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Deacons plucking out stingers after 30-10 loss to Georgia Tech

By SCOTT PLUMRIDGE
OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

Away from home for the first time this season, the Demon Deacon football squad failed to add to its winning streak of two games. The Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets showed no hospitality in dealing the Deacons a 30-10 loss.

Throughout the day, the Deacons were unable to control either side of the ball.

"Our offense did not help the defense. We left the defense on the field

for too long," Head Coach Jim Caldwell said. "Our defense did not respond. We did not force any turnovers or make anything happen."

One of the few Deacon highlights came in the second quarter. Deep in Deacon territory, sophomore quarterback Brian Kuklick hit junior wideout Kai Snead with a pass that turned into a 75-yard touchdown.

By that point in the contest, however, the Jackets had already established the game's tempo. With the combination of a dominant offensive line and a pair of bruising running

backs, the home team pounded away at the Deacon defense for most of the game.

Halfback C.J. Williams and fullback Charles Wiley wore down both the clock and the Deacon defensive line with their persistent efforts. At the half, the duo had already combined for 119 yards rushing while Jacket quarterback Joe Hamilton had amassed 144 yards in the air. After the first two stanzas, the Deacons trailed 24-7.

For a majority of the first half, the Demon Deacon defense was pitted

against the relentless Jacket offense. Naturally, the Jackets stuck with their successful possession-oriented offensive attack in the second half.

Once again, the Jackets ran all over the Demon Deacons to bring their total rushing up to 309 yards on the day.

The only scoring in the second half came from converted field goal attempts. Senior Deacon placekicker Bill Hollows connected from 41 yards out while his Jacket counterpart split the uprights two times, setting the final tally at 30-10.

Time of possession was the stinger for the Deacons in this outing. The Jackets retained possession of the ball for an astounding 42 minutes, allowing the Deacons a measly 18 minutes of offensive opportunity.

"They had the clock and the field position in their favor all day," Caldwell said.

Coming off of the frustrating performance against the Jackets, the Deacons are now forced to face the 20th-ranked Virginia Cavaliers Saturday at Groves Stadium.

The Cavaliers have a well-balanced

attack led by All-American candidate running back Tiki Barber.

In order to be successful against the Cavaliers, the Deacons will need to counter with a well-balanced attack of their own.

"We cannot let them determine that we are a one-dimensional team," Caldwell said.

The Demon Deacons will look to senior running back John Lewis to spearhead the rushing game that helped the squad defeat nationally-ranked Northwestern at Groves Stadium Sept. 7.

Field hockey shelled in ACC debut

By GREG WILSON
OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

The Demon Deacons hoped that the momentum from a four-game winning streak would carry over to their game Sunday and lead to an upset against second-ranked Maryland. The Terrapins had other ideas, however, and ended the Deacons' streak with a 6-1 win.

Earlier in the week, the Deacons defeated Appalachian State by an identical score.

Against the Mountaineers, the Deacons capitalized on their offensive opportunities. Three of their six goals came from penalty corner opportunities, and they shot 15 times from within the circle while the Mountaineers shot only three times from the same area. The Demon Deacons struck quickly to begin each half.

In the first half, they scored after only 85 seconds had ticked off the clock and in the second, only 34 seconds had elapsed before senior Susan Bowman scored the fourth goal of the game for the Demon Deacons. However, despite its success, the team felt that it could have improved its overall performance.

"Against Appalachian State we were happy to win 6-1, but I think that everyone on the team kind of felt that we weren't really as sharp as we could have been," freshman goalkeeper Meaghan Nitka said. "We had a couple people who don't normally start who came in and did a nice job of stepping up for us and that gave us a little bit of a lift."

After the game against Maryland, the team again felt that it did not play to their potential. After giving up two relatively quick goals, the Deacons responded with a goal of their own. However, with just 20 seconds remaining before halftime, the 3-1.

"After giving up that goal right before the half, and then giving up another goal at the beginning of the second half we began to get frustrated," Bowman said. "I think that everyone on the team was upset with how we played. We should not be losing 6-1 to an ACC opponent."

The Deacons felt that part of the reason for their lack of success against Maryland was due to the lack of communication between the players.

Also, one of the Deacons' problems from their season opener against Massachusetts, a lack of teamwork, came back to haunt them against the Terps.

"We started to play individually, instead of as a team," Nitka said. "Then, the worse we did, the quieter it got on the field because we stopped communicating with each other.



Sophomore Kelly Simon attempts to beat her Maryland foe to the ball Sunday.

That just made things worse than they already were."

One of the team's bright spots this year has been at goalkeeper where Nitka has started four games for the Deacons. She posted three consecutive victories, including a win against James Madison in her starting debut, before losing her first game against Maryland.

"I've been really happy so far," Nitka said. "It still seems kind of weird when we travel to away games and I realize that I'm going to be starting at goalie for a college team."

The Demon Deacons were scheduled to play a game Tuesday night in Durham against Duke.

However, an oil spill on Interstate 85 forced the team to take an alternate route to reach the campus. They arrived for the game late, but the game was postponed when the referees never reached the stadium. The game was rescheduled for a date in October.

The Deacons can look forward to a break next week. Their next game is against Davidson in a non-conference contest Wednesday at Campus stadium before the team plays two consecutive road games.

"We really can't take Davidson lightly," Bowman said. "They always have a good team but we are looking to play well against them."

Soccer wins tournament featuring two ranked foes

By VINTON BRUTON
OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

The men's soccer team took on the best of the west last weekend, and returned home with the MetLife/University of San Francisco trophy. Senior Josh Timbers was named tournament MVP after clinching the title game against San Francisco with a goal on a penalty kick with 6:25 remaining.

The team improved its record to 3-1-1 on its way to the championship. Saturday the Deacons fought the fifth-ranked Broncos of Santa Clara to a scoreless tie, setting up Sunday's title match with San Francisco (2-3-0).

The Dons fought tooth and nail, but sophomore Serge Daniv dimmed their hopes when he banged home the first goal of the game in the 38th minute off an assist by sophomore Kyle Bachmeier.

The home team battled back to tie the game in the 67th minute on a goal by Chris McDonald, before Timbers' penalty kick settled the matter.

"Serge Daniv is finding his own," Deacon Head Coach Jay Vidovich said. "He established himself as one of the top players in the country this weekend."

Vidovich also said that San Francisco is probably better than Santa Clara despite the Broncos' higher ranking. The statistics support his opinion. The Dons outshot the Deacons 10-9, while the Deacons held a narrow edge in corner kicks (5-4). Fouls were nearly even as San Francisco was whistled for 14 to the Deacons' 16.

Improved defense has been the key to the team's outstanding play of late.



Timbers received MVP honors for his efforts in the California event.

"The same people are playing," Vidovich said, "but the team commitment to playing defense is better. Everyone is responsible for defense for 90 minutes."

Vidovich cited the play of junior sweeper Ihor Dotsenko and freshman back Chad Evans as major reasons for the team's vise-like defense.

The team has until 3 p.m. Saturday to rest on its laurels and prepare to host Virginia, who is once again expected to challenge for the national title. Vidovich said of the layoff, "It certainly won't hurt. We're still getting our legs back from this weekend."

The Virginia game was supposed to be the first game played in Spry Stadium, but the opening will be delayed for another week or so due to damage done by Hurricane Fran.



Two Deacons converge on the ball in a game earlier this season.

Volleyball wins Davidson event, looks ahead to ACC season

By JOSHUA HOFFMAN
OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

When a team is firing on all cylinders, when it is "in the zone," it is like a finely tuned car: smoothly sailing down the road, wind through the hair, no problems, no worries. Such is the course the women's volleyball team took at the Davidson tournament this past weekend in winning all four matches it played in. Top down, sunglasses on, no worries; definitely no problems.

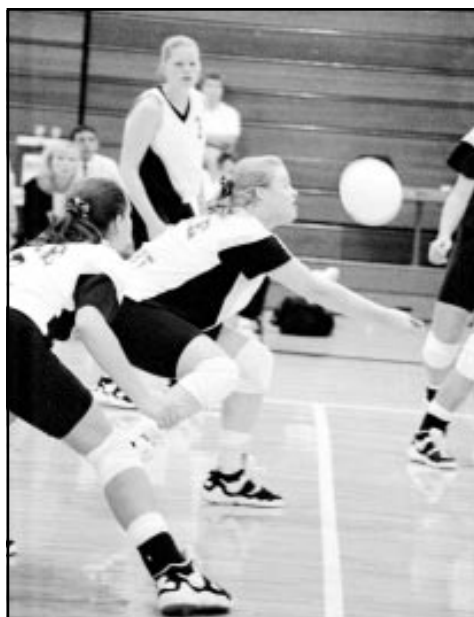
In defeating Radford, UNC-Wilmington, Mercer and Davidson, the Demon Deacons moved their current winning streak to six matches (including Tuesday's win at home versus Virginia Commonwealth) while running their record to a highly-impressive 6-4.

The wins marked the first time the Demon Deacons have been over the .500 mark in their short history.

To put the performance in better perspective: the Demon Deacons played in 13 total games during the Davidson tournament. They come away with a win in 12 of them.

Radford was the only team that took a game from the Deacons, and they had to go into extended play to do so, eventually winning 19-17.

The Deacons owe a large amount of their



Sharon Harmsworth digs the ball.

recent success to the exceptional play of several individuals. Three members of the Demon Deacon volleyball squad, freshmen Julie Cowley, freshman Jessica Sammis, and junior Carrie Walker, were named to the All-

Tournament team for their efforts.

Sammis was also named ACC Rookie of the Week for the role she played in the Davidson tournament.

The fledgling Demon Deacon team simply refuses to believe that it is too early for it to accomplish what it has been accomplishing of late.

"We are entering ACC competition now," said freshman Katie Horne, one of the team's most consistent players. "Those are the ones we have got to focus on. We have started to prove that we are not a team that can just be written off."

"We finally found a groove in that tournament, we stepped it up. I think we have been going out with a really optimistic mind set, and the attitude that we can win each match," said Cowley.

Jones can not stress enough to her players the necessity of a strong defensive effort. And true to her word, when the Deacons play a dominant defensive game, a win usually follows. Throughout the entire tournament, The Demon Deacons shut down the other team's offensive game.

In matches against Davidson and Mercer, neither opponent could muster an attack percentage above .052.

But as much as a dominating defense can

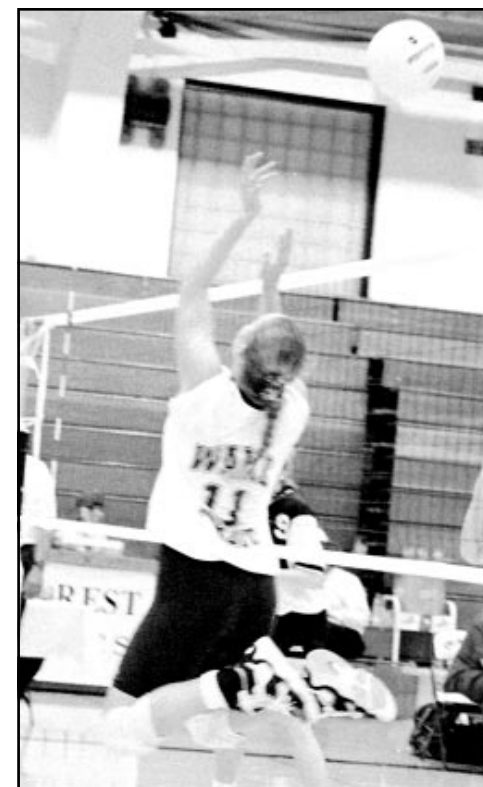
mean to a team, shutting the other team down tends not to do much good if you are unable to put points on the board yourself. Led by the superb setting of native Californian turned east coast phenom Cowley, who provided the means for Sammis and Walker to do their front-court damage, the team had no trouble scoring.

"We have nothing to lose. We want to prove to everyone that just because we are a first-year team, we are not going down without a fight. We are going to take it to the streets."

Julie Cowley
Freshman

Perhaps most importantly, the Demon Deacons now know they can win and their play reflects that.

"We have nothing to lose," Cowley said. "We want to prove to everyone that just because we are a first-year team, we are not going down without a fight. We are going to take it to the streets," said Cowley.



Cowley goes after the ball against VCU.