

Todd Wilkenson

UNC can't get over hump; Camels smoke 'em 16-9

By JACKIE BLACKBURN
Assistant Sports Editor

The North Carolina baseball team just could not seem to put their pitching and hitting together, nor could they stop Campbell University as the Fighting Camels battled from an 8-1 deficit in the fifth inning to drill the Tar Heels 16-9 at Boshamer Stadium Wednesday.

In nine innings, six Tar Heel pitchers gave up 12 hits and issued 17 walks. Ronnie Huffman, who came on in the fifth to stop a Campbell rally, pitched two innings but gave up seven runs to pick up his third loss of the year.

"We ran into pitching problems even before the game started. (Scott) Bankhead (who was supposed to have started the Campbell game) got up with a stiff back this morning. Droschak didn't know he was starting today's game until 2:30," UNC head coach Mike Roberts said.

Campbell opened the scoring in the second. With runners on the corners and one out, Campbell leadoff hitter Rodney Stovall stroked a Dave Droschak pitch to right field, bringing in Herb Williams from third.

Droschak was then taken out of the game for Brad Powell, and it looked like the Tar Heels were in control of the ball game.

In the bottom half of the third, third baseman Jeff Hubbard led off with a single to right field. A sacrifice and a walk later, Campbell's second baseman Kelly Hoffman threw wildly to first trying to complete a double play, allowing two runs to score. Designated hitter John Marshall followed with an RBI double to drive in Pete Kumiega, who had reached second on the throw-

ing error. The five-run third was climaxed by Todd Wilkenson's right field homer, his fourth of the year.

"I feel really good now (at the plate), and it's started to show," Wilkenson, who is now batting .269 with 13 RBIs, said. "I used to chase a lot of bad pitches; now I'm more selective."

Second baseman Mitch McCleney, not normally known for his power, led the next Tar Heel offensive spree with a solo homer to left-center field. An error by the Campbell's first baseman allowed Tom Daily and Barney Spooner to score to make it 8-1 in favor of UNC.

"We were up 8-1, but we just couldn't get them out. We've been swinging the bats well. We just couldn't get them out," Roberts said.

The Campbell bats caught fire in the fifth and didn't simmer until the ninth. Before Huffman relieved Powell with one out in the fifth, the Camels had scored three times, on a wild pitch, a hit to right and on a fielder's choice.

The Camels overtook the Heels in the next inning with five runs on three hits, capped off by a grand slam home run by Campbell's Wayne Dale.

Over the next two innings, the Camels cushioned their lead with seven runs on six hits off three pitchers. After a three-run homer in the sixth, the Camels added four more runs on a bases-loaded walk by Mench and a wild pitch and two-run double given up by Geoff Redgrave.

The Tar Heels scored once more in the bottom of the ninth when Chris Pittaro, who reached first on a walk and was moved to third of a fielder's choice and the third Campbell error of the game, scored on a fielder's choice.

Sports

• Baseball vs. Wake Forest, 3 p.m.
• Men's tennis vs. Wake Forest, Hinton James Courts, 2 p.m.

Soccer kicks off spring season

By FRANK KENNEDY
Staff Writer

Soccer in the spring? It's played in the fall. Right? The UNC women won the national championship in November. Right?

Yes, the Tar Heels did win the national title and yes, they won it last fall. However, many fans may not be aware that soccer is actually a year-round affair, and both the men's and women's teams are in action this spring, as well.

Of course, the current season is unofficial: No Top 20 polls, no conference standings and no post-season tournaments. However, UNC is competing in many indoor events, intrasquad contests and major invitationals.

Head soccer coach Anson Dorrance feels that this four-month, informal period (January-April) is a crucial part of his team's training.

"Soccer is a sport which requires year-round play," Dorrance said. "Otherwise,

a player tends to lose some of his competitiveness.

Last weekend the Tar Heel men took part in the Clemson Invitational, a six-team affair comprised of some of the Southeast powers.

"Clemson gave us a \$1300 guarantee to go down there," Dorrance said. "That's how seriously considered the spring season is."

Dorrance said that several other schools have given UNC comparable bonuses for appearing in such tournaments.

The men's squad had a fine 1981 campaign (they were briefly ranked as high as 12th in the national polls), and after the team concluded play in November, they took a break until January and the start of the spring semester.

Practice then began for what Dorrance calls the "rain-snow-shine-sleet" season "because we play in every conceivable weather condition."

Indoor scrimmages in the Tin Can, intrasquad competition and six- or seven-player contests on the Navy field usually make up a large part of the winter schedule.

Dorrance said that this was one of the "best winters ever" for his men's squad.

In addition to taking the top spot in the George Washington University Invitational, the Tar Heels placed second in both the Duke and Elon College Indoor Invitationals.

The women's team had an equally impressive winter, capturing the Alabama Invitational for the third straight year and finishing second in tournaments at George Washington University and Connecticut.

Following a midterm break, the squads began a spring season which Dorrance said is more formal than the winter season. "We require attendance at practice, and the practices themselves are more structured to the players," he said.

The women are currently competing in the Rainbow Soccer League, which includes games against select teams each weekend. Meanwhile, the men are taking part in a series of multisquad invitational tournaments.

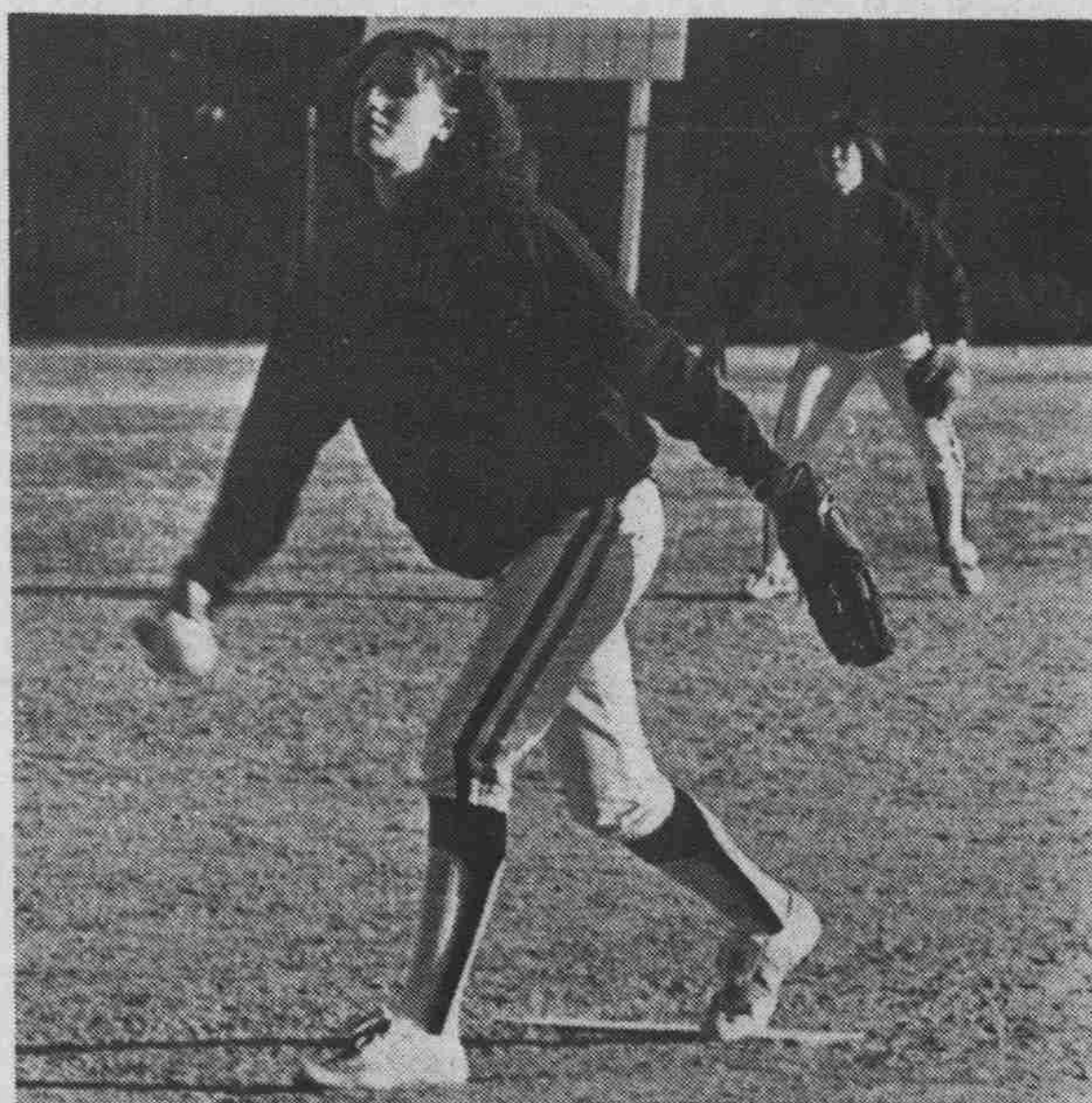
In the Clemson tourney April 2-3, the men suffered a pair of setbacks, losing to South Carolina 2-0 and national powerhouse Clemson 3-1.

In two weeks, the men's squad will be on the road again, this time traveling to Duke for the Mayor's Cup Invitational, a tourney Dorrance calls the Big Four of soccer.

In three weeks the season will conclude with the Heels hosting UNC-Greensboro, Campbell and possibly Datagraphics of Atlanta, one of the best soccer clubs in the country.

When all is done and school is out for the summer, Dorrance will be able to turn his attention to the fall season. He said that this has been the most successful recruiting year ever for the men and should make them even more competitive when the games really count next fall.

Meanwhile, the women's team, also coming off a fine recruiting year, will prepare to defend its first national title.



DTH/Suzanne Conversano

UNC pitcher Sharon Speer on the mound ... senior juggles demands of nursing and softball

was the last inning, the tying run was at third and the winning run was at second. Some girl lined a shot up the middle ... it was just a shot, and Sharon (pitching) reached up and grabbed it. Thanks to her we finished as well as we did. She did the job for us — both on the mound and with the bat."

When asked about her greatest moment in softball, Speer smiles fondly. "It was the E.C.U. game ... a line drive up the middle ... it was a snow cone catch..."

I guess you had to see it.

The UNC softball team dropped a pair of one-run games to N.C. State Wednesday in Raleigh.

State took a 4-3 decision from the Tar Heels in the first game. Pitcher Sharon Speer, Marsha Brown and Kathy MacFarlane each had two hits for UNC. Speer took the loss.

In the second game, the Wolfpack held the Tar Heels scoreless, winning 1-0. Susie Wilson was credited with the loss.

UNC dropped to 26-12-1 for the year, and returns to Raleigh this Friday to play in the N.C.S.U. Invitational.

"Some people can't understand," she said. "You hear that old cliché that you can't play ball and be a lady too, but you can."

Speer has played consistently well during her career at UNC. She compiled a 22-11 record last year in helping the Tar Heels to their AIAW Southern Region II Championship and second-place finish in the AIAW National Slow-Pitch Tournament, earning a spot on the All-Regional team for her efforts. Speer's record currently stands at 12-6 for the 1982 season, and her .323 batting average is particularly outstanding, unusually high for a pitcher.

IN PROFILE: Sharon Speer

"She's a very strong hitter ... a line drive hitter," Clark said. "I'm sorry Sharon doesn't play another position, we could use her bat."

While softball plays an important part in Speer's life and has certainly influenced her choice of schools, Speer insists that athletics really come second to academics as far as she's concerned and is eagerly pursuing a career in nursing.

"Ever since I was a little girl, I wanted to be a nurse," Speer said, "and Carolina has an outstanding program."

Nursing seems to have been as good to Speer as sports. She is currently a member of Sigma Theta Tau, a nursing honor society which judges its candidates on personality, grades and clinical performance. And she has already lined up a job in cancer nursing at South Memorial Hospital in Winston-Salem, a career which has interested her all along.

"I've been drawn to that field. I think that people with cancer deserve special care," she said.

But nursing, like most any major, is not without its drawbacks. Speer finds it hard to keep up with all the work and still find time to play ball.

A typical day might involve working at the clinic from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., practicing from 4 to 6 p.m., and then heading back to her room for some studying.

"Nursing school is so stressful; it's just a massive amount of work," she said. "Softball is a release, definitely a release. I just come out here (to the field) and run off my frustrations."

One of Speer's goals this year is to have a repeat performance of the 1981 season, when the Tar Heels finished second in the nation.

"I'd like to finish as well or better than last year," she said.

Clark remembers that successful season, and talks of Speer's "finest hour": "You had to see it," Clark said. "We were playing in the semifinals (1981 National Tournament) against E.C.U. It

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