

# DEACON NOTES

## Bielik tops National Tennis Association polls again

Demon Deacon junior Bea Bielik will enter this season as the No. 1-ranked player in the nation, according to rankings released by the International Tennis Association Sept. 13. A native of Valley Stream, N.Y., Bielik also held the No. 1 spot heading into last year's spring season, following a fall campaign in which she had a perfect 10-0 record. Bielik finished last season ranked third in the country after posting a 24-6 singles record during the spring and advancing to the semifinals of the NCAA Singles Championship. Bielik has been named an All-American the past two seasons and owns a 65-10 career record.

Bielik is also one-half of the second-ranked doubles team in the country in the ITA rankings, teaming with Demon Deacon senior Janet Bergman. This will be the third year that the duo has teamed together, after advancing to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Doubles Championship in 2001. The two have earned All-America doubles honors as a team in each of the last two years, compiling a 42-6 record. Bergman is also an All-American in singles.

After advancing to the round of 16 in last year's NCAA Championships, the women's tennis team returns all but one of last year's players, as well as welcoming three freshmen into the mix.

## Demon Deacons tee off with sixth-place finish

The Demon Deacon women's golf team placed sixth out of 14 teams at the Mason Rudolph Championships Sept. 18 in Franklin, Tenn., its first tournament of the 2001-2002 season.

While they finished one spot behind conference foe UNC, the Deacons did best both Florida State and N.C. State. Leading the Deacon cause was junior Nuria Clau, who finished 12th individually, firing three straight 71s for a 54-hole total of six-over 222. Sophomore Deborah Means went 77-71-76 on her way to a 14th-place finish at eight-over 224. The 71 marked Means' personal-best 18-hole score.

Junior Caroline Stetler (35th, 231), senior Katie Brenny (37th, 232) and freshman Christine Hallstrom (57th, 238) rounded out the Deacon squad.

The Deacs will return to action Sept. 28-30 at the Dodge ACC/SEC Challenge at Sandestin Resort in Destin, Fla.

The tournament is the only one in the nation that holds a men's and women's tournament at the same time. Ohio State University took home the women's title, while the University of Alabama claimed the men's title.

# SCHEDULE

**Friday, Sept. 21**  
Women's tennis at William & Mary Invitational, Williamsburg, Va.  
Women's tennis at Tennessee Invitational, Knoxville, Tenn.  
Men's tennis at Southern Intercollegiate, Athens, Ga.

**Saturday, Sept. 22**  
Women's tennis at William & Mary Invitational, Williamsburg, Va.  
Women's tennis at Tennessee Invitational, Knoxville, Tenn.  
Men's tennis at Southern Intercollegiate, Athens, Ga.  
Football vs. Maryland, Groves Stadium, 3:38 p.m.  
Field hockey at Maryland, College Park, Md., 1 p.m.

**Sunday, Sept. 23**  
Women's tennis at William & Mary Invitational, Williamsburg, Va.  
Women's tennis at Tennessee Invitational, Knoxville, Tenn.  
Men's tennis at Southern Intercollegiate, Athens, Ga.  
Women's soccer at Maryland, College Park, Md., 1 p.m.  
Men's soccer at South Carolina, Columbia, S.C., 2 p.m.  
Volleyball at Georgia Tech, Atlanta, Ga., 5 p.m.

**Monday, Sept. 24**  
Men's tennis at Southern Intercollegiate, Athens, Ga.  
Field hockey vs. Kent State, Kentner Stadium, 2 p.m.

**Tuesday, Sept. 25**  
Volleyball at Radford, Radford, Va., 6 p.m.  
Men's soccer vs. Gardner Webb, Spry Stadium, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, Sept. 26**  
Field hockey at North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 7 p.m.

# Runners use week to practice, recover

By Jordan Webster  
Sports Editor

The men's and women's cross-country teams, like every other athletic team in America, return to a regular routine this week, after a week of reflection on the events of Sept. 11. With the tragedy and the subsequent event cancellations nationwide that lasted through last weekend, both Deacon squads missed out on hosting their lone home meet of the season, the Wake Forest Invitational. The change, while disappointing to the coaches and athletes, was readily accepted, as the unexpected break in the schedule was utilized for more mental fitness than physical.

"Last week, we all had to take time and reflect," Men's Head Coach Gary Sievers said. "It changed the dynamics of America - it's really just hard to put into words what transpired."

"We said a prayer for the victims and we talked about it," Women's Head Coach Annie Schweitzer-Bennett said. "The kids felt it was the right decision to take the weekend off."

"It disappoints us (to have our lone home meet cancelled), but again, in the big picture of life, it's not something to worry about," she said. "You just adapt and adjust and move on."

Both teams did do their best to put the distractions and the cancellation of their

home meet behind them in the past week and resume a regular practice pattern. Sievers, in fact, was adamant about maintaining his practice routine.

"We continued practice," Sievers said. "We didn't take one off, and we feel strongly that we don't want to feel like a hostage. By changing our routine, they've held us captive."

"Not being able to hold the meet was a disappointment to us because I feel we have a good team this year, and it would have been nice to showcase ourselves at little bit," he said.

Instead of the Sept. 15 home event, the men's team ran an intrasquad meet, which did provide the team with an opportunity to replicate a meet atmosphere, while also allowing the team to adhere to the schedule that Sievers and his athletes were determined to keep.

"We had an intrasquad meet on Saturday, and we had a good time," Sievers said. "Some parents were here that had planned to be here anyway. All in all, the weekend was not lost for us."

Bennett's team also dealt with another tragedy this week, an auto accident in which eight Wyoming men's cross-country runners were killed by a drunk driver. Bennett's team sent the Wyoming athletic department a card offering its condolences.

The missed meet did leave both Bennett and Sievers with minor schedul-

"Last week, we all had to take time and reflect. (The tragedies) changed the dynamics of America - it's really just hard to put into words what transpired."

Gary Sievers  
Men's Cross Country Coach

ing dilemma, a problem Bennett has already resolved by entering her squad in this Sept. 21's Great American Cross-Country Festival, held at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C. Collegiate teams must participate in a minimum number of events in accordance with NCAA regulations, and the addition of the Winthrop event will allow the Deacons to meet that requirement. For Bennett's team, the meet will essentially be the first of their 2001 season, as Bennett ran only a split squad in the only previous event, the Mountaineer Open in Boone. The meet will be the only live look Bennett will have of her athletes prior to the Roy Griak Invitational Sept. 29 in Minneapolis, Minn., one of the largest national events of the season.

"At this point, we haven't done anything but really train," she said. "For me, our season starts this weekend. We've trained well, but we need to see how we are going to race. That's why we're racing

this weekend - we need to get a race in before Griak.

"I think we'll respond well," she said. "I think their confidence is high because of their training, and we're ready to go out and put it on the line."

As for the men's team, the scheduling situation is a bit more difficult. The men compete in 8,000-meter events, and running on three consecutive weekends is difficult to withstand. As it is, the men have a meet scheduled for every other week for the remainder of the season.

"The guys run the 8K, and you just can't run the 8K back-to-back-to-back," he said.

Despite the scheduling conflict, Sievers feels his team is well-prepared for the Griak meet, in which the men will also participate.

For the men, approximately 15 of the nation's top 20 teams are slated to run. Bennett expects at least 10 nationally-ranked foes to comprise the women's field in Minnesota.

"We're excited about (Griak)," Sievers said. "Last weekend was really the first big weekend that teams were going to start to compete, so I really don't know what will be coming."

Suffice it to say, regardless of what will face Bennett's squad this weekend in South Carolina and both teams in Minnesota, it will be nothing like what they faced last weekend.

# Deacons rout Radford in first game back

By Jim Gleitman  
Old Gold and Black Reporter

During times of disaster and tragedy people tend to grieve in their own way. Some people vent anger while others shed tears, some search for comfort in a close friend while others keep their emotions to themselves. This diversity of reactions make it difficult to console a group of people simultaneously.

The tragic events this past week deeply affected this entire country and while some have been outward in their expression of pain others have remained quiet as their hearts search for anything resembling hope.

For coaches around the country this past week was not about incorporating new strategies or running wind sprints, but rather helping their team deal with the struggle to find the end of this dark tunnel, a task that faced Head Field Hockey Coach Jennifer Averill.

Averill attested to the fact that each of her players dealt with the loss differently. Her main goal was to keep the team unified in order to provide a safe haven in which each player could grieve. She believed that by staying close everybody could get through the tragedy together.

"We tried to keep them together and keep them unified," Averill said. "I think the most important aspect for us as a coaching staff was to let the parents and players know that the best scenario for them would be to be home and with family, and we are their family away from home."

In many situations, time off from competition causes a team to lose momentum. However, in other circumstances it allows a team to regroup and get set before moving onward. This past week the field hockey team dealt with the tragedy before continuing their preparations for Radford on Sept. 19.

The first day of practice was used as a grieving time where players were able to talk about issues on their mind and any feelings they wanted to express. A light-hearted practice was held after the meeting simply to try and clear their minds and promote a positive mindset. The team practiced the next two days, but then took a two-day break after Averill decided her team needed time off.

"Emotionally, they were spent and physically, and (I thought) we could use the couple days off," Averill said. "It was a long week of practice without competition and so this allowed us to be refreshed and allowed the kids to just hang out and do things normal student-athletes



Chris Carlstrom/Old Gold and Black

Junior Heather Auginbaugh fights two Radford players for possession in the Deacons' 9-0 pounding of the Highlanders on Sept. 19 at Kentner Stadium.

can't do."

On Sept. 16 the team scrimmaged, which was followed by a tough practice on Sept. 17. Sept. 18's practice was on and off as the team made their final tune-ups before the Sept. 19 game.

"We're anxious to have an opponent across from us and not just ourselves."

And the Deacs made short work of that opponent, rolling to an easy 9-0 victory over the Highlanders. Despite the layoff, the Deacons were sharp from the outset, getting on the board less than five minutes into the game on a goal by senior midfielder Jemima Cameron.

Sophomore forward Kelly Doton followed Cameron's initial tally with a pair of goals just 1:49 apart to give the Deacons a 3-0 advantage. Senior forward Jennie Shelton closed the first-half scoring with 23:49 left before halftime. Radford's defense resisted for the rest of the half, and Averill's team owned a 4-0 lead at halftime.

Four other Deacons scored the team's five second-

half goals. Sophomore forward Lucy Shaw started the onslaught four minutes in when she pounced on a rebound and beat Radford goaltender Brooke Peterson. Freshman Kelly Dostal notched a pair of goals in the middle of the half to push the Deacon advantage to 7-0, and sophomores Katie Ackerman and Allyson Hudson finished things, each scoring in the final ten minutes of regulation.

The 9-0 whipping obscured the effort put forth by the Highlanders' Peterson, who turned away 27 other Demon Deacon shots on goal. Deacon goaltenders Katie Ridd and Merrilee Robbins were lonely for the majority of the evening, and made a combined two saves in the shutout.

The win puts the Deacs at 3-2 going into their road trip to College Park, Md. to face Maryland on Sept. 22.

As for the Duke game, a Sept. 14 match that was postponed, is concerned, there are plans to make it up. However, nothing has been scheduled as of yet.

# Deacs fill two-week void with Vols

By Lisa Ferguson  
Old Gold and Black Reporter

As tragedy struck the United States Sept. 11, not only was the nation changed forever, but also everything from phone service to airline travel to sports was altered dramatically.

The Demon Deacon women's soccer team was planning on flying out to Los Angeles, the destination of three of the planes in last week's attack, in order to play in the Loyola Marymount tournament the weekend after the tragedy.

The players as well as coaches and parents decided it would be best to withdraw from the tournament, even before it was cancelled altogether. The Deacs were counting on this tournament to give them some playing time as well as a chance to get a win under their belt, with a record of 0-2-1.

The news came as quite a shock to the Deacs as some had relatives in New York and Washington. The team went together to the prayer service on the evening of Sept. 11 as well as started out the next practice with a prayer, and Head Coach Tony da Luz called a team meeting to make sure everything was okay with the

girls.

"That day everyone was very sympathetic," freshman forward Courtney McCrudden said.

"We took the day off from practice, which showed class."

Assistant coach Skip Thorpe pointed out that the attacks on America came as a blow to everyone's sense of security.

"It made everyone realize we're not as safe as we think we are, but the team came together to support each other and their spirit seemed pretty good," Thorpe said.

Amidst the chaos surrounding the country, the Deacs continued to persevere coming out to practice the next day intent on working hard to prepare for upcoming games.

With two weeks between their last contest, a 2-1 loss to Portland in the Wake Forest/Nike Invitational and the next match on its schedule, the conference opener at Maryland, da Luz was on the lookout for a makeup game to fill the void and keep his squad in game shape. He attempted to schedule a game against Kentucky, which was also slated to participate in the Fila/Loyola tourney, but this fell through.

They did manage to pick up a game against Tennessee, ranked No. 16, to be played today at 7 p.m. in Knoxville, Tenn.

The week has been hectic for the Deacs, getting the hotel rooms and buses for the game with the Vols, as well as preparing for the game against Maryland.

The Deacs will open their conference season with the Terrapins at 1 p.m. on Sept. 23 in College Park, Md.

"We need to play, get a win and get a rhythm going," Thorpe said. "The results are going to come."

"This will help us get away from the tragedy and put our focus on something else. One area, on the field, is where we are the safest. This will bring us together even more."

According to junior forward Joline Charlton, the rearrangement of the Deacons' schedule will have an effect on the team, but she and her teammates look forward to getting back to business.

"(The missed games) will throw us off a little," Charlton said.

"We were supposed to play two, but we're only able to make up one. The game against Maryland, away, will be good for us."

# Volleyball

Continued from Page B1

Clemson's 80; and the Deacs recorded 10 team blocks, while the Tigers had 14 team blocks.

The Deacon team was led by senior Trina Maso de Moya, who tallied 23 kills, 23 digs, seven service aces and three blocks.

"Trina had seven service aces which was huge, especially with the scoring how it is," Baker said. "She contributed greatly. It was a total group effort tonight. Everybody played well on defense. Those second-effort balls that we were able to put away for points were key in our victory."

Also contributing to the win were senior Margaret Davidson who recorded 18 kills and five blocks, and junior setter Ashlee Phillips, who had a season high 67 assists. "Everybody contributed to the win. Those players off the bench did a great job emotionally in keeping an aggressive attitude and enthusiasm," Baker added.

On Sept. 23, the Deacons will travel to Atlanta to face the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets in the second ACC matchup of the season for both squads.