

SPORTS

Women's soccer to defend title

By MICHAEL PERSINGER
Staff Writer

The word for the week for the UNC women's soccer team is "golden."

Head soccer coach Anson Dorrance told the team that if they treated the ball like gold and didn't turn it over in tomorrow's 11 a.m. NCAA quarterfinal matchup with Central Florida on Fetzer Field, they would win.

So breakfast is Golden Grahams. And it's a golden opportunity to begin the quest for a fourth consecutive national title.

"We have to play a possessional game," Dorrance said. "We can't just bang the ball around and expect to score. If we can develop the ball and take care of it, we'll score."

The No. 2 seeded Tar Heels have faced UCF twice this season, coming away with a 1-0 win in Orlando, Fla., in October and a 3-1 win in the Tar Heel Invitational two weeks ago. Dorrance said playing UCF, a 3-1 winner over William & Mary in last weekend's first round, might not be the best thing for his team.

"You'd like to play different teams, because playing a team that you have beaten twice gives them a motivational edge," Dorrance said. "But we've been in this situation before. I'm sure they might throw a new wrinkle or two at us, but even if they don't, what they had before was certainly an excellent system."

The title defense that begins this weekend is the last for the group of seniors that came in four years ago to form the nucleus of what has been three times the best women's soccer team in America. But senior midfielder Emily Pickering said the seniors aren't looking at this tournament just as their last.

"It's the senior's fourth, but the freshmen have to realize that it's their first," Pickering said. "We don't want to think of it as being our last. We just want it to be a continuation of what we have started. This is just the beginning for some of them."

"All the teams in this tournament are more competitive. All of the top 14 are competitive now, and four years ago only the top four were."

Senior Betsy Johnson agreed that this year's tournament is different from the past three because the level of competition has increased.

"Each (national) tournament is different because each year the team changes," Johnson said. "Each year more and more teams are out for you."

"But it really doesn't matter who we play if we go in with the right attitude."

Dorrance said that attitude is not a "must-win" attitude. "We have tried to keep the pressure off by not consciously making this a must-win game," Dorrance said. "Once you



DTH/Jeff Neuville

UNC faces Central Florida tomorrow at 11 a.m.

get into the knockout situation of a tournament like this where you either win or you stay home, you aren't deluding anyone. The team realizes that each game is important now.

"I wouldn't say motivation will be a problem for us. Intensity could be a problem because the team could get so excited that their intensity goes down. We have to make sure we don't get overly excited."

Dorrance said that his program is continuing to evolve even though the class that formed the basis for the national titles will graduate. He said that, in some ways, this team is better than the previous three.

"This team, with its experience, can do more things than the other three," Dorrance said. "Every team we've had has had a way that it could win. This group can win in a lot of different ways."

Admission for the game is \$2 for adults and \$1 for UNC students with IDs.

Tech rides rollercoaster into Kenan

By SCOTT FOWLER
Assistant Sports Editor

Georgia Tech has been on a rollercoaster ride all season, and it's anybody's guess as to whether they will be coasting downhill or struggling uphill when the 4-3-1 Yellow Jackets come to Kenan Stadium for a 1 p.m. homecoming kickoff against North Carolina.

The Rambling Wreck started off its season with wins over Alabama, The Citadel and Clemson. It was featured in *Sports Illustrated*, ranked in the Top 20 and thought to be a strong contender for both the conference championship and a major bowl berth.

And then the Yellow Jackets fell apart. They went on-tor-October, losing to N.C. State, Auburn and Tennessee and tying Virginia to fall to 3-3-1. Last week they finally got back on the winning track, pounding hapless Duke, 31-3.

Now, like North Carolina, Georgia Tech is mathematically eliminated from the race for the ACC championship and certainly won't be receiving any major bowl bids. Saturday's battle will be for pride.

But according to Georgia Tech head coach Bill Curry, the game is still

important. "It's a huge game for us," Curry said. "We haven't won in Chapel Hill since I've been here (five years). In fact, we haven't scratched."

Which is true. UNC has won the last four meetings between the two schools, and in the last two matchups in Chapel Hill, in 1980 and 1982, the Tar Heels whitewashed the Jackets 33-0 and 41-0. The Jackets haven't beaten UNC in Kenan since 1945. But that could change this year.

The Georgia Tech offense averages more than 27 points per game and is led by the fifth most efficient passer in the country, John Dewberry, and the ninth-leading rusher, Robert Lavette. Dewberry has completed almost 61 percent of his passes this year and is throwing for 173 yards per game.

"On offense we are going to have to continue to throw the ball more to keep the pressure off our defensive unit," Curry said. "Somehow we are going to have to find a way to block Micah Moon. No one has done that yet. We obviously have someone in John Dewberry who can hit receivers if they are open."

The UNC fans may be more familiar with the heroes of Lavette, who ran over

and through the Tar Heels last year for 141 yards to help the Jackets throw a scare into then-undefeated UNC before the Tar Heels scored 21 fourth-quarter points to put the game away, 38-21. This year Lavette is averaging 114 yards per game, second in the conference only to UNC's Ethan Horton, and has scored 10 touchdowns. His 60 points leads the Jackets.

On defense, Curry said the Jackets must slow down, if not stop, the UNC running game. "We're going to have to play it very well in order to have a chance to win," Curry said. "We cannot let them just pound us with their big offensive line. Ethan Horton is awesome. Trying to tackle him is like trying to tackle the Empire State building with speed. We will have to force them into long-yardage situations."

Three times this year the Rambling Wreck has held opponents to less than 100 yards rushing. Georgia Tech's defense is led by strong safety Cleve Pounds and linebacker Pat Swilling. Pounds leads the Jackets in tackles and has two interceptions and a fumble recovery on the year, while Swilling has caused four fumbles and is second on the team in tackles.

Soccer rivalry with Duke continues

By MIKE WATERS
Staff Writer

Some things just never change. One of those things is the traditional season-ending game of the North Carolina men's soccer season against Duke.

Once again Duke is very talented, but there has been a drop-off from recent years. The same could be said for the Tar Heels, who struggled for most of the season, but have been winning more proficiently of late, including four of the last five games.

Last year, North Carolina entered the game against the Blue Devils with definite playoff hopes and did upset Duke, 2-1, but was denied a bid to the NCAA tourney. This time around, UNC is not a playoff contender, and it is Duke that needs to win tonight's 7:30 game at Duke to earn a bid. The Blue Devils are 12-4-3, but are in an alley fight with South Carolina and

Clemson for the last two seeds in the South region behind N.C. State and Alabama A&M.

"They will definitely be playing with the knowledge that if they don't play well they probably won't get an NCAA bid," UNC coach Anson Dorrance said of the Blue Devils.

"We kind of feel it's a must-win game," said Duke coach John Rennie. "Last year we didn't feel that way."

"If we win we have a shot for a bid; if we lose then we probably don't deserve to get a bid."

Both coaches stressed that the records of the two teams rarely mattered when these two schools got together. The last five meetings between UNC and Duke have been decided by a total of eight goals, and the last eight matches by 11 goals. That usually makes for some exciting soccer.

"Duke's a great rival," Dorrance said. "Some teams you just have no trouble getting motivated for because of the rivalry. (Duke) is going to have the incentive of losing last year. But it still means a lot to us because it's possible to finish third in the conference, ahead of Duke and Clemson."

"North Carolina has nothing to lose," Rennie said. "They'll be trying to end the year on a good note."

Duke is coming off a 4-3 loss to N.C. State Sunday, and while the Blue Devils are playing tonight, Clemson will go hunting for its bid against N.C. State on Sunday.

"We blew our golden opportunity against State on Sunday," Rennie said. "All we can do is hope to win Friday and then hope for a bid. We'll go out and attack and put on as much pressure as possible."

Attacking for Duke will be two of the country's finest front-line players, Tom Kain (12 goals) and John Kerr (two goals vs. N.C. State).

"The keys for us are going to be the performance of (Larry) Goldberg in goal and containing Kain and Kerr," Dorrance said. "Larry had an outstanding game last year to key the win."

Marking Kain and Kerr for the Tar Heels will be Frank Gilhooly and Steve Dragesics, a freshman who has been drawing many of the toughest assignments all year, including N.C. State's Sam Okpodu.

"We'll have to play very well," Dorrance said. "To beat them at Duke is a challenge. We'll have to be very secure in the back and not see any balls up for Duke. We're going to have to play our best."

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Athletics

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is to narrow down a list of choices, and concentrate primarily on sticking within the school's region, Smith says.

Both the basketball and football programs try to present a soft-sell image of UNC. "We say, 'here's what our program is, we'd like you to be a part of it and please choose us,'" says Smith, adding that the first considerations are the player's academic status and then whether or not he could fit into the Tar Heel system.

Jack Himebauch, UNC's director of football recruiting services, says the staff emphasizes academics at the University as much as athletics. "It's a beautiful campus, and we let it sell itself," he says.

But occasionally, some recruiters go beyond merely selling a school, and choose instead to buy a player's loyalty. NCAA laws are designed to keep scouts from offering "fringe benefits" to prep athletes, but violations do occur.

While commissioner James says he believes recruiting violations in this region of the country have decreased in recent years, Adams insists that the problem does still exist, and it puts the high school prospect in quite a bind.

"Sometimes you deal with a kid who doesn't have the monetary resources, and he is offered all these material things (cars, money, etc.)," Adams says. "If they're from a lower economic level, they're going to take what they can get."

Adams says high school coaches have taken steps to shield players from that sort of thing, and James notes that a regulation passed years ago that ended recruiting by alumni has cut back on the problems.

Adams says that if athletes are informed of what is legal and what is not, they can more easily deal with temptation.

Hunter said it was his attitude on the matter that allowed him to deal with the problem. "I wasn't going to let anybody offer me anything, because I knew it was illegal," he says.

Hunter says he experienced both the soft-sell approach, such as that from UNC, and the more aggressive tactics. "I'd get things like, 'come on, we really need you, you're going to play a lot,'" he says, noting that he chose UNC because coach Smith's staff looked at

him as a person first.

Redshirt, freshman, quarterback Mark Maye was among the top five recruited players in 1983 after an amazing career at Charlotte Independence High School, and he says there were times when he had to leave the phone off the hook. "It got kind of hectic sometimes," he says. "You couldn't get a lot done with all the coaches calling. But I was very fortunate in that no one ever tried to force me into a decision at a certain time."

Adams says one of the biggest problems with the All-American caliber athlete is that all the attention sometimes gives him an inflated opinion of himself. "Some of them get inflated egos, and then they come to some place like Carolina and they realize they're just numbers," he says. "They've been living in a dream world. It takes an unusual type of kid to handle all that publicity."

Maye said he had felt the pressure from recruiting early in his senior season, but it died down after a while. "I found out early that if you worry about whose in the stands it detracts from your performance," Maye says. "I was very fortunate that I wasn't the kind of person who gets a big head."

Some of the pressure of dealing with recruits is alleviated by a regulation that limits recruits to five official paid visits to college campuses, with a maximum of one visit per campus, James says.

But Adams notes that now recruits tend to follow athletes once they become sophomores. "It used to be that they only looked at seniors."

Himebauch said that's how UNC's football system works. "Ninety percent of them become prospects by the time they're juniors," he says.

But the media is responsible for making the athletes into celebrities to begin with, Himebauch says. "They build up some players who maybe aren't as good as they're publicized to be," says Himebauch, adding that the press must take part of the blame for any pressure placed on the athlete.

Adams says the high schools are trying to regulate the pressure on athletes as much as possible by keeping them closer to the rest of the students.

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