

DEACON NOTES

Men's basketball picked fourth by ACC media

The Demon Deacon men's basketball team was predicted fourth by the media during the ACC's Operation Basketball in Greensboro, held Oct. 29 at the Grandover Resort.

Duke was predicted to finish first, followed by Maryland and North Carolina. Following the Deacons were Virginia, N.C. State, Clemson, Georgia Tech and Florida State.

Shane Battier was tabbed as the pre-season ACC Player of the Year, and was joined on the first team by fellow Blue Devil Jason Williams, Maryland's Terrence Morris and Juan Dixon, and North Carolina's Joseph Forte.

Senior Robert O'Kelley and junior Darius Songaila were named to the second team.

Duke freshman Chris Duhon was picked as the ACC Rookie of the Year.

Chao named ACC women's soccer Player of the Week

Sophomore goalie Tracy Chao was named ACC Player of the Week for her efforts in three Deacon victories.

Chao led the women's soccer team to victories over Davidson, North Carolina and N.C. State this week, allowing only one goal over the three games.

The sophomore from Raleigh was dominant in goal in the Deacons' 1-0 upset victory over then fifth-ranked North Carolina.

Chao recorded 14 saves to notch the shutout, and garnered the victory when junior Stacey Roeck scored on a penalty kick.

For the season, Chao is 7-7-1 with a 1.40 goals against average, a .763 save percentage and three shutouts.

Maso de Moya nets third Player of the Week award

Junior outside hitter Trina Maso de Moya was named the ACC Player of the Week for the third time this season for her play in victories over North Carolina and N.C. State.

Maso de Moya notched 23 kills, 20 digs and two blocks against the Tar Heels and 12 kills and 12 digs against the Wolfpack.

Maso de Moya and the Deacons are 16-7 overall and 7-5 in the ACC for the season.

Hoops recruit to make choice of schools today

According to Bob Gibbons, a North Carolina-based recruiting analyst, senior center Michael Southall is set to choose this school of choice at a press conference Nov. 2.

Southall, who attended the Black and Gold Scrimmage Oct. 30, will select between the Demon Deacons, Georgia Tech and Pittsburgh.

The 6-foot-10, 230 pound center originally signed with Kentucky, but is currently attending Hargrave Military Academy.

Southall visited Georgia Tech the weekend of Oct. 28 and was expected to commit to the Yellow Jackets, but surprised many by attending the Deacons' scrimmage.

Gibbons had Southall rated as the 151st rated player in America coming out of high school a season ago.

Current Deacons sophomore Josh Howard and freshman A.W. Hamilton also attended Hargrave before becoming Deacons.

Men's, women's golf teams break top 20 in latest poll

In polls released Oct. 30, both the men's and women's golf squads are listed in the top 20 of their respective sports, with the men checking in at No. 9, and the women's placing 19th.

The men's squad will be in action Nov. 3-5 at the Golf World/Rolex Intercollegiate in Hilton Head, S.C., the final event of the fall season.

The women have already completed their fall campaign, and will not tee it up again until late February.

Howard leads Black team to 51-50 win

By Jordan Webster
Sports Editor

A near-capacity crowd filled Reynolds Gymnasium Oct. 30 to catch a sneak preview of the 2000-01 edition of the Demon Deacon men's basketball team, and those in attendance witnessed characteristics of a drama, an action and a horror flick, all in 24 minutes of play.

The intrasquad scrimmage, which saw the Black team prevail by a 51-50 margin, showed the promise of what could develop into a memorable season, but also demonstrated the growing pains of a team just two weeks into practice.

The contest started sloppily, as turnovers and missed shots marked the first few minutes of play. Four minutes into the game, the teams had managed to plod their way to a 4-4 deadlock. But each squad started showing signs of life soon thereafter, and the Gold team, paced by six first-half points from senior Josh Shoemaker, took a 21-19 advantage into the five-minute intermission.

Head Coach Dave Odom, handcuffed by the absence of two projected

starters – senior Rafael Vidaureta, who is recovering from knee surgery, and junior Ervin Murray – who is suffering from mononucleosis, divided his team into two relatively even squads.

The Black team had the advantage inside, featuring juniors Darius Songaila and Antwan Scott on the blocks, with sophomore Josh Howard, freshman A.W. Hamilton, and transfer Steve Lepore manning the perimeter.



Odom

Both teams found their groove in the second half, with each offense working more efficiently than it had in the first half. Scott, who dropped in a game-high 17 points, ignited the crowd with a thunderous dunk several minutes into the second stanza.

The Gold team had the stronger backcourt, including senior Robert O'Kelley and juniors Craig Dawson and Broderick Hicks, with the inside tandem of Shoemaker and freshman Dshamel Schoetz rounding

The teams traded buckets throughout the half, and Hamilton tallied his first points of the game when he nailed a trey with a minute and a half remaining to give the Black side a 45-44 advantage. O'Kelley matched Hamilton's three-pointer with one of his own, but Hamilton knocked down a second shot from behind the arc to push the Black team back ahead, 48-47.

Hicks, who led the Gold squad with 15 points, responded with the game's fourth consecutive three-point bucket, giving the Gold team a 50-48 lead. But with 11 seconds remaining, Howard scored from the baseline and converted the free throw.

The Gold team had several opportunities to overtake the Black team in the final seconds, but Schoetz, the 7-foot freshman, was unable to get a trio of shots from close range to fall as time ran out.

Other than the handful of mental mistakes that can be attributed to early-season rust, both sides showed signs of the talent that has many experts considering the Deacs a top-20 squad.

Howard's decisive three-point play gave him 14 points for the game. Teammate Songaila, who recently returned to campus after representing his native Lithuania in the Sydney Olympics, was easily

the most polished of the Deacs at this stage of the season, scoring 12 points on 5-of-8 shooting.

O'Kelley played well for the Gold side, dropping in a dozen points of his own, including a pair of threes.

Along with a solid throng of Deacon faithful, also taking in the pre-season scrimmage was Mike Southall, a highly-touted prospect rumored to be high on Odom's wish list.

Southall made his way into the gym about midway through the first half, and spent most of the remainder of the game behind the Gold team bench, accompanied by former Deacon guard Jim Fitzpatrick, '00.

In what could be a good sign for the Deacons, Southall, who is currently playing at Hargrave Military Academy in Chatham, Va, has scheduled a press conference for today, where it is anticipated he will announce his decision.

This is not the first time that Odom and his staff have seriously recruited a player from Hargrave – both Howard and Hamilton spent a year there as well.

A united Deacon team will take to the floor at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 3 at Joel Coliseum in an exhibition contest against Global Sports.

Field hockey wraps up 16-2 regular season

The fourth-ranked Demon Deacons are now set to take on the third ranked Maryland Terrapins in College Park, Md., in the first round of the ACC Tournament, which commences Nov. 2.

By Daniel Ogle
Assistant Sports Editor

The Demon Deacon field hockey team wrapped up its regular season with two non-conference victories over 14th ranked James Madison and Appalachian State.

The Deacons finished the regular season with a 16-2 record as they defeated Appalachian State 6-0 on Senior Day on Oct. 28 and garnered a road victory over James Madison Oct. 29 2-0.

"It was a great weekend for us," Head Coach Jennifer Averill said. "It was huge victory in the fact that we ended the regular season with a win over a quality opponent."

The Deacons defeated the Dukes behind another strong performance in goal by senior Jamie Tressler. Tressler, who is currently ranked third nationally in save percentage, made nine saves as the Dukes outshot the Deacons 13-12.

Sophomore Heather Aughinbaugh staked the Deacons to an early 1-0 lead as she scored, beating Dukes goalkeeper Amanda Latz just 4:56 into the game.

"Heather is a great finesse player for us," Averill said of Aughinbaugh. "She has been a strong finisher for us all season long."

In perhaps a fitting regular season finale, senior Jenny Everett wrapped up the scoring for the Deacs as she found the back of the cage with just over 11 minutes remaining in the game for her school-record 75th career goal.

"I felt that I got hit by a JMU player, and I wasn't very pleased about that," Everett said. "I was a little angry and we got a free hit out of it and told (junior Katie) Kubic to get me the ball and she passed me the ball and I decided to run with the ball as far as possible. So we got a corner out of it and (junior) Carrie (Neidhardt) drilled the ball into the goalie and it rebounded and I just pounced on the rebound. You could say that the adrenaline was pumping."

The Deacons pounded the Mountaineers the day before, sending Everett, Tressler and senior Erin Mooney out in style on Senior Day.

After being presented with a bouquet of flowers before the game, the three seniors, with the help of their younger teammates, took care of business.

Junior forward Jennie Shelton led the way, tallying two goals on the afternoon. The forward from Palmyra, Pa., opened the scoring up as she took a cross from freshman Kelly Doton and buried the ball in the back of an open net.

Shelton also finished the scoring on the day, scoring the last Deacon goal of the day, an unassisted goal with 31 minutes remaining.

Sophomore Carrie Neidhardt scored in the 22nd minute to push the Deacon advantage to 2-0.

Doton scored the third goal for the Deacons off an



Billie Zito/Old Gold and Black

Freshman Elizabeth Hill battles an Appalachian State player for possession of the ball in the Deacs' 6-0 win. The Deacons take on Maryland in the opening round of the ACC Tournament.

assist from Everett and Mooney made her day even more memorable as she scored her first goal of the season with 3:27 remaining in the first half to give the Deacs a commanding four-goal lead.

Junior Jemima Cameron scored the other goal for the Deacons, scoring just 1:46 after halftime.

With the regular season finished, the Deacs can now turn their attention to the ACC Tournament, which commences Nov. 2 in College Park, Md.

By virtue of their 3-1 league record, the Deacons are the tournament's second seed.

In an odd twist of fate, the Deacons will draw the host Maryland Terrapins, who are currently ranked third nationally, in the first round.

"That game is huge for both teams and there will be a lot of emotion riding on that game," Averill said. "They are at home and they are a phenomenal team. We know exactly what our work is and we are just really anxious for that opportunity."

The Deacons defeated the Terrapins 5-3 on Sept. 23 in Kentner Stadium, snapping the Terrapins' 29 game unbeaten streak.

However, the Terrapins defeated the Deacons in an epic double overtime game a year ago for the ACC championship.

"Maryland is the defending ACC Champion and they are on their home turf," Everett said. "We have beaten them once already and they took away our chance at a championship last year and we have an opportunity of redeeming ourselves."

The game takes on added importance, because the winner will not only advance to the ACC finals, but will also most likely be rewarded and be named a host site for the NCAA Tournament, which will begin the following week. It is possible that the loser could also host, but Averill would prefer to win the tournament and not take any chances.

"I think it is a very good possibility (that three ACC teams could host), but the NCAA Committee has a mind of their own and I won't even try to project what they will do at this time next week, and that is really no concern of mine," Averill said. "All I want to do is to give our university and our team the opportunity to win its first ACC championship."

Day shines as Deacons place third in ACCs

Senior Sara Day earns All-ACC honors with a second-place finish in ACC Championships.

By Mike Scott
Old Gold and Black Reporter

In most every sport, the ultimate measure of an athlete is how they perform when everything is on the line.

The Demon Deacon Women's Cross Country Team will have the opportunity to prove their worth come Nov. 11, when they will compete in the Southeast Regional in Greenville, S.C.

Finish in the top two and the Deacs know they will be moving on to Ames, Iowa, and the NCAAs on Nov. 20.

Finish third, and they will wait to see if they got a wild card berth. Finish

below that, and off-season conditioning starts early.

The Deacs will head to Greenville with their third-place finish in the ACC Championships Oct. 28 in Raleigh still weighing on their mind.

"I wasn't disappointed with our team placing, I was just disappointed that we had some individuals who did not ever get into the race," Head Coach Annie Schweitzer Bennett said.

"They just kind of got squeezed out at the starting line. We had a really quick turn right off the line and they just got squeezed out and they never got in the race, so that's what I was disappointed about – they never gave themselves a shot to be an all-conference player."

While some of the individuals did not quite run to expectations, senior Sara Day continued her stellar season, garner-

ing All-ACC honors with a second-place finish.

"Sara is running very well and she has done a lot of work to achieve the success she had and she's really keeping her emotions in check. We feel real good about her and what she's doing for her team. The challenge is our girls are closer to her than the results are showing," Schweitzer Bennett said.

After Day were sophomore Risa Rutland, who finished 19th overall, senior Kathleen Kuhnert and freshman Becca Veenstra, 22nd and 23rd sophomore Courtney Lancashire, 26th, freshman Nicole Kalogeropoulos, 28th, and seniors Erin Haugh and Kelly Brady, 41st and 42nd, respectively.

All year Schweitzer Bennett has preached the importance of pack running to her team, and it seems they are getting

the message. They just need to move the packs closer to the leader.

"At Furman (Oct. 14) we had fifty seconds between No. 1 and No. 5, this week we had 1:10 between No. 1 and No. 2, so that's just too much time," Schweitzer Bennett said.

The lineup in South Carolina will look somewhat different with the Deacons being able to look forward to the possible return of freshman Denise Hefferin, who was a major contributor to the squad's regular season success.

"We only can run seven (in Regionals), and we ran eight (in ACCs), so we'll have to take one out," Schweitzer Bennett said. "We might plug in Denise Hefferin to the lineup. She has been in our top five up to Furman. We found out she was anemic, and if her blood levels show she's capable of running we'll plug her back in."