

DEACON NOTES

Soccer Coach Cagle feeling the Beat in Atlanta

Demon Deacon Women's Soccer Assistant Coach Kelly Cagle has left the team to play professionally with the Atlanta Beat in the newly formed Women's United Soccer Association. Cagle was the 80th overall selection by the Beat in the WUSA draft, and she made the team's final cut last week. Cagle, then Kelly Walbert, was the 1995 ACC Player of the Year when she played for the Duke Blue Devils.

This was Cagle's fourth year as an assistant, arriving here with Head Coach Tony da Luz, having helped guide the Deacs to NCAA Tournament appearances in each of those years. Cagle served as da Luz's top recruiter, as well as coordinating the travel and administrative needs of the team. Before coming to the Deacons, Cagle served as an assistant at the University of Texas in 1996.

Awards keep piling up for baseball team's Sullivan

Demon Deacon senior Cory Sullivan earned conference honors for the third time this season April 16 when he was named the ACC Player of the Week. The Pittsburgh, Pa., native earned the honors for leading the Deacons to a 4-1 record over the week, including taking two out of three from the vaunted third-ranked Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets. For the week, Sullivan went 8-for-18 (.444) with three home runs, nine RBI, 12 runs and four stolen bases.

The Demon Deacons return to action April 20-22 with a weekend series at home against N.C. State.

Spring football game set for April 21 at Groves Stadium

It's spring and the signs of the season are in the air: the sound of birds chirping, the smell of fresh cut grass, the sight of flowers blooming. But where does the smell of sweat, the sound of pads crashing and the sight of blood factor in? That's right, spring football practice is in full swing, and it will come to a climax April 21 with the annual Spring Game, 1 p.m. at Groves Stadium.

The Spring Game is open to the public, with admission free. Fans can purchase a ticket for \$5 to attend a picnic lunch at the stadium prior to the game at 11:30 a.m. in the Groves Stadium Concourse.

The Deacs open the season on the road against East Carolina Sept. 1 before the Sept. 8 home opener against Appalachian State.

SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 19
Men's Tennis at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Women's Tennis at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.

Friday, April 20
Men's Tennis at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Women's Tennis at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Men's Track at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Baseball vs. N.C. State, Ernie Shore Field, 7 p.m.
Women's Track at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Women's Golf at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.

Saturday, April 21
Men's Tennis at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Women's Tennis at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Women's Track at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Women's Golf at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Baseball vs. N.C. State, Ernie Shore Field, 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 22
Men's Tennis at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Women's Tennis at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Women's Golf at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.
Baseball vs. N.C. State, Hooks Stadium, 1:30 p.m.
Men's Golf at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.

Monday, April 23
Men's Golf at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.

Tuesday, April 24
Men's Golf at ACC Championships, Orlando, Fla.

Wednesday, April 25
Baseball at Charlotte, Charlotte, 6 p.m.

Another meet, another record for Merritt

By Jim Gleitman
Contributing Reporter

Just when you thought the women's track team had broken enough school records, they stepped it up again this past weekend at the Charlotte Invitational, as sophomore Liz Washam and freshman phenom Carol Merritt led the Demon Deacons in one of the team's top performances of the spring.

The Charlotte Invitational was scheduled as a tune-up for the ACC tournament, which will take place in Orlando, Fla. April 20-21. However, this past weekend seemed more like a talent show as the Deacs posted high marks.

Washam, a native from Newport News, Va., cleared 10'11" in the pole vault, breaking the school record by more than seven inches. Merritt shaved a couple tenths of a second off her school record in

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Annie Schweitzer-Bennett
Head Coach

the 400-meter dash. The freshman from Raleigh won the event in 55.88.

Along with the victories of Washam and Merritt, several other Deacs put together solid individual performances. Senior Summer Shaw took second place in the 400-meter dash with a 56.08, finishing just two-tenths of a second behind Merritt. Junior Sandra Jenkins was the runner-up in the discus throw, tossing it 113'4". Freshman Kara Mullin took third place in the 800-meter run with a time of

2:17.18. Classmate Jamie Grayzer had a busy weekend, taking fifth place in the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.99, fifth place in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 15.13 and 12th place in the long jump with a leap of 16'8".

Head Coach Annie Schweitzer-Bennett previously said she wanted to use the Charlotte meet to specialize in each athlete's event in order to focus on the small technicalities. With all of the success and records being broken lately, it might seem to an observer that the Deacs have peaked too soon. According to Schweitzer-Bennett, this is not the case.

"Not with my training, we never peak too early," Schweitzer-Bennett said. "I feel like we are right where we need to be and we still have a lot in us."

This week Schweitzer-Bennett has been working with her athletes and helping them remain focused but relaxed. "I tell

them to have the pride in themselves and in their school and to go in there and compete like that," Schweitzer-Bennett said. "Their times and everything else will take care of themselves."

The only thing left on the checklist of preparation is health concerns, and according to Schweitzer-Bennett there are not any to be worried about. "I am a little concerned about the weather change which has left a couple of people with some slight colds," Schweitzer-Bennett said. "However, we are healthy, which is the most important thing, and we are probably ahead of the game."

Everything checks out okay for the Deacs as they head to Orlando April 20-21 to compete in the ACC championships. As to whether or not school records will be broken is undetermined, but with the team performing the way they are, you just never know.

Deacs hunt down 'Pack, head for Orlando

By Jared Klose
Senior Reporter

The No. 45 Demon Deacons closed out their regular season on a high note with a resounding 5-2 road victory against N.C. State April 15. With the win, the Deacons pushed their record to 13-9 (5-3), a result good enough to secure a fourth-place finish in the ACC and stand as their best result since 1994, when they also finished behind three other teams.

A pre-match decision was made to hold the contest at Sheffield Indoor Tennis Center because of damp courts at the Wolfpack Tennis Center and the threat of an oncoming thunderstorm, but the Deacons refused to let anyone rain on their parade. Even so, N.C. State jumped out to an early lead by winning the doubles point.

Freshman David Loewenthal and sophomore Trent Brendon defeated State's Michael Carducci and Ryan Boward 8-4 in the No. 2 match, but the Wolfpack found better success in the other two contests. Senior Raul Munoz teamed with sophomore Mike Murray at the top spot, but the Deacs were downed 8-3 by N.C. State's tandem of Eric Jackson and Reinaldo Valor. In the decisive third match, the Deacon pairing of sophomore David Bere and freshman Andrew Simpson were outlasted by the tenacious Wolfpack duo of Brad Kilgore and John Davis who earned a 9-7 win for themselves and a 1-0 lead for their team in the process.

But the Wolfpack lead would be short-lived, as the Deacons responded quickly in singles play to erase the early disadvantage. After spending nearly an entire season playing from behind, the Deacons looked comfortable despite the deficit and showed no signs of panic at all in their individual matches. When the dust had settled, the record showed that the Deacs had managed to calmly win five out of six to wrap up their last ACC regular season match of the year by a comfortable 5-2 margin.

The wins for the Deacons came from the No. 2 through No. 6 positions where they posted straight-set victories in every match. Murray eased 6-4, 6-1 past Valor at the second slot while Loewenthal demolished Carducci 6-0, 6-1 at third.

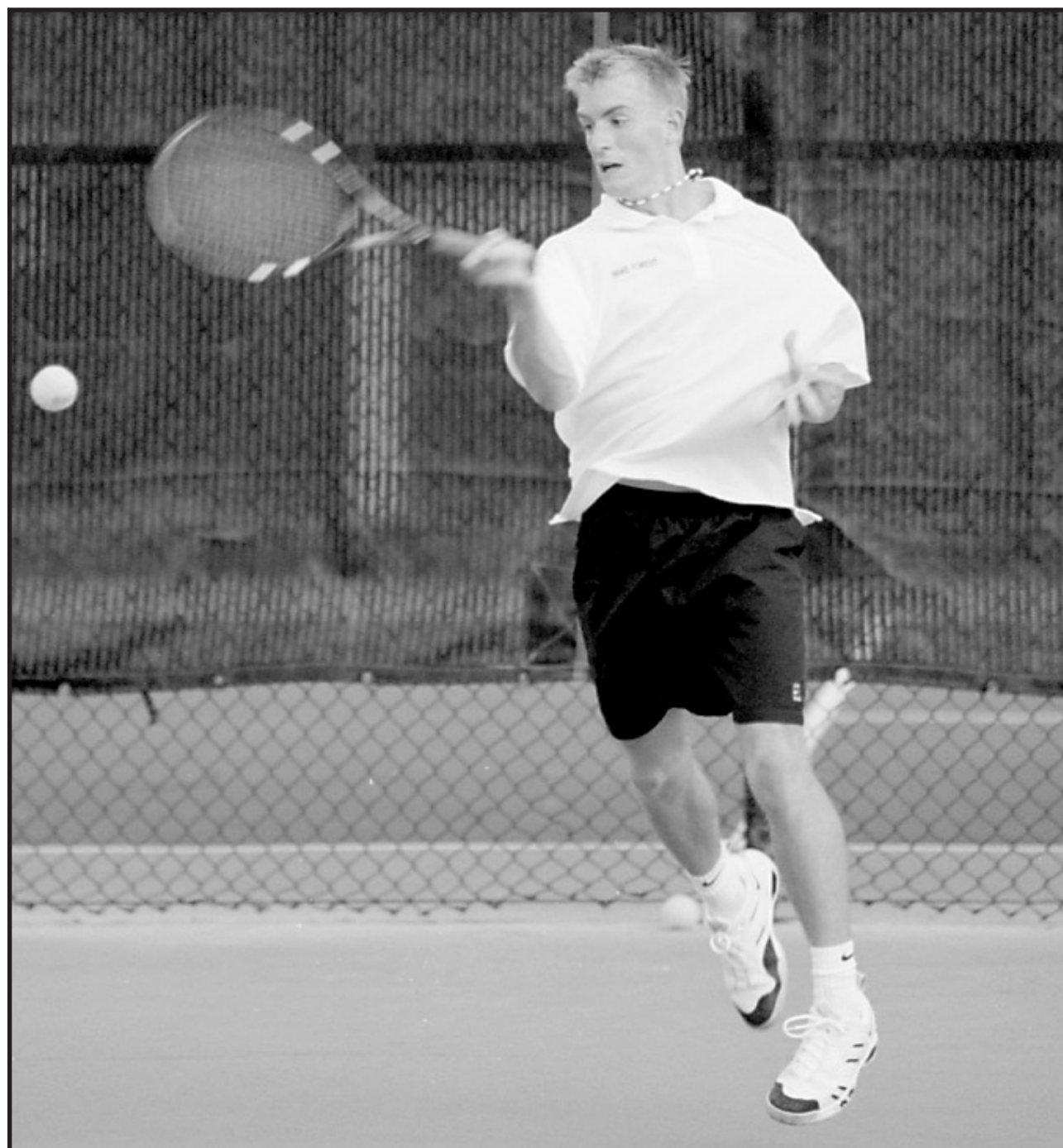
Bere (6-3, 6-4), Brendon (6-4, 6-3) and junior Justin Kaufmann (6-3, 6-4) were equally efficient in their wins at the fourth, fifth and sixth positions respectively.

Top seeded Munoz was the only Deacon to struggle on the afternoon, losing 6-4, 6-4 to State's Jackson.

With their wins, Loewenthal and Brendon remained tied for the team lead with 27 singles victories each, placing them both in seventh place on the Demon Deacon single-season singles victories win list.

With the loss, the Wolfpack fell to a dismal 6-18 (1-7), while the improvement in the Deacon's record gave them their most conference wins in 20 years when they won six.

The Demon Deacons are now set to take on No. 66 Florida State, seeded fifth in the quarterfinals of the



Chris Carlstrom/Old Gold and Black

Sophomore David Bere fires a forehand in the match in a recent home match. The Deacs took down N.C. State this weekend by a score of 5-2. While Bere, teaming with freshman Andrew Simpson, fell in his doubles match, he did come through in singles, defeating his Wolfpack opponent in straight sets 6-3, 6-4.

ACC Championships at 9 a.m. on April 20 at the Disney Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando, Fla. In their previous meeting this season, March 12 in Winston-Salem, the Deacons moved past Florida State 6-1.

The winner will advance to the semifinals to play the

victor of today's first round match between top-seeded Duke and last-seeded Maryland 10 a.m. on April 20, but the last time the Deacons advanced to the semifinals was in 1993. They again seem to have their work cut out for them.

Deacs end ACC season, gear up for tourney

The Demon Deacons take down Maryland and Virginia in consecutive matches to end their regular season.

By Daniel Ogle
Senior Reporter

The 18th-ranked Demon Deacon women's tennis team closed the regular season with a bang, taking ACC matches from Maryland and Virginia.

The Deacons, coming off a 7-0 loss to Duke April 11, bounced back in a big way, defeating Virginia 5-2 in Charlottesville, Va., on April 14, and taking care of Maryland 6-1 in College Park, Md., on April 15.

"I think my motto has been all season that any win is a good win," Head Coach Brian Fleishman said. "To wrap up the season and finish the season second in the conference after having only six players and all we had to deal with this season was great."

The Deacons dominated the Terrapins by virtue of taking five of six singles matches and two of three doubles matches. Sophomore Bea Bielik won in three sets at No. 1 singles, 6-2, 4-6, 6-0 over Delila Causevic, and junior Janet

Bergman also won in three sets as well, 4-6, 6-0, 6-2 over Catherine Valantin. Junior Maren Haus continued the three-set trend, defeating Olivia Dubovikov 6-2, 2-6, 6-3.

Senior Jackie Houston won in straight sets, 6-2, 6-3, as did freshman Aimee Smith, 6-2, 6-2.

Freshman Elizabeth Proctor was the only Deacon to fall in singles play, losing to Emily Marker 7-5, 7-5.

Reversing a trend that has plagued them much of the season, the Deacons took the doubles point from the Terrapins as well. After Bergman and Bielik fell to Causevic and Marker 8-4, Haus and Smith were victorious 8-6, and Houston and Proctor defeated Dubovikov and Chavardes 8-6.

"I think it is more of a confidence builder than anything else," Fleishman said.

"The level of competition we were up against this weekend, it was just a good confidence builder going into this weekend. We used this past weekend as a confidence builder going into the tourna-

"I think we match up well against either State or Clemson. I don't mind which team we play. The girls are going to have to focus. It's down in Disney World and with Mickey there, there are a lot of distractions to deal with. If we keep our focus and limit distractions we will be fine."

Brian Fleishman
Head Coach

ment." The victory over Maryland marked the second win in as many days for the Deacs, who defeated Virginia 5-2 the day before.

Bielik, Bergman, Haus and Houston all won in straight sets to pace the Deacons. Bielik won 6-4, 7-5 over Amy O'Donnell and Bergman cruised past Henriette Williams 6-1, 6-1. Haus won 6-3, 6-3 over Christie Schweer and Houston won easily, as well, 6-2, 6-2 over Jennifer Tuchband.

Smith and Proctor both suffered defeat, accounting for the two Cavalier points on the day.

Proctor lost 6-3, 6-4 to Kelly Weaver,

and Smith, with the match already decided, lost in three sets, 6-4, 4-6, 1-0 (10-3).

The Deacons also won the doubles point, as Bergman and Bielik won 8-1, and Haus and Smith defeated Christine Kim and O'Donnell 8-6.

With the regular season now concluded, the Deacons turn their attention to the ACC Tournament in Orlando, Fla. The Deacons will open up the tournament by taking on the winner of the Clemson-N.C. State match.

"I think we match up well against either State or Clemson," Fleishman said. "I don't mind which team we play. The girls are going to have to focus. It's down in Disney World and with Mickey there, there are a lot of distractions to deal with. If we keep our focus and limit distractions we will be fine."

The Deacons lost just once in conference this season, 7-0 to the Blue Devils, and Fleishman said his team would look forward to a rematch with Duke in the finals if both teams survived.

"I think we have a good shot. I think we can win the doubles point we can win the match," Fleishman said. "(Coach Jamie Ashworth of Duke) changed the doubles lineup for the tournament for whatever reason, and I think we match up very well with them."