

Sports Monday

The Daily Tar Heel
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SCOREBOARD

SOFTBALL UNC 7 Virginia 1

MEN'S LACROSSE UNC 11 Ohio State 14

WOMEN'S TENNIS UNC 6 Virginia Tech 1

HEELS CAN'T OUTRUN TERPS

Late UNC rally falls short of win

BY ANNA KIM
STAFF WRITER

In less than 30 seconds, the North Carolina women's lacrosse team saw the team's four-goal deficit dissipate to two against conference rival Maryland.

Unfortunately, there were then only 50 seconds left on the clock — and time ran out for the late Tar Heel surge in a 10-8 loss Saturday at Fetzer Field.

"The play is fast and physical — you get opportunities that are high percentage, and you have to finish on them,"

UNC coach Jenny Levy said. "I thought Maryland did a good job of that tonight, and we did not."

The No. 9 Tar Heels (10-4, 2-3 ACC) met No. 3 Maryland in their final home game, Senior Night, with postseason implications.

"Today also meant a lot for the seeding of the ACC tournament," said sophomore Kristen Taylor, who led UNC with a team-high two goals and one assist.

"So I think, knowing that, both teams came out very hard, very fast from the start."

Maryland (12-1, 3-1) got off to a quick start, scoring first and finding the net again less than five minutes later.

The first half consisted of each team running up and down the field — but both struggled to capitalize on those trips.

"We're not adjusting the way I'd like to see us adjust," Levy said. "The game started to get into a lot of stall ball; it's really disappointing to see."

Freshman Corey Donohoe got UNC on the board at the 22:39 mark of the first half to cut the lead to one, netting a goal off an assist from Taylor.

But the Terrapins quickly responded, and less than four minutes later, North Carolina was trailing by three goals.

Then senior Meg Freshwater gave the Tar Heels a much needed boost. With UNC down 4-1, she stripped the ball away from Maryland and raced from midfield to sling a powerful shot into the back of the net.

But for UNC, offensive opportunities seemed to come few and far-between against a stifling Maryland defense.

"I think a lot of people thought it was going to be a very high-scoring game," Taylor said. "So it was kind of ironic how it ended up."

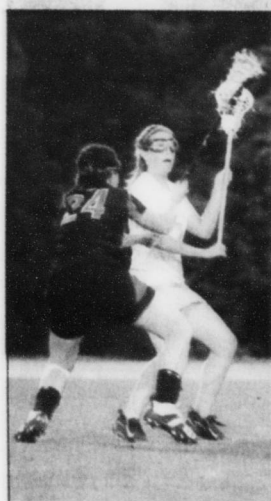
The teams continued to trade goals, and the Terrapins entered halftime leading 6-4.

In a game in which winning the



North Carolina sophomore Kristen Taylor attempts to shake her defender during the Tar Heels' 10-8 loss against the third-ranked Maryland Terrapins on Saturday at Fetzer Field. Taylor led all Tar Heels with a team-high two goals and one assist, but it wasn't enough to overcome UMD.

Diverse attack falls short against UMD.



North Carolina's Megan Bosica looks to get rid of the ball against Maryland. Bosica is a key part to UNC's diverse offensive attack.

BY BETH MECHUM
STAFF WRITER

The North Carolina women's lacrosse team saw an array of players score in a variety of different ways, but the diverse attack wasn't quite enough to overcome Maryland's high-speed offense Saturday night.

Five different Tar Heels scored in the 10-8 loss. Whether it is the speed of senior Meg Freshwater or the power of freshman Corey Donohoe, the Tar Heels have a lot to throw at a team.

"I think our strengths are that we can score a lot of different ways," coach Jenny Levy said. "I think our weaknesses, though, are if things aren't going on our way, we don't do a good job of going to a couple of things we know we can score on."

Levy said she blames some of that on being a young team with only seven seniors but most of it on a lack of communication.

"They got to communicate, and if they don't, there will be repercussions if they are constantly not communicating in those situations."

Levy said the players aren't selfish but that they just aren't getting the ball to the right people at the right time. And this team has too many options for that to happen.

"I think we're a very balanced attack. I think we get goals and shots from a lot of different people," sophomore Kristen Taylor said. "It shows how diverse our attack is."

Freshwater's speed is one way UNC can gain an advantage. She scored on a breakaway Saturday as she barreled through Maryland's defenders in transition for a quick goal.

But the Terrapins were too disciplined defensively to let Freshwater surprise them again.

"I always try to run through transition, but once I scored, Maryland's defense kind of clued in on that facet of my game, so they started reacting," Freshwater said.

So UNC had to look elsewhere. Chelsea Parks had an unassisted goal in the first half when she toyed with some defenders before spinning to her left and lofting a shot

over her shoulder for a goal.

Then there is Donohoe, the team's leading scorer and ACC rookie of the year candidate, who used her strength to power her way into the middle and score two of the Tar Heels' goals.

Taylor also scored two goals for North Carolina, one assisted by her older sister, Kelly.

This sister-to-sister offensive attack has been working for the Taylors all season.

"They are competitors and they are tough, and we look for them to be leaders for us," Levy said.

"They'll drive the direction of our team in the postseason."

It will be a postseason that will demand all parts of UNC's offense to be working in a competitive ACC.

Eight goals from five players weren't enough against Maryland, but this versatility could bolster UNC in the future.

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

Seniors stand out in final home meet

BY JOHN DOUGHERTY
STAFF WRITER

The contributions and careers of 12 senior members of the North Carolina track and field teams were recognized Saturday at the Tony Waldrop Invitational.

After four years of hard work, the group of honorees, ranging from All-Americans to multiple-time national champions, had center stage in their final home meet.

"The thing that always amazes me is how quick they become seniors," said UNC head coach Dennis Craddock. "You look up one day, and all of a sudden they're seniors, and you say, 'It could not have been four years.'"

Making the most of the recognition, a number of Tar Heel seniors prolonged their time in the spotlight and led UNC to a slew of first-place finishes.

Seniors Tyra Johnson and Megan Kaltenbach, both national champions during their time in Chapel Hill, legged out top times in the 200-meter dash and 1,500-meter run, respectively.

Seniors took top honors in the throws, as well. Ian Reynolds' 16.03-meter hurl of the shot put landed



The North Carolina track and field squad competed in its final home match of the outdoor season Saturday when it honored its 12 seniors.

him in first-place company with fellow senior Jocelyn White, who bested her nearest competitor in the discus by more than three meters.

In what was possibly North Carolina's most impressive showing of the day, seniors Porscha Dobson and Colleen Farley finished just ahead of sophomore Vinneisha Ivy to claim the top three spots in the women's 400-meter hurdles for the Tar Heels.

Racing against the clock and looming inclement weather, Ivy improved her standing in the 100-meter hurdles, finishing a mere hundredth of a second behind freshman teammate LaToya James.

"We're always pushing each other to try to beat each other," Ivy said of her relationship with James.

"Even in practice we talk, like,

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UNC tops two conference foes

Sloppy starts slow Tar Heels in wins

CHRIS HEMPSON
STAFF WRITER

The ball gracefully flew through the air. It wasn't hit hard. It wasn't placed perfectly. It seemed North Carolina men's tennis player Stefan Hardy might get it — that he might hit an improbable, retreating return

from his back right position. But as he sprinted back, the ball dropped teasingly beyond his outstretched arms.

The point was lost, and North Carolina's No. 2 doubles pairing of Hardy and Clay Donato then faced a daunting predicament.

Down five games to two against Clemson on Sunday, the two would have to win six games without losing more than one for victory. It appeared they wouldn't — couldn't — make up such ground. But sure



UNC's Benjamin Carlotti was one of eight seniors honored Sunday afternoon during the Tar Heels' final home match of the year.

enough, they did.

That series of events was indicative of the weekend's play as UNC started out slow before blowing out Georgia Tech and Clemson, 6-1 and 7-0, respectively.

"Hardy said to me, 'Forget the

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SPORTSBRIEFS

MEN'S BASKETBALL



DTH/KEVIN YEUNG

LOS ANGELES — He already earned an armful, but Tyler Hansbrough took home one last bit of brass Friday night.

The North Carolina junior won the John R. Wooden Award as college basketball's top player, giving him essentially a sweep of the season's individual honors, including The Associated Press college basketball player of the year award.

"It means a lot," said Hansbrough. "I was in just in such a great situation with coaches and teammates. I feel like I've improved so much."

BASEBALL



DTH/ERIN DEBNAM

CLEMSON, S.C. — No. 4 North Carolina broke open a one-run game with five straight two-out singles in the eighth inning to claim an 8-4 win over Clemson on Sunday.

The win completed UNC's first series sweep at the Tigers' Doug Kingsmore Stadium.

Second baseman Kyle Seager belted the go-ahead home run in the fifth — his third in the last two days — and drove in a game-high three runs for the Tar Heels (29-7, 13-4 ACC).

GYMNASTICS

The North Carolina gymnastics team traveled to Florida on Saturday to face the Gators, UCLA, Nebraska, West Virginia and N.C. State.

The Tar Heels placed sixth with a team score of 191.825. Florida finished first (197.525), UCLA second (196.625), Nebraska third (196.100), West Virginia fourth (194.825) and N.C. State fifth (193.825).

The Tar Heels' season came to an end in the Stephen C. O'Connell Center in Florida as they finished the 2008 season 19-14.

"The long season caught up with us tonight," North Carolina coach Derek Galvin said.

"They put what they had out there and they gave it a valiant effort. We kind of ran out of steam as a team, but we were pleased to be here as it was a goal of ours to qualify for NCAA Regionals."

THIS WEEK

TUESDAY

BASEBALL
at UNC-Greensboro
TIME: 6 p.m.
LOCATION: Greensboro

WEDNESDAY

BASEBALL
vs. Charlotte
TIME: 6 p.m.
LOCATION: Cary

SOFTBALL
vs. Coastal Carolina
TIME: 4 p.m. and 6 p.m.
LOCATION: Anderson Stadium

WOMEN'S LACROSSE
at Old Dominion
TIME: 3 p.m.
LOCATION: Norfolk, Va.

THURSDAY

WOMEN'S TENNIS
ACC Championships
TIME: TBA
LOCATION: Orlando, Fla.