

DEACON NOTES

■ Canty leaves men's basketball team

Senior Barry Canty has decided to leave the Demon Deacon basketball team to concentrate more fully on his academic responsibilities. Canty, who along with Rusty LaRue was one of only two seniors on this year's team, cited his desire to graduate this spring as the main reason for his decision.

Last season, Canty played in 13 games for the Demon Deacons, scoring 20 points while shooting seven-of-23 from the floor.

■ Cross country teams earn rankings

Both the men's and women's Demon Deacon cross country teams were included in the first national rankings of the year. The women's team is currently ranked 13th, while the men stand at 24th.

The teams are both coming off of impressive early-season performances in Saturday's Wake Forest Classic. Both squads won their events, whose tough field of competitors included conference rivals Clemson and North Carolina.

■ Weisenberger named as replacement

The university named Perk Weisenberger as its new associate athletic director for internal operations. Weisenberger supervised the daily operations of eight non-revenue sports at Central Michigan, as well as the athletic department's strength conditioning program.

Weisenberger replaces Larry Gallo, who resigned over the summer to become director of athletics at Indiana State.

■ Proehl pledges "Touchdown 2000" gift

Ricky Proehl '91, the leading pass-catcher in Demon Deacon history who is currently a receiver for the NFL's Seattle Seahawks, has made a \$100,000 pledge to the athletic department's "Touchdown 2000" fund-raising drive.

The drive will make possible the construction of a new field house, locker room facilities and department offices at Groves Stadium.

■ Banks receives teaching scholarship

Former Demon Deacon fullback George Banks, '95, was awarded a "Hitachi Promise of Tomorrow" \$5,000 teaching scholarship. The awards are given annually to students involved with a College Football Association member football program who intend to pursue a career in education.

■ Men's club lacrosse to open fall season

The men's club lacrosse team has had a successful week of practice and has established a roster of over 45 players for the fall season. The team will open up Saturday against Appalachian State.

The Deacons will take the field at 2 p.m. on Poteat Field and everyone is invited to attend. For more information, please contact Wes at Ext. 6241 or Jonathon at Ext. 1727.

Deacons swamped by Tigers in ACC debut

By MICKEY KRAYNYAK
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

For the first quarter of the Demon Deacons' 29-14 loss to the Clemson Tigers Saturday at Groves Stadium, it appeared as though the home team had enlisted the help of Mother Nature in its upset bid.

The Tigers, who seemed all but waterlogged by the torrential rains that fell early in the game, had all kinds of problems holding on to the ball during the first quarter of play. For a while the Deacons actually seemed ready to assume the role of cagey underdog.

Unfortunately for the home team the rain slowed to a mist for most of the second half. Before leaving Winston-Salem with a conference win, the Tigers were subsequently able to piece together a solid half of football, including impressive performances from running backs Emory Smith and Raymond Priester.

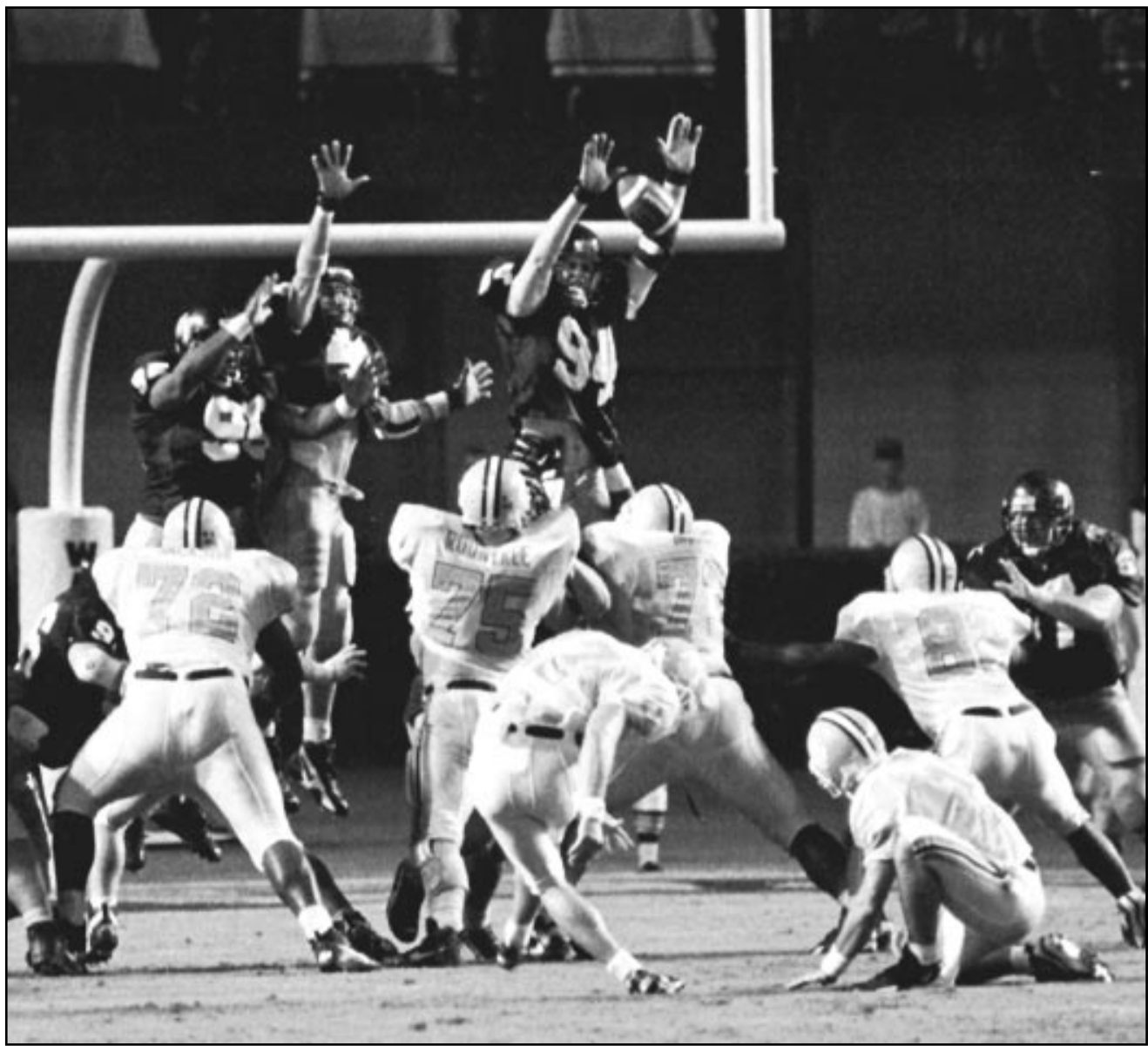
For the first 15 minutes of action reversal was the rule, as the Tigers turned the ball over on each of their first three possessions. Clemson botched a fake field goal attempt on their first drive of the game, and Deacon defensive end senior Rick Gardner recovered at the Deacon 17 yard line.

Two plays after a Deacon punt, the Tigers gave up the ball again when Smith lost the handle on a run up the middle at the Clemson 28.

The Deacons were then able to capitalize on their opponents' miscue, as three plays later senior quarterback Rusty LaRue hung in the pocket just long enough to hit sophomore Thabiti Davis with a touchdown pass to his right side. A successful Deacon two-point conversion moved the score to 8-0 in favor of the home team and marked the first time the Demon Deacons had scored first in a game since the last game of the 1993 season.

The pass by LaRue represented a highlight of what has been statistically a pretty solid season so far for the Deacon quarterback. LaRue, having replaced injured sophomore Brian Kuklick as the Deacons' starting signal-caller for the rest of 1995, has connected on 39-of-60 pass attempts for a 65 percent completion rate.

The Deacons were able to preserve their lead until the 3:08 mark of the second quarter, when the Tigers shook the water out of their ears and opened up a hole for Smith to notch his first of what would eventually be four touchdowns on the evening. Clemson quarterback



Sophomore Deacon defensive end David Zadel blocks a Clemson field goal attempt in the first quarter of Saturday's game. The Deacons fell to the Tigers after playing them to an 8-8 first half draw in a rain-soaked Groves Stadium.

Nealon Greene then ran the two-point conversion across the goal line to knot the game at 8-8.

Though the rains slowed in the second half, the Tigers' floodgates opened, and the Deacons quickly found themselves swamped on their drying home turf. Smith reaped the benefits of Priester's strong running on both of Clemson's first two possessions of the half, punching the ball in from one and then two yards out to boost the Tigers' lead to 22-8 with 6:03 remaining in the third quarter.

In stark contrast to the Tigers' second-half domination on the ground, the Deacons running game ground to a stagnant halt in the last 30 minutes of play. After outgaining Clemson 82 yards to 72 on

the ground in the first half, the Deacons were only able to tally four rushing yards the rest of the way.

The Tigers, meanwhile, combined to rush for 162 second-half yards, led by Priester's total of 154.

Head Coach Jim Caldwell, upset with the Deacons' second half fizzle, said "I am more disappointed with this loss than I was with our first two games. We should have been in this game down to the wire."

Caldwell said, "Critical mistakes at key times prevented us from staying in the game in the second half."

The Deacons' next match-up looks to be one of the more intriguing this season, as they travel to Annapolis, Md. to take on a surprisingly competitive Navy

team. The Midshipmen, under first-year coach Charlie Weatherbie, are 1-1 so far this season, having dismantled Southern Methodist 33-2 in their opener before dropping last week's game to Rutgers 27-17.

Navy has been buoyed so far by the running of quarterback Chris McCoy, who put up 398 yards of total offense, including 273 rushing yards, in the SMU contest.

"We must keep pressure on him while also containing him," Caldwell said of McCoy. "Defensively, they are as aggressive and active as any team we'll face this year."

The next few weeks will be tough ones for the Deacons, as they will play five of their next six games on the road.

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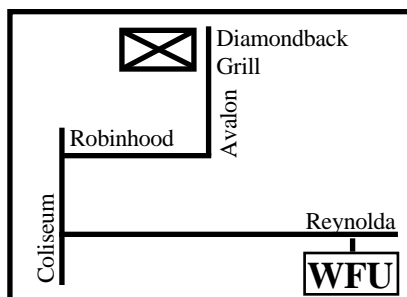
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COLORADO	vs.	Texas A&M
PURDUE	vs.	Michigan State
Ucla	vs.	WASH. STATE
MARYLAND	vs.	Duke
UTAH	vs.	Fresno State

Tiebreaker: Total points in WFU-Navy game _____

Name _____ Phone _____ P.O. Box _____

Return to Benson 518 Mail Pouch
(Double Doors) by midnight Friday.