

UNC Men Stay Alive In Singles

Nicholas Monroe, Max Hilkey and Greg Archer advanced to the second day of singles qualifying with victories.

By OWEN A. HASSELL
Staff Writer

Nicholas Monroe knows he has no choice but to play aggressive tennis. And that's just to qualify.

Knowing he may log overtime on the court didn't stop the North Carolina freshman from posting an impressive 6-3, 6-2 win Wednesday afternoon against East Tennessee State's Juan Yannuzzi.

Monroe will now move on in the qualifying rounds of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association South Atlantic Regional Indoor Championships at UNC's Cone-Kenfield Tennis Center.

Tournament play begins at 8 a.m. today.

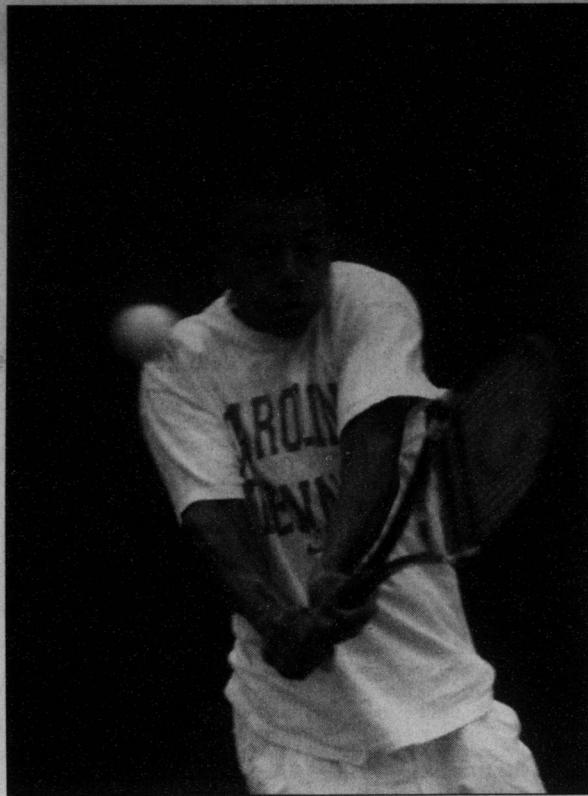
If Monroe can reel off two more victories today, he will earn the right to play in the 64-player singles bracket, which begins Friday.

Max Hilkey and Greg Archer, two of Monroe's teammates, also won their opening qualifying matches. Next up for Hilkey is Old Dominion's Calin Milos, and Archer will face Wake Forest's David Bere.

After some early jitters, Monroe said he was able to get the upper edge.

"In every first match of a tournament, I'm always tense," Monroe said. "The first few games I was kind of erratic, but I settled down and took advantage of some of his unforced errors."

Monroe's aggressive game plan was



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Freshman Nicholas Monroe advanced with a 6-3, 6-2 win against East Tennessee State's Juan Yannuzzi at UNC's Cone-Kenfield Tennis Center.

necessary to avoid falling into Yannuzzi's trap of long rallies.

"He's a clay-court player, so he likes to hit the balls up high and try to move the other guy back," Monroe said. "But when he was hitting it high, I was stepping forward, and any short ball I got I was coming in, so I had to stay aggressive."

Hilkey had little trouble in the beginning of his qualifying match, ending points quickly with sharp net play to take the opening set 6-2.

Yet it was a lack of consistency that almost cost Hilkey, as opponent Joe

Brooks of William & Mary stormed back to split sets before Hilkey closed it out to win 6-2, 3-6, 6-3.

Archer also had trouble putting away his match against Florida State's Rodrigo Lamb, ending play with a tight 6-1, 7-6 victory to move ahead.

A tiebreaker stumped UNC's final bid in qualifying. Chad Riley, down 2-6 to High Point's Erik Petterson, pulled himself back in the match in winning the second set but fell via a third-set tiebreaker 2-6, 6-4, 6-7.

Riley also missed out on qualifying in doubles. After he and teammate Trystan Menaine won their first match, they lost to Old Dominion's Nicholas Hallberg and Salman Mohammed 8-4.

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Tar Heels Head to ACCs Looking for Redemption

Striker Susan Bush will have knee surgery at 9 a.m., and her teammates will take on N.C. State four hours later.

By JAMES GIZA
Assistant Sports Editor

Following its worst ACC regular season showing in history, the North Carolina women's soccer team has been handed a clean slate for the conference tournament this weekend.

But the third-seeded Tar Heels (13-3, 4-3 in the ACC) will have to take advantage of their fresh start without their third-leading scorer.

Sophomore forward Susan Bush was lost for the remainder of the season when she tore the anterior cruciate ligament in her right knee during practice on Oct. 25.

Bush, who started 12 games this season and tallied nine goals and four assists, provided UNC with a source of speed up front that will be sorely missed.

"The first thing we lose is she turns the corner so quickly and so often and so easily," UNC coach Anson Dorrance said. "I would say on an average, six times a game, even against the best competition, she's turned the corner."

"Whenever you turn the corner against a team's defense, they're vulner-

able. And she does that so consistently, maybe we took her for granted because you don't find many players that have that ability."

The Tar Heels travel to Duke's Koskinen Stadium today to face sixth-seeded N.C. State at 1 p.m. in the quarterfinals but will make the trip without Bush, who will be at UNC Hospitals for surgery at 9 a.m.

The winner of today's matchup will face the winner of the Wake Forest-Florida State game.

Bush tore the ligament during a defensive back pressure exercise when she turned to cross a ball and heard a pop in her right knee.

Although tests revealed that she had torn her ACL, Bush thought she might be able to finish the season. However, her mobility was hindered so much that surgery became the only option. She will face four to six months of rehabilitation.

"If I were to cut on the field, I would probably just fall over," said Bush, who missed time last season with injuries,



Sophomore forward Kim Patrick led UNC in scoring last season and will replace Susan Bush in the starting lineup.

including a medial collateral tear in her right knee. "If I played, I wouldn't be that useful. I couldn't be that effective."

Filling in for Bush will be another sophomore, Kim Patrick. Patrick has played in all 16 of UNC's contests this season, tallying eight goals and five assists.

She doesn't have the quickness Bush possesses, but she does have a nose for the goal. Her 18 goals and 42 points led the Tar Heels last season, although she started only 14 games.

"I've grown up that way. All coaches have always told me that," Patrick said. "I guess I feel most comfortable in front of the goal. You won't see me use lightning speed to get past people, but once I get in front of the goal I feel comfortable. And hopefully, I can provide us some goals this weekend."

The sixth-ranked Tar Heels will need all the scoring they can get. Their three conference losses at Clemson, FSU and Wake Forest are their most ever. Suddenly, a 12th consecutive ACC title doesn't seem like such a sure thing.

"We're just going to try to take it one game at a time, play hard, get focused and hopefully win," junior Anne Remy said after UNC's 6-0 win against Maryland on Sunday. "Anson told us, from now on after today, we lose and we're out."

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Field Hockey Awaits Opponent

By RACHEL CARTER
Assistant Sports Editor

North Carolina field hockey coach Karen Shelton has a saying she drills into the heads of her players.

"(Shelton) always says, 'Our most important game is our next game,'" sophomore goalkeeper Amy Tran said.

That means UNC's most important

game is Friday at 7 p.m., when the team plays in the first round of the ACC tournament.

After going undefeated in league play, UNC earned the No. 1 seed and a game against either Duke or ninth-ranked Virginia.

UNC won't find out who its semifinal opponent is until the

Blue Devils and the Cavaliers battle at 2 p.m. today at Artificial Turf Stadium.

If Tran has her way, the Tar Heels will play the Cavaliers. Tran's selection is surprising, considering Duke's squad hasn't defeated the Tar Heels since 1981.

"We kind of struggled with Duke (in the regular season), so I'd rather we play Virginia," said Tran, who finished the regular season with seven shutouts.

UNC opened its season with a 3-0 defeat of Duke on Aug. 26. But the Tar Heels had trouble putting Duke away when the game counted toward ACC standings, getting a 2-1 victory Oct. 1.

The Cavaliers have also been on the losing end of both of their contests with the Tar Heels. UNC stopped Virginia by scores of 3-1 and 3-0 during the season.

Shelton doesn't care which team it is. She just wants her team to play well and to not overlook Virginia or Duke.

"I think when you're like our team and you've earned the No. 1 seed - we didn't want to play Maryland, we didn't want to play Wake Forest - there's a tendency to overlook this team," Shelton said.

Even before the Tar Heels play in the



UNC goalkeeper Amy Tran finished the regular season with seven shutouts and a 0.93 goals-against average.

semifinals, they know whom they could face in the championship game. Wake Forest defeated defending NCAA champion Maryland during the regular season and earned the No. 2 seed.

"We're happy we had the No. 1 seed because Wake and Maryland will knock each other out," UNC senior forward Kristen McCann said.

McCann hopes the Tar Heels make it to Sunday's 3:30 p.m. title game and come face to face with Wake, a team that has suddenly become a big rival.

Last season, the Demon Deacons handed the Tar Heels a humiliating 6-1 loss in the ACC semifinals. McCann said that won't happen again and added that she thought the Tar Heels had a mental edge on the Deacons.

Both the Deacons and the Terrapins took the Tar Heels to overtime this year, but key goals from McCann sealed UNC victories in those games (4-3 and 1-0, respectively). The Tar Heels also handed Wake a 3-2 loss Sept. 30.

Those games gave Tran more work than usual. Maryland and Wake rely on a high-scoring offense to take control of games, but Tran said she's not worried about that.

"For the first time in my life, I feel like it's OK if I mess up and a goal scores because I know we'll score more than they will," Tran said.

For Shelton, getting to the title game is important, but she wants to see the Tar Heels play their best to get ready for the upcoming NCAA tournament.

"I don't think we've been playing well," Shelton said. "I just want us to get to the championship game and play well - I don't care if we win or lose, just play well."

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Scott Nicholson
will read from his new book
Thank You for the flowers
Thank You for the Flowers is a collection of thirteen suspenseful and imaginative short stories by UNC alumnus Scott Nicholson. Nicholson studied creative writing at UNC from 1980 to 1984, and was the 1999 recipient of the Hubbard Gold Award. His writing, according to mystery writer Sharyn McCrumb, lies in "that literary shadow land between Neil Gaiman and Ray Bradbury."
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