

DEACON NOTES

Runners miss qualifying for NCAAs with 12th-place finish

The men's cross-country team concluded its season with a 12th-place team finish at the NCAA Regionals, failing to qualify for the national meet. James Madison was victorious, placing first with a total of 50 points, followed by N.C. State with 73. The Demon Deacons totaled 349 points. Junior Stephan Pro was the Deacon's highest finisher. His time of 31:05 over the 8,000-meter course earning him a 26th-place finish.

Field hockey awarded for athletic, academic achievement

The National Field Hockey Coaches Association named several Deacons as All-American and National Academic honorees Nov. 16.



Sophomore Jenny Everett earned All-South first team honors and National Academic honors. Juniors Kelly Malinoski and Meaghan Nitka and senior Amy Marchell were all named to the All-South second team. Marchell, sophomore Lizzy Hechenbleikner and junior Samantha Rush were awarded National Academic honors along with Everett.

Everett truly demonstrated her abilities both on and off the field by scoring 27 points and 12 goals to be second in both categories while maintaining a 3.89 G.P.A. Everett recorded two hat tricks during the season including a four goal night against Appalachian State.

Nitka, also an All-ACC pick, led the ACC in save percentages and was second in goals against average. Nitka was also named to the ACC All-Tournament team. Marchell and Malinoski each contributed six goals this season and five and two assists each, respectively. Marchell's 3.59 G.P.A. also displayed her strong academic performance.

Rush posted a 3.30 G.P.A. and Hechenbleikner earned a 3.57 G.P.A. to earn both of them National Academic honors.

College basketball to become newest investment opportunity

Wall Street Sports, the Web's leading sports stock market simulation, released its newest stock, College Hoops Edition, Nov. 10.

The College Hoops Edition is the first ever sports stock market to offer college basketball as virtual securities. Fans will be able to set up a free account by visiting the Web site at <http://collegehoops.wallstreetsports.com> then buy and sell shares of their favorite basketball teams in a competition against portfolio managers from around the world.

Bill Carey, a co-founder and the vice president of Wall Street Sports, thinks the simulation will be a success. He said that it will provide accurate, real-time feedback on the teams and their stock prices will reflect the team's success or lack thereof.

College Hoops Edition is the first interactive, market-based simulation to focus on college basketball teams. The real-time market allows for instantaneous change throughout the day. Teams' prices will change based on their win-loss record, their strength of schedule and the buying and selling activity for the teams. The market currently includes 100 Division I men's teams and has another 100 teams scheduled for initial public offering. The grand prize for the four month competition is a trip for two to the NCAA Championships. To be eligible for the prize, contestants must finish in the top 1000 in either November, December, January or February. Also, prizes are awarded to the top 100 portfolio managers for each month.

Deacs' interception total highest in more than a decade

This year's Deacon defense has picked off 15 passes so far this season, the most interceptions for the Deacs in over a decade.

The Deacons are second in the ACC in team interceptions behind N.C. State's 16. The interceptions have come from a combined team effort, with seven different defensive backs recording at least one interception, led by junior Reggie Austin's four. Four of the seven defenders recorded their first interception of their career this year.

The Deacon defense has not centered solely around interceptions, however. Graduate student Mark Makovec has recorded 44 unassisted tackles, five sacks, five quarterback pressures and 14 tackles for losses (fifth in the ACC), all second on the team.

Sophomore Mat Petz leads the team in sacks with six and tackles for losses with 15 which is also third in the ACC. The Deacs 26 team sacks is fifth in the ACC.

Songaila leads team to victory with 18 points

By Paul Gaeta
Sports Editor

Freshman Darius Songaila scored 18 points to lead the Demon Deacon men's basketball team to a 91-83 victory over the Global Sports Next Level All Stars Nov. 17 in the team's final exhibition game of the season.

Songaila, a forward who hails from Lithuania, showed signs of brilliance down low in the Deacs' first two regular-season games at the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic in New York.

Early foul trouble prevented the rookie from being a consistent threat for the Deacons.

Songaila, however, turned it around against the Global All Stars, leading the team in scoring with 18 points and grabbing 11 rebounds against the All-Stars.

In all, 11 different Deacons scored in the contest, including sophomore Niki Arinze, who was sidelined in the first two games with a shoulder injury. Arinze hit for seven points on the game.

The All Stars proved to be no easy match for the Deacons. The squad, made up of former college players like Cincinnati's D'Juan Baker and Florida State's Andre Reid, battled the Deacs all game long. At the half, the Deacons held a two-point advantage, 36-34.

When the second half rolled around, however, the Deacs got hot, shooting 64.5-percent from the floor. The Demon Deacons outscored the Global All Stars 55-49 in the final period en route to the win.

Sophomore Robert O'Kelley netted 14 points in the game, and backup point guard freshman Broderick Hicks had his largest output of the year with 12. Sophomore forward Josh Shoemaker helped out Songaila down low with nine points

and 10 rebounds. Baker was the leading scorer for the Global All Stars, who play many college basketball programs throughout the course of November, with a game-high 20 points, his highest total this season.



Chris Carlstrom/Old Gold and Black

Sophomore Rafael Vidaurreta gets low to stop the drive to the basket. The Deacons downed the Global Sports All-Stars 91-83 in a game that showcased the Deacon's youthful talent and all five freshmen saw valuable minutes.

Experience keeps hoops team close

By Brian Barrett
Old Gold and Black Reporter

Hurt by another slow start, the young Deacon women's basketball team fell to Davidson 82-75 Nov. 17 at Joel Coliseum.

The Deacs, who shot 35 percent from the floor in the first half, fell behind 8-1 in the opening minutes and didn't really get going until junior Brenda Mock Kirkpatrick's baseline jumper with five minutes remaining in the first half left the score at 33-18.

The basket ignited a 13-2 run by the Deacons, highlighted by seven points from junior Alisha Mosley. The run cut the lead to a mere six points at the half, as the Deacs trailed 35-29.

The Deacs continued to play well into the second half, taking the lead for the first time on senior Heidi Coleman's driving lay-up just four minutes into the period. Following a steal, sophomore Olivia Dardy put in another lay-up to give the Deacons what turned out to be a game-high three-point lead.

The two teams traded baskets for five minutes before Davidson's Janna Magette gave the Wildcat's the lead for good with a three pointer that pushed the score to 48-46. From there it was all Davidson, as the Cats quickly rolled to a 60-52 lead from which the Deacs never recovered.

"I was disappointed in our readiness for the game. We had a slow start against VCU as well, but this time we didn't have the energy to come back," said second-year Head Coach Charlene Curtis.

"We have to learn that you must play the entire game. We can't rely on coming back all the time, because as you saw tonight, against good teams that isn't always possible."

The Deacons did manage one final run, outscoring the Wildcats 8-4 during a two-minute span, but Davidson hit its shots down the stretch, making 15 of 17 foul shots during the final five minutes.

"They made the plays they needed to make when they had to. I'm proud of the way my girls came back from the early deficit, though. There were some things that I saw tonight that we need to work on, like defending off the dribble, but they are all correctable things. Hopefully we'll improve in those areas before the upcoming road trip."

Curtis was referring to a four-game trip that begins this weekend when the Demon Deacons head to Providence for a double-header and then stay in the area for the Fairfield Warner Classic, a four-team, double-elimination tournament.

"We won a real tight game with Providence last year, and West Virginia is very good, so it will be a challenging stretch. We need to work on getting better starts in our games, but if we do that, I think we can realistically come away from this trip having won three of the four games."

O'Kelley

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high 20 points on six of eight shooting.

After scoring eight points in the first half, O'Kelley dropped in all four of his three-point attempts in the second half, including two bombs in the final stretch run that put the Spartans away.

For the game O'Kelley nailed five of his six attempts from behind the arc in only 27 minutes of action.

Thirteen different Deacs saw action in the game, including all of the Deacon freshmen.

Freshman Craig Dawson provided instant offense for the Deacs in the first half. With the game tied at 9 apiece in the early going,

Dawson entered the lineup and scored eight points in a three-minute span on a pair of silky smooth three-point bombs and a lay-up, igniting the Deacon attack and pushing the lead up to 19-11.

Fellow freshman Broderick Hicks, who started in the Deacon backcourt along with O'Kelley, used his lightning fast quickness off the dribble to contribute 10 points while handling the point guard duties in his 18 minutes of play.

Along with Hicks and Dawson, freshman Darius Songaila displayed both quickness and power down on the

"We continue to rotate a lot of people and I don't know where that's going to lead. I really don't."

Dave Odom
Head Coach

block, utilizing a wide array of low-post moves on his way to scoring 13 points.

In his first action of the season following an injury to his shoulder, sophomore Niki Arinze started at small forward for the Deacs but looked a bit rusty scoring three points in 18 minutes and committing two turnovers.

Eleven of the 13 Deacon players that were able to get into the ball game made their way into the scoring column, with only junior transfer Jim Fitzpatrick and junior walk-on Tim Fuller failing to score.

Odom constantly rotated players in and out of the ball game, with no player putting in more minutes than O'Kelley. "We continue to rotate a lot of people and I don't know where that's going to lead. I really don't," Odom said.

"There's no reason to ask me about it; we're just going to keep doing it until I think we've had enough and then we'll go to playing five, maybe six, sometimes seven and some nights eight. But until I decide to change it, we're going to stay with what we got."

Last season, Odom proved that he

has no problem giving freshmen major minutes of action in heated ACC contests. In fact, against N.C. State last year Odom started five freshmen.

The Deacons return to action Nov. 20 when they play host to the Mercer Bears in Joel Coliseum. Tip-off is at 7:30.



Chris Carlstrom/Old Gold and Black

Niki Arinze, back from a shoulder injury, drives to the hoop.

Evans

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The Blue Devils took advantage of the Deacon defense, minus Evans, minutes later. Nineteen minutes in, Noah Lewkowicz sent a perfect corner kick into the box and Ali Curtis executed, sending a header over Deacon goalie, junior Sean Conner, off the bottom of the crossbar and into the net.

After the Blue Devil goal, however, you have to give the Demon Deacon defense credit. The back line got organized and, for the most part, shut down a potent Blue Devil offense for the remainder of the game.

Yet, although the Deacs' defense performed exceptionally, the Deacon offense struggled to get the ball past Duke goalkeeper Atli Knutsson. The team definitely had plenty of chances, but Knutsson, who returned late in the season from an injury that sidelined him for the majority of the year, came up big in net.

Late in the first half, seniors Kyle Bachmeier and Serge Daniv tested Knutsson with several on-target shots, including one the Duke defense had to clear off the line, but the Deacs just couldn't get one in the back of the net.

"We were banging away at the end of the first half, and I thought we had them on the ropes, and we wished that we didn't have halftime," Vidovich said. "We just wanted to keep on going. We had to survive the next 10 minutes and their pressure, but our



Chris Carlstrom/Old Gold and Black

Senior Serge Daniv, a first-team All ACC selection, is tripped up by a Duke defender. Duke committed 21 fouls in the match.

guys responded well."

But when the second half rolled around, it was the same old story for the squad - lots of chances but none that were capitalized on. Hermann Trophy candidate Evan Whitfield and Paul Nii-Amar Amamoo shut down the Deac offense, and when it was able to penetrate the Duke goal, it was Knutsson, utilizing his lanky frame, who kept the ball out of his net.

"I'm very proud of the effort," Vidovich said. "The players were under a lot of adversity, and they came through, and they came to play. I thought we were a little unlucky and had a couple of chances to stick one or two in at the end of the half and just came up

a little bit short."

"Both teams left a lot on the field," Duke Head Coach John Rennie said. "It was just a great game."

The Deacons finished the year with an 11-7-1 overall mark and despite defeating then top-ranked Washington Sept. 17, tying then third-ranked Virginia Sept. 19 and topping then ninth-ranked South Carolina Oct. 17, the team wasn't given a bid to the 32-team NCAA Tournament.

Duke went on to the finals of the ACC Championships before being defeated by top-ranked Clemson 1-0 Nov. 15. The Blue Devils will host Jacksonville Nov. 22 in the first-round of the NCAA Tournament.