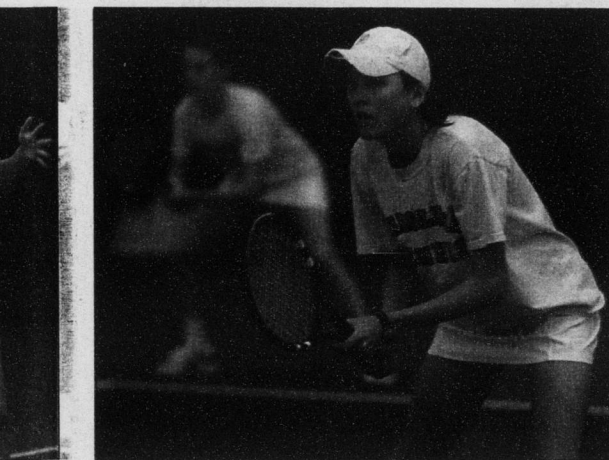


nails from diverse backgrounds

# ate double trouble



DTH PHOTOS/BRANDON SMITH

is prepares for the volley as Kendall Cline smashes a serve during the duo's Coventry and Joelle Schwenk. Cline and Mojzis are the 14th-ranked doubles unleashes a powerful forehand. (Right) Mojzis prepares to return a serve.

## Tar Heels look to build on solid start

BY AL KILLEFFER  
STAFF WRITER

Led by a pair of senior, All-American captains, Kendall Cline and Aniela Mojzis, great things are expected from the North Carolina women's tennis team, which is currently ranked ninth in the nation.

After finishing last season tied for No. 16 and with a loss in the second round of the NCAA Tournament, the team is looking to play at an even higher level in 2005.

"This is a great group of players because they're hungry, they're excited, they get along well and they work hard," said Coach Brian Kalbas. "I think with this team, the opportunities are enormous."

Although Kalbas stressed that his goals for the team are more performance-oriented than outcome-oriented, the players have no problem discussing the standards they set for themselves.

"Our team actually sat down and talked about it," said freshman Charlotte Tansill. "We want to win ACCs and get to the final site of NCAAs."

With a strong 7-2 start as of Tuesday, the team appears to be well on its way, but Kalbas said the Tar Heels are taking care to stay focused.

"Last year, we started off so strong," Kalbas said. "We were 12-1 and got to be five in the country, but at the same time, I think we lost track of the work that requires us to get to where we want. By the end of the year, we were playing well, but there was a middle portion of the year where we lost a lot of confidence."

Sophomore Sara Anundsen, the team's No. 4 singles player, echoed her coach's sentiments.

"I hope that we peak around ACCs this year because last year, we seemed to peak in the middle of our season," Anundsen said. "I just hope we practice smart and play smart so that our best is at the end of the season."

As long as the team maintains that competitive mentality, the ups and downs it endured last season seem unlikely, especially given that Kalbas

*"This is a great group of players because they're hungry. ... They get along well, and they work hard."*

BRIAN KALBAS, UNC COACH

is now in his second season and the team is loaded with talent.

According to the ITA's Fall Regional rankings, Mojzis, Cline, Anundsen, Jenna Long and Caitlin Collins all rank among the top 25 singles players in the Southeast, while the doubles teams of Mojzis/Cline and Anundsen/Long rank in the top 15.

One factor that might not be as easily overcome is the team's depth.

"We only have eight players, so hopefully, we can all stay injury-free," Anundsen said. "I feel like that's the biggest thing."

The team now has seven healthy players, and given the difficulty of its schedule, there is a real possibility for injury.

In terms of the toughness of the team's schedule, the ACC now has three teams ranked in the top 10. The team won't begin conference play until March, but it already has faced some stiff competition in non-conference matches.

At the ITA National Team Indoors, the squad squared off against No. 7 Kentucky and No. 6 Vanderbilt, losing 5-2 and 4-3, respectively. The pair of defeats are the team's only losses this season.

"The matches we've lost this year were mainly because we just have not played the bigger points better than our opponents, and they have a little bit more confidence in themselves at this point in time," Kalbas said.

"We're at the point where we're believing in ourselves when things are going well, but when it's crunch time, that's when we have to take it to another level."

## Serving the competition

Mojzis and Cline rank among the top in the country, as do the Tar Heels.

### Team Rankings

1. Stanford
2. Florida
3. Georgia
4. Northwestern
5. Duke
6. Vanderbilt
7. Kentucky
8. Washington
9. North Carolina
10. Miami (Fla.)
11. UCLA
12. Southern California
13. Texas
14. TCU
15. Tulane

### Singles Rankings

1. Audra Cohen, Northwestern
2. Megan Bradley, Miami (Fla.)
3. Suzi Babos, California
4. Cristelle Grier, Northwestern
5. Julie Coin, Clemson
6. Nicole Leimbach, Southern California
7. Aibika Kalsarieva, Kentucky
8. Robin Stephenson, Alabama
9. Riza Zalameda, UCLA
10. Shadisha Robinson, Georgia
26. Aniela Mojzis, UNC
37. Kendall Cline, UNC

### Doubles Rankings

1. Audra Cohen/Cristelle Grier, Northwestern
2. Catrina Thompson/Christina Thompson, Notre Dame
3. Whitney Benik/Lolita Frangulyan, Florida
4. Maja Kovacek/Iva Gersic, New Mexico
5. Riza Zalameda/Daniela Bercek, UCLA
6. Aibika Kalsarieva/Sarah Foster, Kentucky
7. Alice Barnes/Erin Burdette, Stanford
8. Megan Bradley/Audrey Banada, Miami (Fla.)
9. Zuzana Cerna/Daniella Covello, Baylor
10. Megan Muth/Amy Wei, William & Mary
11. Joelle Schwenk/Kim Coventry, Kentucky
12. Ashley Bentley/Robin Stephenson, Alabama
13. Zerene Reyes/Jennifer Magley, Florida
14. Kendall Cline/Aniela Mojzis, North Carolina
15. Michelle DaCosta/Kara Delicata, Michigan