

Demon Deacs hit by competition, heat in California

By Matt Gallagher
Old Gold and Black Reporter

The cream of the crop of NCAA women's tennis descended on Pacific Palisades, Calif. for the Riviera All-American Championships, held Oct. 10-Oct. 14. Three Deacons - junior Bea Bielik and seniors Janet Bergman and Maren Haus - made the trip to the west coast, hoping to regulate on the rest of the collegiate tennis world.

Bielik, the No. 1 player in the nation, drew the top seed for the All-Americans singles competition.

After rolling through Mississippi's Mira Radu 6-3, 6-1, in the first round, Bielik found herself facing off against Megan Bradley of UCLA, one of the best freshmen in the country. After losing the first set 4-6, Bielik staged an incredible rally to eke out a victory in both sets, 7-6(1), and 7-6(4). The grueling match lasted three-and-a-half hours in the California sun, and left both players exhausted.

"It was one of the best college matches I've ever seen," said Head Coach Brian Fleishman. "I've seen a lot of college tennis, so that should tell you something about

this match." Unfortunately, Bielik had to go out and play again less than two hours after her incredible match with Bradley. Bielik quickly came down with what she described as "pretty severe cramps," and had to retire from her quarterfinal match with Florida's Jessica Lehnhoff. Bielik did make it to the second set with Lehnhoff, but was losing 6-1, 4-0 when she couldn't continue any longer.

Meanwhile, Bergman and Haus found problems of their own. Bergman quickly discarded her first-round opponent in the sin-

gles bracket, Alena Jacminkova of Kansas State, 6-1, 3-6, 6-2. However, yet another Bruin caused trouble for a Deacon representative, as UCLA's Sara Walker, the tourney's fifth seed, defeated Bergman 6-4, 6-2 in the second round.

Haus lost her first-round match in the qualifying tournament to Irina Tereschenko of Texas Tech 7-6(2), 6-4. Haus quickly rebounded though, as she captured wins in the back-draw matches.

The doubles duo of Bielik and Bergman entered the All-Ameri-

cas as the No. 2 ranked tandem in the country and the No. 2 seed for the tournament. The team was forced to forfeit their quarterfinal match however, to Stanford's Lauren Kalavria and Gabriela Lastra, due to Bielik's continued cramping. Bielik/Bergman had destroyed their first-round opponents, Lia Jackman and Marine Pira of Northwestern, 8-3 to advance into the quarterfinals.

Bielik does not describe her cramps as an injury, but as "an unfortunate incident," which shouldn't hinder her play at all

in future matches. And despite their less than ideal start, Coach Fleishman still believes that Bielik and Bergman will seize the NCAA Doubles crown at the NCAA Championships in May. Bielik agrees.

"I have no problem with saying that there isn't a better doubles team in the country," she said.

The Deacs won't have to wait long for a chance to bounce back from the All-Americans. They will host the ITA Southeast Regional Championships at the Indoor Tennis Center, from Oct. 25 to Oct. 29.

Men's tennis: Deacs roll through South Florida

By Alex Myers
Old Gold and Black Reporter

The Demon Deacon men's tennis team was back in action this past weekend at the South Florida Fall Classic played on the University of South Florida Varsity Tennis Courts.

The team traveled to Tampa where their play was just as hot as the weather.

During the three-day tournament, the Deacs looked very impressive against their three opponents of Central Florida, Jacksonville, and host South Florida.

On day one, the Deacs got off to a fast start as they faced off against Central Florida. The Deacs swept all four doubles matches and then went on to win nine of the 15 singles matches.

It was a very strong showing from the whole team, as all eight Deacons who participated won at least one singles match.

Junior David Bere was especially impressive as he was the only Deac to win both of his singles matches. Bere knocked off Catalin Bradu and Simon Jager, UCF's No. 2 and No. 3 players. Bere also teamed up with senior Justin Kaufman to defeat the pair of Paul Ramen and Adam Kanaan 8-5.

In the other doubles matches, the team of junior Mike Murray and freshman Derrick Spice beat the No. 1 duo from UCF 8-4.

The pair of sophomore David Loewenthal and junior Trent Brendon, and the team of sophomores Rick Phillipp and Andrew Simpson each won their respective doubles matches as well.

On day two of the tournament, it was more of the same from the Deacs as they once again dominated in doubles by winning all three matches and were able to take seven out of the 12 singles matches against host South Florida.

It was a great day for Kaufman, who was the Deacs' only player to win two singles matches. Kaufman was able to defeat Eric Gildhorn and Jit Shah, USF's No. 5 and No. 6 players, both in straight sets. He also teamed up with Bere at the No. 3 doubles position to beat the team of Gildhorn and Shah 8-6, completing his perfect day.

The No. 1 duo of Murray and Spice knocked off the team of Antelo and Noser 8-5, while the No. 2 pair of Loewenthal and Brendon took out USF's Escallon and Meir 8-6 to complete the Deacs' doubles sweep.

On the final day of competition, the Deacs took

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Jeff Zinn
Head Coach

on an easier opponent in Jacksonville and mixed up the lineup a little. Strong again in doubles, the Deacs won both matches as the teams of both Murray and Spice and Kaufmann and Bere defeated JU's pairs of Birkman and Rojas, and Davoli and Bouzkoli, respectively.

Playing at the No. 1 position, Simpson dropped his match against JU's Birkman.

Kaufmann, Spice, and Phillipp rounded out the singles competition as they all won their individual matches in straight sets.

During all three days and for this whole fall season, the Deacs participated in what is known as hidden dual format. Although teams play against one another, under this format, only the individual record is counted. No wins or losses can be given to the team.

"In the fall season we are trying to build up individual records," said Head Coach Jeff Zinn.

"It's also good practice, especially to play South Florida and Central Florida, who are very good and were nationally ranked last year."

Though the Deacs were solid in singles, it was their doubles which stood out, as the team went a perfect 9-0 during the three-day tournament.

Zinn was very pleased, since as a team they have "stressed on trying to improve doubles play this year."

Overall, the trip to Florida was very successful for the Deacs, who showed that they could battle their opponents as well as other elements of fatigue and weather.

"We did very well considering our players were tired from last week's tournament. It was also quite hot," said Zinn. "To be one of the best you have to face adversity."

The Deacs will play next at the Fall Regionals in Chapel Hill October 24-28. The 49-team tournament should be a good test for the Deacs as they conclude their fall season.



Billie Zito/Old Gold and Black

Where's the Deac?

Men's basketball Head Coach Skip Prosser listens as Assistant Coach Chris Mack informs him that the Demon Deacon mascot is missing during the Midnight Madness festivities Oct. 12 and 13. The story of the missing Deacon was a lead-in to the opening of the Team's season with a practice at the stroke of midnight.

Whitehead

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the field she played with the biggest heart and the biggest attitude which really impressed me. You can't teach kids that and I felt at the time we were missing that on our team and she has made a difference."

Clearly she has made a huge difference. The Deacs were 18-4 her freshman year after an 11-9 record the previous season. Last year the Demon Deacons added to that success with another 18-4 record and a Final Four appearance.

"She has great energy out on the field, she is really tenacious and is a great role model for our younger players, as well as our older players," Averill said. "She has a lot of heart, great intensity and an incred-

ible desire to win."

Even though she appears to be a 5-foot-3 Wonder Woman on the field, off the field she maintains a down to earth and fun personality.

"I don't really have any interesting hobbies, but I like to hang out with friends all the time," she said. "I enjoy playing the guitar, but I am not very good and I get frustrated easily."

Whitehead's future plans include coaching and possibly continue with her studies, but the desire to continue playing hockey still burns.

"Hopefully I would like to coach somewhere for a couple of years and go to grad school, but I want to continue playing field hockey," she said.

But for now she will continue to charge her teammates with her flamboyant style of play, irritate opposing teams with her overwhelming presence and merit those cries from that parent at the top of the stands.

Listen carefully... "Flyyyy 'Riiaa!"

Cross country runs in S.C.

The men's and women's cross country teams sprint through the Pre-NCAA's at Furman.

By Jeff Frazier
Old Gold and Black Reporter

The men's and women's cross country teams were in action on Oct. 13 at the Furman Invitational/Pre-NCAA meet in Greenville, S.C.

This meet consisted of over 100 teams from around the country, and is at the same site as the 2001 NCAA Division I Championships.

The men's team finished 10th out of the 36 teams in their 8,000-meter race.

Top-ranked Colorado finished first, with Notre Dame and Air Force taking second and third, respectively. Eastern Michigan's Boaz Chebojwoy won the individual title, breaking the Furman course record by nearly 30 seconds.

Junior Nathan Sisco led the both the Deacs and all other ACC runners, finishing sixth overall with a time of 24:27. Following Sisco were seniors Garick Hill (34th, 25:11), Chris Estwanik (70th, 25:35), and Sean Nagorny (72nd, 25:36).

Also scoring was junior Eduardo Acosta (83rd, 25:43), followed by seniors Philip Wiles (85th, 25:45)

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Men's Head Coach

and Ted DeVos (108th, 25:58). Sophomore Dave Barrett (124th, 26:04). Freshmen Chris Elder (139th, 26:26) and Brian Smith (176th, 28:26) also finished.

"We didn't run very well," said Head Coach Gary Sievers. "Garick Hill was 15 to 20 seconds off his expected time." Also, DeVos finished last out of the Deacs' scoring seven. He usually finishes second behind front-runner Nathan Sisco.

Despite their shortcomings, the men's team still beat several nationally-ranked teams. Their next challenge will be the ACC Championships, and Sievers remains optimistic.

"N.C. State is our toughest opponent," said Sievers. "It will take our best race to beat them. We'll need to do a better job."

On the women's side, the Deacs finished 18th out of 37 teams. Second-ranked Stanford finished first overall, followed by fourth-ranked Brigham Young.

Individually, the 6,000-meter

race was won by Washington's Sabrina Monro, who broke the course record by 25 seconds.

Freshman Annie Bersagel led the team with a time of 22:11, earning 50th place. Fellow freshman Danielle Coon followed, coming in 81st with a time of 22:40.

Also scoring for the Deacs were juniors Risa Rutland (92nd, 22:49), Courtney Lancashire (125th, 23:13), Adralyn Wendel (153rd, 23:40) and sophomore Kara Mullin (191st, 24:26).

Also completing the race were sophomores Denise Hefferin (49th, 23:43) and Nikeya Green (79th, 24:10).

Close behind was senior Lauren May (80th, 24:11) and freshman Caitlin Dempsey (109th, 24:49).

Overall, Head Coach Annie Schweitzer-Bennett was disappointed with the outcome.

"We suffered a breakdown," she said.

The team looks to put the past behind them as they head into ACC Championships. Five of the nine teams who will be in this meet are nationally ranked.

"It will be very competitive," said Schweitzer-Bennett. "We're probably the seventh-best team going into this meet ... It will be very challenging."

Both the women's and men's teams will go into the ACC Championships Oct. 27 in Clemson, S.C.

Football

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tear, scoring four straight touchdowns. Counting the one to open the half, Duke scored on five straight possessions to tie the game.

One minute the Deacons were up 28-0 with visions of triple digits in their head, then, 15 minutes, three touchdown runs, one touchdown pass and one interception return for a touchdown later, the Deacons were suddenly tied 35-35 with a surging Duke team, the same Duke team that entered the game with a 17-game losing streak overall and a 12-game losing streak in the ACC.

All of the sudden, the Deacons were in danger of falling into a major debacle, as a loss would be their fourth straight after beginning the year with back-to-back

victories over East Carolina and Appalachian State. A loss to Duke would definitely have the potential of sending the Deacons into a downward spiral for the remainder of their schedule.

But the Deacons would not go down that easily. They had taken a shot square on the chin, but good heavyweights can withstand that and come back. And come back they did.

After Duke's touchdown knotted the score, the Deacons started at their own 33-yard line with 11:30 to go in the contest. After moving the ball to the 45, MacPherson handed off to Stone, who took it all the way to the Duke 29-yard line.

Then, two plays later on third and five, MacPherson found Stone again, this time through the air, for 11 yards to the Blue Devil 13-yard line. The Deacons then gave the ball to Staton, who rushed for three and five yards to set up third and two at the five-yard line.

The coaches apparently did not feel the need to mix things up at this point, as Staton got the ball again and this time put it in the end zone, putting the Deacons up 42-35 with seven minutes left in the game.

From that point the Deacons' defense handled things, not allowing Duke past midfield in preserving the seven-point victory.

While the Deacs did what they needed when they needed it and came away with the win, this game was nothing to be proud of. The Deacons entered the game heavily favored over the lowly Blue Devils and, while they thoroughly dominated the first half, they again had a problem playing consistently well for the full 60 minutes.

Fortunately, the coaching staff has plenty of time to address the team's problems, as the Deacons now enter an off week before facing Clemson at home Oct. 27 at noon.

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