

# Nets are torn down, but goal posts remain firmly anchored

The 1995-96 year in Demon Deacon sports saw the men's hoops team triumph, the football team flounder, and lots of in-between

BY MICKEY KRAYNYAK  
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For better or worse, football and men's basketball remain what are easily the NCAA's two "power sports": both continue to generate substantially more revenue and media exposure than the remainder of sports on the NCAA's docket. Interestingly, the two sports, when examined in the context of the Demon Deacon athletic program, also form something of a continuum which illustrates just what kind of a year 1995-96 was in Deacon sports.

Last season ranks as one of the most successful in the history of the men's basketball program. Under the leadership of Head Coach Dave Odom, the squad, which entered last season having just graduated smooth-shooting floor leader Randolph Childress, '95, went undefeated in Joel Coliseum, captured its second straight ACC Championship, and advanced to the round of eight in the NCAA tournament. Several weeks after the season ended, the university rewarded Odom with a new contract which will keep him at the helm of the Deacon hoops program for an undisclosed amount of time.

What was perhaps the most important occurrence in Deacon sports last year, however,

did not take place in Joel Coliseum, or on any playing surface in Winston-Salem. In fact, it did not take place until the evening before the last day of spring semester exams, when then-junior All-American Tim Duncan announced that, after leading the Deacons to unprecedented heights last season, he would forego the June NBA draft (and his likely top overall selection) and return for his final year of eligibility.

The men's hoop squad thus occupies center stage in the approaching athletic year, and will most likely begin the season ranked among the top five teams in the nation.

Duncan, however, was not the only All-American who plied his trade at the university last year. The Deacon athletic program featured several individuals who garnered honors for their performances throughout the 1995-96 year.

Andy Bloom, '96, capped off a year of record-setting performances with winning discus and shot put performances at the NCAA Championships this spring. The wins were the first NCAA titles ever claimed by a member of a Demon Deacon track and field team. The All-American subsequently went on to place fourth in the discus at the U.S. Olympic trials, and thus qualified for a position as first alternate for the Olympic team.



Courtesy of Sports Information

Then-junior Tim Duncan led the Deacons to a second straight ACC title last spring.

Laura Philo, '96, also collected All-American honors as a member of the Demon Deacon women's golf squad. Philo, who led the

Deacons to an 11th-place finish in the NCAA Championships, was also named the ACC's Player of the Year in her sport.

The women's golf team was one of a host of Deacon teams which competed in NCAA championship events last year. The women's tennis team, coached by Lew Gerrard and spearheaded by the play of Terry Ann Zawacki, '96, played to a 20-7 record and competed in their third-straight NCAA Tournament. The men's golf team also made an appearance in the NAAs, the 37th time the program has done so in its history.

Several Deacon teams appear poised to make moves into prominent positions in the ACC, and several more have already done so. The Deacon field hockey squad upset top-ranked James Madison last season, and peaked at No. 7 in the national rankings, the highest the program has ever figured in the national scheme of things.

The fledgling Deacon women's soccer team made strides in their second season last year, grabbing their first-ever win over a ranked opponent and their first regional ranking by Soccer America. This year, the Deacon athletic program will debut a volleyball team under Head Coach Mary Jones.

Finally, the Demon Deacon football team returns to the gridiron this season after a

unique 1995 experience. Last season saw then-sophomore Brian Kuklick beat out Rusty LaRue, '96, for the starting quarterback job by the second week of the season before Kuklick suffered a season-ending arm injury in his first start at Tulane. LaRue, who was also the starting two-guard on the men's basketball team, subsequently re-assumed responsibilities as Deacon field general. He then set a plethora of passing records in the final three games of the Deacons' season, when he threw for more than 1,500 yards.

The goings-on in the pocket last season were a good deal more interesting than those on the scoreboard, however, as the Deacons suffered through a 1-10 season which included a winless 0-8 stagger through the ACC. Head Coach Jim Caldwell will again have his work cut out for him this season, as the squad will again rank as one of the youngest in the ACC: ten Deacon starters, and 24 of the 44 team members on two-deep list are redshirt freshmen or sophomores.

Architecturally, the Deacon athletic program will feature a new soccer stadium this season next to the Polo Road campus entrance. Construction of a new field house at Groves Stadium will also proceed throughout this year, and the new facility is scheduled to be ready for the 1997 football season.

## DEACON NOTES

### Men's hoops loses two recruits

Two of the three recruits Head Coach Dave Odom had been hoping to sign as members of this year's freshman class have failed to qualify academically for the upcoming year, and thus will not don the gold and black this autumn. Both Shon Coleman, a 6-6 forward from Statesville West Iredell, and Joakim Blom, a 6-10 forward from Sweden, will seek playing time elsewhere this season.

The Deacons' only freshman recruit this year is 7-1 center Loren Woods of Cardinal Ritter in St. Louis, Mo.

### Men's tennis changes coaches

Former Demon Deacon men's tennis coach Ian Crookenden stepped down from his position with the university June 10. He was replaced by Jeff Zinn July 19.

Crookenden had been associated with the Deacon tennis program for 12 years, compiling a 161-179 record during his stead in Winston-Salem. Last season, the Deacons finished 15-10 overall and seventh in the ACC. The squad's best finish in the ACC during Crookenden's tenure was fourth-place in 1988 and 1993.

Zinn spent the last six years as Head Coach at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Under Zinn, the squad made NCAA Tournament appearances in 1995 and 1996. Zinn was named Sun Belt Conference Coach of the Year in 1992 and 1994.

### Adams joins women's hoops staff

Jody Adams, formerly an assistant coach at Auburn University, recently signed on as a Demon Deacon assistant coach to Head Coach Karen Freeman. Adams replaces Gretchen Browne, who left the Deacons to pursue other coaching opportunities.

Adams played for the University of Tennessee from 1989 to 1993 and worked under Lady Vol Head Coach Pat Summit as a student assistant coach during the 1993-94 season before joining the Tigers for the 1994-95 season. Adams' responsibilities at Auburn included scouting, working with perimeter players, game preparation and recruiting.

### Deacons shift airwave affiliates

Would-be listeners will need to re-program the preset radio stations on their stereos and car radios if they wish to catch Demon Deacon football and basketball game broadcasts. The Deacon contests will now be broadcast over co-flagship stations WFDD-FM (88.5 FM), operated by the university, and WBRF-FM (98.1 FM), located in Galax, Va.

The Deacons spent last year with WHSL-FM (100.3 FM) in High Point, but their former home on the airwaves underwent a recent change of ownership, and will no longer broadcast sporting events.

### Men's hoops schedule released

A year ago, the 1996-97 out-of-conference schedule facing the Demon Deacon men's basketball team would have seemed a good deal more imposing than it currently does. The Deacons non-ACC docket will include a Dec. 3 Great Eight clash with Mississippi State (who will be without Dante Jones), a Dec. 14 showdown at Joel Coliseum with the Marcus Camby- and John Calipari-less Minutemen of Massachusetts, a Dec. 31 contest at Utah, a Jan. 28 home meeting with Virginia Tech, and a Feb. 9 contest at Missouri.

Games against The Citadel, Davidson, Richmond, Campbell and Wofford are also on the Deacons' horizon.

### Football loses wide receiver

Junior wide receiver Darrell Braswell elected not to return for the second semester of summer school, and thus will not be enrolled at the university this autumn and will not be a member of this year's football team.

Last year Braswell pulled in 51 passes for 557 yards and one touchdown.

# Coaches welcome freshman recruits

BY MICKEY KRAYNYAK  
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By all accounts, 1995-96 was a highly successful year in Demon Deacon athletics. Now, coaches must look to maintain or build on the success they achieved last season without the senior class which provided much of each squad's leadership. One way they hope to do so is via a strong class of freshman recruits: a list of the recruits for fall sport teams follows below.

### Football

Head Coach Jim Caldwell welcomes 15 freshmen into the lineup, which guarantees that, again, the Deacons will rank among the youngest teams in the ACC.

Caldwell's recruits include Reggie Austin, Atlanta, Ga.; Nick Bender, Nazareth, Pa.; Chris Blank, Sewell, N.J.; Matt Burdick, Winston-Salem; Marlon Curtis, Waldorf, Md.; Bobby Jones, Winston-Salem; Mike Kocha, Medford, N.J.; Chris McCoy, Winston-Salem; Da' Vaughn Mellerson, Baltimore, Md.; Chris Modelski, Poland, Ohio; David Moore, Smithfield; Bryan Ray, Wheaton, Md.; Keyshorn Smith, Lumberton; Alaric Thieshen, Brooksville, Fla.; John Whitehead, Port Richey, Fla.

### Men's Soccer

Second-year Head Coach Jay Vidovich adds six freshman to his roster in an attempt to arm the Deacons for a grueling ACC schedule.

Sean Conner, a goalkeeper, joins the team from Georgetown, Texas, where he was a 1996 Parade All-American. He is joined by Chad Evans, a defender from LaPlata, Md. who is likewise expected to contribute immediately. Viktor Litovka, a 6-2, 190-pound forward from Newark, N.J., should help bolster the Deacons' strength up front.

Also joining the team are David Kawesi-Mukooza, Williamsville, N.Y.; Patrick O'Keefe, Stow, Mass.; Jeff Prugh, Brandon, Fla.; Burr Williams, Tallahassee, Fla.

### Women's Soccer

The Deacons embark on their third season under Head Coach Chris Turner after adding the services of six recruits.

The most highly-touted of the group is Karli Schilling, a midfielder who guided Central Bucks (Pa.) West High to four straight state titles during her high school career. Joining her are Liz Burnette, Raleigh; Whitney Jackson, Simsbury, Conn.;



Old Gold and Black photo

Sophomore Kelly Simon made a major impact for the Deacon Field Hockey team as a freshman last season, and was ultimately named All-ACC. The field hockey squad will look for similar efforts from this year's freshman recruits.

Beth Klein, Long Island, N.Y.; Christie Melby, Akron, Ohio; Anne Shropshire, Louisville, Ky.

### Field Hockey

Head Coach Jennifer Averill adds seven new players to her squad this season: Margit Haalebos, Hattam, The Netherlands; Lizzy Hechenbleikner, Charlotte; Juli Lignelli, Boyertown, Pa.; Kelly Malinosky, Thorofare, N.J.; Megan Nitka, Holmdel, N.J.; Samantha Rush, Hummelstown, Pa.

### Women's Golf

Coming off an 11th-place finish in the NCAA Championships, the Deacons, led by Head Coach Dianne Dailey, will look to four freshman to help the squad maintain the high standards they have established in recent years.

Joining the team are Kelly Kirwin, Grand Rapids, Minn.; Stephanie Lake, Coral Gables, Fla., a transfer student from Tulane; Kerri Murphy, Amsterdam, N.Y.; Stefani Reynolds, Landesburg, Pa.

### Men's Cross Country

Two state champions are among the group which will try to help Head Coach

John Goodridge maintain his team's history of strong teams. They include: Josh Buffolino, Shelby County, Ky.; Sephon Pro, Shawnee, Kan.; Chris Vaughn, Winston-Salem.

### Women's Cross Country

Head Coach Francie Goodridge will attempt to strengthen her roster with the following recruits: Allison Forrest, Bath, Ontario; Janelle Kraus, Shelter Island, N.Y.; Emily Selvidio, Westerly, R.I.; Jill Snyder, Lewisberg, Pa.; Daniell Wallace, Williston, N.Y.

### Women's Basketball

Head Coach Karen Freeman's squad should receive some needed help in the frontcourt with the addition of Sue Mayo, a transfer student from Central Florida Community College with two years of eligibility remaining, and Brenda-Mock Kirkpatrick, a soft-shooting six-foot forward from Waynesville.

The squad will also bolster its backcourt with the addition of Alisha Mosley, a 5-6 guard from Ellicott City, Md. who can score, but who may also compete for the Deacons' starting point guard duties.

### Men's Basketball

The Deacons lose only one member of last year's starting five, as shooting guard Rusty LaRue, '96, graduated in May. The Demon Deacons will also be without the services of reserve forward Antonio Jackson and reserve point guard Armond Wilson, both of whom transferred out of the program to seek more playing time elsewhere.

Head Coach Dave Odom thus had no glaring holes in need of off-season attention, though he bolstered the Deacon roster considerably with the addition of 7-1 freshman center Loren Woods of St. Louis, Mo. Woods, a McDonald's All-American, provides the Deacons with a very solid solution at center when Duncan graduates this spring.

Unfortunately for Odom's squad, Woods is the only new addition this year, as recruits Shon Coleman and Joakim Blom failed to academically qualify for this year's freshman class.

The Deacons were also unable to woo a point guard, thus placing some pressure on junior Tony Rutland to successfully rehabilitate the knee he injured in the ACC Tournament.

## 1996 DEMON DEACON FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

August 29--Appalachian State

September 7--Northwestern

September 14--@ Georgia Tech

September 21--Virginia

September 28--@ Clemson

October 5--North Carolina

October 19--@ Maryland

October 29--Navy

November 9--Florida State  
(@ Orlando)

November 16--Duke

November 23--@ N.C. State