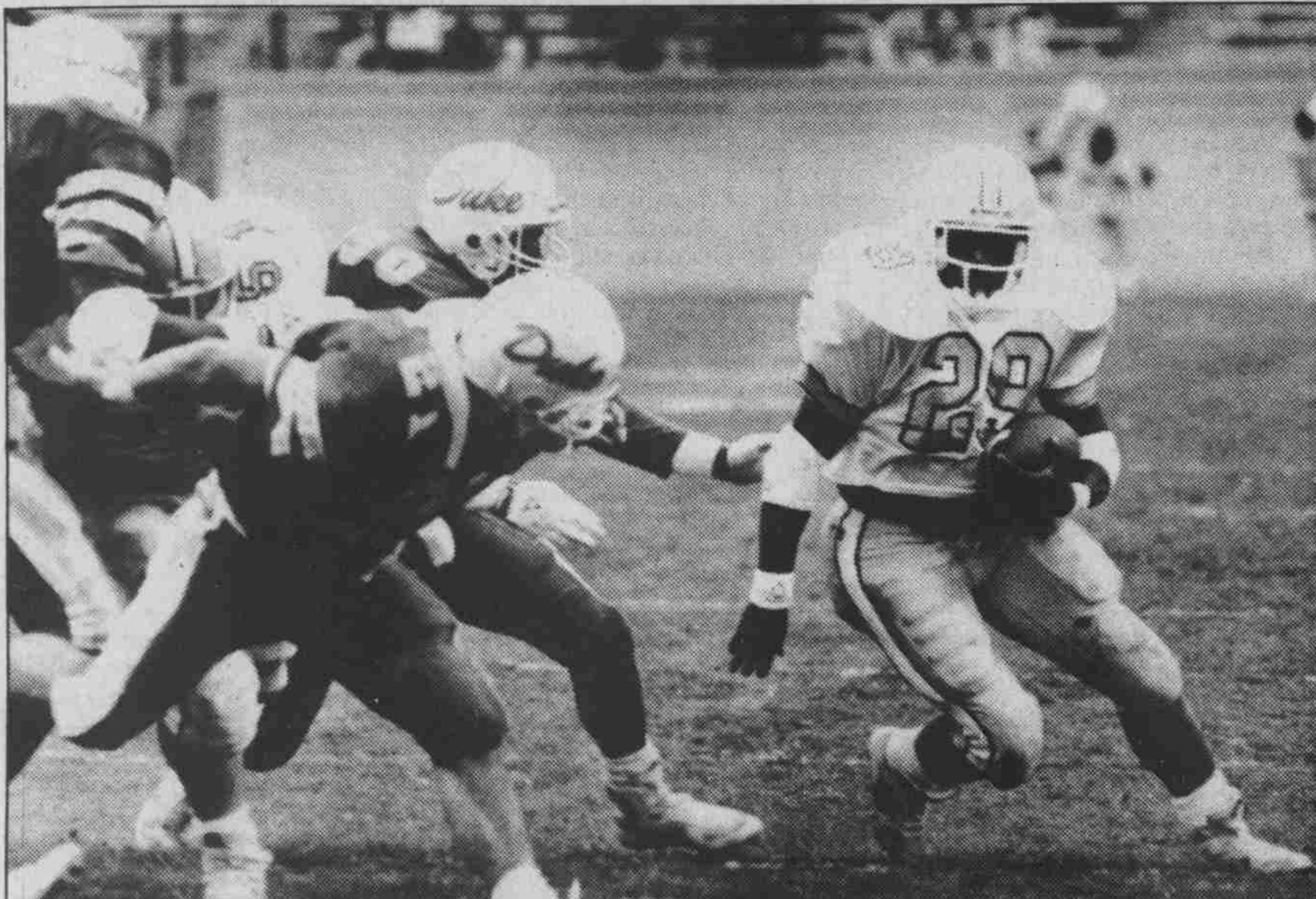


Sports



Kennard Martin (29) turns the corner in Saturday's season-ending 35-29 loss at Duke

DTH/Brian Foley

Football

from page 12

a yard short.

The Blue Devils caught fire from the opening kickoff, ripping off blitzkrieg scoring drives of 66 and 61 yards in just over two minutes apiece. Dilweg capped the first one with an 18-yard strike to a wide-open Keith Ewell at the 12:52 mark, and Boone took care of the second Duke TD with a 14-yard burst through the attempted tackles of Terrence Fedd and Doxie Jordan.

That made the score 14-0, Duke, and, as UNC safety Victor Bullock noted, the Tar Heels were, "... definitely down ... upset with ourselves because we didn't play well at all. It was a similar situation to what happened against Virginia."

To their credit, rather than pack it in and resign themselves to a 1-10 fate, the Tar Heels gradually fought back, just as they had done

the week before in wiping out an early 21-point deficit against the Cavaliers.

The key play in the turnaround was a rare fumbled quarterback sneak. On fourth-and-1 from the UNC 45, Dilweg took the snap and hesitated just a second before heading into the line. That allowed the surging Tar Heel line to knock the ball out of his hands, and Hollier recovered.

Seven running plays cut the score to 14-7, with Martin bulling his way in from the 4 to cap the march.

Duke's next possession ended with Peterson missing a 47-yard field-goal attempt. Six more running plays, highlighted by Martin's 33-yard dash around left end and his 16-yard scoring run off right tackle, quickly tied the score with 12:28 to play in the second quarter.

Apparently unsatisfied with the recent developments, Dilweg hit

record-setting flanker Clarkston Hines for gains of eight and 18 yards, then beat the blitz and found Ewell along the left sideline behind a toasted Clarence Carter.

That was all the scoring in the first half until Boone broke off a 33-yard run down to the UNC 8. From there, Dilweg softly tossed to a lonesome Hines at the back of the end zone to regain the two-touchdown bulge 1:26 before the half.

Duke nearly added to that margin when defensive back Mike Diminick intercepted Burnett and returned the miscue to the UNC 8 with 21 seconds left. But linebacker Bernard Timmons picked off Dilweg's pass at the back of the end zone to give UNC a measure of momentum entering the locker room.

An aroused North Carolina defense then played its best half of the year, ending Duke's first three possessions with an interception, a fumble recovery and a near-interception.

Meanwhile, the Hall-led Tar Heel offense picked up nine points on Clint Gwaltney's 23-yard field goal and Michael Benefield's 6-yard run. UNC went for two, but Hall's pass was batted down, leaving the score 28-23.

While Duke's offense continued to struggle, the Tar Heels later moved 76 yards in seven plays to take their first lead of the game. James Thompson's 5-yard plunge was the capper, but Martin's off-tackle run on the two-point try came up short, leaving UNC ahead 29-28 with 10 minutes to go.

But the Tar Heels wouldn't score again, leaving the door cracked for a last-minute Duke comeback. When a UNC drive stalled at the Blue Devil 39 and Scott McAlister punted just 21 yards, Duke had the ball back at its own 24 with 4:05 to play.

Brown said he was proud of his team, which, after losing by 45 points to N.C. State midway through the season, won one and then dropped three of its final four contests by a total of 12 points.

"Nobody can ever question these young guys' character," he said. "This football team has had some tough times, but we hung in there and we're much better than we were five weeks ago. I think we made tremendous improvement."

Volleyball moves into ACC Tourney final with two wins

By DOUG HOOGERVORST

Staff Writer

ATLANTA — The North Carolina volleyball team traveled to Atlanta this weekend in search of their first ACC title in five years. The Tar Heels are now one win away from that goal, as they advanced to the finals with victories over Georgia Tech on Saturday and Maryland on Sunday.

North Carolina will face top-seeded N.C. State in the ACC final for the title and the NCAA's automatic tournament bid.

The second-seeded Tar Heels opened against the Yellow Jackets. UNC showed no mercy to their hosts, beating Georgia Tech in three sets, 15-0, 15-10, 15-9.

Junior Sharon German (15 kills, 11 digs) drilled a Sherri Vogel set into the floor on the game's first point, setting the tone that the Tar Heels meant business. UNC looked like a volleyball juggernaut and did not allow the Yellow Jackets a single point in the first game.

North Carolina coach Peggy Bradley-Doppes was happy with the first-game performance. "We came out very, very strong," she said. "We came out with a purpose, and we played very disciplined."

The Tar Heels kept it going in the second game. UNC ran out to a 7-1 lead, and it sounded like the fat lady was ready to sing. But the Yellow Jackets refused to buzz off.

UNC seemed to get a bit overconfident, and the Techsters used that, and their unorthodox style, to their advantage. Shots by UNC's Liz Berg and Vogel fell wide, thus narrowing the gap to 7-3. Tech continued the run until the Tar Heels led by a single point, 7-6, and called a timeout.

"The problem with playing a team

like Georgia Tech is that they are not orthodox," Doppes said. "They don't pass, set, and spike like most of the teams we've played. They just keep the ball in play. I think that frustrated (our) kids. After (we) beat them 15-0, the kids thought 'Okay, that's it, they're going to lay down and die.'"

"Georgia Tech isn't going to do that."

The time-out regrouped UNC. Aces by Berg and Miriam Folford and a booming spike by Andrea Wells (15 kills, 8 digs) put the Tar Heels in charge again. Still, the Jackets did not die. Tech scored on three UNC mistakes and a spike by Margaret Gales to tie it at 10.

Wells decided to settle matters her own way as she smashed through a Georgia Tech block for a side-out. German finished the job with kills on three of the last five points, all UNC's, and the Tar Heels prevailed, 15-10.

The third game was similar in fashion: UNC led and Tech came back. Nonetheless, the Tar Heel talent was too great to overcome as UNC ended the match, 15-9.

In the semifinals, UNC was given a tough go by the Maryland Terrapins. The Tar Heels came out victorious with another three-set win 15-12, 15-10, 15-8. Maryland made their way to the semifinals with a five-set upset of third-seeded Duke the night before, 15-10, 16-14, 9-15, 5-15, 15-12.

All three games showcased the finest of ACC volleyball as each employed great defense and strong hitting. The differences in the match were the potency of UNC's one-two punch of German and Wells and the middle blocking of Ali Sommerstad.

"I thought Ali played very well," Bradley-Doppes said. "She stopped their middle attack, which was a great

help to us."

The turning point in the match came late in the first game. Maryland led 12-11 when all three of the Tar Heel keys were demonstrated.

The Terps were on a four-point run, but German (19 kills, 13 digs) shut it down when she knocked a Vogel set to where no one could get it for the side-out. Wells (20 kills, 12 digs) followed, destroying two Maryland blocks with powerful spikes. Sommerstad joined in with a block for 14-12, and a Wells slam ended it.

After that, the Terps never seemed to get control of the game. As strong as they were defensively, they didn't have the fire-power on offense. UNC's German and Wells kept pounding, and the Maryland defense could not hold out forever.

"I'm real pleased with how the kids played," Bradley-Doppes said. "They played intense for three games in a row."

"(Maryland) is a very, very strong defensive team — possibly the best defensive team we've played all year. They kept a lot of balls in play. I think what hurt us is that we didn't stay with what was working."

Indeed, that kept Maryland in match. The Tar Heels only ran off two or three points at a time before the Terps would side out. However, those short point spurts added up to UNC's victory.

North Carolina's match with N.C. State for the ACC title will take place tonight at 7 p.m. It is the third time the two teams will have met, each winning once before. UNC defeated State in Raleigh, 14-16, 15-6, 15-12, 15-10, during the first meeting of the two squads. The Wolfpack gained revenge later in the season with a 15-4, 15-11, 13-15, 15-11 in Chapel Hill.

Swimmers splash to 1st, 2nd

By ERIC WAGNON

Staff Writer

The North Carolina women's swim team easily outdistanced second-place N.C. State, while the Wolfpack men edged the Tar Heels in the third annual Carolina Pride Invitational at Koury Natatorium.

Coming off dual meet wins over Florida State and Maryland and a loss to Southern Methodist on Thursday, the UNC women's team scored 1,075 points to win the two-day meet Friday and Saturday.

N.C. State's women's team followed far behind the Tar Heels with 776 points, while Florida State finished a close third with 774 points on the 10-team women's side.

The Tar Heel men's squad didn't fare as well, though, finishing with 875.5 points, just behind N.C. State's 912 points and ahead of third-place Florida State's 742. Although Miami diver Scott Whitton won both the one- and three-meter events, the Hurricane men finished a distant fourth with 410.5 points.

UNC sophomore All-American Hannah Turlish slashed her own Carolina Pride Invitational records in the 500-yard freestyle, clocking in at 4:50.41, and in the 400-yard IM with an NCAA qualifying time of 4:21.89.

Turlish added an ACC-record time of 16:24.39 in the 1,650-yard freestyle, easily surpassing the NCAA qualifying time of 16:38.09. Turlish's three

individual wins highlighted the Tar Heel women's performance of tallying six meet records in winning 10 of the 20 women's events.

Senior Wendy Powers, a Baltimore native, set a pool record in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:04.53 and a meet record of 2:05.16 in the 200-yard individual medley. Freshman teammate Lisa Brown finished just behind Powers in the 200 IM with a time of 2:08.41.

In the women's 100-yard butterfly, UNC added 52 points to their team score. Senior Melanie Buddemeyer, the pool record holder in the event, and freshman Susan Leupold finished in first and second place, clocking NCAA qualifying times of 55.30 and 55.85, respectively.

Another freshman, Dawn Davies, captured 15 more points for UNC's team score with a fourth-place finish in the same event, behind Buddemeyer, Leupold, and Kathy Isackson of FSU.

In addition to her 100-yard fly win, Buddemeyer won the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:52.24 — less than a quarter of a second in front of N.C. State's Sabina Hulett.

Senior Kim Beattie's win in the 100-yard freestyle and first-place finishes in the 200-yard freestyle relay and 400-yard medley relay rounded out the UNC women's individual victories.

Frank Comfort, coach of both the men's and women's teams, saw his men's team win three events. In the 100-yard backstroke, junior swimmer Rich Gleason led the Tar Heels with a meet-record time of 51.12, less than a second ahead of sophomore teammate Matt County. Junior Jed Guenther of Berwyn, Pa., clocked a 1:52.13 time to win the 200-yard IM, while frosh Cameron Cole won the 400-yard IM with a time of 4:00.48.

In addition to garnering the overall men's title, N.C. State swimmers set pool records in the 100-yard butterfly, the 200-yard freestyle relay and the 200-yard medley relay. Wolfpack swimmers won nine of the 20 men's events.

N.C. State's actions during the tournament aroused some controversy, because the Wolfpack coaches entered certain individuals in more than the NCAA limit of seven events. Although the NCAA rule did not technically apply to this invitational meet, all the other schools (except for William and Mary, who was not a serious contender in the meet) followed the NCAA restriction. However, the results were counted because the Invitational's rules did not expressly prohibit N.C. State's actions.

The men's and women's teams will next be in action on Friday, Dec. 2 when they host Penn State in a dual meet at Koury Natatorium.

Spanish fast break UNC, 93-80

By NATALIE SEKICKY

Staff Writer

The UNC women's basketball team took a crash course in fast-break basketball Saturday night at Carmichael Auditorium. Unfortunately, the lesson was a bit intense for the young Tar Heels, and they came out on the losing end of a 93-80 score in an exhibition contest against the National Team of Spain.

The story of the game was apparent before it even started. During pregame warmups, as the Carolina players did a three-man weave, the Spanish team ran laps. While UNC did a layup drill, the Spanish players ran half-court sprints. While the Tar Heels tuned up their jumpers, the Spanish players stretched as if they were preparing for the Olympic 400-meter dash finals. Not one of them so much as touched a ball until there were just 9½ minutes before the tip.

Although very puzzling and somewhat humorous at the time, the mystery ceased to be amusing once the contest began. Soon, it was obvious that the Spanish players stretched because when they play hoops, they run.

And they did not need to shoot much because they obviously do not need the practice. For the game, Spain shot a phenomenal 71 percent from the field, going 39 of 55, with seven of 11 from treyland.

By comparison, UNC shot 45 percent, a respectable result for a very young team's first game. The Tar Heels were 35 of 75, 2 of 7 from three-point land.

"That's the difference in the game right there," UNC coach Sylvia Hatchell said.

The game started in a blur of bodies as both teams pushed their transition games. UNC stayed close until 12:42, when Spain ran off a series of five unanswered buckets to up their lead to 22-10. That series proved just how devastating the fastbreak can be.

Spain's Patricia Hernandez took an outlet pass near her own three-point line after a teammate stole the ball in the paint. Hernandez took off and left the entire UNC team choking on the smoke from her heels. Not one Tar Heel player made it past half court before Hernandez had laid it in to put Spain up by 10 and turned to make the trip back upcourt. That's fast.

After Carolina freshman Kareema Williams hit from 15 feet to make the score 22-12, Spain retaliated with two consecutive treys, the first by point guard Ana Alvaro, the second by Hernandez at 10:40.

UNC could come no closer than nine points for the remainder of the half. And, under the capable direction of Alvaro, the Spanish fast break took them to a commanding 52-31 lead at intermission.

The second half was another game entirely. The tempo slowed noticeably as UNC picked up the defensive intensity. Forced into the half-court game, Spain was much less potent offensively. In fact, the Tar Heels outscored the Spanish 49-41 in the second stanza, improving their field-goal accuracy from 33 to 59 percent

in the second half.

The Spanish lead swelled to 24 at 12:45 when Spain's Blanca Ares hit a trey to make the count 68-44. From that point on, UNC chipped away diligently at the margin, aided by the absence of Alvaro, who left the game with an ankle injury at 12:20.

With seven minutes to go, Williams executed a nice imitation of J.R. Reid, going the length of the floor for a lay-in after she made a steal. This cut Spain's lead to 13 points, and it forced Spanish coach Jose Buceta to call a timeout.

Carolina continued the comeback, but the clock became a factor as Liza Donnell made it a 10-point game with 49 seconds remaining. Donnell's layup was the last UNC tally, though, and Alvaro returned to dribble away the remaining ticks. An Alvaro free throw and two by Hernandez after clock-stopping UNC fouls accounted for the final score.

Hatchell cited her team's lack of weak side defense as a big factor in the game. Indeed, Spain seemed to own the blocks as their guards drove the lane and repeatedly found post players all alone after UNC defenders committed to the ball. When the majority of shots you take are two-foot bunnies, your shooting percentage is bound to be ridiculously high.

"They grew up a lot tonight," Hatchell said. "They were very nervous."

Oden led the Tar Heels with 14 points on five-of-10 shooting and added eight rebounds.

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