

Sports

Field hockey returns home to the turf, comes away with pair of big victories

By **ROBERT D'ARRUDA**
Staff Writer

Well, as the old saying goes, there's no place like home. This past weekend the second-ranked UNC field hockey team returned home for the first time in over a month and cranked out two wins on the Astroturf field. The Tar Heels crushed Maine 8-0 on Friday and on Sunday held off a tough James Madison squad for a 3-2 victory.

Actually, the game with James

Madison wasn't as close as the score indicated. The Tar Heels squandered many excellent scoring opportunities.

"We missed a lot of chances to score today. The game could have easily been 6-2," UNC coach Karen Shelton said. "Sometimes you put them in, sometimes you don't."

After a tentative start, Julie Blaisse drew first blood for the Tar Heels. At the 16:32 mark, she ripped a shot from 15 yards out past sprawling JMU goalkeeper Ashley Duncan to

give the Tar Heels a 1-0 lead. The goal was set up by several fine passes.

But with just 4:27 left in the first half, Kim Crawford took a pass from Kerry Nadwodny and slapped a shot by UNC goalie Kathy Mulvey to knot the score at 1-1.

In the second half, the Tar Heels were all over the field. Kathy Staley, Lori Bruney, Maryellen Falcone and Blaisse applied continuous pressure on Duncan and sent shot after shot on goal, but Duncan was steady. Finally, at the 22:07 mark, Staley

slammed home a shot to vault the Tar Heels to a 2-1 lead. The goal was set up by a beautiful cross-field pass from Laurel Hershey.

Then, with 11:33 left, Bruney scored unassisted as she rocketed a shot by Duncan to give UNC a commanding 3-1 lead.

The Dukes rallied, though, and threatened late, as with 5:33 left Lisa Milliken crushed a shot past Mulvey to slice the Tar Heel lead to 3-2. Kerry Nadwodny and Diane Buch received assists on the tally.

Final statistics showed UNC with an impressive 35-26 edge in shots on goal. UNC also had 10 penalty corner shots to the Dukes' four. The win pushed UNC to 14-1 on the year, while JMU slipped to 4-10.

"Bruney, Falcone, Blaisse and Staley were the players that made things happen for us today," Shelton said.

Staley pointed to the advantage the friendly confines afforded the team. "It feels great playing at home, we hear the crowd cheering for us and it gives us that extra push," she said.

Goalkeeper Mulvey played another great game for the Tar Heels, as she made 11 scintillating saves.

"I usually don't get many shots, so I focus on each shot and try to think of it as the only shot I'm going to get all game," Mulvey said. "We can use our speed better on Astroturf, and it gives us a big advantage over other teams."

In Friday's game, UNC's offense furnished five first-half goals, and then Sharon Ross added a hat trick in the second half to round out the game's scoring.

After a lackluster start, Falcone blasted in a rebound of Betsy Gillespie's penalty corner shot at the 21:24 mark to give UNC a 1-0 lead. Just five minutes later, Blaisse scored on a penalty shot.

Staley punched in a nice assist from Blaisse at 14:42 to make it 3-0, and then two minutes later senior Lori Bruney picked up a rebound of a Falcone shot and beat Maine goalkeeper Susan Hannigan. Gillespie

completed the first-half scoring by drilling a penalty corner shot by Hannigan for her team-leading 18th goal of the season.

The goal came at the 3:14 mark and Bruney and Jennifer Anderson were credited with assists.

In the second half the Tar Heels emptied the bench as Shelton let everyone play. Ross exploded for three goals within a five-minute span. The first two came on breakaways as Ross used her speed to race by the Maine sweeper and then blasted the ball behind the Maine goalkeeper. Her third goal came off a crisp pass from Bruney.

Bruney's two assists gave her 22 in 1987, a continually growing UNC single-season record. She also holds the UNC all time assist mark.

Following the game Shelton showered praise on her squad. "We were a little too much for Maine," Shelton said. "We were able to play all our substitutes. That game highlighted what is to come as far as next year goes."

The Tar Heels next return to action in the October 30 to November 1 ACC tournament, which will be held right here in Chapel Hill. The Tar Heels' only loss came October 10th at Maryland, when UNC dropped a tough 2-1 decision.

Avening that loss is still very much on everyone's mind. "We're hoping for a rematch with Maryland," Shelton said.

Mulvey voiced similar feelings. "We want revenge, we want to beat them badly," she said.

Cocking scores twice, as Heels hold on for 2-1 win

By **CHRIS SPENCER**
Assistant Sports Editor

GREENSBORO — With a brilliant first-half exhibition of offensive soccer, the UNC men's soccer team dumped UNC-Greensboro 2-1 Saturday before 1,200 at the Spartans' Campus Field.

UNC moved to 12-4 on the season with the win, while UNC-G, ranked thirteenth in Division III play, fell to 10-7-1.

The Tar Heels got strong play overall from Donald Cogsville, Chad Ashton, Dino Megaloudis and Nick Eftimiou. But John Cocking provided most of the offensive fireworks, as he netted both Tar Heel goals.

While it was an unusually warm afternoon in Greensboro, the Tar

Heels were much hotter coming out of the gates. Just 5:10 into the match, Cogsville dribbled untouched down the left sideline and crossed the ball to Cocking at the near post, who pushed it past Spartan goalkeeper Tony Hannum into the right corner of the net for the early tally.

"It's about time," Cocking said of Saturday's productivity. "And I'm glad they came in a game that was important to us. On the first goal, I was timing my run and went to the near post. Donald hit me with the pass, and all I had to do was put it in."

The Tar Heel coaching staff must have been pleased with Steve Dragisic's play Saturday. The speedy Tar Heel defender continually put pressure on the Spartan defense by making runs down the left sideline and chipping the ball into the goal area to the Tar Heel forwards. One such chip found Derek Missimo with 27 minutes left in the half, but Missimo's header just missed the left corner of the Spartan goal.

Cocking ended the Tar Heel scoring at 24:17 with a tremendous shot. Again taking a pass from Cogsville on the right side of the field, Cocking, with his back to the goal, turned and rifled the ball into the top right corner of the net past a surprised Hannum.

The Spartan offense was ineffective in the first half because they typically took shots from at least 15 yards out, instead of setting up their forwards in the middle. But once the second half began, that all changed.

While early Spartan runs into the Tar Heel defense were easily cut off, UNC couldn't keep them off the scoreboard.

At 55:55, a Spartan cross from the left sideline went through to Neal, who touched it by to a waiting Hamilton. Hamilton's shot beat Royer to the top left corner of the net to close the Tar Heel advantage to one goal and stir up the slumbering crowd.

But UNC never let up on offense, forcing the UNC-G forwards to come back and help out on defense. Megaloudis stole a pass deep in the Spartan defense with 30 minutes to play and took it in to the goal area, where he dished off to Cocking. But Hannum got a hand on the sophomore forward's shot to end the threat.

The best Tar Heel chance came five minutes later when Hannum was caught out of position after a flurry in front of the Spartan net. But David Smyth's shot at an open goal was blocked by a defender.

Five minutes later, the Spartans pushed the ball to Jason Haupt, who had a one-on-one situation with Dragisic at midfield. But the quicker Dragisic took the ball away, and as he passed it back to Royer, was flagrantly tripped by Haupt. Dragisic got up and tapped Haupt's face, eliciting loud boos from the Spartan faithful.

Another Tar Heel near miss came a few minutes later when Tommy Boykin exploded through two defenders to pick up a through pass and rifled it by a charging Hannum. But Boykin's shot bounded off the left goal post.

"I had the impression with the way the game was going early on that we would get a couple more (goals)," Dorrance said. "But they tightened up and played with more initiative. The last 20 minutes, we just wanted to get out with a win."

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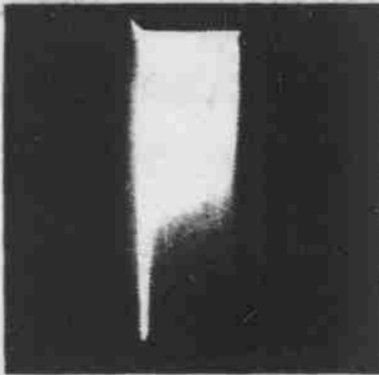
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