

DEACON NOTES

Men's soccer recruiting class considered one of best in nation

Men's head soccer coach Jay Vidovich announced the signing of seven new recruits to enroll in the school in the fall of 1999.

Vidovich said he was extremely pleased with this recruiting class because it brings a wealth of individual talent and international experience to the team. He said this is the strongest recruiting class since he has been with the Deacons and will help the team take the program to the next level.

The class is ranked as one of the best in the country and contains two of the top 10 high school players and two heralded international talents.



Vidovich

Gehring was also a three-time captain of the Dutch National Team and has scored 148 goals in his career.

Adam Hakes, from Phoenix, Ariz., has been a part of one high school state championship team and a club team that was a four-time club state champion. Hakes has also won All-region and All-state honors as a midfielder.

Andrew Rosenband, from Hammond, Ind., scored 114 goals in his career and was a two-time high school conference player of the year. Rosenband also played for the Indiana State team for three years.

Kalle Siira, from Espoo, Finland, is a transfer from USC-Spartansburg. Siira helped lead the Rifles to the NCAA Division II finals in 1997 and the regional finals in 1998 while earning NSCAA All-South honors both years. Last season, Siira was an NCAA Division II first-team All-American for his play as a mid-fielder.

Aaron Thomas, from Downingtown, Pa., is considered one of the top recruits in the country and a four-time member of the U.S. National team and a two-time Parade All-American. Thomas earned NSCAA All-America honors in 1998 and NSCAA Youth All-America honors in 1996 and 1997. He was also the 1998 NSCAA Pennsylvania High School Player of the Year.

Thomas's club team, FC Delco, won state championships in 1997 and 1998 and his high school team won league titles in 1997 and 1998 and the state championship in 1998. Thomas's older sister, Rachel, is a senior on the Deacon's women's soccer team.

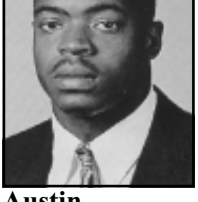
Paul Vogel, from St. Charles, Ill., has played for the Illinois State team since 1995 and is a member of the Windy City soccer club. In 1998 Vogel's club team, the Chicago Magic, went to the regional championships and a third-place finish in the national tournament.

Kevin Wickart, from Lisle, Ill., is also considered one of the top prospects in the country. Wickart earned NSCAA All-America honors in 1998 after leading his high school to a state championship. Wickart is also a two-time conference Player of the Year.

Rosenband, Vogel and Wickart currently play together for the Windy City Soccer Club.

Austin ties own record, breaks another at UNC-Charlotte Classic

Junior Reggie Austin earned the season's first ACC Performer of the Week honors for his performance at the 49er Classic at UNC-Charlotte.



Austin

Austin won both the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes en route to tying one of his own records and setting a school record in another.

Austin tied his school record in the 100 meters with a time of 10.60 seconds and broke the school record in the 200 meters with a time of 21.55 seconds.

Austin will return to action March 19 when the spring events begin at the Wake Relays currently being held on campus.

MacDougal earns top honors for no-hitter against Blue Devils

Junior Mike MacDougal pitched the Deacon's first no-hitter in 60 years to lead the Deacs over Duke March 12.

MacDougal's performance earned him ACC Pitcher of the Week and Louisville Slugger National Player of the Week by Collegiate Weekly.

Only two batters reached base against MacDougal, both via walks. MacDougal also recorded five strikeouts.

The no-hitter was the first for the Demon Deacons since opening day 1939 when three pitchers combined for the spectacular feat against Springfield College.

It was only the program's second ever individual no-hitter, the first coming in 1938 when George Hirtz accomplished the feat against Washington & Lee.

MacDougal began the season considered to be the third best draft prospect in the ACC and has only reinforced this belief, if not improved his value, in the eyes of the major league scouts.

MacDougal tosses no-hitter vs. Duke

By Greg Cousart
Old Gold and Black Reporter

While most of his fellow students were lounging in the Florida sun over spring break, junior pitcher Mike MacDougal took the matter of head coach George Greer's 500th career win into his own hands by no-hitting the Duke Blue Devils 5-0 in the Deacs' first conference game of the season March 12 at Gene Hooks Stadium.

MacDougal (4-1) allowed just two Blue Devils to reach base, both on walks, and struckout five batters en route to pitching the first Deacon no-hitter since 1939 and the first by a single pitcher since George Wirtz no-hit Washington & Lee in 1938.

Greer said that MacDougal's performance "was absolutely outstanding" and it was "the best performance of Mike's career at Wake Forest."

Greer added, "to have a no-hitter come on the same day as my 500th career win is just unbelievable."

MacDougal, a hard-throwing right-hander, simply overpowered the Blue Devil hitters and consistently broke the

"To have a no-hitter come on the same day as my 500th career win is just unbelievable."
George Greer
Head Coach

90 mph barrier with his pitches.

According to Greer, he topped out at 96 mph.

The only two base runners for the Blue Devils occurred when MacDougal walked Duke's Kevin Kelly in the fifth inning and Vaughn Schill in the sixth inning but neither runner advanced to second base.

Offensively, the Deacons provided all the runs MacDougal would need in their first at bat.

Senior Scott Daeley led off the inning with a double down the left-field line. Sophomore Jason Aquilante drove in Daeley when after he reached on a Blue Devil error.

Senior Ben Danosky later singled in Aquilante to put the Deacs up 2-0.

Another error by Duke allowed

Danosky to score the Deacs final run of the inning.

The Deacs picked up their final runs of the game in the fifth inning with the aid of two more Blue Devil errors.

Senior Jon Palmieri started the inning with a double to right center field and later scored on a throwing error by Duke shortstop Vaughn Schill.

The error also scored senior Andrew Riepe to close out the Deacon scoring.

The second game of the series on March 13 was an offensive awakening for the Deacs as they shelled the visiting Blue Devils 15-6 to pick up their second conference win and improve their record to 12-4 overall and 2-0 in the ACC.

Senior Ben Danosky and sophomores Chase Voshell and Jason Aquilante all hit two-run homers by the end of the fourth inning to allow the Deacs to stake an 11-0 lead after the fourth inning.

The Deacs scored three runs in the first inning for the second consecutive game against the Blue Devils.

Scott Daeley doubled to lead off the inning and later scored on Jon Palmieri's single to center field.

Danosky then hit his two-run homer,

his third home run of the season, to put the Deacs up 3-0.

The Deacs added another run in the third inning when Palmieri singled in Daeley for the second time in the game.

In the fourth inning the Deacs broke loose for seven runs to put the Blue Devils away.

All seven runs scored with two outs. Chase Voshell hit his fourth home run of the season, a two-run shot that also scored sophomore Corey Slavik.

After Daeley hit his second double of the game, Jason Aquilante countered Voshell's homer with a two-run shot of his own.

Senior John Hendricks improved his season record to 4-2 by pitching eight shutout innings.

Hendricks struckout seven Blue Devils while yielding only six hits.

For the series the Deacon starting pitchers did not allow a single run and gave up only six hits in 17 innings of work.

The Deacs travel to Chapel Hill March 19-21, to take on the third-ranked Tar Heels in crucial ACC series for both teams. The Tar Heels will be the toughest competition for the Deacs to date.

NIT

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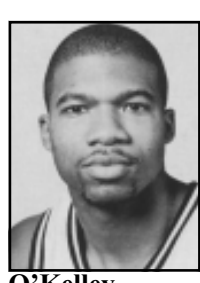
going to let his team take another early-round exit from the NIT. O'Kelley, who scored a career-high 36 points, scored six points in the midst of a 13-4 Demon Deacon run that drew the team even at halftime.

When the second half rolled around, O'Kelley continued to keep the Deacs close. He harassed the Musketeer defense, which allowed the Deacons to shoot 51 percent from the field for the game, and he scored 23 points in the final period, many on easy lay-ups off fast breaks.

But in the end, it was Xavier's press and three-point barrage that killed the Deacs.

"They press the whole game. We're not used to that," O'Kelley said. "Maybe we got a little fatigued."

Though the Demon Deacon's season ended a bit prematurely, expectations for next year will be high. Returning are a



O'Kelley

career of ever-maturing underclassmen, led by sophomores O'Kelley and Rafael Vidaurreta.

One of the Demon Deacons' most significant problems this past year was a lack of depth under the boards.

The Deacs ran primarily three deep with sophomore Josh Shoemaker and freshman Darius Songaila, the other post players, helping Vidaurreta out in the paint.

The addition of Missouri transfer Tate Decker, who will regain his eligibility after having to sit out a year is also expected to help.

Although Decker's on-court skills have yet to be proven, he has shown promise. The center scored 10 points as a Tiger

last year in a game that the Deacons hosted.

Sophomore Niki Arinze will be back to true form after an early shoulder injury sidelined him this season.



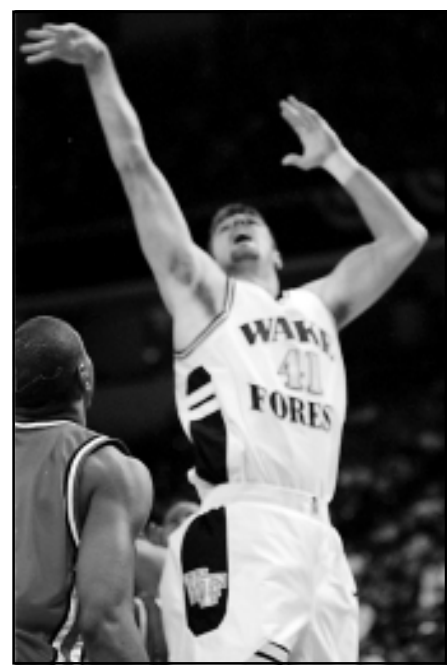
Hicks

Arinze's pure athleticism will help him improve on his rebounding skills, a part of the Deacs' game in need of significant improvement.

Although the inside trees will get some help from Decker, Arinze and recruit Josh Howard, a wing/forward, the Deacs' five freshman will only get better.

Dawson will be able to rest the shin splints that prevented him from playing at full potential all year.

Hicks will learn how to man the point guard position more adequately, allowing O'Kelley more time to concentrate on his off-guard play.



Chris Carlstrom/Old Gold and Black
Xavier's press was too much for Vidaurreta and the Deacs.

Austin shines as Deacs dominate 49er Classic

Junior breaks school record in 200-meters as the team gears up to host Wake Forest Relays

By Vanessa St. Gerard
Old Gold and Black Reporter

In their most recent contest, the Demon Deacon men's and women's track and field team competed in the UNC-Charlotte 49er Classic March 12th and 13th.

Competing against teams such as N.C. State, Appalachian State and UNC Greensboro, in total, the Demon Deacon squad brought home nine first-place finishes and six second-place finishes to show their domination in the tournament and open up their outdoor season.

Junior Reggie Austin received honors by being named the first 1999 ACC Performer-of-the-Week after his performance this past week-end.

Austin tied his own school record in the 100-meter with a time of 10.60, and

then broke the previous Demon Deacon record in the 200-meter with a time of 21.55 en route to taking first place in both events.

Sophomore John Stone finished close behind Austin in both events, finishing strong in second place with times of 10.7 in the 100-meters and 21.64 in the 200-meters.

The 800-meter run was taken over by the Demon Deacons as freshman Michael Altieri earned first place and junior Chris Cody received third place, clocking in at 1:55.02 and 1:56.24, respectively.

The men's relay team placed third in the 4x400 meters while on the field, junior Da'Vaughn Mellerson earned first place in the shot put with a distance of 15.52 meters.

The women's track and field team did as well as the men at the 49er Classic,

placing in seven different events.

Senior Brooke Chapman captured first place in the 400-meter with freshman Jennifer Hall close behind, earning a third place finish. Junior Alison Anibaldi clocked in at 2:15.06 in the 800-meter run, finishing in second place.

Sophomore Kelly Brady and junior Jill Snyder obtained first-place and second-place finishes in the 1,500-meter run, and senior Amy Wallace and sophomore Kathleen Kuhnert ran first-place and second-place times in the 3,000 meters, respectively. Wallace had a time of 10:22.78 and Kuhnert clocked in at 10:23.07.

The women's relay also fared very well in the 4x400, coming in with a time of 3:51.48 to earn first place. The Deacs finished over 10 seconds before their nearest competitor in this event.

The Demon Deacons are currently in the middle of competing in the Wake Forest Relays on campus. The tournament began March 17 with the heptathlon and decathlons.



Kraus

The tournament usually draws teams from all over the country and is one of the team's favorite meets each year.

On the women's side, junior Janelle Kraus will look to continue her phenomenal performance in the long distance events this year.

For the men, Austin will look to keep his momentum from the 49er Classic up to speed in the short-distant events at the Wake Relays.

Golf teams showcase talents in tournaments

Women's team plays well, finishes third despite loss of Prieto to illness at tourney

By Sean Blue
Assistant Sports Editor

Sophomore Marta Prieto seemed unstoppable after the first two rounds of the Casa De Campo Intercollegiate golf tournament in the Dominican Republic March 12 and 13. The third round, however, provided a new competitor that Prieto just could not compete against.

Prieto was in first place in the tournament after 36 holes but was forced to withdraw in the final day because of a slight case of Salmonella poisoning and heat stroke.

"I tried to play and I couldn't hit anything," Prieto said. "I played two holes and had to stop every 15 steps. I really tried, but I had to quit when I couldn't stand up anymore."

After the first round of play, the Deacons stood in second place and trailed first-place Tennessee by only two strokes.

The Deacs were led by Prieto, junior Kelly Kirwin who was one stroke behind Prieto in second place and freshman Katie Brenny in 10th-place

overall.

Despite the loss of Prieto in the final round, the Deacons proved they were a real team and not a group led by one individual. The Deacons finished the tournament in third place overall, and Kirwin finished in second place overall behind South Carolina's Lin Moelier.

"It was kind of disappointing (having to withdraw early)," Prieto said. "Why couldn't it have happened in a tournament when I was in 20th or something?"

South Carolina shot a team 309 in the final round to win the tournament followed by Tennessee. Moelier shot a one-under-par 71 in the final round to come out of nowhere and captured the individual title with a total score of 228.

Kirwin recorded a 231 overall with a final round of 77. The next Deacon was Brenny with a 238 overall, followed by senior Kristen Wagner with a 249 and freshman Nicole Faniola with a 259. Overall the Deacs recorded a 950, 12 strokes behind South Carolina.

Sanchez helps lead Deacs to seventh-place finish

By Brian Barrett
Old Gold and Black Reporter

Senior Oscar Sanchez shot a three-over par 147 to lead the Demon Deacons to a seventh-place finish in the rain-shortened Seminole Classic in Tallahassee.

The individual effort by Sanchez enabled the co-captain to finish in the top 10 for the first time since his sophomore year. The senior finished in a four-way tie for sixth place, five strokes behind winner Kyle Thompson of South Carolina.

The team shot a 603, 27-over par for the weekend, 18 strokes behind winner South Carolina. No team was able to shoot under par on the tough course, as USC came the closest with a 2-over-par 585.

The 54-hole event had to be shortened to 36 holes because of continuous rains at the 6,965 yard, par-72 Golden Eagle Country Club.

Other Deacon standouts included senior Michael Capone and sophomore Ryan Peiffer. Both finished tied for 31st place at eight-over par. Freshman Jay Morgan had a great first round with a one-over-par 73; however a second round 81 dropped him from ninth all the way down to 43rd.

The Deacons' next tournament will be March 27-28, when they will compete at the Chris Shankel Intercollegiate.



Courtesy of Sports Information
Senior Oscar Sanchez recorded his best performance since his sophomore year placing seventh in the Seminole Classic.