

SPORTSBRIEFS

FIELD HOCKEY



DTH/KAILTIN MCKEOWN

Saturday's game at West Chester. The Tar Heels have earned shutouts in all four of their wins this year.

UNC finished the game with 29 shots and 12 penalty corners. The Golden Rams did not have a shot or a corner.

The game was a homecoming of sorts for UNC coach Karen Shelton, a West Chester University alumna, and nine Tar Heels who hail from Pennsylvania.

Next up for the Tar Heels is a pair of home games at Henry Stadium. They host Old Dominion on Friday for a 6 p.m. contest then take on Radford at 1 p.m. Sunday.

FOOTBALL

North Carolina's football team received 31 votes in this week's Associated Press poll, more than the team has received in the past five years.

The Tar Heels garnered the fourth most votes in the ACC and three more than Virginia Tech.

Fresno State, at No. 25, received 121 votes after losing to No. 10 Wisconsin this week.

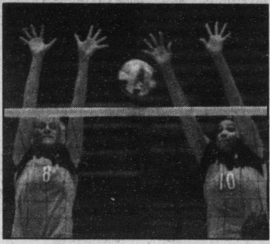
In the USA Today poll, the Tar Heels received 19 votes.

UNC notched 14 votes in the pre-season AP poll this year but dropped to a sole vote after the team's game against McNeese State during the first week.

WEST CHESTER, Pa. — The North Carolina field hockey team closed out a weekend of play at the Vonnie Gros Classic without allowing a goal, beating host West Chester 3-0 Sunday in the final game of the event. Ilse Davids and Danielle Forword, both juniors from South Africa, combined for all three Tar Heel goals as UNC improved to 4-2 on the year.

UNC beat No. 11 Penn State 4-0 in

VOLLEYBALL



DTH/KATE NAPIER

BOULDER, Colo. — The North Carolina volleyball team battled its way back to the .500 mark Saturday as the Tar Heels claimed a 3-1 (25-17, 23-25, 25-21, 27-25) win against Colorado in Boulder, Colo.

Colorado native Lauren Prussing stepped up big for the second consecutive match and led the team with 16 kills.

The Tar Heels will wrap up nonconference play next weekend when they travel to Minnesota for the Gopher Invitational hosted by the University of Minnesota.

MEN'S GOLF

ROCKY FACE, Ga. — The University of North Carolina men's golf team finished in 18th place with a 900 total at the Carpet Capital Collegiate. The Tar

Heels carded a 309 in the final round after earlier rounds of 300-291.

Tennessee-Chattanooga captured the title with a two-over-par 864 total.

For the Tar Heels, sophomore Philip Chauncey, from Durham, carded a six-over 222 total and tied for 40th place after posting rounds of 75-69-78.

Senior Robert Riesen and freshman Jack Fields both fired 226 totals to tie for 62nd place.

MARVIN AUSTIN



DTH/KAILTIN MCKEOWN

Marvin Austin is writing a regular column for Sporting News Today, available for free at today.sportingnews.com.

A clip from an article this summer, titled "Sleep number: Not enough hours":

"I just haven't been sleeping real well, but it's not because I'm nervous. I think my bed's just too small.

"Hopefully I can talk coach (Butch) Davis into getting me one of those Sealy Posturepedic beds because my bed is just too little."

FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE 14

Carolina's convincing 44-12 win, the Tar Heel secondary emphasized the need to eliminate the big play.

With receivers Tiquan Underwood and Kenny Britt, the Scarlet Knights boasted an aerial unit capable of going the distance at any moment. Both Underwood and Britt finished 2007 with more than 1,000 receiving yards and are the focal point of a Rutgers' offense adapting to life without star running back Ray Rice.

Thursday night, the UNC secondary proved good on its vow to not be burned through the air, limiting the Scarlet Knights to one completion of more than 20 yards and keeping Teel to a paltry 6.1 yards per attempt.

"I just wanted to make sure their deep threats were taken care of," safety Deunta Williams said Thursday night. "Any deep ball that they were throwing, I wanted to be behind it so I can make the tackle on it."

That strategy was on display as UNC defensive backs routinely gave Rutgers receivers a seven-to-ten yard

cushion at the beginnings of plays.

That prevented the speedy Britt and Underwood from slipping by corners, forcing the safeties to come over and leaving the middle of the field wide open — a risk associated with bump-and-run coverage.

"A big play, no matter who you are, that gets to you," Burney said. "We kept them from doing that a little bit, and that just helped us out mentally."

NOTED

Rutgers beat UNC in total yard-

age 383-378. But a 16-yard advantage in average starting field position — in addition to the turnover margin — sparked North Carolina's offense.

QUOTED

"I couldn't believe it was KB — he ain't but so big. But when he did that, I was like, 'OK, it's time to play now.'"

— Brandon Tate on Burney's hit on Underwood.

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

CARMICHAEL

FROM PAGE 14

bring recruits to Chapel Hill.

"Facilities are No. 1 in recruit-

ing," she said.

"It's amazing that we've done as well as we have with our facility situation in Carmichael.

"You consider we're trying to

compete with Tennessee and Connecticut. ... All these people, and they compete in these multi-million-dollar arenas, and to an 18-year-old, that's important.

"I hadn't taken a recruit in my office in five or six years. It was so bad."

The new design includes approximately 9,000 square feet of office space, reception area and support space, as well as an 800-square-foot museum area similar to the men's museum near the Smith Center.

"When we go back over there, it will be a state-of-the-art women's basketball arena."

The Tar Heels will get a taste of the new amenities coming to Carmichael during the 2008-09 season, as they will play home games in the Smith Center while their once and future home is under construction.

"It's an honor to play in a place like the Smith Center," Hatchell said. "We've played over here in years past, some years we've played four or five games over here. We're excited to play here."

And the Tar Heels will get their start early in November, with exhibition games Nov. 4 and 7. The season opener is Nov. 14 against Western Carolina.

North Carolina's slate includes a visit from Connecticut on Jan. 19 for a clash between two of the nations' most successful programs.

UNC also has a matchup against South Dakota on March 15 in between the ACC Tournament in Greensboro and the NCAA tournament.

The unusual wrinkle is by design, as Hatchell felt that the two-week layoff between the tournaments caused past teams to play flat in the big dance.

"That's a new strategy that we've used, because the men play the ACC championship on Sunday, and then they play again Thursday or Saturday," she said. "But we play on Sunday and we don't play again for two weeks."

"We won the last four ACC championships; we're primed for the ACC. During the ACC tournament we're playing as good as anyone in the country. We're peaked."

"But you're all revved up and ready to go and then you sit for two weeks. It's just hard to get that edge back."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

Women's soccer excels in Calif.

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

STANFORD, Calif. — In a match as statistically close as the final score would indicate, No. 3 Stanford and No. 5 North Carolina battled to a 1-1 tie in women's soccer action Friday night in the first match of the Stanford Invitational.

The Tar Heels scored in the 30th minute of play and nursed that lead until less than four minutes remained in the match, when the Cardinal scored the tying goal.

After tying the match, Stanford kept the pressure on the Tar Heels. The play of junior goalkeeper Ashlyn Harris in the final three minutes of regulation and in the opening minutes of overtime kept the draw intact.

Harris came on at halftime in relief of Anna Rodenbough and finished with six saves in the final 65 minutes, her career high save total for a game.

The redshirt junior kept the score tied with three saves in the final three minutes of regulation.

In the first overtime period the Cardinal outshot the Tar Heels 6-2, but Harris made back-to-back stops on shots by Christen Press in the 100th minute of play to keep the score at 1-1.

Neither team could generate much offense in the second overtime period, with the Tar Heels taking the only two shots of the period.

UNC (5-1-1) outshot the Cardinal 18-16 in the match and had a 7-2 edge in corner kicks.

Sunday afternoon, against its fifth top 15 opponent in only its seventh game, North Carolina put together its best overall effort of the season, blanking No. 15 Santa Clara 5-0.

North Carolina's defense posted its third shutout of the season, as junior forward Nikki Washington scored a pair of goals and Yael Averbuch, Courtney Jones and Casey Nogueira notched single tallies.

It was a satisfying win for the Tar Heels, as the Broncos (3-4) had won four of the previous five meetings going into Sunday's match.

UNC opened the scoring just 55 seconds into the match on Nikki Washington's second goal of the season.

The goal came off a corner kick by sophomore Meghan Klingenberg.

It marked the fourth goal UNC has scored off a corner this season after scoring only once off corners during the entire 2007 season.

UNC outshot the Broncos 21-8 and had a 7-0 edge in corner kicks.

North Carolina will return to the pitch this weekend at the Duke Adidas Classic in Durham. The Tar Heels will play Georgia at 5 p.m. Friday at Koskinen Stadium, and they will meet Fordham at noon Sunday.

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

PHYSICAL

FROM PAGE 14

midfielders than usual.

The approach left eight or nine men behind the ball at times, but Tar Heel attackers still were finding creases through the defense.

The problem was that a beaten Wolfpack defense would forcefully drag Tar Heels down by the jersey or arm.

"They had to foul a couple times," coach Elmar Bolowich commented after the game.

"Because otherwise it would

have been a breakthrough for us."

But the Tar Heels stayed focused. And although two more yellow cards were administered to the Wolfpack (and one to UNC's Zach Loyd) before the game ended, UNC's overall calmness provided immense dividends in its victory.

"I'm very proud of the guys that they stayed the course," said Bolowich after the game. "They didn't lose their temper; they didn't retaliate. We just moved on in the game."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

SOCCER

FROM PAGE 14

secure the win.

"It's a relief," coach Elmar Bolowich said. "We are starting our season 4-0-1, and we have our first win in the ACC. And those games are hard to win, as we know."

UNC does know. Last year the team finished 4-6 in the ACC, with four games decided in overtime.

The Tar Heels struggled to find a decision last year in and out of the conference. Five games ended with a draw, so securing this game in the win column was a welcome change.

"It's always good to get a win," Lewis said. "We're getting a little bit more lucky this year, and we're definitely more focused, so that helps out a lot."

Bolowich mentioned luck after the game, as well — particularly the good timing, if nothing else, that Lebo came in when he did.

"It was maybe lucky that we made that substitution at that time, but certainly any player coming off the bench can add something," he said.

"And that's something that we stress to our players that are not starting. We say, 'Hey, when you come in, you better be ready and you better add something.'"

On Friday, the bench had plenty

to add. After starting striker Brian Shriver left with a hamstring injury, Bolowich drew from his bench and eventually played six of his first-year players in the match.

"Certainly we have some players who are capable of adding some spark up front, and fortunately the guys did that," Bolowich said.

But the Tar Heels came off the field after the first half discouraged and scoreless. Despite outshooting the Wolfpack (0-3-1) by a margin of 7-2, UNC trailed by one at halftime.

N.C. State striker Watt Williams had converted off a rebound, striking the ball into the lower left from about five yards out.

"I think the goal came at a point where we had pretty much controlled the game... and all of a sudden they score a goal, and we were sort of like shell-shocked on that one," Bolowich said. "But we just had to find a way to bounce back."

And Lebo's goal, 20 minutes into the second half, provided that incentive and helped the Tar Heels keep control for the rest of the match.

"I mean, we changed our mentality a lot coming out in the second half, and it helped," Lebo said. "And if that goal helped, that's fine with me."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

2008-09 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE table with columns: DAY, DATE, OPPONENT/EVENT, SITE, TIME, TV. Includes 2009 Atlantic Coast Conference Tournament details.

The Lumina 620 Market St. Chapel Hill 932-9000. Advertisement for movie screenings.

REGAL CINEMAS advertisement listing movies like TIMBERLYNE 6, BURN AFTER READING, TYLER PERRY'S: THE FAMILY THAT PREYS (PG-13).

DTH CLASSIFIEDS advertisement with sections for Help Wanted, Internships, Travel/Vacation, Volunteering, Tutoring Wanted, Sublets, Tickets Wanted, and a Roommates advertisement.