

DEACON NOTES

■ Duncan preseason award favorite

Senior Tim Duncan heads the list of preseason picks for the 1997 Boost/Naismith College Basketball Player of the Year Award. The pivotman, who enters his final year of eligibility among the ACC all-time leaders in blocked shots and rebounds, is at the top of a list which includes Utah senior Keith Van Horn, Kansas senior guard Jacque Vaughn, and Stanford senior guard Brevin Knight.

Demon Deacon women's hoops standout senior Tracy Connor, also a center, made an appearance on the award's "Best of the Rest" docket for women's basketball players.

Last year's award winners were Massachusetts' Marcus Camby and Georgia's Saudia Roundtree.

■ Rolex tennis rankings released

The Demon Deacon women's tennis team is ranked 17th in the latest Rolex Collegiate Rankings, six notches below their previous ranking of No. 11. Head Coach Lew Gerrard's squad is the second-highest ranked team in the ACC, as the Duke Blue Devils are listed as the third-best team in the nation.

Individually for the Demon Deacons, sophomore Nicola Kaiwai appears in the rankings as the 99th-best singles talent in the country, up from No. 136 in the previous rankings. In the doubles rankings, the Deacon squad of junior Lule Aydin and freshman Anne Marie Milton is listed at 44th in the country, while the pair of senior Maggie Harris and junior Bettina Pieri is ranked 49th.

On the Demon Deacon men's squad, sophomore Daniel Merkert checks in at No. 51 in the nation, while the doubles tandem of Merkert and freshman Lars Ziehn is ranked 19th.

■ Women's golf second in nation

The Demon Deacon women's golf currently stands as the second-ranked team in the country, according to the latest Rolex rankings. Individually for the women's squad, senior Laura Philo is ranked 14th in the nation, while senior Sonia Bauer is listed at 37th in the country.

On the Deacon men's golf team, which is currently ranked 18th in the country, senior Todd Lynch is currently listed at No. 60 in the nation.

■ Deacon rugby squad promoted

The Demon Deacon Rugby Club squad recently earned a spot in the Division I of the North Carolina's Rugby Club Association. The team has been playing other squads from North Carolina and Virginia colleges, but will now step up the level of their competition. The squad recently beat Duke 17-8 Oct. 12 in Durham to earn the promotion.

The rugby team will play its final match of the season against Appalachian State this Saturday on Water Tower field, and will begin its official Division I season in the spring. Fan support is welcomed.

Bauer-less women's golf team finishes seventh

By ANDY SISK
OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

Missing one of its key starters, the women's golf team could not sustain the momentum of last week's victory and finished seventh at the Rolex National Match Play Championships in La Quinta, Calif., held Saturday through Monday.

The match play format diverted from the normal stroke play competition typical of collegiate golf. Only the eight best teams in the nation, based on last year's final rankings, landed invitations to the prestigious event.

The Demon Deacons received some bad news the night before the tournament when key senior Sonia Bauer informed Head Coach Diane Dailey that she would be unable to make the trip. Bauer has been hampered by a sprained ankle all season, but she has been able to finish among the top 15 at each of the season's events so far. According to Dailey, Bauer's suddenly got worse, and by last Thursday Bauer was on crutches. She will be out of action the rest of the fall. A native of France, Bauer left for her homeland yesterday to get her ankle examined by her doctor.

Bauer's turn for the worse exposed the youthful nature of this year's Deacons, as

two freshmen and a relatively inexperienced sophomore made their first ever visits to California.

The Demon Deacons opened the tournament with a loss to San Jose State. Rather than the normal stroke-play format, the Deacons squared off in individual contests. San Jose State won three of the matches outright, with only freshman Kelly Kirwin able to pull off a victory at the No. 3 slot. Senior Laura Philo eeked out a half in her match at No. 2 with Ji-yun Lee. Junior Alexandra Armas fell in her match at No. 1 to Janice Moodie. The bottom of the lineup was also unsuccessful, as freshman Kerri Murphy and sophomore Trina Casburn both lost.

The Demon Deacons loss dropped them to the consolation bracket and a match with Duke University. The team was a victim of bad luck as they tied the Blue Devils but lost the match on a tie-breaker system based on margin of victory. Philo got into the win column with a 4 and 2 rout of Alicia Allison at No. 2. Murphy did the same with a 1-up defeat of Filipa Hansen at No. 4. Kirwin joined No. 1 Philo as the only players without a loss when she halved with Liz Lepanto at No. 3. Dailey said that match turned out to be crucial, as Kirwin lost her 1-up lead through 17 holes as darkness neared.

"It was unfortunate that she lost that lead. It ended up being the difference," Dailey said, noting that one of the complaints of the coaches was simply a lack of daylight. She said her team had to get up at 4:30 a.m. for 7 a.m. tee-off times.

Some matches had to be called before they were completed because of darkness.

After both Armas and Casburn suffered their second straight losses at Nos. 1 and 5, the Deacons found themselves on the losing end again and looking to avoid last place in their match against UCLA.

The Demon Deacons responded with a convincing three-and-a-half to one-and-a-half romp over the Bruins. Philo and Kirwin ended the tournament without losses when they dealt Jeong-Min Park and Amandine Vincent defeats at the second and third positions.

Armas notched a win as well at No. 1 when she knocked off Betty Chen. Casburn ended her losing streak when she halved at No. 5 with Alexandra Gasser. Murphy was bettered at No. 4 by Eunice Choi.

Stanford claimed the title with a win over San Jose State. Dailey said that overall she was pleased with her team's performance.

"Although we didn't have many overall victories, I think it was a good experience for them," she said. "All of the matches were really close. A couple of shots here and there and we would have been in the final."

Philo said the absence of Bauer affected the team.

"Not having Sonia out there was a key factor for us," she said. "Considering the circumstances, we played pretty well."

For Kirwin, the tournament marked her first time in California. The Minnesota resident had never played on a desert course before, but she was pleased with her effort.

"It was really exciting, going into the desert and playing a completely different format. I have been struggling in stroke play so I was happy to play well," she said.

The Demon Deacons wrap up their fall campaign next week when they travel to another invitation-only affair at the Golf World Palmetto Dunes event in Hilton Head. All of the top teams will be there, except for San Jose State. Dailey said the usual stroke-play format is a better indicator of the better teams. Philo agreed and offered a prediction for the season-ending event.

"We're ready to go to Hilton Head and beat them the way golf is meant to be played," Philo said.

Field hockey team uses time off to get ready for ACC Tournament

By GREG WILSON
OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

After a disappointing 4-0 loss to the fifth-ranked Maryland Terrapins, field hockey team received a much-needed break. The team took two days off from practice before returning to practice last night. The team's next game comes on Friday, Nov. 7, in their first game of the ACC Tournament. They will face off against the Duke Blue Devils, the only ACC team they defeated during the regular season.

"The last time we played them, we really played well," freshman Meaghan Nitka said. "We all pulled together and played as a team. We have a lot of time to practice and fine tune everything before we play them, so we are really optimistic."

The Demon Deacons received the fifth seed in the tournament which begins on the 7th and continues through the 9th at Duke.

A few of the players who were injured during the regular season are expected to return to action for the tournament. Sophomore Amanda Janney and freshman Kelly Malinoski have returned from injuries and will contribute significantly during the tournament. However, several players are out for the remainder of the season. Sophomores Hadley Hicks and Kelly Simon and freshman Margit Haalebos remain sidelined for the season.

"It seems like we just can't stop getting injuries," Nitka said. "However, it will really help to have Janney and Kelly (Malinoski) back for the tournament. It just seemed like this season a lot of people came down with really random injuries."

In their last regular season game, the Deacons could not pull off the upset of the favored Terrapins. Although the team was upbeat about their chances before the game, they were not able to execute as well on the field. The Demon Deacons were outshot 29-8 by Maryland and had only six penalty corners compared to ten for the Terrapins.

After giving up three goals by the 13-minute mark in the first half, Nitka was pulled in favor of senior netminder Wendy Mumford. Mumford did her part for the Deacons, making 17 saves and allowing only one goal, but the offense was not able to respond.

"When Wendy came in she played a great game," Nitka said. "She really played well. It seemed like she had a million saves."

Although the defense was stronger in the second half, the offense succumbed to the defensive pressure of the Terrapins. The victory was the seventh shutout in 17 games for Maryland.

An injury during the game added to the Deacons' troubles. Freshman Jessica Barney was hit in the eye by the ball. However, she is expected to return for the ACC Tournament.



LeeAnn Hodges

On a roll

Quarterback Brian Kuklick rolls out of the pocket in the Navy game this weekend. A Navy defender moves in for the tackle.

Football Contest Week Eleven

■ Winner receives a \$40 gift certificate to the Diamond Back Grill

■ Circle the Winning team in each game (home team in caps.)

Maryland	at	CLEMSON
Virginia	at	DUKE
Florida State	at	GEORGIA TECH
N.C. State	at	NORTH CAROLINA
Tennessee	at	SOUTH CAROLINA
Michigan State	at	MICHIGAN
Northwestern	at	PENN STATE
Syracuse	at	WEST VIRGINIA
Washington	at	SO. CALIFORNIA
Iowa	at	ILLINOIS

Tiebreaker: Total points scored in the Florida State vs. Georgia Tech game _____

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