

SPORTS

UNC swimmers roll as Wolfpack rolls over

By Amy McCaffrey
Staff Writer

Aliens must have invaded the swimsuits of N.C. State's men's swimming and diving team.

The recently crowned ACC champions swam against UNC Friday night at Koury Natatorium and lost 164.5-76.5. Or maybe it wasn't the Wolfpack swimmers who were in the pool — perhaps their benign twins showed up.

"I'm amazed," said North Carolina coach Frank Comfort. "It's not unbelievable to me; it's just kind of amazing." UNC dominated the sheep in Wolves' clothing, taking 11 of 13 events. North Carolina's Gary Gauch said N.C. State took a dive Friday night.

"After two events, these guys rolled over and died," Gauch said. "After four events, we knew we had this meet won, and we just made a commitment as a team to put the wood to them the rest of the way."

"It's personal right now," he added.

"It's their fault. They could make this a closer meet."

Part of the Wolfpack apathy can be attributed to NCSU's win in the ACC Championships Feb. 15. A dual meet after the ACCs is unusual, but the March 1-6 Olympic Trials tightened this year's swimming schedule.

Still, Comfort said he and N.C. State coach Don Easterling planned the meet as a final opportunity for swimmers to qualify for the NCAAs and the Olympics.

But the times posted Friday did not reflect swimmers straining to qualify. The only swimmers whose times earned NCAA considerations were UNC's Gauch (100 breaststroke split) and David Monasterio (200 individual medley), who were already NCAA-bound.

"I think it's difficult to come off the high that ACCs generates, but we should be seeing faster times," Gauch said. "The thing is, nobody on the State team has made NCAAs except David Fox. So there's no reason why they didn't

come in here and swim us hard."

Ten State swimmers have conditionally qualified for the NCAA Championships March 26-28, but only Fox has an outright invitation for his 50 and 100 freestyle times.

The only State representative who was not zombie-like was Easterling. "It was the most disgusting display of a lack of Wolfpack pride in swimming I've ever laid my eyes on," the coach said. "If I had a way to get home, I'd go home on my own."

But maybe the body snatchers had even gotten to Easterling, who appeared Friday with a recently shaved head and a newly pierced ear.

Gauch said the UNC team had heard rumors that Easterling allowed Wolfpack swimmers to compete in events they were unaccustomed to racing.

Case in point: Despite winning six events at the ACCs, Fox only competed in the 200 free Friday, placing fifth. Fox did not race in the 200 free in the ACC

meet. Yet Fox's decision was understandable — he had already qualified for the NCAAs. Therefore, he really didn't have to swim his best events Friday.

Case No. 2: Chucky Cox and John Martelle both placed in the top five in the 50 free at the ACCs. But Friday night, it wasn't Fox, Cox and Martelle on the blocks for the 50 free; instead, State lesser-knowns Matt Dunaway, Greg Bashor and Jamie Mott took the start.

Tar Heel Mark Moore won the 50 Friday night; he was his team's top finisher at the ACCs, sixth overall.

Comfort looked for the positive in the dual meet, saying that Friday was a stepping stone for the upcoming national meets. "I think it's a testament to our kids and their staying power. They really wanted an opportunity to win."

Meanwhile, the search for the UFO that abducted the real Wolfpack swim team continues.

Heels set beam mark, top Maryland, W&M

By David J. Kupstas
Staff Writer

In a tri-meet Friday night at Carmichael Auditorium, the UNC gymnastics team was literally beaming with pride.

The Tar Heels broke a school record on the balance beam with a 48.45 team score. Overall, UNC went on to score a season-high 188.25 points, finishing well ahead of William & Mary (185.45) and Maryland (184.95).

The previous UNC beam record of 47.65 was set March 22, 1991, against N.C. State. Holly Joyner and Alisa Musser paced the Tar Heels in the event with scores of 9.75, followed by Tracy Knowles (9.70), Shannon Stacy (9.65) and Shannon Parry (9.60).

UNC led the meet by one point after the vault and uneven bars events. But the Tar Heels were the first to compete on the beam, and their record-setting show all but wrapped up a win.

"I think that (UNC's beam performance) may have gotten to William & Mary and Maryland a little bit, being that it is an event that will make or break a team," said UNC coach Derek Galvin. "William & Mary had to watch us nail beam, then they had to follow us."

UNC set the new standard without using a score from Dana Silvio, one of the team's top beam performers. Silvio would have scored a 9.75, but she received a penalty of half a point because her feet touched the board a second time as she began her mount.

While the first-place finish improved the Tar Heels' record to 6-7, their score of 188.25 kept their hopes for an NCAA Tournament bid afloat.

"We had to score in the 188 range to keep our hope of the NCAAs alive," Galvin said. "If we had not been up in the 188 range, with the number of

meets we have left, it would have made it very difficult to be competitive with the top teams in the region. The Southeast Region is very strong this year."

The NCAA Tournament takes the seven teams from each region with the highest average point totals per meet.

Friday night's win snapped a string of two consecutive meets in which the Tar Heels had finished last. In those two meets, a tri-meet at West Virginia and the Hearts Invitational in Raleigh, UNC finished behind five teams and saw its record drop to 4-7.

Although total points, not number of wins, is the important factor in qualifying for the NCAAs, Stacy said it was nice to finish ahead of the pack.

"We've been kind of down because we've been losing the last couple of meets," said Stacy, who finished first in the all-around with a score of 38.15. "We needed this to kind of get back on our feet and get going again."

Musser captured second place all-around with 37.60 points, followed by a pair of Terrapins, Betty Corteguera (37.35) and Nicole Lefcourt (37.30). Knowles (37.25) and Maryland's Kristin Kohn (36.50) followed.

Stacy's all-around victory marked the first time this season that someone other than Knowles had posted the Tar Heels' top all-around score. Stacy's season-high on the beam propelled her to the team's best individual all-around score so far this year.

"Beam is my weakness," said Stacy, a sophomore from Boone. "Usually I get high eights, like 8.9 or so. Usually if you fall, you're not as likely to make in the nines, and I usually fall."

UNC's 46.20 team score on the vault eclipsed the previous season high of 46.15. Stacy and Maryland's Kara Klaus led the meet with 9.40 marks on the vault.

Fencers sweep up in regular-season finale

By Jeff McKinley
Staff Writer

While many students slept in Saturday morning, the Tar Heel fencers fended.

While many students studied, played or watched the men's basketball game Saturday afternoon, the fencers fended.

While many students went to dinner Saturday evening, the fencers fended.

And while many students prepared to party Saturday night, the fencers celebrated.

They celebrated for good reason. In their regular-season finale at Fetzer Gym, the men's and women's fencing teams went undefeated.

But undefeated does not just mean 1-0 or 2-0. The men's squad collected five victories by defeating Wofford, North-

western, Navy, N.C. State and archrival Duke. The victory versus Duke improved the team's all-time record against the Blue Devils to 50-0.

The women added four victories against the same opponents, with the exception of Wofford, which did not field a women's team.

UNC coach Ron Miller said he was pleased with the performance. "This was a big day for us, especially psychologically and emotionally," Miller said.

The big day began at 9 a.m. Saturday as the men cruised past Wofford 19-8.

Next, Northwestern tried its luck against the UNC men. The Tar Heels practically copied their earlier match, beating the Wildcats 20-7. For the women, Northwestern posed the biggest challenge of the day, but you would not know it from the result: UNC 13,

Northwestern 3.

Said North Carolina senior co-captain Lisa Campi: "Northwestern has beaten us before, so we really needed to prove that we could beat them." Campi went 14-0 on the day.

Navy provided the Tar Heel men with their first real test. Miller said he told the team that the Navy match would be an important one, and the men responded by holding off the Midshipmen 14-13. The women, riding the emotional high of the Northwestern victory, blasted Navy 15-1.

Tar Heel senior Katie Sanborn was 4-0 against Navy, on her way to a 15-1 record for the day.

UNC senior Bruce Walker, one of the men's captains, said he respected Navy a great deal.

"Navy's a good team," he said.

"They're athletic, and they're the most sportsmanlike."

N.C. State offered the Tar Heels their final chance to prepare for Duke. Tar Heel co-captain Elif Erginer said a rivalry with State existed, but that it was not the same as the rivalry with Duke.

"We have a friendly rivalry with State," Erginer said. "Our rivalry with Duke is more intense."

The fencing team enjoyed greater success against the Wolfpack than did the UNC basketball team. The men's team won 19-8, and the women prevailed 14-2.

The Tar Heel teams, tired from the long day, capped off the meet against Duke. Fatigue did not show, as the rivalry began to heat up. The women destroyed Duke 13-3, but they stayed to cheer on the men's team in its most important match of the day. The men's match came down to the wire, but the Tar Heels won 14-13.

"If you look back at the 50 times we've faced Duke," Miller said, "probably half came down to the final bout or two."

No. 14 wrestlers crush Liberty 29-11

Staff and wire reports

LYNCHBURG, Va. — UNC's 14th-ranked wrestling team lifted its record to 14-5 with a 29-11 win Saturday at Liberty University.

The Tar Heels, who rested some of their top grapplers, won at six of nine weight levels. Senior Jeff Vasquez opened the meet with a 14-5 win at 118 pounds.

Other North Carolina winners were: sophomore Jody Staylor (134), freshman Dave Leonardis (142), freshman Marc Taylor (158), senior Pete Welch (167) and freshman Stan Banks (190).

Men's tennis finishes 13th

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The North Carolina men's tennis team finished 13th in the USTA/ITCA National Indoor Intercollegiate Team Championships.

The Tar Heels, ranked 16th in the nation by the ITCA, defeated No. 8 Miami 4-2 Saturday after losing once Thursday and once Friday to a pair of top 10 teams. UNC's record is now 2-2.

Tar Heels Bryan Jones, Sean Steynour, Chris Mumford and Joe Frierson earned singles wins versus the Hurricanes.

Thursday, UNC defeated Kansas 5-1 in a first-round match but fell to No. 2 Southern California 4-2 in the second round. Friday, North Carolina lost to Pepperdine 5-1 in a consolation round.

Women's tennis breaks .500

COLUMBIA, S.C. — The UNC women's tennis team pounded South Carolina Sunday to close out a successful weekend that moved its record to 4-3 with wins against USC and Boston College.

Sunday, the Tar Heels pounded the Lady Gamecocks 5-1. The Tar Heels' only loss came at No. 6 singles, where UNC freshman Freddy Uihlein dropped a 6-2, 6-2 decision to South Carolina's Heather Coburn.

Friday, UNC swept Boston College 9-0 at the UNC Tennis Center. The Lady Eagles fell to 0-6.

Cinda Gurney, ranked 3rd in the country by the ITCA, keyed the Tar Heels

with a win in the No. 1 singles slot, defeating the Lady Eagles' Pam Piorowski 6-0, 7-6 (9-7), to move her season record to 13-5.

Softball wins pair at UNC-W

WILMINGTON — North Carolina's softball team opened its 1992 campaign Saturday with two victories in three games at the UNC-Wilmington Tournament. Sunday's play was rained out.

UNC collected a 2-1 win against UNC-Charlotte, as freshman second baseman Kristen Render drove in both Tar Heel runs.

In the second game against Eastern Michigan, UNC sophomore pitcher Paige Lauby gave up only three hits, but the Tar Heels lost 1-0.

In the day's final action, North Carolina erupted for 10 runs, as the Tar Heels overwhelmed UNC-Wilmington 10-0. North Carolina sophomore hurler Beverly Smith allowed just three hits against UNC-W.

Jimbo, Mac coming to Chapel Hill

Four top players from the professional tennis world will be on hand

April 15 at 6 p.m. in the Smith Center for the Carolina Tennis Shoot-Out.

Jimmy Connors, John McEnroe, Pat McEnroe and Tim Mayotte will compete in four one-set singles matches and one doubles match. The players will be divided into two teams: the McEnroe brothers versus Connors and Mayotte.

A point will be awarded for each set won in the five matches, and the team with the most points at the end of the day will win the championship purse.

After the event, a racquet from each player will be auctioned off to benefit the American Heart Association.

Tickets go on sale Monday and can be ordered by calling T.A.C. Sports Marketing at 1-800-394-8366.

Wake Forest stuns No. 1 Duke

WINSTON-SALEM — Anthony Tucker scored 24 points and hit the go-ahead basket with 1:25 left to lead Wake Forest to a 72-68 upset of No. 1 Duke.

Duke (21-2, 11-2 in the ACC) led by as many as 10 points with nine minutes left, but was outscored 15-1 over the final 5:19 as Wake (16-7, 7-6) shot 62 percent in the second half.

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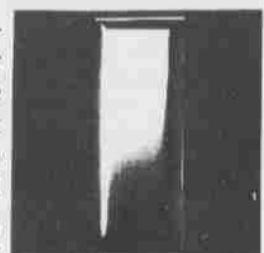
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