

DEACON NOTES

Three Deacons make All-ACC volleyball team

The Demon Deacons placed three players in the all-ACC volleyball team. Sophomore Trina Maso de Moya placed on the first team as an outside hitter. Helping her clinch the position was a conference leading 4.42 digs-per-game. Nationally, Maso de Moya ranked 11th in digs-per-game. Also contributing to her appointment were 4.1 kills-per-game – fourth in the ACC. Maso De Moya was also elected as the ACC Player of the Week for the weeks of Sept. 20 and Oct. 11.

Both sophomore Margaret Davidson and senior Sara Kryder were appointed to the second team all-ACC volleyball team. Davidson, a middle hitter, is ranked fifth in the ACC with a hitting percentage of .319. Kryder is a defensive specialist, providing quickness and agility for the Deacons.

Additionally, Mary Buczek, the Deacon head coach, was elected 1999 ACC Coach of the Year by the league's nine head coaches. So far Buczek has led the Deacons to claim third place in the ACC, with a 9-5 record in the conference and an impressive 23-7 overall record.

Clemson, ranked 13th nationally, placed Allison Codey and Cindy Stern on the first team, and Jessi Betcher and Jodi Steffes on the second team. Jessi Betcher also placed on the All-ACC all-freshmen team. Betcher lead the ACC in assists.

North Carolina led the ACC with six players named to the team. Representing the Heels are Liz Feldman, Tori Selbert, Shannon Smith, Casey Simpson, Laura Greene and Eve Rockham.

Former Deacon named Triathlete of the Year

Former Demon Deacon Hunter Kemper was named the U.S. Olympic Committee's Male Triathlete of the Year on Nov. 16. He is currently ranked 33rd in the world. Kemper has recorded four victories on the season. In addition to winning the ITU North American Regional Championship in August, Kemper also won the U.S. Pro National Championship for the second consecutive year.

He has won five titles in seven domestic races this season, and in eight international events he has been the first American finisher. Kemper's eighth-place finish at the 1999 ITU World Championships was the best finish by an American male since Brad Kearn in 1992.

This is Kemper's second award in as many seasons from the USOC, as he was named Rookie of the Year last season.

Deacon runner qualifies for NCAA Championships

Senior Janelle Kraus qualified for the NCAA Championships in Bloomington, Ind., Nov. 13 at the NCAA Men's and Women's Cross Country Qualifying Meet. Kraus qualified by finishing fourth with a time of 17:18.

Kraus was the lone Deacon to qualify for the NCAA Championships. Junior Kelly Brady was the next best Deacon finisher, placing 20th with a time of 17:58.

Men's Soccer to host NCAA Tournament game

The Demon Deacon men's soccer team will host Virginia Commonwealth in the first round of the NCAA Men's Soccer Tournament Nov. 21 at 1 p.m. at Spry Stadium

The Deacons are one of five ACC teams in the tournament. Besides the Deacs, Duke, North Carolina, Maryland and Virginia also made the tournament. The Blue Devils are the tournament's top seed.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children and students. For more information call the ticket office at 758-DEAC or (888)-758-3322.

Volleyball closes out season with victories

By Vanessa St. Gerard
Old Gold and Black Reporter

The Demon Deacon volleyball team ended its regular season with another win, sweeping past the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets, securing their third-place standing in the ACC. The Deacons complete their regular season with a 24-8 overall record and a 10-6 conference record, improving three wins in the ACC from last season's 7-9 record.

With the ACC Tournament in clear sight, the Deacons anticipate a successful ending to the 1999 campaign. "We are in the best position possible to do well in the ACC tournament," team co-captain junior Julie Cowley said.

"The ACC is quite good this year so we can't take anyone for granted, but we are very excited about the possibilities with this tournament."

In the first of their two final regular-season games, the Deacs suffered a loss to the Clemson Tigers, ranked 13th nationally and first in the ACC.

Throughout the match, the Deacs and the Tigers traded off points, keeping each of the games closely within just a couple of points. After a tight beginning to game one, the Tigers broke open the scoring to win 15-7.

The Deacons took a 6-1 lead in game two before Clemson rallied to tie the score at seven apiece. The Demon Deacons went on a 5-1 scoring run, but the Tigers again rallied to tie the score at 12. Clemson then took the next three points for the 15-12 win.

The Tigers jumped out to a 4-0 lead in game three, but the Deacons came back to lead the game 7-6.

The Tigers tied the score at nine, but the Demon Deacons won the next two points for an 11-9 lead. Clemson scored three unanswered points to lead 12-11, only to allow the Deacs to take two points for a 13-12 lead. The win was within the reach of the Deacons, but the Tigers were able to take the next three points to win the game and the match ending their regular season with a 29-1

record.

The following day, the Deacs ended the regular season on a positive note in Atlanta as they faced Georgia Tech. The Demon Deacons demonstrated a solid offensive attack throughout the match, hitting .307 from the floor. Much of the Deacon offense, including the attacking of sophomore Trina Maso de Moya, was keyed by the play of freshman setter Ashlee Phillips who tallied 42 assists. Maso de Moya collected a team-high 16 kills.

The Deacs found themselves in control throughout the match, despite a Yellow Jacket rally in the third game which saw Georgia Tech come from 10-2 down to within two at 12-10 before the Deacs put the match away. The Deacons defeated the Yellow Jackets in three straight games, 15-11, 15-10 and 15-12.

The match was the final outing for both teams before this week's ACC tournament, which will be held at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando, Fla.

"Our team has definitely improved in playing on the road," Cowley said. "In the years past and at the beginning of the season we have been a bit shaky on the road. But, with every away trip we seem to get stronger and we are ready as ever to play in Orlando."

The first match of the tournament is scheduled for Nov. 18, with the championship game set for Nov. 21.

The Deacons face the Yellow Jackets once again in the first round of the ACC Tournament at 7 p.m. Nov. 19.

"Going into the tournament third puts in a great position," senior Katie Horne said. "We have Georgia Tech in the first round which is the best we could have hoped for, having just played them last Saturday. We know them, and we know we can beat them. That's where the focus is at this point."

"We are going to have to play with a lot of heart and determination," Cowley said. "If everyone plays focused and together then we have a good chance of doing some damage."

Soccer advances to Sweet Sixteen

By Jordan Webster
Old Gold and Black Reporter

It wasn't pretty, but the result is all that counts. In an evenly matched second round NCAA Tournament contest, played Nov. 13 at Spry Stadium, the Demon Deacon women's soccer team defeated the Michigan Wolverines 1-0.

With the victory, the Deacs advanced to the round of 16, where they will face ACC rival Clemson Nov. 20.

The Deacons prevailed on the strength of a goal by sophomore Emily Taggart. Neither team was able to get on the board in the first half, although the Wolverines had an excellent chance in the 32nd minute, but Deacon defender Karli Schilling's back save prevented Michigan from striking first.

Michigan's inability to convert would come back to haunt them, as Taggart tallied the only score of the contest in the 64th minute.

Senior Anne Shropshire played a ball into the box, where freshman Joline Charlton was able to redirect the ball to Taggart who promptly buried the ball behind Wolverine goalkeeper Carissa Stewart.

Although the level of play seemed to slip dramatically as the game progressed, the Deacon defense performed well enough to preserve the victory.

Head Coach Tony da Luz echoed these sentiments.

"At this level, there are no easy games," da Luz said. "We were better than them in the first half, and we defended well enough at the end. They really didn't have many opportunities."

Now the Deacons turn their focus to the Clemson Tigers, who are currently ranked seventh nationally.

This will be the second meet-

ing of the two teams this season, with the Deacons winning the first contest, 2-1, at Spry Stadium Sept. 17.

In that match, first half goals by Rachel Lewis and Sarah Kate Noftsinger allowed the Deacons to hold off the Tigers, who mustered only a late score.

But these will not be the same two teams that met in September. And even though both squads have shown improvement, neither team seems to have a clear advantage.

"It should be an even game," da Luz said. "I think it's just going to depend on which team is more emotionally prepared."

There are a few differences in the two games, and perhaps the most important of these factors is the site of the game.

This time it will be the Tigers that will enjoy the home-field advantage, which usually proves to be an enormous asset in the tournament.

However, the Deacs do have several advantages working in their favor as well.

The Deacons won that early-season matchup playing severely short-handed.

Taggart missed the early contest against the Tigers with a knee injury, and Shropshire took a blow to the ribs in the first-half, which caused her to miss the remainder of the game.

Freshman Lindsey Griffin also saw limited playing time in the first game, as she was nursing a broken nose.

Thus, the Deacons can go into the game confident, knowing that they were able to defeat Clemson, despite playing without several key players.

The game should be a well-played contest, just as most are this late in the season. But if not, da Luz will take a win anyway he can get it.



Photos by Chris Carlstrom/Old Gold and Black



Following a bye in the first round and a 1-0 victory over Michigan in the second round, the Demon Deacon women's soccer team advanced to the third round, in which it will face ACC rival Clemson. ABOVE: Freshman Joline Charlton battles with a Michigan player for the ball. Ball control was the story of the game. LEFT: Sophomore Emily Taggart scored the Deacons' only goal to overcome Michigan and advance in the NCAA tournament.

Football team comes out flat against Duke

By Sean Blue
Sports Editor

In a game that could have secured the Demon Deacons their first bowl game since 1992 and their first winning season under Head Coach Jim Caldwell, the Deacon football squad surrendered 34 points to Duke in the first quarter and was forced to play catch-up the rest of the game.

Duke, with only two wins coming into the game, was determined to defeat the Deacons and had nothing to lose. The Blue Devils began the game with only one goal in mind – win. Duke's Scottie Montgomery returned the opening kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown to get Duke on the scoreboard with only 20 seconds expired from the clock. The bright side to the touchdown for the Deacons was that the special teams unit blocked their first extra point of the year to hold Duke to six points.

Two and a half minutes later Richmond Flowers caught a 10-yard touchdown pass from Kevin Thompson to give Duke a 13-0 lead with 12 minutes remaining. Duke's defense, ranked last in the ACC, came up big in their next series and intercepted the Deacons' senior quarterback Ben Sankey. The inter-

ception set up Duane Epperson, who increased Duke's lead to 20-0 off a 13-yard run with 11:40 left in the first quarter.

The game slowed down after that, however, and it took Duke 5:38 to score their next touchdown – a 28-yard pass from Thompson to Montgomery. Sankey made a bad pitch on the next offensive series, which led to a fumble recovered by Duke. With four minutes left in the opening quarter, Montgomery scored his third touchdown of the game off a six-yard run to give the Blue Devils a 34-0 lead.

The 34-point first quarter for Duke was one point shy of the ACC record, set by Clemson against the Deacons in 1981 and the most points Duke had scored since 1954 when it scored 32 against Penn State.

The Deacs finally woke up in the second quarter and began to play a little football. Senior Jammie Deese scored early in the second quarter off a five-yard pass from Sankey. The Deacs scored again three minutes later when senior Morgan Kane caught a nine-yard pass from Sankey to pull the Deacs within 20. Duke increased their lead, however, with a 10-yard touchdown run by Wilks. The touchdown was set up by Sankey's third

interception of the game.

The Deacs responded before halftime with another Sankey touchdown pass, this one going to senior Marvin Chalmers from one yard out. The Deacons went into halftime down 21-41 to Duke with their bowl game hopes fading fast.

Sankey attempted to make amends for his three interceptions in the first half when he broke a run for 26 yards and a touchdown in the third quarter. Duke answered five minutes later with a 1-yard touchdown run by Thompson.

Sophomore John Stone answered right back for the Deacs returning the ensuing kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown and a school for the longest return ever by a Deac. Senior Matthew Burdick's extra point brought the Deacs to within 13 points of Duke with 20 minutes remaining in the game.

The Deacs didn't threaten again in the game until the 5:33 mark of the fourth quarter. Deese was unable to get the extra inch needed, however, as the Duke defense stopped him just short of the end zone to preserve the victory.

Although Duke was playing without its starting quarterback and running back, the Blue Devils scored 48 points against the ninth-ranked scoring defense in the nation. Duke also rushed for 179 yards

against the Deacon defense, ranked first in the ACC for rushing defense. The rushing yardage was the third highest total the Deacs had surrendered this year.

Duke, however, figured out a way to stop the high-powered Deacon ground attack, which was ranked 31st in the nation. Duke's 34-point first quarter forced the Deacs to abandon the running game and take to the air to try to catch the Blue Devils.

Unfortunately, the underused air attack was not prepared for so many passes and Sankey threw four interceptions in the game.

Before the game, the Deacs had only turned the ball over 11 times all season but turned it over five times against Duke.

"Our offense turned the ball over less than any other team in our conference up until ball over that many times, you're going to give up some points," Caldwell said. "So you cannot expect our defense to show the same type of stickiness and toughness that they'd shown in terms of keeping teams out of the end zone as we'd shown in previous weeks. We did things we hadn't done before. We gave them a very short field to operate on."

The Demon Deacs now need a win against nationally ranked Georgia Tech Nov. 20 to become bowl eligible.