

DEACON NOTES

Latest MasterCard Collegiate golf rankings released

The MasterCard Collegiate golf rankings for the week of March 17 have many ACC teams ranked in the top 50 including the women's team and a few Deacons ranked in the top 100.

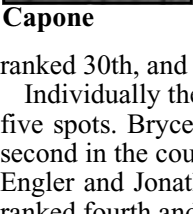


Prieto
In the women's rankings the Deacons are ranked 27th in the nation with three ACC teams ranked above them.

Duke is ranked No. 2 in the nation, followed by Florida State and North Carolina ranked 19th and 20th, respectively.

In the individual rankings, sophomore Marta Prieto is 42nd in the nation. Duke has two of its top five ranked in the top 11, with Beth Bauer ranked fourth and Jenny Chausiriporn ranked 11th.

On the men's side, six ACC teams are ranked in the top 50. Unfortunately, the Deacons are not ranked as a team, but senior Michael Capone is ranked 99th in the nation.



Capone
The ACC claimed two of the top five team spots with Clemson being ranked first and Georgia Tech ranked fifth.

North Carolina and North Carolina State are not far behind at 16th and 18th, respectively. Maryland is ranked 30th, and Virginia is ranked 46th.

Individually the ACC holds three of the top five spots. Bryce Molder of Georgia Tech is second in the country, barely edging out John Engler and Jonathan Byrd, both of Clemson, ranked fourth and fifth, respectively.

Women's golf team to co-host Bryan National Collegiate

The women's golf team is set to co-host the Bryan National Collegiate with UNC-Greensboro March 26-28.

The Deacons and the Spartans will be two of the 12-team field. The rest of the field will include Colorado, Kentucky, Furman, Memphis, UNC-Chapel Hill, New Mexico State, Ohio State, Penn State, Washington and the Swedish National Team.

Of the 12 teams, eight are nationally ranked. Washington is the top-ranked team in the tournament at 14th.

Ohio State, Memphis and New Mexico are all closely matched at 22nd, 23rd and 24th, respectively. The Deacons are not far behind at 27th. The rest of the ranked teams include Furman (35th), UNCG (43rd) and Penn State (44th).

The tournament will take place at the 6,074 yard par-72 Champions Course at Bryan Park in Browns Summit and will be contested over three rounds and 54 holes.

Intramural basketball season concludes with title games

The intramural basketball season ended March 24 in Reynolds Gymnasium. The 15 championship games were held March 22-24, with the men's A1 and Co-Rec undergraduate divisions concluding the season March 24.

Mobb Deep captured the A1 championship over the all-freshman team of Hey Rangor by a score of 56-47. Mobb Deep established themselves as a dynasty with the victory, which marks the third consecutive A1 championship they have won.

Sigma Chi fraternity fared well, capturing two division championship titles. Sigma Chi C captured the C1 division title with a 24-23 edging of Sigma Pi C. Sigma Chi B took the B1 championship over Net Assets by a score of 54-38.

In the B2 championship 5B barely captured the title, defeating Jiggawatts 51-48. The Larry Bird Exception won the B3 championship over the Specialists 47-38.

The C2 title went to Piccolo with their 20-point victory over Sketch 44-24. Bebe's Kids took on High 5'n White Guys in the C3 championship, and Bebe's Kids used a 59-52 victory to earn the title.

Def Squad, composed entirely of football players, proved they could be two-sport stars when they won the A2 championship with a 70-55 thrashing of Diesel.

In the Graduate/Faculty divisions, Butter took on Shawshank in the Graduate/Faculty 1 division. Butter emerged with the title off a 62-61 victory. In Graduate/Faculty 2 Old Dawgs defeated Aftermath 63-45 to win the championship.

In the women's divisions, Skins overcame Tube Socks 33-23 to win the A1 championship. The A2 title went to Pi Phi with their 32-22 victory over Essence, and Pogo soundly claimed the A3 title with a 49-19 victory over BBB.

The Co-Rec graduate title went to encore with their 66-52 victory over HES.

Third-ranked UNC too much for Deacs

By Greg Cousart
Old Gold and Black Reporter

What started out as a promising weekend turned sour for the 23rd-ranked Diamond Deacs as they dropped two out of three games against the third-ranked North Carolina Tar Heels in Chapel Hill March 19-21.

The Deacs opened the three-game series with a convincing 9-7 victory behind the right arm of junior pitcher Mike MacDougal and the bat of senior Ben Danosky. MacDougal pitched seven strong innings to win resoundingly the much-anticipated dual with Tar Heel ace Kyle Snyder.

MacDougal (5-1) allowed only three Tar Heels to cross the plate on six hits and struck out seven batters, compared to the eight runs allowed by Snyder. Both Snyder and MacDougal are ranked among the top professional prospects in the ACC.

The Deacons jumped to a 4-0 lead in the top of the first inning by capitalizing on three walks and a balk by Snyder. Senior Scott Daeley and sophomore Jason Aquilante both walked to open the inning for the Deacs. Daeley scored when an error by Tar Heel first baseman Jay Madeira allowed senior Jon Palmieri to reach base.

Danosky collected the first of his three

hits of the game by singling in Aquilante. Snyder's balk then allowed Palmieri to score and Danosky to advance to third, where he was later driven in by sophomore Corey Slavik's sacrifice fly to centerfield.

The Deacs increased their lead to 5-0 in the third when Danosky, who went 3-for-3 with three RBIs, belted the first of his two homeruns.



MacDougal

Ryan Matthews.

Scott Daeley opened the fifth inning with a double to center field and advanced to third on a wild pitch by Snyder. After Aquilante struck out, Palmieri brought in Daeley with a sacrifice fly to centerfield. Danosky followed with his second homer, his fifth of the season, to put the Deacs up 7-3.

The Deacs put the game out of reach with two additional insurance runs in the seventh inning. Aquilante started the Deacs off with a single to leftfield and

advanced to third on a wild pitch Snyder and a ground out by Palmieri.

After Danosky was hit by a pitch, sophomore Danny Borrell singled to rightfield to score Aquilante from third.

Senior Andrew Riepe followed suit with a single that brought in Danosky from second.

The Deacs squandered a chance to do further damage in the inning when Borrell was gunned down at home after a Corey Slavik single.

Freshman David Bush thwarted a potential Tar Heel rally in the ninth inning to record the first save of his career.

The next two games were not as pleasant for the Deacons, as they were outscored 20-4 in the next 18 innings.

In the March 20 loss, Andrew Riepe's solo homerun, his third homer of the season, in the second inning put the Deacs briefly ahead. Unfortunately, it was the only offense they would muster the entire game.

Deacon starter John Hendricks (4-3) had his worst outing of the season by giving up nine runs on thirteen hits and striking out only two Tar Heel batters.

The Demon Deacs improved slightly in the March 21 game by scoring three runs off the Tar Heel pitching.

The Deacs managed to stake claim to an early lead for the third straight game by posting two runs in the first inning.

Aquilante drew a walk from Tar Heel starter Ryan Snare and advanced to third on Palmieri's single to right field. Aquilante scored and Palmieri advanced to second on a wild pitch by Snare. Palmieri later scored when an error by Tar Heel rightfielder Matt McCay allowed Riepe to reach base safely.

The Deacs increased their lead to 3-0 in the fourth inning when Borrell was hit by a pitch to lead off the inning. Singles by Corey Slavik and sophomore Chase Voshell allowed Borrell to score the Deacs' final run of the game.

The Deacon lead lasted only three innings as the Heels posted two runs in the bottom of the fourth and an additional five runs in the sixth inning.

Junior Eric Schmitt surrendered seven hits that led to five Tar Heel runs and struck out one Tar Heel in five innings to pick up his first loss of the season.

The Deacs will play the second of three consecutive crucial ACC games when the Clemson Tigers come to Gene Hooks Stadium this weekend for a three-game set.

Women's tennis rocks opponents

By Jessica Reigle
Old Gold and Black Reporter

The Demon Deacons women's tennis team had a triumphant past weekend, stomping both Clemson and Furman to boost their overall record to 6-6, and 1-0 in the ACC.

In their March 20 match against Clemson, the Deacs coasted to a 7-2 victory to open their 1999 Atlantic Coast Conference season successfully.

The Deacons won five of the six singles matches, giving Clemson little chance to redeem themselves as the matches progressed.

Contributing to the Deac success were sixth-ranked Mariel Verban at the No. 1 singles spot and freshman Janet Bergman, ranked 50th in the nation.

Deacon freshmen Maren Haus and Lea Miller both won their singles matches, and junior Annemarie Milton won at the No. 5 singles spot, improving her overall record to 17-11.

After clinching the five singles victories, the Deacs refused to let Clemson gain any ground and proceeded to claim two of three doubles matches.

Bergman and Verban teamed up at the No. 1 spot to give the Deacons an 8-4 win, while Milton and Miller combined forces to beat their Clemson opponents 8-5 at the No. 2 spot.

Even though the Deacs were favored to beat both Clemson and Furman, they did not go out with the attitude that either match would be easy.

"Everyone played really well," said Verban said. "Even though we were supposed to beat them (Clemson and Furman), we went out with the attitude that the matches would be tough and that helped us stay focused."

That focus evidently paid off, since the Deacons crushed Furman 8-1 March 21 at the Indoor Tennis Center in a non-conference match.

This was a memorable match for Verban, who recorded her 30th win of the season when she defeated Furman's Megan Dunigan 6-1, 6-1. This marks only the 12th time in Deacon history that an individual has won 30 matches in a season. Verban also achieved this honor last season, when she notched 31 wins in the 1998 season.

"I played the best I've played in a couple of weeks," Verban said of the weekend's matches.

The Deacs came out full force, winning all six singles matches, along with two of three doubles matches.

Bergman won 12 straight sets at the No. 2 singles spot, defeating Furman's Meredith Moore by scores of 6-0 and 6-0. Haus, Jackie Houston, Milton and Miller all contributed to the Deacon victory, each winning their singles match.

Verban and Bergman dominated at No. 1 doubles, and Houston and Haus never let their opponents get a glimpse of victory at the No. 3 doubles spot, as they won their match 8-0.

Verban is happy with the team's performance thus far and hopes for continued



Trevor Hughes/Old Gold and Black

Sophomore Mariel Verban smacks a backhand down the line against her Clemson foe in a singles match.

success as they head into a challenging three-match weekend. "We have a tough weekend ahead of us. We want to continue to have fun and play well," she said.

The Deacons will return to action this Thursday when they face No. 1 Florida in Gainesville, the first of three matches that will be played away from home.

Tourney tough for golf team

By Sean Blue
Assistant Sports Editor

The women's golf team was unable to continue its success from the Caso De Campos Intercollegiate and fell behind early at the Lady Gamecock Classic March 19-21.

The Deacons stood in eighth place in the Classic after the first round and were unable to fight their way back up the leader board, finishing 11th overall. The weekend before, the Deacs had a great showing and finished third at the Caso De Campos Intercollegiate.

The event was won by Duke, the second ranked team in the nation, with a score of 581, five-over par. Duke was led by the strong play of Jenny Chausiriporn, who carded an eight-under par 136.

"I think they are the best team in the nation, and some people even think they may be the best team ever," sophomore Marta Prieto said.

Chausiriporn's opening-round 66 was the lowest recorded round in the history of the course and the tournament for a female. It also ties with four other players for the lowest recorded round in the nation so far this season.

"This course is really hard. If you hit it just a little bit wrong you miss the green completely. The greens are very hard also," Prieto said. "I talked to her after she shot a 66 and asked her how she did it, and she said she putted very well. She had to play almost perfectly."

Senior Kristen Wagner led the Deacons after the first round with a six-over par 78 but was overtaken in the second round by Prieto for the individual Deacon lead. Prieto recorded a 12-over par 156 for the tournament and tied with for 24th place individually with four other players.

"I three-putted six of the holes in the first green," Prieto said. "I hit the ball very well, but my putting hurt me."

Senior Kelly Kirwin was only one stroke behind with a 157 in 28th place, followed closely by Wagner in 39th place with a 158. The rest of the Deacon field comprised freshman Nicole Faniola, who recorded a 166.

"We didn't play bad but we weren't great either," Prieto said.

For the second week in a row the Deacons were short one player. At the Caso De Campos Intercollegiate, Prieto was forced to withdraw in the final round because of illness.

At the Lady Gamecock Classic, freshman Katie Brenny had to withdraw after the practice round and before the tournament even began because of personal reasons.

"The course is a very tough course and it's a little bit easier if you have a fifth player so you can drop your highest score each day," Prieto said.

The tournament was held at the 5,996-yard par-72 University Club in Blythewood, SC.

Langdon, co. return to Final Four

Return to Final Four is return to glory for Krzyzewski and Duke

By Joel Israel
U-Wire

Mike Krzyzewski won't have to show his players videotapes anymore. They're ready once again to make their own.

March 20, on the eve of his team's second straight appearance in the Regional Finals, Krzyzewski decided to pull out a video, albeit one just 40 seconds long.



Krzyzewski

It was March of 1989, and Duke was cutting down the nets after having just beaten Georgetown to reach the Final Four.

"He was smiling on the tape," Corey Maggette said of Krzyzewski. "It was great to see him be a kid for a minute."

Just four seasons after watching his team plummet to its worst record in 12 years, Krzyzewski could smile again March 21 in New Jersey.

With an 85-64 win over Temple, Krzyzewski tied former UCLA Head Coach John Wooden for second all-time in NCAA tournament victories by recording his 47th NCAA tournament win.

More importantly, it marked a triumph of sorts, a return to the final weekend once dubbed the Duke Invitational earlier this decade.

After a loss in the championship game to Arkansas in 1994, the Blue Devils

"You don't have a chance to win a national title until you reach the Final Four. Now we can start talking about winning a national championship."

Mike Krzyzewski
Duke Head Coach

took a slide. Krzyzewski had to sit out the final two-thirds of the next season with back problems.

Trajan Langdon is the only player still around from that 13-18 campaign, and he knows how far Duke has come and how little time it took to get back.

Sunday's opposing coach, John Chaney, certainly well-respected among his peers, hasn't even taken his team to the Final Four once. In comparison, this will be Krzyzewski's eighth.

"I think it comes from Coach," Langdon said. "Coming back off the year where he missed part of the season, he was very disappointed where the program was. He has the most dedication of anyone in the nation in getting the program back up. The motivation comes from him and the team just follows him."

They followed him by playing 40 minutes of disciplined basketball against Temple.

Not that the effort was any different than it has been all season; Duke's average margin of victory is in the upper 20s.

The Blue Devils didn't exactly win March 21 by accident.

It has been a steady progression since Krzyzewski first returned his team to the tournament in 1996 and upped the ante a little each season.

They almost made it all the way last year, but the progression took its final step March 21.

"Duke has a great history, and Mike has a great ability to teach and a great respect for the game," Chaney said.

"There is class about the team."

With that class, Krzyzewski has elevated his own standing among the coaching elite. No current coach has a higher winning percentage in the tournament, and now just one, Dean Smith, has won more games (65).

"We're ecstatic about winning the region and having the chance to play for the national championship," Krzyzewski said.

"You don't have a chance to win a national title until you reach the Final Four. Now we can start talking about winning a national championship."

Duke will face Michigan State March 27 in St. Petersburg, Fla. The championship game will be March 29.

Joel Israel writes for The Chronicle, the student newspaper of Duke University.



Kirwin