Tansill shines in Pitching key in three wins tennis victories

BY DANIEL MALLOY

On a team headlined by two senior stars, newcomers often get lost in the shuffle.

But freshman Charlotte Tansill has been on fire of late for the North Carolina women's tennis team, win-ning her last seven matches and taking some of the spotlight away

WOMEN'S TENNIS		from headliner Aniela Mojzi and Kendal
ECU	0	Cline.
UNC	7	Tansill wa solid agai
UNC-W	0	Saturday as No
UNC	7	9 UNC demol ished UNC
Wilmington	an	d East Carolin

- both by the score of 7-0 — at the Cone-Kenfield Tennis Center. The freshman won both of her

singles and doubles matches for the day, all by wide margins. Against UNC-W (4-3), she easily

dispatched Seahawk Cary Wyeth in No. 5 singles 6-1, 6-2.

In the second match of the day against the Pirates (10-4), Tansill was impressive again, taking home her singles match 6-2, 6-2, to improve her record to 19-6 on the season. Even Tansill did not anticipate such success.

"I'm really excited about it," Tansill said. "I definitely wasn't expecting to start."

On the contrary, Tansill has

BY DAN SCHWIND

several school records.

lacrosse team this season was the hole at the faceoff-X, where the team lost All-American Kevin Frew

to graduation. Werry was tapped to fill the void left by Frew, who finished his career at UNC with a school record

446 faceoffs won, including 219

faceoff tandem of Scott Davidson

and Geoff Snider, who combined to win an impressive 177 of 313

faceoffs last season. "I knew there was going to be

a lot of pressure on opening day, especially filling the void of Kevin Frew," Werry said. "I knew coming in that I was going to have to really fight hard."

Werry started the game off strong, winning four of the game's

first five faceoffs, but finished the

not look impressive, Werry's tough-ness at the faceoff-X was enough to

leave strong impressions. "There were times where we held our own," said UNC coach John Haus. "(Werry) went up against a bid thet is a conjor that has heave

kid that is a senior that has been

around for a while for Denver, so I think Dave did an okay job."

But while those numbers might

As if that wasn't enough pressure, his first game taking over that role came against Denver's

last season.

day 8-for-23.

anchored the back of the lineup for the Tar Heels (11-3), rotating mo of her time between No. 5 and 6 singles and No. 3 doubles.

You never know how much a freshman can contribute, but she has solidified the bottom of our lineup this year," said UNC coach Brian Kalbas

The Tar Heels have had no problem solidifying the top, as Mojzis and Cline rolled again. Neither player surrendered more than four games to an opponent Saturday, as they both won in straight sets. UNC

The pair traded the top two spots in the singles order, with Mojzis starting at No. 1 against the Seahawks and Cline against the Pirates. Cline is ranked higher in the polls, but Mojzis was an All-American last year. "What I feel is that we have two

No. 1 players," Kalbas said. "I'm going to give them different chances to play at No. 1. They both have earned it."

Powered by the veterans at the top and newcomers at the bottom. the Tar Heels now will enter a brutal stretch of the schedule. They play five matches on the road — three against top-20 teams — in March, but that did not faze the freshman.

Said Tansill: "I think we're right there with pretty much anyone in the country.

> Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

BY MATT ESTREICH

As the North Carolina baseball team faced its toughest opponent so far this season, the team's usual bright spots continued to shine in a weekend sweep at Boshamer Stadium of the reigning Big South BASEBALL Conference BASEBALL regular season Birm. South. 3 champions, UNC 6 Birmingham Southern. Birm. South. 2 Solid starting

UNC pitching, several nearly flawless 3 Birm. South. appearancesby the bull-

pen and some spectacular defensive plays propelled the No. 10 Tar Heels to two come-from-behind wins to remain unbeaten at 8-0.

The series finale began as a pitchers duel, with only three runs scored between the two teams in the first seven innings of play.

Freshman first baseman Chad Flack started the scoring for the Tar Heels by blasting a two-run home run over the right field fence

The Panthers answered in the sixth inning with their only run of the game, but threatened to add more off North Carolina starter Andrew Miller. After a trip to the mound by UNC coach Mike Fox to calm his sophomore hurler, Miller needed only one pitch to induce opposing pitcher Mac Godwin into a rally-killing 4-6-3 double play.

"We're cutting down on our errors," said sophomore pitcher Daniel Bard. "Defense and pitching is what's going to win us a lot of games."

The Tar Heels added four insur-ance runs off Godwin in the eighth inning behind clutch run-producing hits by freshman pinch hitter Kyle Shelton and sophomore sec-

ond baseman Bryan Steed. "We hit some balls hard up until then," Fox said. "But those big two out hits gave us some breathing

Saturday's game tested the mettle of the unbeaten Tar Heels. For the first time all season, North Carolina needed all nine of their offensive

innings to put away an opponent. With the bases loaded and one out in the bottom of the ninth, senior second baseman Greg Mangum lofted a sacrifice fly to left field that proved deep enough to score junior Blair Waggett for the decisive run in the 3-2 nail-biter.

The late-inning heroics might never have happened were it not for the perfect relief pitching effort of Jonathan Hovis. In earning his second win of the young season, the 5-11 junior retired all 12 Panthers he faced — one of those outs being a sparkling diving catch by sopho-more Jay Cox in left field. "I knew I had to get ground balls,

keep the game close and the score where it was," Hovis said. "I knew

the guys would score later on." In the series opener Friday, Bard

established North Carolina's domination of the Panthers from the mound - working seven innings while surrendering one hit and one earned run.

"We know what we're going to get out of (our starters) for the most part," Fox said. "They did what they needed to." The Tar Heels responded

to Bard's outing by tagging Birmingham Southern (2-4) starter Brandon Hynick for nine hits, knocking him out of the game in the fifth inning. Cox's three hits were as many as the Panthers could muster as a team during the Tar Heel's 6-3 win.

With the pitching and defense solid all weekend, the Tar Heel hit-ting proved key. If UNC's bats can stay hot, it will be tough to find an aspect of North Carolina's game that doesn't shine.

> Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

McCall scores six in rout of Denver

BY DEREK HOWLES STAFF WRITER

Someone could have stolen the North Carolina men's lacrosse roster from the Fetzer Field press box on Saturday, and the announcer might not have noticed. After all, he really only needed to know three names for much of the game.

In a brilliant MEN'S display of offen-sive firepower, LACROSSE 12 UNC starting 18 attackmen Jed Prossner, Mike Denver UNC McCall and Ryan Blair had a hand in all but two of their team's goals, propelling the No. 5 Tar Heels to an 18-12 victory against No. 17 Denver in ason opener for both squads.

"We played unselfish out there," Prossner said. "We moved (the ball) to the next person, the next open guy. We just really moved it

McCall, who notched a career-best

Not to be forgotten, Blair recorded a hat trick and three assists en route

and Ryan Blair does a fabulous job back there with them."

than three minutes in when Prossner

took a pass from McCall, hugged the

able to capitalize on my shots.

Wednesday, March 2, 2005

"GLUB and the Aesthetics

the game's first score.

The trio got started a little more

to six points — also a career high. "We have a pretty darn good attack unit," said UNC head coach John Haus. "I mean, we have two kids who have started from day one here that now are seniors

capable of better ... All the poles the goalie – everybody at that end is gonna have to get better." When Denver cut UNC's lead

to 11-7 early in the third quarter, Prossner answered with a goal less than a minute later. The preseason All-American struck again about four minutes after that to make it 13-7 UNC, and Blair added two scores later in the quarter to help boost the margin to a comfortable 16-8 entering the final stanza.

And while the fourth quarter

was little more than a formality, it did have at least a hint of drama. With 46 seconds to go, Prossner fed McCall for one final goal, a fitting ending to a game they dominated. "I know that there's going to be a

double-team immediately (when I have the ball)," Prossner said. "(If) they lock me off ... Mike McCall is gonna have eight points like he did today. I'm proud of him." i atoV a

> Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

faceoffs for Tar Heels But despite how well the team It's never easy following in someone's footsteps. It's even harder when that some one is an All-American who holds But in Saturday's season opener

Werry plays big role on

against No. 17 Denver, it was exactly what North Carolina junior Dave Werry had to do. One of the biggest questions for the fifth-ranked UNC men's

did against Denver's strong faceoff and midfield units, Werry said he will have to win more faceoffs for the team to beat second-ranked Navy for the first time since 2002.

more we get (the offense) the ball, the better we're going to be offensively," he said. "So, that's going to be our focus going into next week."

"The thing about the X is, the

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Monday, February 28, 2005

quickly. And if that happens, we're going to be able to score a lot." Prossner pumped in five goals and wasn't even UNC's most pro-lific scorer. That honor belonged to

half - or the game as a whole worked out to Haus' liking. six goals and tied a career high with "Twelve goals - that's way too many," he said. "I think that we're eight total points. MIEKE BA



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Teammates credited Werry's tenacity in faceoffs as part of the reason the Tar Heels were able to slow down Denver's fast-break offense.

The main thing that I was thinking about today going out there was keeping them off the fast

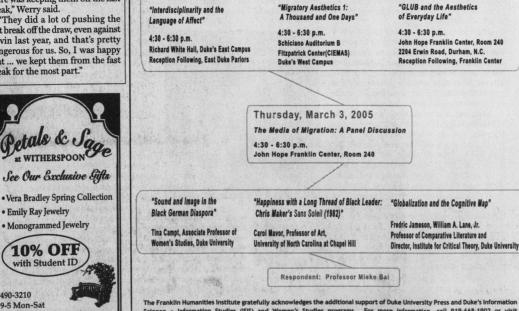
"They did a lot of pushing the fast break," Werry said. "They did a lot of pushing the fast break off the draw, even against Kevin last year, and that's pretty dangerous for us. So, I was happy that ... we kept them from the fast break for the most part."

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and purchase a special Ronald McDonald House T-shirt for just \$10. Proceeds will benefit the children and families who stay at the Ronald McDonald Houses of North Carolina. Your gift will help to provide one night's food and lodging for a family struggling with the challenge of caring for a sick child.

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