

DEACON NOTES

Women's soccer team continues perfection

By Margaret McKenzie
Old Gold and Black Reporter

Perfection – a simple word that the Demon Deacon women's soccer team is growing accustomed to hearing this season. Taming their opponents was on the agenda as the Deacs easily controlled the Georgia Bulldogs and the Davidson Wildcats. The victories garnered the Deacs a national ranking of 13 and a flawless record of 5-0.

In the season's first home game, the Deacons christened Spry Stadium with a convincing 3-1 victory over Georgia. Wasting no time, the Deacs set the tone early as junior defender Katherine Winstead scored the first goal of the game in the opening minutes. Winstead scored with the help of junior forward Alena Thom and sophomore midfielder Alli Hunt at the 8:33 mark. Feeling the rush and excitement from the first goal, Winstead decided to try it once again. In the waning moments of the first half, Thom connected with Winstead a second time. The junior's shot hit the back of the net with less than five minutes till halftime, giving the Deacs a 2-0 advantage. The first half shutout was thanks to the stifling Deacon defense that dominated over Georgia, allowing only one shot compared to 13 for the Deacs.

As the second half opened, the Deacs continued to control the tempo. At the 50:31 mark, Winstead decided that she was not quite done with the scoring. Winstead controlled a long ball on the left side of the field and crossed it in front of the goal. Georgia freshman goalkeeper Nicole DiEnna dove out of the net in an attempt to deflect the ball, leaving the right side of the goal open. Sophomore forward Sarah Creighton scored the third and final goal for the Deacs when she drove the pass into the open net.

Winstead may have scored for the Deacs, but credits her teammates for the goals.

"Alena Thom deserves a whole lot of credit," Winstead said. "She did the dirty work and really created the goals. I just happened to be in the right place at the right time. But scoring certainly helps boost your confidence and just being

ahead in games takes a bit of the pressure off."

Three minutes later junior midfielder Ashley King began a rally for the Bulldogs. King received a pass from freshman forward Geneil Newborn and used her breakaway speed to get the step she needed. Slipping past the last line of Deacon defenders, King drilled a shot into the back of the net. The Deacons never counted the Bulldogs out and some trouble possessing the ball allowed Georgia a chance. But the comeback ended there for Georgia. The defense responded by not allowing another goal as senior goalkeeper Erin Regan tallied five saves.

"Before the game, we knew that the best defense was to possess the ball and attack. That was part of our original game plan," Winstead said. "Ultimately, though, Georgia did create some dangerous opportunities, but our defenders made some great plays, and Erin Regan came up huge in the goal."

The Deacs entered the Tuesday, Sept 10 match-up at Spry Stadium against Davidson with one agenda, to protect their perfect record. The play was tight throughout the game as neither team was able to take control of the game in the first half. Neither team was moving effectively off the ball, seeming to play sluggishly for the first period. Yet with under 30 minutes left in the half, Davidson broke the scoring drought.

Senior midfielder Tara Maloney centered a corner kick into the middle of the box for the Wildcats at the 15:27 mark. Confusion resulted as Davidson attacked the goal and junior forward Leigh Anne Hoskins managed to control the corner. Hoskins sent the ball just over the outstretched hands of sophomore goalkeeper Kenna Healy and the leaping senior defender Joline Charlton. But the shot was perfectly placed in the upper-right corner of the goal and Davidson took the lead 1-0. The Deacons controlled play for the next 10 minutes, but the offensive attack was filled with near misses. The 13 shots Wake Forest took in the first half all looked as if they might find the back of the net, but it wasn't until the 24:56 mark that the Deacs tied the



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Sophomore Alli Hunt controls the ball while keeping a defender out of position. Hunt has been a key factor in the Deacs' 5-0 record thus far.

score. Playing aggressively, the defense was pushed up field, trying to catch the Wildcats off-guard. Senior defender Gabi Lieb sent the ball to the right side of the goal where junior defender A.B. Robbins headed a spectacular shot into the goal. For the remainder of the first half, neither team could find any offensive spark and the close calls continued for both offenses. The 1-1 tie stood at halftime.

As the second half opened, neither the Deacs nor the Wildcats could find any offensive groove. The defense shined, as both teams made several miraculous saves, but neither could score. With less than 15 minutes to play, Wake Forest broke the tie and would never trail again. Winstead plucked a Davidson goal kick at midfield, heading it to junior forward Thom. Thom controlled the pass and found streaking freshman midfielder Sarah Kozey. Kozey beat the defense, going right, and placed a perfect shot of her own into the left corner, giving the Deacs a 2-1 advantage. Winstead and Thom combined one more time to add an insurance goal with 10 minutes left.

Winstead received a pass on the right line, dribbling towards the corner. She outmaneuvered two Davidson defenders and crossed the ball inches in front of the goal. Thom headed the ball into the goal, to give the Deacs their third and final goal.

The defense shone for the Demon Deacons in the contest as Kenna Healy recorded three saves on eight Davidson shots and senior defender Melissa Murray-Hobbs made several goal-saving plays.

The strong start is not a surprise to the Deacons. "It's very exciting to start the season so well," Winstead said. "Simply looking at the quality of our team, we knew we had the potential to get off to a great start, so we're very pleased that we've actually been able to do it."

Wake Forest will look to continue the perfect season this weekend as they host the Adidas Invitational Sept 13-15. The four-team tournament will pit the Deacons against Loyola Marymount, Southern California and Vanderbilt. The tournament will be the final preparation before conference play begins against Maryland on Sept. 20.

Men's golf takes win at the International Intercollegiate

Men's Golf opened up their 2002-03 season overseas at the International Intercollegiate in St. Andrews, Scotland, Sept. 7-8 in strong fashion. The Deacs, who entered the final round tied with ACC rival North Carolina at even par, used a final team round of 4 - under - par to pull away from the pack and win the event by a whopping nine strokes. The field consisted of six American teams along with five teams from Great Britain. Leading the Deacs' individually were senior Brent Wanner, who placed second and junior All-American Bill Haas, who tied for third.

King earns ACC Defensive Back of the Week Award

Sophomore Eric King was announced as the ACC Defensive Back of the Week Sept. 9 for his performance against ECU. King had much to do with the 27-22 Deacon victory intercepting two passes, breaking up another, forcing a fumble and adding three tackles. The two picks tie King for the ACC lead and were the first of his career. King has become a staple on defense for the Deacs since assuming a starting cornerback role. The sophomore has started in nine consecutive games since the beginning of last year.

Women's soccer climbs to No. 13 in the nation

The women's soccer team is off to a flying start, winning its first four games of the season. Recent blowout victories over Georgia and Elon have established the Deacs as a national power as the team rose three spots in the polls to No. 13. Since the new ranking the Deacs have also defeated Davidson. Up next for the Deacs is the WFU Adidas Invitational, which they will be hosting Sept. 14-15.

Hovda named assistant women's basketball coach

Women's basketball Head Coach, Charlene Curtis has announced the hiring of Jamie Hovda as an assistant coach. Hovda has been involved with the women's basketball program the last two seasons serving in a variety of roles. A former student-athlete himself, Hovda was a four-year member of the Waves's cross country team, serving as captain for two seasons and earning Academic All-Conference honors four straight years.

SCHEDULE

Friday, September 13
Field Hockey at Louisville, Louisville, Ky., 3 p.m.
Women's Volleyball at Kentucky in Kentucky Conference Challenge, Lexington, Ky., 7 p.m.
Women's Soccer vs. LMU at the WFU Adidas Invitational, Spry Stadium, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 14
Men's Cross Country at Wake Forest Alumni Invitational, Winston-Salem, TBA.
Women's Cross Country at Wake Forest Alumni Invitational, Winston-Salem, TBA.
Men's Golf at The Ridges/ETSU, Johnson City, Tenn., TBA
Women's Volleyball vs. Western Michigan at Kentucky Conference Challenge, Lexington, Ky., 10 a.m.
Field Hockey vs. Delaware, Louisville, Ky., 1 p.m.
Women's Volleyball vs. Dayton in Kentucky Conference Challenge, Lexington, Ky., 5 p.m.
Football vs NC State, Raleigh, 7 p.m.
Men's Soccer vs. Virginia, Spry Stadium, 7 p.m.

Sunday, September 15
Women's Golf at NCAA Fall Preview, Lafayette, Ind. TBA
Men's Golf at The Ridges/ETSU, Johnson City, Tenn. TBA
Women's Soccer vs. Southern Cal (WFU Adidas Invitational), Spry Stadium, 1 p.m.

Monday, September 16
Women's Golf at NCAA Fall Preview, Lafayette, Ind.

Tuesday, September 17
Women's Golf at NCAA Fall Preview, Lafayette, Ind.

Wednesday, September 18
Field Hockey vs. Radford, Kentner Stadium, 7 p.m.
Men's Soccer at Richmond, Richmond, Va., 7 p.m.

Field hockey stumbles against James Madison

By Jim Gleitman
Assistant Sports Editor

After knocking off the defending champions and going toe-to-toe with the U.S. National squad, the field hockey team found a bump-in-the-road to prominence.

The Deacs suffered a 2-1 loss to James Madison University on Sept. 8 in a solid performance that lacked execution.

Wake Forest dominated the first half of play, out-shooting James Madison 10-3, but it was the Dukes who drew blood first.

With under a minute to play, sophomore Veerle Goudswaard pushed a pass to junior Janelle Perlis, who found an open net giving the Dukes a 1-0 lead heading into the locker room.

"Psychologically you want to

say we were ready but I definitely sensed a little lull in our whole approach," coach Jen Averill said. We need to do a better job of preparing for each match like it is the national team."

The second half would prove to be similar for the Deacs as their scoring frustration continued. "We got nipped in the backside with frustration. I think frustration got the better of us," Averill said. "I don't think JMU beat us I think Wake beat itself."

Twenty - four minutes into the second half, Perlis struck again, this time redirecting a Goudswaard shot into the net to put the Dukes ahead, 2-0. However, the Deacs would not be shut out on this day as just seven minutes later senior Maria Whitehead found junior Emily Ruth, to cut

the lead to 2-1.

Though they registered 17 shots and 14 penalty corners against the Duke defense, the Deacs would be unable to score again.

"We made some mistakes that JMU capitalized on. Overall, we played a good game, we just couldn't put the ball in the net," sophomore Kelly Doton said. "Those games happen, and losses happen. I think we just need (Friday's game against Louisville) to come, so we can get back on the field and show everyone the real Wake."

The loss might appear troubling for this young squad, but in fact, players and staff members alike are pleased with the current level of play.

"If there is anything a loss will do is really motivate you to work harder," Averill said. "You

don't like it sometimes, but it is really motivating for the coaching staff to see what areas can be improved upon and cleaned up."

After a strong week of practice the Deacs are excited to get back on the field and prove they are a powerhouse to be reckoned with.

Wake Forest travels to Louisville to take on the Cardinals this week and when asked about the match-up, Averill was optimistic.

"I think it is awesome. It appears our team is getting up and playing for the strong opponents," Averill said. "Louisville has certainly made themselves notable and I think that is encouraging for our team because we know they are a good squad and we are going to have to be playing very well our-

selves to be successful against them."

There is no question in the players' minds that this team is capable of being unbeatable. For some, Sept. 13 cannot come soon enough, and the chance to display the potential which lies underneath that 1-2 record is raising the level of enthusiasm. "I think there were a lot of people questioning themselves and the capability of the team because we aren't used to losing," Doton said.

"I think everyone is eager to get back out on the field and prove that the team that showed up at JMU isn't the true Wake team and I think we all know that"

The Deacs are set to take on the Cardinal at 3 p.m. on Sept. 13 and Delaware at 1 p.m. on Sept. 14.

Men's soccer holds off ODU, looks to upset UVA

By Tripp Mickle
Old Gold and Black Reporter

Old Dominion drove a penalty kick into the left corner in the 61st minute to take a 1-0 lead over the Deacon men's soccer team. The goal awoke the 13th-ranked Deacs who netted two goals within the next three minutes to secure a 2-1 victory Sept. 7, in Norfolk, Va.

"We came out strong and fast and

imposed our game on them for three-fourths of the game," junior Brian Carroll said. "Their goal got us up and we scored seconds later."

The Deacs dominated the first half of play, possessing the ball and dictating the speed of the game, Head Coach Jay Vidovich said. During the first 45 minutes, they managed to take 11 shots on goal while preventing the Monarchs from a single opportunity.

"Our overall play was so sharp so early that we lulled ourselves into complacency," Vidovich said.

A loose ball in the box that hit sophomore defender Wiggy Saunders' hand ended the scoreless game in the 61st minute. The referee awarded the Monarchs a penalty kick, and Old Dominion's Attila Vendegh fired the ball into the left corner, beating junior goalkeeper William Hesmer who dove right.

"The hand ball was a little bit controversial," Hesmer said. "It wasn't consistent with the rest of the game. We were robbed of maybe two penalties in the first half, and he didn't blow the whistle the entire first forty-five minutes."

The Deacs responded within seconds when sophomore Scott Sealy spun towards goal in the eighteen, but was taken down by an Old Dominion player. A penalty kick was awarded, and Sealy drove the ball into the left corner to tie the match.

The players made the decision that Sealy should take the kick. The keeper went the wrong way and he buried it, Vidovich said.

Sophomore Vicente Bastidas put the Deacs on top when he rose above the Monarch defense to head a Carroll corner kick into the back of the net in

the 62nd minute. The header proved to be the game winner, but the Monarchs would threaten until the end.

"We seem to panic when we get a lead," Hesmer said. "We gave them way too many chances towards the end of the game."

"The fear of losing is there and natural," Vidovich said. "It was exasperated by Old Dominion throwing everything but the kitchen sink at us."

Old Dominion nearly tied the game when a Monarch found the ball at his feet on the corner of the six-yard box and managed to get a solid shot off with less than five minutes to play. However, Hesmer was in position and made the stop.

"This is the second game we've had a lead been forced to defend really hard down the stretch," Carroll said. "It's a weakness that we really need to correct."

The Deacons begin conference play Saturday at home against Virginia, the nation's 6th-ranked team. It's been a decade since the team has won against the Wahoos. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. at Spry Stadium.

"We all have a good feeling about UVA," Carroll said. "We're going out there with a lot of confidence and expect a good result."



Zach Klein/Old Gold and Black

Sophomore goalie Kenny Killfoil works out during practice. The Deacs defeated Old Dominion and now look to knock off the 6th seed Cavaliers.