

# DEACON NOTES

## Hoops brings in three recruits

The Demon Deacon men's and women's basketball teams both grew a little larger recently, when the former signed one new recruit, and the latter signed two.

Shon Coleman, a 6-6 forward, signed a letter of intent Nov. 10. The women's hoops squad signed Brenda-Mock Kirkpatrick, a 6-0 forward, and Alisha Mosley, a 5-6 point guard.

## LaRue a CFA Scholar-Athlete

Coming off a gridiron season during which he set seven NCAA records, senior Rusty LaRue was named to the College Football Association's Scholar-Athlete Team. He was also named ACC Offensive Back of the Week Nov. 20.

## Grace honored for 1995 season

Senior Tucker Grace, a starting linebacker for the 1995 Demon Deacons who led the team in tackles this season with an average of 11.6 per game, was named a first team All-ACC performer for the recently-finished season.

# Men's hoops wins opener against Mt. St. Mary's

By STEVE WELGOSS  
SPORTS COPY EDITOR

Like any finely-tuned sports car, the men's basketball team has the ability to take off and deliver breathtaking performances at any time. Unfortunately, just like any finely-tuned sports car, they are not able to function properly without an experienced driver at the wheel.

Such was the case as the Deacons (1-0) sputtered their way to a season-opening 75-62 victory at the expense of an over-matched Mount St. Mary's (0-1) team Saturday night at Joel Coliseum.

Playing just like any team with a new leader taking over the controls, the Deacons' offense stuttered and stalled constantly over the first 10 minutes as an unsettled backcourt trio of sophomore Tony Rutland, senior Rusty LaRue and freshman Joseph Amonett tried to get comfortable playing together.

"I'm very pleased with our first win, if not the way we won it," Head Coach Dave Odom said. "We have ball handling problems out front, and we're not playing with much confidence right now. We had trouble getting the ball inside where we needed it and were unable to take advantage of our size advantage."

The ball handling difficulties were evident in junior All-American Tim Duncan taking just nine shots from the field, several of which came as he dribbled past defenders to create his own shot. Slow ball movement and forced entry passes prevented Duncan from getting the touches he needed to dominate the game.

Duncan could not be kept from the foul line, though, and hit seven of eight to help finish with 21 points to go with 11 rebounds, five assists and five blocks — all of which led the team.

Junior Ricky Peral finally showed what he is capable of, when Duncan faced waves of double and triple-teams. With the big-center looking for the open man, he kept finding Peral outside the arc for open threes. Peral canned five-of-seven from deep to tie a career high with 19 points. He also pulled down seven boards.

Despite giving the Deacons the lift they needed, Peral remained modest after the contest. "Their motion 'D' left someone open at the three-point line and some-

times it was me," he said. However, it was the trademark smothering Deacon defense that held down the fort while the offense searched for an identity.

Limiting the Mountaineers to just 36 percent shooting for the game, the Deacons were able to weather scoreless droughts of 2:43 to open the game and 5:23 to start the second half.

With their opponents unable to capitalize on the Deacons' struggles, save for an unconscious 36-point display by 5-9 guard Chris McGuthrie, the home team finally gave the fans something to cheer about with a 16-0 run to break open a 37-37 deadlock. Peral had 10 points in this stretch including a pair of treys to open and close the run.

McGuthrie's heroics were simply not enough to help carry a team that shot just 32 percent without him. He did provide enough of a spark to make LaRue, his defender most of the time, wonder just how he did it sometimes.

"He's tough to guard," LaRue said. "He doesn't seem to stop on any of his shots."

He just keeps going and fades away. "He just got hot. I tried to keep a hand up and keep him from getting a clear look."

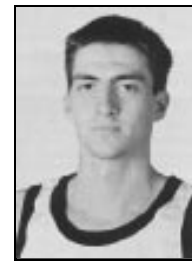
With a myriad of scoop shots and three-pointers, McGuthrie did not get many clear looks, nor did he need them. One three-pointer from 30 feet away highlighted McGuthrie's performance of the second-most points ever scored in Joel Coliseum.

However, solid contributions from junior Sean Allen (six points, seven rebounds and two blocks) and freshman William Stringfellow (three points, two rebounds and one block in six minutes) helped offset McGuthrie's circus shots in the successful opener.

LaRue, coming off just one week of practice, started for the Deacons and played 32 minutes. He excited the crowd with a trio of threes among his 13 points to go along with four assists.

Overall, Odom saw many weaknesses but was pleased with his team's effort.

"The second half didn't open like we wanted it to. The first five minutes were a horror story," he said. "We have a long, long, long way to go to get to the point where we are a great basketball team, but that's OK, we knew that before the game."



Peral

# Women's basketball splits first two contests

By KAREN HILLENBRAND  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Deacon women's basketball team started off its regular season with a win in the consolation game of the Wake Forest Invitational this weekend, after a loss in the first round to South Carolina. The Deacons won their final exhibition game as well before the regular season began.

Senior Gretchen Hollifield's 21 points on eight-of-12 shooting led the Deacons to a third-place finish in the Invitational in a 68-57 win over Washington Saturday. Northwestern was the other team competing in the tournament hosted by the Deacons, and the Wildcats defeated South Carolina 82-78 in the championship game.

Junior Lindsay Seawright added 15 points for the Deacons and a team-leading nine rebounds. Junior Tracy Connor added seven points, on two-of-10 shooting from the field.

Despite mediocre shooting (42 percent and 12.5 percent from three-point range), the Deacons were able to capitalize on an even poorer shooting performance by Washington, who shot just 34 percent from the field.

The Deacons were down 36-33 at halftime, but they stormed back in the second period and clamped down on the defensive end, outscoring their opponents 35-21 in the half.

Head Coach Karen Freeman started freshmen Cynthia Kelley and Jenn Miklic in the second half to shake things up a bit, and it seemed to do the job as the tandem added nine points in the contest.

It was a tight one all the way through the second half until a driving layup by Hollifield with 6:56 to go in the game gave the Deacons the lead for good. After that, the Deacons seemed to find the weak spots in the tough Washington defense, as they went on to win it by 11.

Friday, 30 points and four steals by junior RaeAnna Mulholland were not enough for a Deacon victory, as they dropped their season opener to South Carolina 83-69. Connor added 17 points and 14 rebounds, while

Seawright pulled down 10 rebounds in the losing effort. Hollifield was held scoreless in the game.

However, the lack of scoring by Hollifield in the opener is not a concern for the Deacons, because she serves her role most appropriately when she distributes the ball.

"(Hollifield) mostly looks for others to score the points," senior forward Val Hodge said. "She's a true point guard. She only shoots when she has the opportunity, and she had that against Washington. They gave her a little too much room."

Despite a 31-30 halftime lead for the Deacons, 36 points by Gamecock Shannon Johnson were too much for the home team to handle. The Deacons were outscored 53-38 in the second half.

"We didn't play like we should have this weekend," Hodge said. "We didn't play up to our potential. We know we're a lot better than we showed."

"Our defense needs to be consistent all the time, and it's not right now," she said. "Our shots weren't falling in the second half, and then our defense started lagging behind."

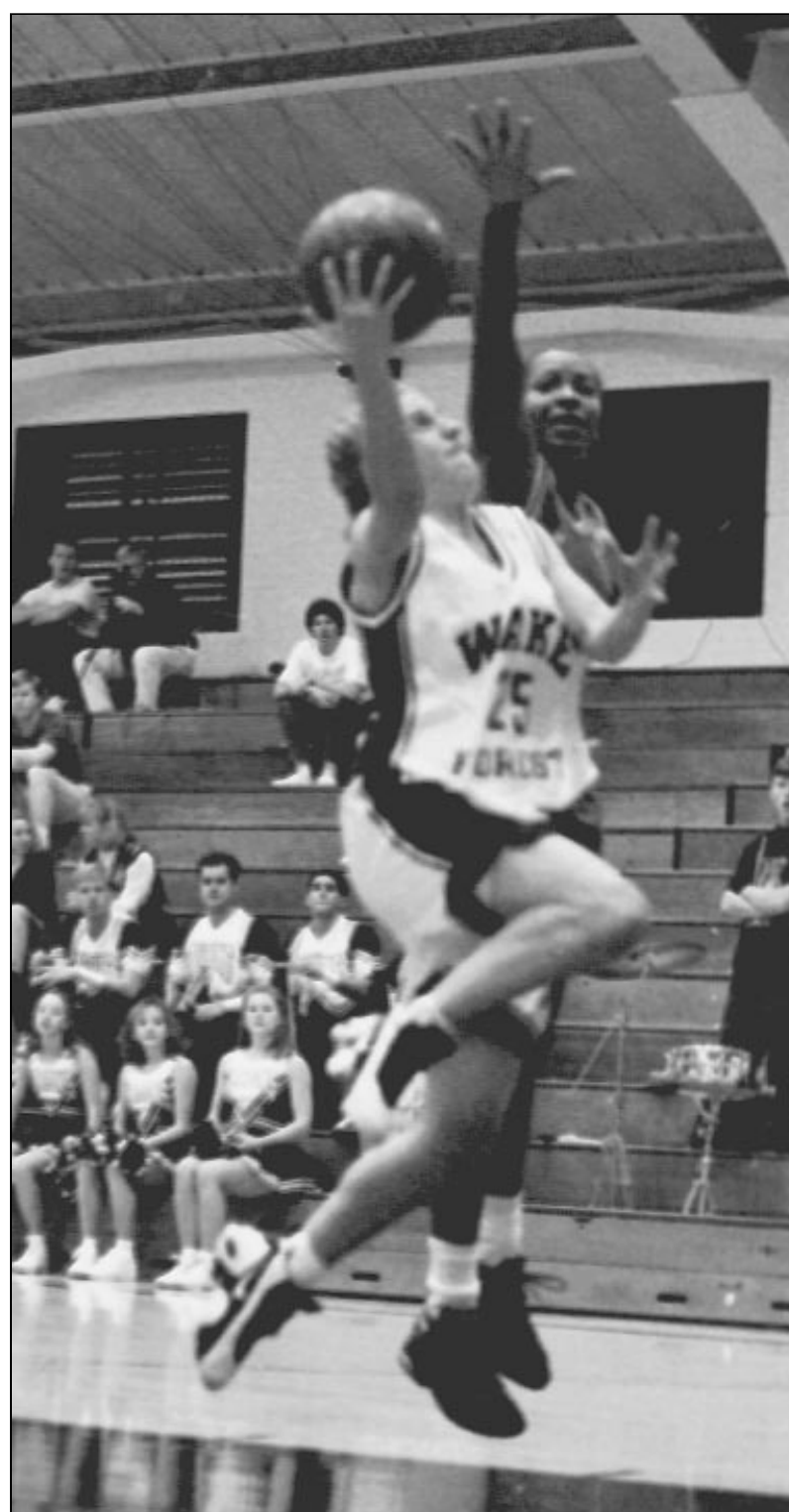
At the end of the finals Saturday, Mulholland and Seawright were named to the All-Tournament team.

Mulholland was again the offensive sparkplug when the Deacons won their final exhibition of the year Nov. 19 over the Hungarian National team, 90-73. Mulholland scored 31 points and pulled down 11 rebounds, while Connor netted 17 points and Seawright had 10.

Hodge had 11 points coming off the bench, while Hollifield added nine assists.

The Deacons were in control the entire game, jumping out of the gate to a 10-2 lead early. The Deacons led by as many as 18 in the first half before a 47-31 halftime score.

Although the Deacons led by 21 just three minutes into the final period, Hungary cut the lead to 11 with 11:35 to play. This was as close as they could get, though, as the Deacons pulled away.



Wendy Coulson

Senior Gretchen Hollifield drives for a layup Nov. 19 against Hungary.

# Stevenson finishes 31st at national title meet

By ADAM ROTHSCHILD  
OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

Senior Nicole Stevenson's experience at the NCAA Cross Country Championship meet Nov. 20 was unlike any race she has run all season. Not only did she run alone, without her teammates around, but she also ran amidst unfamiliar scenery. She actually saw opponents ahead of her.

The Demon Deacon women's cross country team did not qualify for the national championship meet. However, thanks to her second-place finish at the NCAA District III meet Nov. 11, Stevenson qualified to go to Ames, Iowa and run in the meet as an individual.

The result: "It was a disappointment," Stevenson said. "It was probably the worst race I've run at college."

Stevenson finished 31st out of 183 runners, an impressive finish on paper. But one cannot blame the 1991 Canadian National Junior Cross Country Champ for being disappointed. After all, it was the first time all year that Stevenson had finished any lower than second.

The Hamilton, Ontario native won three meets this season: the season's opener at Appalachian State, the Wake Forest Classic and the Furman Invitational. In her other three meets, she finished in second place. Add to that her fourth consecutive All-ACC honor and an ACC Performer of the Week award, and you have a season for the ages.

Stevenson, a 1993 All-American, has not succeeded alone, however. She and senior classmate Cindy Moreshead have combined to form a deadly duo for the Deacons. This season, they tied for first place at two meets, and one of the other placed second in every Demon Deacon race.

"We've gotten to know each other over the years," Stevenson said. "We're really compatible. We help each other out. I hope Cindy and I helped out the team while we were here."

The twosome has done more than just help out, even in their first season. "From the time they were freshmen, they had the courage and the guts to run at the front of the pack," Head Coach Francie Goodridge said. "They are very compatible as teammates and very respectful of one another."

Along with Moreshead, Stevenson served as co-captain of the squad. "She has the personality to be a leader," Goodridge said of Stevenson. "She's very confident and understands the goals of the team."

"We have a really talented team," Stevenson said. "My goal was just to help everybody realize their potential, and to help with their confidence when they have a breakthrough race. We've been there too."

Although Stevenson's Demon Deacon career will come to an end this spring, she hopes to continue excelling in competitive situations. "I would definitely like to keep running and try to make as many teams as I can, especially at cross country," Stevenson said.

However, Goodridge is quick to point out that Stevenson's collegiate career is not over just yet, for she also excels in track, running events ranging from the mile to the 5,000-meters, as well as the 4x800-meter relay. "We love having Nicole and we're looking forward to track season," Goodridge said. "Nicole has grown tremendously in her four years here. She was a mature freshman, and her ability to focus has increased each year. She is certainly one of the best track and field athletes ever at Wake Forest. She carried the banner for four years."

# North Carolina captures NCAA field hockey title at Campus Stadium

By KAREN HILLENBRAND  
SPORTS EDITOR

North Carolina completed a picture perfect undefeated season at Campus Stadium Nov. 19 when they won the NCAA field hockey Division I National Championship. They defeated Maryland 5-1 in the all-ACC final, after beating defending champion James Madison in the semifinal game held the day before.

The Maryland Terrapins made it to the final after beating the Northeastern Huskies 3-1 in

their semifinal matchup. The No. 1 ranked Tar Heels finished the season at 24-0 and captured their second national title overall after seven consecutive years of making it to the Final Four. They captured their first championship in 1989.

"It was a magical year for us, and I'm so proud of these kids," North Carolina Head Coach Karen Shelton said.

Despite the lopsided score, the championship game was very close throughout the first 50 minutes. The Tar Heels only held a 2-1 halftime lead.

Susannah Schott scored her first of three goals on the afternoon just five minutes into the first half. She scored off a corner drive, with assists from captain Kim Schroll and Abbi Keller.

With 11:04 remaining in the half, Carolina scored the eventual game-winner when Kate Barber put in a crossing pass from the right side from Schroll.

The Terrapins had a chance to tie it up just a minute and a half later when Lynsey McVicker was all alone in front of the net, but she flubbed her shot. Maryland did get on the board with their only goal with 5:37 to go in the first period when Christine DeBow scored off a corner drive, which was deflected into the net by Carolina's Schroll.

"I thought they really outplayed us in the first half," Shelton said. "We were reacting instead of anticipating."

The Heels certainly began to anticipate in the second half, as they mercilessly piled on three more goals. Two corner drive goals by Schott sandwiched an open-net rebound goal by Nancy Pelligreen.

"I was very pleased with some of our performances," Maryland Head Coach Missy Meharg said. "I don't feel the outcome was indicative of our play."

"We broke down on the corner plays," she said.

"The difference today and throughout the season was the goalkeeping," Shelton said.

Carolina goalie Jana Withrow made eight saves in the game.

In the first semi-final game, UNC shut out defending national champion James Madison 3-0. The victory was sweet revenge for the Tar Heels, who lost to the Dukes last year in

the NCAA finals 2-1 in overtime on penalty strokes.

"I'm proud of our team and how we played today," Shelton said after the game. "That's probably the best we've played all season against a tough opponent."

The shutout was also impressive because fourth-ranked James Madison has offensive weapon Carole Thate, a player who many consider the best collegiate field hockey player in the nation. She ranked first in the nation this year in goals (37) and points (85).

"It's a big win," Carolina goalie Withrow said. "It's always nice to shut Carole out."

The Tar Heels scored the only goal of the first half when Schott scored on another corner drive. With five minutes to go in the half, the Dukes had their best chance to tie it up. Thate scooped the ball from midfield to 30 yards ahead, which set up a breakthrough for Kelly McDonald. Withrow made a spectacular save.

With 10 minutes elapsed in the second half, Pelligreen put in a rebound from Schott to make it a 2-0 game. The Dukes tried to mount a comeback a few minutes later when they had five straight penalty corners. This prompted Carolina to take a timeout, their first of the season.

The Tar Heels got readjusted, and they scored another insurance goal to make it 3-0 with just over four minutes to play. Pelligreen faked past the diving Maryland keeper and trickled in a pass from Keller.

"We didn't play to our potential," James Madison Head Coach Christy Morgan said. "They (North Carolina) definitely did. I'm proud of what my team did this year. I'm proud of them as players and as people."

The Dukes finished with a 19-5 record.

In the second semifinal game, the No. 3 Terrapins snapped a 1-1 tie midway through the second half to defeat No. 5 Northeastern 3-1.

After Northeastern goalkeeper Jen Ruggiero stopped a Maryland penalty stroke midway through the first half, just 49 seconds later the Huskies capitalized on the momentum shift when Karrie Danilecki scored an unassisted goal.

Maryland tied it up with 17:28 remaining in the half when Tricia Burdt scored off a pass from Sara Salam on a corner play.

Both teams had their scoring opportunities in the second half, but only the Terrapins were able to capitalize. Eliza Knerr shot the ball past the diving Ruggiero for the game-winner with 19:28 to go. Salam added an insurance goal when she converted on a penalty stroke later in the half.

"I think that today the better team did win," Northeastern goalkeeper Ruggiero said. "Although we didn't come up with a 'W' today, we did make a name for Northeastern field hockey."

Following both games Nov. 18, Division I, Division II and Division III each had its North-South All-Star game at Campus Stadium. Demon Deacon senior Christen Horsey participated in the Division I game.

Several hundred fans turned out to support their teams on the weekend. Many high school coaches from as far away as Rhode Island sent their players to the university to watch the action on the field as well as to visit the school. This was the second time ever that the university has been in the national spotlight, as it hosted the men's golf NCAAs in 1986.



Jordan Wong

North Carolina's Ashley Hanson dribbles past Maryland's Kristen Ketchum.