

DEACON NOTES

Demon Deacons rank 11th overall in Sears Cup race

The Demon Deacons surged to an 11th-place standing in the Sears Directors' Cup standings, due to the excellent field hockey and men's cross country seasons.

The Sears Cup, which tallies points for NCAA schools based on the showings of the schools' sports teams, currently has Colorado in first place with 162 points. The Deacs are currently second among ACC schools, with 106 points, with only N.C. State in front of them, sitting at fifth place with 149 points.

Dailey named 2001 Coach of the Year by the LPGA

Women's golf coach Dianne Dailey was named Coach of the Year by the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) for the year of 2001.

Dailey, whose team finished second in the ACC this year and was ranked 15th in the nation, has coached the Deacs since 1988. Over the course of her reign, the Deacons captured two ACC Championships (1994, 1995) and been ranked in the top-20 each of the last nine seasons.

Maso de Moya, Davidson named All-Region

Demon Deacon Volleyball saw two of its' seniors named to the AVCA All-Region Team, Trina Maso de Moya and Margaret Davidson.

Maso de Moya has been part of the AVCA All-Region squad each of the last three seasons. She was also the 2000 ACC Player of the Year, led the ACC this year in digs per game (4.40) and service aces per game (0.60). Davidson was named to the all-region squad for the first time this season.

SCHEDULE

Sat., Dec. 7
Women's basketball vs. UNC-Wilmington, Joel Coliseum, 5 p.m.
Men's basketball vs. South Carolina St., Joel Coliseum, 7 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 16
Women's basketball at High Point, High Point, 2 p.m.
Men's basketball vs. Florida State, Joel Coliseum, 8 p.m.

Tues., Dec. 18
Women's basketball vs. UNC-Asheville, Joel Coliseum, 11:30 a.m.

Wed., Dec. 19
Men's basketball vs. St. Francis, Joel Coliseum, 7 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 21
Women's basketball at Western Michigan, Kalamazoo, Mich., 7 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 22
Men's basketball at St. John's, New York City, 12 p.m.
Women's basketball at Valparaiso, Valparaiso, Ind., 7 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 29
Men's basketball vs. Marquette, Joel Coliseum, 1 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 30
Women's basketball vs. N.C. State, Joel Coliseum, 1 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 2
Men's basketball vs. Richmond, Joel Coliseum, 7 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 3
Women's basketball vs. Georgia Tech, Joel Coliseum, 7 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 5
Men's basketball at North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 4 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 6
Women's basketball at Duke, Durham, 2 p.m.

Mon., Jan. 7
Men's basketball at Navy, Annapolis, Md., 9 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 10
Women's basketball vs. Florida State, Joel Coliseum, 7 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 12
Men's basketball vs. Clemson, Joel Coliseum, 2 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 13
Women's basketball at Virginia, Charlottesville, Va., 2 p.m.

Tues., Jan. 15
Men's basketball at Virginia, Charlottesville, Va., 9 p.m.

Haas, Bielik headline stellar fall season

By Mike Scott
Assistant Sports Editor

"The state of the union is strong!"
Pause for both houses of Congress to rise and applaud.

While this line was used by former President Bill Clinton once upon a time to describe the state of the good old U.S. of A., it could definitely be used to describe the state of the Demon Deacon athletic program, as the fall semester has been the setting for numerous impressive performances by Deacs in many different sports.

We'll start out with the highest honor, a national championship. After many strong showings in fall matches where team score was not kept, junior tennis player Bea Bielik took home such an honor with her victory at the National Indoor Championships. Bielik and fellow senior Janet Bergman were also runners-up in the tournament in doubles. The duo, as well as Bielik herself, will be among the handful of favorites for springtime national championships.

The men's tennis team also had a strong showing in many matches, although they also did not keep any team scores, as the fall season is looked at as a tuneup for the spring season for the teams. Sophomore David Lowenthal provided the highlight individually, as he finished second in the ITA Region II Championship, gaining himself entrance into the national indoors, where he had a strong run before falling in the quarterfinals.

Speaking of being No. 1 in the country, the men's golf team reassumed a once-familiar position as the top team in the land this fall when it enjoyed a few weeks atop the *Golfweek/Sagarin* rankings before ending the season at No. 2. As was often the case in the past, this Deacon success has been led by members of the Haas family. Head Coach Jerry Haas is the man responsible for putting this talented group together, while sophomore Bill Haas shared a national ranking parallel to the team's as he enjoyed the top spot for a number of weeks before ending up at No. 2. The team got its national attention thanks largely to two second-place finishes, at the Jerry Pate Intercollegiate and The Preview.

The showing at The Preview was especially impressive for three reasons: it is yearly one of the top tournaments in the country, held with top-flight competition at the site of the upcoming NCAA Championship; the Deacs finished only one shot back of the champion; and

junior Brent Wanner won the tournament individually.

The women's golf team also enjoyed a strong fall, with a second-place team finish at the Lady Paladin Invitational, a third-place showing at the Dodge ACC/SEC Challenge and a fourth-place finish at the Tar Heel Invitational. Also, Head Coach Dianne Dailey received high honors with the LPGA Coach of the Year Award for her efforts with last year's team, which finished 15th nationally.

tied at two and appeared headed for penalty strokes until the Terps found the back of the net with a mere 57 seconds left in the second overtime.

While the loss left the Deacons two wins short of their goal of a National Championship, their season was nothing short of spectacular. Senior Jemima Cameron was named ACC co-Player of the Year, first-team All-ACC and has been nominated for the Honda Award, which is given annually to the nation's best

The award for the most exciting teams goes to the soccer department. The men's team won their ACC quarterfinal match over Duke in an extra period before falling to regular season champ Virginia 1-0 in overtime in the semifinals. After a first-round bye in the NCAA Tournament, the Deacons lost to American in the second round, ending an impressive season. Sophomore Jeremiah White led the conference in goals and in scoring and was named first-team All-ACC. Sophomore goalkeeper William Hesmer earned second-team honors.

The women also proved to be cardiac kids. They won their first-round match in the ACC Tournament over Clemson on penalty kicks after the tie could not be broken in two overtimes. After falling to UNC 3-0 in the ACC semifinals, the Deacons were selected to the NCAA Tournament field. Unfortunately, they were on the wrong end of a thriller here, falling in overtime to William & Mary 1-0. During the season senior forward Emily Taggart became the university's all-time leading goal scorer. Taggart and senior defender Stacy Roeck were named to the first team All-ACC, while senior midfielder Sarah Kate Noftinger earned second-team honors.

Perhaps the most noticed season on campus was the football team's. First-year Head Coach Jim Grobe did a masterful job turning the program around in his annual campaign, posting a 6-5 record and gaining bowl eligibility one year after a dismal 2-9 performance that was wrought with ineptitude. What's more, the record could easily have been better.

The Deacons were in most every game until the end, suffering only one loss by more than seven points. It looks as though Grobe may be capable of turning this once downtrodden program into a perennial winner.

The volleyball team also had a strong season, finishing with a 20-11 record, the fourth straight year that Head Coach Valorie Baker's team has posted 20 or more wins. The team finished fifth in the ACC regular season standings and fell to Florida State in the first round of the ACC Tournament.

Finally, and most prominently, there is the men's basketball team and new Head Coach Skip Prosser. Prosser has guided his team to a 5-2 record, with a strong run in the Preseason NIT, where they advanced to the finals before falling to Syracuse.

Yes, all things seem to be well in Deacon sportsland. Just get ready for the spring.



Chris Carlstrom/Old Gold and Black

Junior midfielder Maria Whitehead tries to stuff one past the Virginia goaltender in the Deacons' NCAA Tournament win over the Cavaliers. The field hockey team advanced to the Final Four for the second consecutive season, and was one of multiple fall Demon Deacon squads, to be among the nation's best this fall.

Staying on the topic of No. 1, we come to the field hockey team, which held the top spot in the country for several weeks this fall, finishing its season by winning 13 of its last 15 games and reaching the finals of the ACC Tournament and the semifinals of the NCAA Tournament.

Unfortunately, those two losses came to the same team in ridiculously close games. First, in the final of the ACC Tournament, the Deacons fell to the Terapins on the strength of a controversial Maryland goal in the last five minutes. Then, in the Final Four, the Deacs and Terps fought an epic battle, one that surely ranks among the best games in the history of the sport. In the national semifinal, the two titans ended regulation tied at two, ended the first overtime

player.

The one accolade missing from the above sports is a conference title. There is no such void in the cross country department, as sophomore Nathan Sisco stayed perfect in ACC Championship races, bringing home the ACC individual title as his team placed second. The Deacons then finished third in the regionals, advancing on to the NCAAs, where they finished 19th overall, paced by senior Chris Estwanik's 48th-place posting.

The women's team finished sixth in the conference and did not advance out of the regional, but there was one bright spot, as freshman Anne Bersagel finished 13th at the ACC meet and then advanced to nationals, where she placed an impressive 57th.

In session: Klopfer juggles hoops, teaching

By Margaret McKenzie
Old Gold and Black Reporter

A feisty 5-foot-4 point guard from Albany, N.Y., senior Val Klopfer is an offensive spark off the bench for the Deacons.

A seasoned point guard, she has incredible vision on the floor and frequently sacrifices her body in the defensive effort. Yet this senior is more than one of the university's all-time leading free throw shooters. Klopfer is a dedicated student, garnering a position on the ACC Academic Honor Roll in 1999.

Dividing her time between the enormous time commitment of basketball and classes, Klopfer has somehow managed to spend the semester student teaching.

Shaping the lives of a group of fourth graders at Vienna Elementary School, Klopfer's day starts early. Klopfer arrives to teach by 8 a.m. every morning. Surrounded by 10-year-olds all day, she teaches until 3:30 p.m.

After leaving the school, she returns to the new Miller Center for basketball practice. The busy schedule is further complicated on Mondays when a night class is thrown into the mix.

The schedule can be stressful. "I wasn't prepared for as overwhelming as it was going to be," Klopfer said. "I think I'm getting used to it now that the semester is almost over. But it took a lot just getting into that routine of being busy all the time."

The busy and overwhelming schedule has proven to be well worth the work. Initially uncertain of her major, Klopfer did not make the decision to teach until her sophomore year. "In looking over my choices and

"I would love to stay involved in basketball, coaching on some level. I would love to be a head high school coach somewhere and teach elementary."

Val Klopfer
Senior

deciding on a major I knew I wanted to teach." Klopfer said. "And after getting out and working with the kids I knew this was it."

Student teaching has not only given Klopfer an incredible opportunity, it has brought some new fans to the Deacons' home basketball games.

"The first game of the season, I got the whole class tickets," Klopfer said.

"So my whole class came for the opening game and my cooperating teacher is going to be the guest coach on (Dec. 7)."

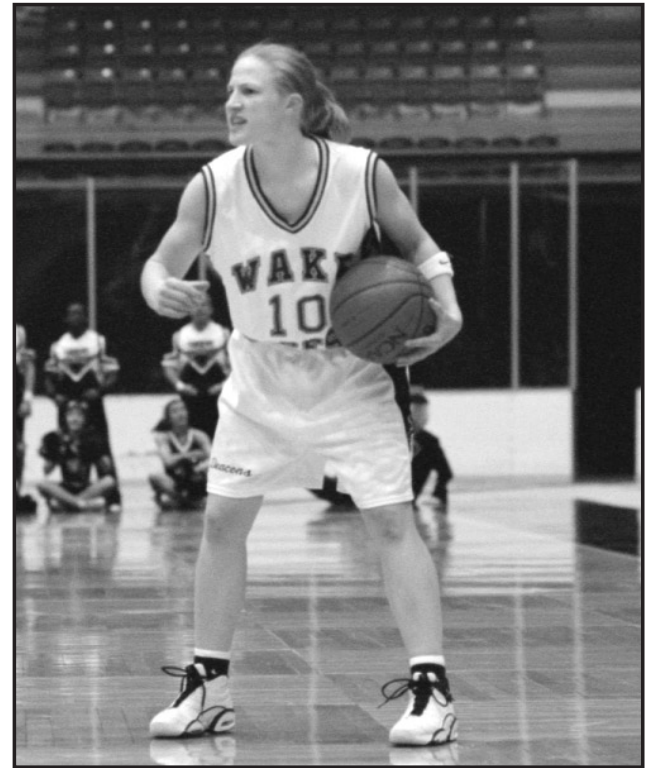
The students are always excited to see their teacher controlling the tempo of the fast-paced offense and gathering her teammates on the court.

Klopfer's role as a floor general for the Demon Deacons may seem a bit odd for her fourth-grade students accustomed to the docile teacher, but they always enjoy cheering for their star teacher.

Graduation will not mark the end of basketball in Klopfer's life.

"I would love to stay involved in basketball, coaching on some level," Klopfer said. "I would love to be a head high school coach somewhere and teach elementary."

If nothing else her experience juggling academics, basketball, and student teaching have assured Klopfer



Old Gold and Black File Photo

Senior point guard Val Klopfer has a knack for leadership on the court and in the classroom.

that teaching was the right choice and will be in her future.

"I know that teaching is definitely the way I want to go first."

Basketball bursts into ACC play over break

By Matt Gallagher
Old Gold and Black Reporter

Break? What's a break? While the rest of the campus goes home for a month-long winter break, the Demon Deacon basketball team plunges into the heart of its schedule. One could argue that this stretch of games could make or break the Deacs' year, as it showcases the squad's ACC opener, a game in Madison Square Garden and a trip to Chapel Hill – yes, that Chapel Hill.

The Deacons open their ACC schedule

Dec. 16 against Florida State at home. The Seminoles, who finished 9-21 overall and 4-12 in ACC play last season, are led by senior guard Delvon Arrington and coached by Steve Robinson. The 'Noles stand at a 3-2 record so far for this year.

The Deacs remain at home for a Dec. 19 game against St. Francis (Pa.), before traveling to New York City for a game against St. John's Dec. 22. The game, being played in Madison Square Garden, features a 4-1 Red Storm squad that is very young and very athletic. Junior

guard Marcus Hatten has paced the Red Storm thus far, with 17.8 points per game. The game is tentatively scheduled to be aired on ESPN, reaching a national audience.

The Deacons return to Winston-Salem for two games before the big trek over to Chapel Hill. Marquette and Richmond will loom over Joel Coliseum on Dec. 29 and Jan. 2, respectively.

Jan. 5 is that date on your calendar that should be circled – the Deacs and the Tar Heels will square off in Chapel Hill for an in-state/intra-conference grudge

match. The game, which is also being televised by ESPN, pits UNC seniors Kris Lang and Jason Capel against the Deacs senior-laden squad. The 'Heels have gotten off to a very slow start this season, and became the first Carolina team in history to start 0-3. The team currently resides at 1-3, after a close home win over Georgia Tech.

The Demon Deacons will then take a short jaunt up to Annapolis, Md., to play Navy, on Jan. 7. The Deacs will then return home on Jan. 12 for another ACC game, against Clemson.