

## SPORTS GEEKS

FROM PAGE 14

masters of the NCAA universe? I had been so concerned with my own insecurities that I assumed everyone else was competent and confident. I'm not sure about the former, but I am about the latter.

Situations like the one I had in Durham can be overwhelming. People are caught up in the heat of the debate, and everyone is trying to top the next guy with the amount of information they can regurgitate. I may not be a talented player at this game, but I am familiar with it.

Growing up in New York, April through October is a prime time for Yankees discussions — and by Yankees, I mean the American League baseball team.

While I'm more confident in my knowledge of the Bronx Bombers, I still lack a comprehensive source of expertise. Even still, I can't help but play the can-you-top-this game and spit out whatever radio announcer Michael Kay said during his post-game show.

I have a hunch I'm not alone in my endeavor, because for every sports conversation I've tried to join, there were four others in which I chose to simply observe the participants.

On the surface, these Monday morning quarterbacks seem to be profound. However, the content of their discussion is far from insightful, consisting of box scores, record holders and simple logic.

The key to masquerading as a sports connoisseur is confidence. It will fend off initial skeptics and the criticism of amateurs.

Take a little play-by-play, add a dash of statistics, mix in some SportsCenter commentary, and you've mastered water cooler conversation.

It is that easy to convince others you possess an overflowing basin of sports knowledge.

Of course, it's all in the delivery.

Contact Gabrielle DeRosa at gderosa@email.unc.edu.

## UNC defeats Terps Field events propel UNC behind late surge

FROM WIRE REPORTS

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Camille Little had 14 points and 15 rebounds, and No. 13 North Carolina had four other players score in double figures Monday in a 72-59 victory against Maryland.

UNC pulled away on a late 12-0 run fueled by sophomore La'Tangela Atkinson's inside strength that put the Tar Heels up 50-37 with 12 minutes left.

The win against the Terrapins (12-5, 4-2 in the ACC) moves UNC (14-2, 4-1) to second in the ACC behind Duke.

## Gymnastics wins opener

WASHINGTON — With its highest season-opening score ever, the North Carolina gymnastics team won the George Washington Invitational on Sunday.

With 194.800 points, UNC (5-0) defeated host George Washington (0-1) and four other teams to win for the second straight year by sweeping the top three spots on both the vault and floor exercise.

Sophomore Courtney Bumpers earned her second career 10.0 on floor exercise — just the fourth in school history — and won the all-around with a score of 39.475.

## Wrestling falls to Drexel

NEWTOWN, Pa. — The North

Carolina wrestling team fell to Drexel, 19-17, on Saturday at Council Rock High School.

Despite late wins by junior Mark Canty and senior Ryan Adams, UNC (1-4) fell just short of its second victory of the season.

## Mojzis reaches singles final

LAS VEGAS — In the singles championship match of the 2004 Freeman Memorial Women's Tennis Championships, North Carolina junior Aniela Mojzis, ranked 34th nationally, lost to Theresa Logar of Stanford, 6-2, 6-1.

In doubles play, Mojzis also made it to the semifinals with teammate Kendall Cline.

## Monroe falls in ACC final

WINSTON-SALEM — North Carolina's Nick Monroe reached the finals of the 2004 ACC Coaches' Indoor Championships at the Leighton Indoor Tennis Complex but lost to second-seeded Doug Stewart of Virginia, 7-5, 6-4, on Sunday.

Meanwhile, UNC senior Andy Metzler finished the tournament as the consolation bracket co-champion with Georgia Tech's Scott Schnugg.

BY ALICIA JONES

STAFF WRITER

The Tar Heels Fast Times Invitational seems like a good name for a track meet dominated by sprinters, but ironically the field athletes posted most of the stand-out performances for North Carolina on Saturday.

If a team score had been kept for the Tar Heels' second meet of the year, it would have shown unambiguously that the majority of the points came from the field events.

Vikas Gowda and Nick Owens placed first in the shot put and the weight throw, respectively. John "Tree" Hubbard won the high jump with 6 feet, 11 3/4 inches.

But the real Cinderella story was freshman Rhian Jenks. At last week's Big 12 meet, she placed second in the pole vault behind fellow Tar Heel and junior Tatyana Kirichenko.

This week, she not only claimed first, but her vault of 12-11 1/2 was good for a new Eddie Smith Field House record.

"Several things that I had been working on in practice all came together," Jenks said. "Last week I wasn't completing the end on any of my vaults."

"Today, however, I was putting more of a finish to my jump, so it allowed me to go higher."

UNC coach Dennis Craddock said he was shocked but pleased by Jenks' performance.

"I wasn't expecting that," Craddock said. "She set a new record as a freshman. She can only get better from here."

Jenks credited pole vault coach Scott Still for giving her advice on what to improve on during the meet.

"Without his coaching, I would have been clueless as to what I needed to improve on throughout the meet," Jenks said.

As a team, Craddock admitted that the men have strong performers, but are still lacking the depth they need to make them a solid team.

"I can name two or three girls who perform in each event, but I can only name one guy in each event, which goes back to what I said before the season about our depth problems," Craddock said.

UNC's Pablo Durana won the 3,000-meter run for the men with a time of 8 minutes, 18.47 seconds.

Tar Heel Megan Kaltenbach comparably was another first-

place finisher on the women's side with a time of 9:43.31 in the same event.

Andy Craycraft got back to his niche this week in the 800. Last week, he placed second in the mile, but insisted his participation in the event in the future would be up to the coach.

His time of 1:51.89 in the 800 was three seconds shy of a personal record.

Porscha Dobson had a solid performance in the 60-meter hurdles, placing fifth with a time of 8.61 in a heat with two unattached runners, Melissa Morrison and UNC alumna Nadine Faustin. Last week, Morrison broke the field house record set by Faustin with a time of 8.03 seconds.

Strong performances in a variety of events are what will carry both teams to a ACC championships. Team morale, which boosts confidence, also can have a big impact on performance.

"One thing to really work on is our team enthusiasm and team spirit as we cheer for our teammates," Craddock said. "I would like to see that better."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

## The Daily Tar Heel

## Classified Advertising

## The Daily Tar Heel

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For more information, call 881-0309 Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:00pm. After hours please leave a message.

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## For Rent

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