

# Field hockey gains new fan

I talked big three weeks ago and promised to show up at the field hockey home opener Sept. 18.

Well, I actually did, so here's a running diary of my inaugural field hockey experience:

12:36 p.m.: Arriving at Henry Stadium during warmups, I soak in my new surroundings.

The field is surrounded on two sides by an ivy-covered fence. Trees tower above the open field, making it seem like a forest glade with skirted pixies running around swinging candy canes.

12:50: Avril Lavigne's "My Happy Ending" comes on the PA system. Somebody needs to donate these guys a Jock Jams CD.

1:00: Game time. It's North Carolina's ball to start. They back pass. It's like soccer so far. I momentarily believe I can follow.

1:01: A whistle blows, and the players stop what they were doing and run downfield. They leave the ball where it was and one player knocks it forward.

This prompts the following exchange with my friend Phil, who's covering the game for a class:

Phil: What happened?  
Me: Ummm ... foul?  
Phil: (Laughs) I shouldn't be covering this.

1:03: The team parents are hardcore. All-American Kelsey Keeran's mother, Debbie, is a squinty-eyed woman of medium height and build with corn-husk blond hair.

She's also a yeller, alternately expressing cheer, sympathy, anguish and encouragement, or all of these at once.

1:07: During a failed UNC rush, I ready myself to dial 911 in case Mrs. Keeran pops an embolism in her brain.

1:08: There's a penalty shot. Why?

Uhhh ... foul?  
Actually, it's a corner, which is my new favorite play in sports.

One player sends a pass from the corner to her entire team, which is lined up versus the goalie and four defenders who the coach has deemed human sacrifices.

Old Dominion manages to make the save.

1:29: Keeran draws a corner, but North Carolina, ranked third in the country, misses the ball on



**BEN COUCH**  
VIEW FROM THE COUCH

the centering pass for the second time. I'm smelling a repeating theme.

1:31: There's a give-and-go-and-give-again between Keeran and Brooke Miller, but the short shot is kicked away by the goalie.

1:38: At halftime, while browsing through the media guide, I find out exactly how hardcore these parents are: Most of the players are out-of-state students.

I ask the couple in front of me — Cindy and Ken Falgowski, parents of UNC forward Kerry Falgowski — where they came down from, and they say Pennsylvania.

Cindy explains matter-of-factly, "It's our daughter's last season, so we can't miss a home game."

That, my friends, is dedication.

1:52: Four minutes into the second half, UNC gets a corner.

The Tar Heels set up, and the intended recipient of the pass whiffs as the ball passes through her legs. But Naomi Weatherald, expectantly in position, rockets a slapshot into the goal for a 1-0 lead.

I later find out this is a set play for short corners called a "slip." UNC runs it unsuccessfully three more times in the second half.

1:57: The Monarchs use a beautiful give-and-go to create an empty net, but UNC goalie Katy Tran recovers to make a spectacular diving save at the corner of the net.

ODU just missed its big chance. 2:26: The clock runs out, and the Tar Heels persevere 1-0. The second half went by pretty quickly, with more up-and-down action than the first. For a match between the No. 3 and No. 7 teams, the outcome never really seemed in doubt.

After my first field hockey game, I'm interested enough to want to come out again.

See you tonight at 7.

Contact Ben Couch at [bcouch@email.unc.edu](mailto:bcouch@email.unc.edu).

# Lewis takes on greater role at RB

McGill unlikely to play Saturday

BY DANIEL BLANK  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

Jacque Lewis proved against Georgia Tech that he can be a feature back, receiving the brunt of North Carolina's carries.

When the Tar Heels play Louisville at Kenan Stadium on Saturday, he might have to do it again.

Ronnie McGill has not practiced this week and is doubtful for Saturday after he sprained his ankle against Ga. Tech, according to UNC coach John Bunting.

"I'm ready to do whatever I need to do to help my team win," said Lewis, who ran for a career-high 161 yards against the Yellow Jackets. "And if that's playing the whole game, then I'll be prepared to do that Saturday."

But even before McGill's injury, Lewis was starting to earn more carries than the coaching staff had envisioned.

"We're playing Jacque even more than I thought we would at this point, and that's a tribute to him," Bunting said.

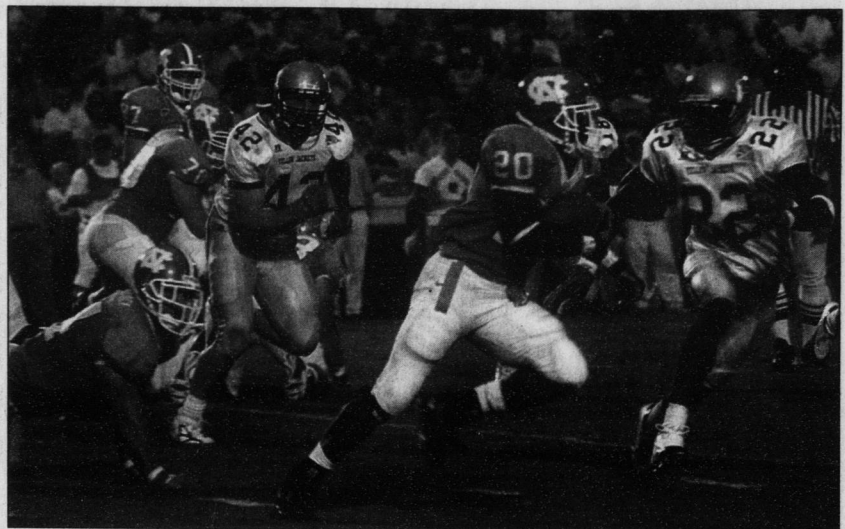
Although Lewis will be the primary back, the senior won't be the only one.

Bunting said Chad Scott will see more playing time because of his performance in relief of McGill in the second half against Georgia Tech.

Although he was nursing a shoulder injury, Scott ran for 59 yards on 11 carries.

Scott will fill McGill's role as a bruising back who picks up the tough yards to set up Lewis' speed on the perimeter.

"Chad Scott provided that for us in the second half. He did a terrific job going in there," Bunting said.



UNC running back Jacque Lewis (20) ran for 161 yards on 16 carries in last week's victory against Georgia Tech. Due to Ronnie McGill's sprained ankle, Lewis likely will have more playing time against Louisville on Saturday.

"He had a bruised shoulder going in, and he sucked it up. I was very impressed with him. He was the one who gave us the lift we needed in that football game."

**Cardinals have many targets**

Bunting said the defense's performance against Georgia Tech was its best since his first year in 2001.

But he added that the unit still needs to make a lot of progress to contain the potent Cardinal attack.

"We improved, but not even close to where we need to be to a competitive defense," Bunting said.

Louisville has averaged 40 points per game in starting the season 2-0 and features three strong running

backs in Lionel Gates, Michael Bush and Eric Shelton.

But the Cardinals also like to spread out their offense with three of four wide receivers at a time.

"Last week, (Georgia Tech) had their number one receiver; they knew who they wanted to throw the ball to," said Jacoby Watkins, who was named ACC defensive back of the week for his two interceptions against the Yellow Jackets. "This week, they've got a lot of targets out there; there's a lot of talent out there."

But even with several tough ACC opponents looming, Watkins said the team prefers to play a quality non-conference opponent like Louisville.

"I'd rather play top talent before I play Florida State than just any-

body," he said.

**Wooldridge to be suspended**

Bunting announced that punter David Wooldridge will be suspended for the Louisville game for conduct detrimental to the team.

"I've been around the game long enough to know that the players need to have some type of consequence when they hurt the program or do something embarrassing to the program," Bunting said. "I've always been quick to act on that and always will be."

Wooldridge is averaging 44.4 yards per punt this season. Freshman John Choate will replace him.

Contact the Sports Editor at [sports@unc.edu](mailto:sports@unc.edu).

# UNC squanders 2-goal lead, falls to Monarchs

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

NORFOLK, Va. — The 24th-ranked Old Dominion men's soccer team scored two goals in the final five minutes — within two minutes of each other — to defeat North Carolina 3-2 Tuesday night at the ODU Soccer Stadium.

The loss extended UNC's winless streak to four games, dating back to a loss to Florida International on Sept. 10.

Edson Elcock had the game-winning goal off a Kevon Harris

assist with just more than 30 seconds left in the game.

Kyle Hartley scored two goals for ODU (5-0-0) as the Monarchs extended their home unbeaten streak to 21 games.

Corey Ashe scored first for ODU 3 North Carolina (1-3-2) 32 minutes, 41 seconds into the game off a Marcus Storey assist.

The goal was Ashe's third of the

year. Storey scored for the Tar Heels in the second half off a Dax McCarty assist to give UNC a 2-0 advantage at the 67:09 mark of the game.

But the margin of victory was shortlived.

Kyle Hartley got the Monarchs on the board at the 70-minute mark, scoring an unassisted goal to cut the lead to 2-1.

With slightly more than two minutes left in the game, Hartley struck again, beating Tar Heel goalkeeper Justin Hughes to tie the game at 2.

Just less than two minutes later, with 31 seconds remaining in regu-

lation, Harris fed Elcock the ball to put in the game-winning goal, giving the Monarchs the 3-2 victory. The goal was Elcock's first for the season.

For the game, the Monarchs out-shot North Carolina 17 to 9, and they had a 4 to 3 edge in corner kicks.

ODU goalkeeper John Connelly allowed two goals and made a save in the win, while Hughes stopped six Monarch shots in the defeat.

The Tar Heels return home Sunday to open their conference slate against No. 12 Virginia. Last season, the Cavaliers handed UNC its first loss of the season, 1-0, in Charlottesville, Va.

# UNC downs Blue Devils in 4 games

Sagula reaches 500-win milestone

BY MARY DUBY  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

DURHAM — The North Carolina volleyball team heated up Cameron Indoor Stadium on Monday.

The team was so hot, in fact, that a fire alarm delayed the start of game four for 10 minutes in UNC's 3-1 victory against Duke.

After falling in game one, the Tar Heels earned Coach Joe Sagula his 500th career win by storming back for a 26-30, 30-23, 30-25, 30-20 victory.

"When you get to something like this, it's just a testament to all the people who've played at UNC and in my career, and I thank them," Sagula said. "I'm going along for the ride."

The match opened the 2004-05 Carlyle Cup, giving UNC (6-6, 1-0 in the ACC) the first point in the competition between the two universities.

"It's huge," said co-captain Katie Wright of scoring the first point. "I

hate Duke."

While Dani Nyenhuis and Molly Pyles led the team with 20 kills and 24 digs, respectively, defensive specialist Caroline deRoock made her presence known subtly on every corner of the court.

DeRoock finished the game with 18 digs, but her contribution surpassed the statistics.

"She played a fantastic match that no one's probably going to look at; she didn't get the big kills," Sagula said. "But I think she was one of the top performers for us."

The Tar Heels looked sloppy in game one as they adjusted to tactics specifically geared toward Duke (9-3, 0-1), which entered the match on a nine-game winning streak.

"I just think people were not quite clear and not being precise with what we were doing," Wright said. "People just weren't focusing."

Sagula hounded his team after game one for the lack of defense, and the Tar Heels responded with intensity.

"(Sagula said) 'We're not going to lose to Duke; it's not going to happen,'" said sophomore Emily Guerry. "That was enough."

By game four, UNC looked like a completely different team. They easily routed the Blue Devils, leading by as many as 13 points and tallying 12 consecutive kills.

"We had a confidence that was unwavering, and so that showed up in the second, third and fourth game," Pyles said.

After falling behind 10-5 in game two, North Carolina took its first lead of the match at 14-13, and while the teams continued to trade points, UNC held on to even the match at 1.

It looked as if UNC would pull

away in game three after taking a 16-11 lead, but the Blue Devils, who were led by last week's ACC Player of the Week, Carrie DeMange, fought their way back to tie the game at 22.

The win boosted UNC's confidence heading into road games against ACC powers Georgia Tech and Clemson this weekend.

"They're going to be waiting for us down there," Pyles said. "So we're going to be going in full steam ahead."

Contact the Sports Editor at [sports@unc.edu](mailto:sports@unc.edu).

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