

UNC Can't Pull Out Win vs. Terps

The Tar Heel men's lacrosse team held an 8-7 advantage against No. 8 Maryland with 4:29 left in the third period.

By JAMES GIZA
Staff Writer

A win would have done wonders. Had the North Carolina men's lacrosse team knocked off No. 8 Maryland on Saturday, the Tar Heels would have successfully rebounded from their first loss earlier in the week to ninth-ranked Duke.

Their confidence would have returned — which is crucial as the team gears up for two more games with highly-ranked opponents. They would have assured themselves of their first non-losing season in four years.

And their spot in the NCAA tourna-

ment would have been all but clinched.

A win would have done wonders. The loss made the situation far from wonderful.

The seventh-ranked Tar Heels (6-2, 0-2 in the ACC) fell to the Terrapins 10-9 before 2,456 at Fetzer Field in a tight game that had five ties and four lead changes.

"They played four quarters, we only played three maybe," said UNC goalie Kris Blindenbacher, who had 13 saves.

In the second period, the Tar Heels went cold. After busting loose for five goals from five different players in the opening quarter to jump out to a 5-3 lead, UNC suddenly couldn't find the back of the net.

The Tar Heels managed nine shots on goal in the second period but didn't get themselves in the prime positioning that led to their outburst in the first. The attack trio of Chase Martin, Matt Crofton and Jeff Sonke — each of whom scored in the first — saw limited looks.

"I think we were playing out of sync," said Crofton, who led UNC with three goals and an assist. "We went away from what was working for us, which was

moving the ball to the attack. We just weren't sharp in the second quarter. That's when they came back and went on top of us."

That scoreless second quarter came in the midst of a drought that lasted 22:34 for the Tar Heels. They didn't get their sixth goal until Crofton scored from the left side with 8:40 left in the third.

Even so, UNC, thanks to a strong defensive effort, kept the game within reach. In fact, it went up 8-7 after Crofton scored with 4:29 remaining in the third.

But the lead would be UNC's last. The Terps (6-1, 1-1) stormed back with two goals in 38 seconds for a 9-8 advantage and kept the lead for good.

"It just didn't seem like we gave it



UNC attackman Matt Crofton led the Tar Heels with three goals and an assist in the 10-9 loss to Maryland.

everything we had," Sonke said. "It seemed like if we had been able to do just a little bit more then we might have been able to pick something up, but you never know."

"We had our chances today. It was a one-goal game, we had our chances. We just didn't get to finish them."

Next up for the Tar Heels is No. 6 Johns Hopkins in Baltimore on Saturday. A week later, second-ranked Virginia will make the trip to Chapel Hill.

The UVa. game takes on special importance because a loss would drop UNC to 0-3 in the ACC. That wouldn't automatically jeopardize the Tar Heels' postseason aspirations, but it certainly wouldn't help their cause. UNC coach Dave Klarmann, however, said he is not concerned about what the future holds.

"I am not worried about the postseason at all," he said. "If it happens, great. If it doesn't, too bad. We just want to play better. I'm more concerned about the immediate."

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

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16 points and five boards.

"I just think that we came out ready to play," McDonald said. "We didn't come out scared, and we executed on defense and offense, so we were successful tonight."

But Georgia wasn't just bigger than UNC. The Lady Bulldogs were also quicker than the Tar Heels in transition, something few teams in the nation can boast. Georgia scored in transition, either off a UNC missed shot or turnover, from close range on six occasions in the first half.

Georgia small forward Deana Nolan was the primary culprit. Nolan scored six of her nine first-half points on fast-break opportunities and added three steals and three assists to help the Lady Bulldogs carry a 41-28 lead into the locker room.

She finished the game with 13 points and five boards. Junior guards Coco and Kelly Miller, identical twins who were heavily recruited by UNC, scored 17 and 11 points, respectively.

"Tonight we made a lot of good decisions when we were running the offense," Landers said. "We got a lot out of transition."

As good as the Lady Bulldogs were offensively, shooting 53.3 percent in the first half and 46.7 percent for the game, they posted better numbers on the defensive end.

Georgia limited UNC to 32.0-percent shooting from the field, the fourth-worst mark ever for a West Regional game. The Tar Heels were 3-for-14 from 3-point range and 6-for-8 on free throws.

Georgia, meanwhile, was 24-for-35 from the foul line.

UNC's two offensive leaders, point guard Nikki Teasley and forward LaQuanda Barksdale, were ice cold. Teasley was 3-for-19 from the field,

including 0-for-8 behind the arc, and scored six points.

Barksdale went scoreless in the second half to also finish with six points on 3-for-13 shooting.

Guard Juana Brown tried to pick up the slack, tallying 19 points and 10 boards, but it wasn't enough. The Tar Heels never pulled closer than within 10 points of Georgia in the second half and never threatened to get back into the game.

"We didn't want to let them get any closer," Coco Miller said. "We wanted to try to put them away."

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UNC	28	29	57
Georgia	41	42	83
UNC (57)	fg	ft	rb
min	me	me	ot
Barksdale 27	3-13	0-0	2-6
Teasley 33	3-19	0-0	0-2
Allen 10	0-1	0-0	0-1
Sharp 14	2-3	1-1	0-2
J. Brown 35	8-19	1-1	5-10
Hursting 5	0-3	0-0	0-1
Thomas 7	0-1	0-0	1-2
Higgins 29	5-10	4-4	2-8
C. Brown 11	1-4	0-2	1-1
Lee 20	2-5	0-0	2-1
Total	200	24-75	6-8
			13-35
			13
			24
			57

Percentages — FG 32.0, FT 75.0, 3-point goals — 3-14, 2-14
 (J. Brown 2-3, Sharp 1-1, Teasley 0-6, Barksdale 0-1, Hursting 0-1)
 Team rebounds — 7, Blocked shots — None
 Turnovers — 15 (Teasley 4, J. Brown 3, Allen 2, Higgins 2, Barksdale, C. Brown, Lee, Sharp) Steals — 7 (Teasley 4, C. Brown, J. Brown, Lee)

Georgia (83)	fg	ft	rb
min	me	me	ot
Ball 27	2-5	0-0	0-7
C. Miller 29	6-15	3-5	1-2
McDonald 28	5-9	8-11	6-13
Nolan 39	5-12	2-2	1-3
K. Miller 34	3-8	5-6	3-2
Lycett 1	0-0	0-0	0-0
Brown 15	0-1	2-2	0-2
Biggins 3	0-0	0-0	0-1
Crawford 17	8-11	4-5	2-5
Murphy 5	0-0	0-2	0-1
Willis 1	1-1	0-0	0-1
Total	28-60	24-35	12-46
			14
			15
			83

Percentages — FG 46.7, FT 68.6, 3-point goals — 3-8, 3-75
 (C. Miller 2-4, Nolan 1-3, K. Miller 0-1), Team rebounds — 2
 Blocked shots — 5 (McDonald 2, C. Miller, Nolan, Brown)
 Turnovers — 12 (K. Miller 4, Nolan 4, C. Miller 2, McDonald 2)
 2 Steals — 11 (Nolan 4, C. Miller 2, Crawford 2, Ball, K. Miller, Lycett)
 Technical fouls — None

Tar Heels Topple Tech in Tough Match

UNC's women's tennis team won a close match against Georgia Tech by capturing the final doubles contest.

By RACHEL CARTER
Senior Writer

Easy has not been in North Carolina's vocabulary this season.

Hobbled by injuries, troubled by a tough schedule and dogged with bad luck, the women's tennis team has faced adversity, and more often than not, been unable to overcome.

Friday, the Tar Heels dropped their second ACC match of the season as 20th-ranked Florida State won 5-2.

Things were not looking good Sunday as the Tar Heels took on Georgia Tech. And true to form, the match was anything but easy.

UNC squeaked by the Yellow Jackets

5-4 in dramatic fashion as the No. 3 doubles team of Jessica Zaganczyk and Courtney Zalinski won 9-8.

"We saw that No. 1 had lost, and No. 2 had won," Zaganczyk said. "As soon as I knew this, I don't know what happened. A switch turned on."

That switch caused the Tar Heel duo to storm back from a 5-2 deficit to tie the match at five games apiece.

Georgia Tech's pair of Laura Ozolins and Charlotte Pernet won the next game, and UNC again tied the match. The Jackets (10-5, 1-3 in the ACC) went up again, then the Tar Heels won. Tied at seven. Then tied at eight.

In the tiebreaker, UNC (6-8, 1-2) never had more than a two-point lead. But with the score 6-5, Zalinski hit a crosscourt shot that Pernet was unable to come up with.

Game, set, match — Tar Heels. "The turnaround (in the No. 3 doubles match) was that we started to be more solid," UNC coach Roland Thornqvist said.

Before the match, Thornqvist and his team talked about playing steady tennis at the end of its sets. He said that if his

team could do so, then it would win. Going into doubles, the Tar Heels and the Yellow Jackets were knotted at 3-3.

UNC's No. 1 seed, Marlene Mejia, got under Tech's Sabrina Pardo's skin toward the end of the first set, causing Pardo to make mental errors.

Mejia won 6-2. Screaming in French, Pardo drew a reprimand from the umpire after slamming a ball against the fence when she lost a point. She soon dropped the second set 6-1.

But the singles match that drew the most attention was the marathon affair on court six.

UNC's Kate Pinchbeck lost the first set to Tech's Ozolins but fought back to



UNC senior Jessica Zaganczyk teamed with Courtney Zalinski at No. 3 doubles to win the clinching match.

win the second one. Ozolins then jumped out to a 3-0 lead before Pinchbeck and Thornqvist altered her strategy to make a comeback.

"She came back by toning down the tempo," Thornqvist said. "In one game, she upped the tempo and lost."

Pinchbeck began hitting "loopy" balls to slow down the tempo. Describing Ozolins as a "big hitter," Pinchbeck said she exploited Ozolins' weak backhand.

"Her forehand was better," Pinchbeck said. "But I knew her backhand couldn't hurt me."

But Ozolins had a little more left in her than the UNC freshman and captured the last set.

For the second time in two matches Pinchbeck played all three sets and ran the last one to 7-5. She said she was still fatigued from Friday's FSU match.

Despite her loss, Pinchbeck was still all smiles after the match because luck had finally decided to grace UNC.

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