor

Coastal North Carolina sat and waited for Hurricane Bonnie to make a decision Tuesday night, but it was business as usual in the Triangle.

Though Gov. Jim Hunt declared a state of emergency at 2 p.m., officials said it was unlikely the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area would feel the brunt of the storm.

"If it goes as we're projecting now,

you'll have these 30 to 40 mph winds," said Information Officer Ben Taylor at the N.C. Division of Emergency Management.

"That's just near warning level," he said.

Taylor said compared to Hurricane Fran, Bonnie appeared to be a dry storm and though still unpredictable, would most likely not carry driving rains.

Bonnie's outermost storms spread into the state's southern counties late in the evening. Hurricane force winds were expected by daybreak today.

The eye and most violent portions of Hurricane Bonnie are expected to hit land and pass over Cape Lookout late

See STORM, Page 4

Ex-players Begin Jail Sentence Language Barrier Hard To Break at Hospitals

An Orange County District Court judge ordered junior Ricco McCain and sophomore Varian Ballard to serve 10 days in jail for failing to complete their community service.

BY T. NOLAN HAYES
Assistant Sports Editor

Two North Carolina football players who were dismissed from the team last week for not fulfilling their community service requirements are now facing a different type of service time.

Hard time. In Orange County Jail. Junior Ricco McCain and sophomore Varian Ballard were each sentenced Monday to serve 10 days in prison. They were previously found guilty of assaulting UNC student David Beyer outside Chapel Hill's Gotham nightclub in December.

Orange County District Court Judge Joe Buckner ordered

See FOOTBALL, Page 4



Former UNC football player Varian Ballard returns to Orange County Jail after attending classes.

Language Barrier Hard To Break at Hospitals

UNC Hospitals employs two interpreters who help the medical staff communicate with Hispanic patients.

BY ROBIN CLEMOW
Staff Writer

Maria Palmer, minister of a local Hispanic church, knew the UNC Hospitals interpreter program had flaws when she was asked to help translate for a Spanish-speaking patient and his family.

Palmer was present as a doctor tried to explain a patient's medical situation to a family member. The on-staff inter-

preter did not know how to explain the patient's condition.

"He asked me, 'How do you say 'heat stroke' in Spanish?'" she said.

Robin Gaitens, UNC Hospitals spokeswoman, said the system's two full-time interpreters work in inpatient services and in clinic areas.

The hospital also recruits volunteer interpreters to work in the Emergency Department. These volunteers must speak Spanish as their native language or have lived in a Spanish-speaking country for at least six months.

Palmer said although interpreters are present and fluent in the language, difficult medical vocabulary causes prob-

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INSIDE Wednesday

Plenty of Protest

The University was named one of the top 10 activists schools for the fifth year in a row. However, a school just down tobacco row landed the No. 1 spot this year. See Page 5.

Today's Weather



Partly Cloudy,
High 80s
Thursday: Sunny, 90

Will Write for Food

Hungry to work on a newspaper? The Daily Tar Heel is accepting applications through 5 p.m. Friday for staff positions. Applications are available at our office in Union 104 or you can call 962-0245 for information.

Men argue, nature acts.

Voltaire