

Women's soccer shuts down Highlanders, 3-0

Staff and wire reports
RADFORD, Va. — Kristine Lilly scored two goals and a Highlander defender generously added a third as the undefeated and top-ranked UNC women's soccer team shutout Radford 3-0 Wednesday.

UNC, 7-0 overall, allowed only four shots on goal in upending the Highlanders, who are 3-3 on the year. UNC has never lost to Radford in 12 previous meetings.

Lilly, the 1990 national player of the year, tallied her first goal 1:08 into the contest before adding her second on a penalty kick at the 9:10 mark. The Wilton, Conn., native leads the team with seven goals and 12 points on the year, and has earned two consecutive ACC player-of-the-week awards.

UNC's third goal came when a Radford defender mishandled the ball, kicking it past Highlander goalie Jennifer Snead at the 74:00 mark.

UNC has allowed only one goal this season, a mark upheld Wednesday by goalkeepers Lori Walker and Jenn Eames, who split time in the net for the Tar Heels.

Monroe signs with Hawks

ATLANTA — The Atlanta Hawks signed guard Rodney Monroe, their

second-round draft pick, to a two-year NBA contract Wednesday.

The 6-foot-3, 185-pound Monroe was the Atlantic Coast Conference player of the year last season at North Carolina State. He averaged 27 points a game, seventh in the nation, and was N.C. State's all-time leading scorer with 2,551 career points.

Braves arrested in DUI incidents

ATLANTA — The Atlanta Braves sent Brian Hunter and Keith Mitchell for physical examinations Wednesday after the two were arrested in separate drunken driving incidents, but did not immediately indicate if the rookies would be disciplined.

Atlanta police said Mitchell, 22, a reserve outfielder, was charged with driving under the influence, driving with a suspended license and hitting a fixed object after his car ran into a median on I-75-85 downtown about 5:15 a.m. Wednesday. He was released about 8:30 a.m. on \$1,043 bond, police said.

In suburban Cobb County, authorities said reserve first baseman Hunter, 23, was charged with driving under the influence and making an improper lane change after an accident at 4 a.m. Hunter was released on \$710 bond.

Late surge keys field hockey win, 3-1

By Matt Johnson
Staff Writer

No one would have been shocked to see Aquaman swim by Wednesday night under the lights of Navy Field.

While no members of the Justice League showed up, UNC's field hockey team did, defeating Radford 3-1 in conditions ranging from light drizzle to torrential downpour.

Coach Karen Shelton's Tar Heels improved their record to 5-2. The Highlanders fell to 6-2.

"The rain can be an equalizer," Shelton said of the weather. "Under conditions like this it can be easy to let up, but we should be able to adjust to it."

Despite outshooting Radford 20-2, the Tar Heels had more than their share of trouble with the underdog Highlanders, whom they had defeated 10-0 last year.

"Radford is a much-improved team," Shelton said. "We might have expected an easier game."

Sophomore forward Stephanie Walsh



Mary Hartzell

opened the scoring 15 minutes into the first half, pushing a shot past Radford goalie Cathleen Cavanaugh from five

yards out. Walsh's goal was the only scoring in the first half, however, as UNC failed to capitalize on six penalty corners.

Radford wasted little time in the second half before knotting the score. Less than five minutes into the half, senior forward Michelle Malebranche collected a Kersten Braun penalty corner and pumped a hard shot past Tar Heel goalie Peggy Storrar.

Malebranche's goal seemed to momentarily stun UNC, but the Tar Heels quickly regrouped. A Kelly Staley penalty corner 13 minutes into the half led to three quick North Carolina shots, but Cavanaugh was up to the task on all three.

UNC was hampered by the absence of All-ACC midfielder Nancy Lang, who suffered a concussion in the Tar Heels' loss to Penn State ten days ago. She is expected to sit out today's game against Virginia Commonwealth before returning to action against national champion Old Dominion Saturday.

"Obviously this throws us off a little

bit," Shelton said of Lang's injury. "Nancy is a key player on our team." Shelton did praise the play of freshman Jessica Grasso, who stepped in for the injured Lang.

As the second half wound down, Radford had a chance to sneak out of Chapel Hill with a tie. While UNC consistently controlled the ball, it had no success in getting a shot by Cavanaugh.

With less than nine minutes remaining, UNC's All-America sweeper, Jennifer Clark, took matters into her own hands. Clark collected the ball 20 yards from Cavanaugh and rifled a shot past the stunned Radford goalie.

"I was pleased that Jennifer took charge," Shelton said. "That's what seniors need to do."

Less than two minutes later, UNC put the game away. Freshman Amy Moyers broke through the middle of the Highlanders' defense and launched a shot that hit the post. Mary Hartzell was there to put the rebound into the cage and put Radford down for the count.

Rain evens soccer matchup, but UNC wins

By David J. Kupstas
Staff Writer

The fourth-ranked UNC men's soccer team did not figure to have too much trouble beating Appalachian State Wednesday night. After all, the Mountaineers were struggling at 1-4 and were embarrassed in their most recent outing at South Carolina, 10-1.

But by literally drenching Fetzer Field all afternoon and into the match, Mother Nature had done the Mounties the biggest favor she could have possibly done short of postponing the match.

On a rain-soaked field, the Tar Heels won an ugly 2-0 decision over ASU. UNC will enter Sunday's showdown at Virginia unbeaten at 7-0-1.

Despite outshooting the Mountaineers 23-7, the wet grass plus the brilliant play of goalkeeper Earl Morgan limited UNC to one score in each of the halves.

"(The rain) certainly didn't work toward our advantage," UNC head coach Elmar Bolowich said. "We could not play our technical play. We had to change our whole strategy."

UNC forward Todd Haskins said: "The rain, it makes everything even. If a weaker team plays a stronger team, the better team can't play their strengths. They played well, but if we had played on a dry day on a dry field, it might have been a lot different."

The field, already in pretty bad shape

at the beginning of the match, only got wetter as the game went along. By the end of the match, kicking the ball even 10 yards on the ground was a struggle.

"You strike the ball, and the ball moves funny and all of a sudden stops," Bolowich said. "Technically, you really can't prepare a shot. If you get it where you want it to go, it is based on luck."

Ben DiMeo's second-half goal demonstrated how hard it was to kick the ball on the ground. He took a pass from Derek Kepner, dribbled through the water into the penalty box and shot past a sliding Morgan. The shot stopped a few feet in front of the empty goal, forcing DiMeo to follow up a shot that ordinarily would have gone in easily.

Instead of advancing the ball on the ground with short passes and then opening the game up with longer passes, the Tar Heels had to move the ball more through the air. UNC passed from the defense to the frontline, often bypassing the midfield.

UNC kept the ball on the Mountaineers' side of the field for much of the first half but could only capitalize once against Morgan, who had nine saves. At 17:38 into the match, UNC's Chris Lyn centered the ball to David Moore, who from 19 yards out lofted it over the crowd of defenders and just under the crossbar for his second goal of the year.

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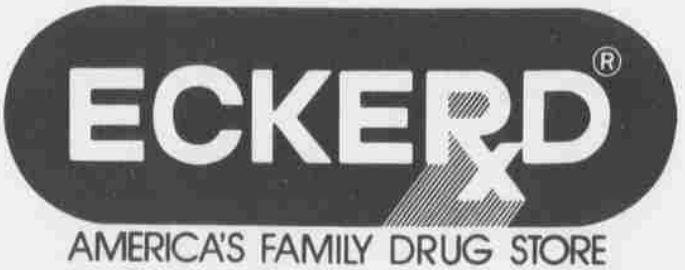
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