

# Pitching, power help Deacs sweep past Blue Devils

The Diamond Deacons gain confidence in taking three in a row from Duke.

By Daniel Ogle  
Old Gold and Black Reporter

The 18th-ranked Demon Deacon baseball squad continued its march through the ACC this past week as they completed their first weekend sweep of the season in Durham.

The Demon Deacons took game one 3-2 behind the arm of junior Scott Siemon. The right-hander went the distance for his eighth win of the season as he yielded two runs on seven hits over nine innings while striking out five.

The Blue Devils jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead in the first inning as Duke third baseman Jeff Becker singled and advanced to third on a wild pitch, scoring on Wes Goodner's bunt single.

"They bunted me one time on me, and that threw me off guard and they got a run across," Siemon said. "They got that first run across and I paid extra attention the rest of the time."

The score stayed 1-0 until the top half of the seventh inning when the Deacons got even as junior Chase Voshell drove in senior Stephen Sullivan to knot the score at 1-1.

Junior Dan Conway stepped up to the plate in the following inning with one

out and took matters into his own hands. The catcher deposited the first pitch he saw from Brad DuPree over the left field wall for his 10th home run of the season, which gave the Deacs a 2-1 lead that they would not relinquish.

"He's really stroking the ball well," junior Jason Aquilante said of Conway. "He's a leader on this team and it shows by the way he is playing right now."

The Deacons got another excellent pitching performance April 1 from senior Eric Schmitt to follow Siemon's gem March 31. The senior allowed only one Blue Devil to cross the plate in 6-2/3 innings to run his record to 4-0 on the year.

The Deacons gave Schmitt all the run support he would need as they scored four runs in the inning, with sophomore Jamie Athas, junior Cory Sullivan and Stephen Sullivan all driving in runs.

Stephen Sullivan and junior Carlos Brackley were the offensive stars on the day as they each drove in three runs. Brackley went 3-for-4 on the day including a three-run home run, while Sullivan went 1-for-3 and drove in three runs on the afternoon.

The Diamond Deacs brought their brooms out March 2 as they completed the sweep of Duke with an 8-6 victory. The Deacons got on top of the Devils early as Conway launched his second home run of the weekend and his 11th of the year with junior Corey Slavik on first

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Jason Aquilante  
Junior

to give the Deacs a 2-0 lead.

The Deacons scored four more in the following frame to make the score 6-0 and to no one's surprise Conway was right in the middle of it. The Deacon catcher singled to right field, driving in Voshell and Aquilante to make the score 5-0. Junior Danny Borrell scored on Slavik's groundout to give the Deacs a 6-0 lead.

After Aquilante drove in senior Ricky Mendez, the Blue Devils responded, chasing Deacons starter Matt Briggs by scoring four runs in the bottom of the fourth to make the score 7-4.

The Blue Devils scored two runs in the following inning off Borrell to cut the Deacon lead to one. Troy Carradonna scored on Kevin Kelly's double to make the score 7-5, and Kelly was driven in by Matt Lynch's single and the lead was only 7-6.

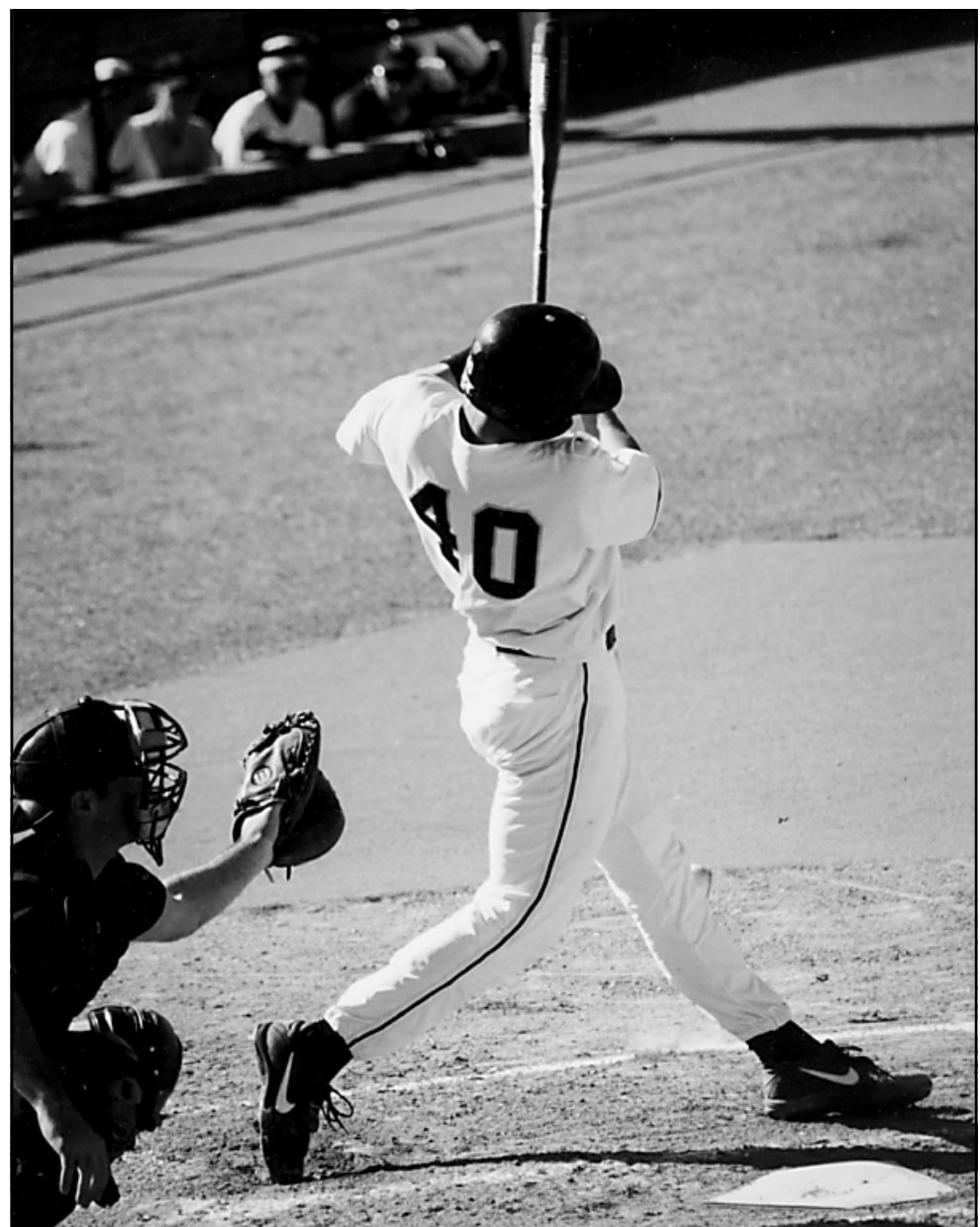
However, the Blue Devils would get no closer than one as the Deacs added an insurance run in the sixth inning, with Voshell doubling in Mendez to make the lead 8-6. Freshman Ryan Braun pitched the final 2-1/3 innings to record his first save of the season.

The Deacs were happy with their performance, especially considering their recent struggles to maintain consistency.

"It took awhile for us. I think that happens when you have a bunch of new guys playing together and it's happening at the right time," Aquilante said.

After sweeping the Blue Devils, the Diamond Deacons hit the road and defeated the Campbell Camels 4-3 in 11 innings. Freshman Ben Clayton turned in a solid pitching performance as he surrendered three runs over 7-1/3 innings and struck out eight. The left-hander carried a perfect game into the sixth inning before Nic Carter's double.

The Deacons took a 2-0 lead in the top of the sixth as Aquilante and Borrell hit solo home runs. Cory Sullivan's sacrifice



Photos by Natalie Worley/Old Gold and Black

Sophomore Dan Conway has been on fire at the plate lately.

fly, which scored Brackley, gave the Deacs a 3-0 lead after seven innings.

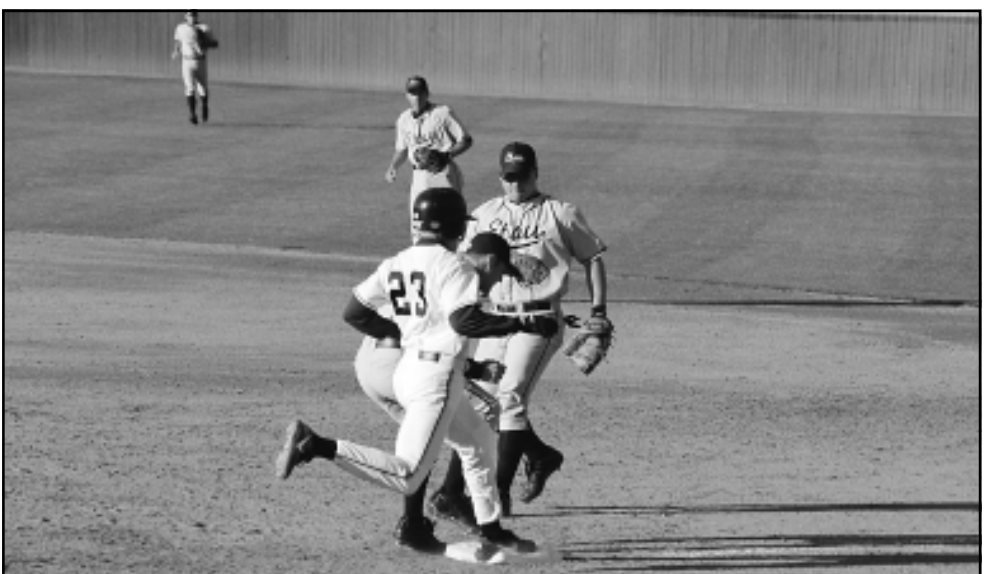
The Camels rallied in the bottom half of the eighth inning as Adam Hawes singled in Jeff Davis and Matt Carter. Johnathon Sanderlin drove in Carter with a sacrifice fly to tie the game.

The Deacons took their final lead in the top of the 11th as Slavik singled in Conway to give the Deacs a 4-3 lead. Sophomore David Bush, who allowed no hits over 3 1/3 innings of relief, picked up his second win of the season.

After going 4-0 on the week, the Deacs

will get yet another ACC test as they welcome the fifth-ranked North Carolina Tar Heels to Gene Hooks Stadium this weekend. The Tar Heels sport an excellent pitching staffed by Ryan Snare, along with strong hitting from Adam Greenberg and Tyrell Godwin, who come in batting .412 and .370 respectively.

"Obviously they have good pitching so we're going to have a good approach at the plate and in the field, throw strikes and keep them off the bases," Siemon said. "We're pretty much going to have to play at the top of our game."



Junior Corey Slavik singled in the winning run against Campbell as the Deacs defeated the Camels 4-3 in 11 innings.

## PRESIDENT HEARN'S TENNIS CHALLENGE

SUNDAY,  
APRIL 16TH  
APPROXIMATELY  
4 PM  
(IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING  
THE  
WOMEN'S  
NOON MATCH VS.  
VIRGINIA)

Check Out What's  
Happening in Campus  
Recreation!

COME OUT  
AND PLAY  
DOUBLES WITH  
OR AGAINST  
DR. HEARN.

FIRST 12  
STUDENTS TO  
REGISTER AT  
THE MATCH  
WILL PLAY!

### 3 V 3 Soccer Shootout

When: Saturday,  
April 15

Where: Poteat  
Field

What: 3v3 Soccer  
on 30x40  
yd fields  
with small goals



Cost: FREE

Registration:  
Opens, Monday,  
April 10 and Closes  
Friday, April 14

Spots are limited.

COME GET YOUR  
GAME ON!!

### Black and Gold Golf Classic



WHEN: Saturday, April 15  
WHERE: Tanglewood - Reynolds Course  
WHAT: 4 Person Captains Choice  
COST: \$30/person  
REGISTER: Opens Monday, April 10  
and Closes Friday,  
April 14