

ACC football wrap-up

Volleyball gives No. 12 North Carolina a scare

By Ben Woolley
Old Gold and Black Reporter

Coming off a three-game sweep of N.C. State Nov. 8, the women's volleyball team had upset on their minds as they took on the 12th-ranked Tar Heels of North Carolina the following day. The Deacs gave UNC all they could handle and then some, as they took the top team in the ACC to four games. Although UNC survived the Deacs' upset bid, they were impressive as they played what Head Coach Valorie Baker called, "one of our best matches all season." The loss dropped the Deacs

to 13-15 (6-8 ACC), while UNC went to 25-2 (12-1 ACC).

But before the Deacs could get to UNC they had to take on the struggling Wolfpack of N.C. State. The Deacs didn't suffer any distractions as they dismantled N.C. State in three games; 30-25, 30-22 and 30-22. The Deacs swept their second opponent in as many games and didn't fall victim to any letdown. A total of six players recorded an attack percentage of over .300. Junior Ashley Fisher led the way with 10 kills and hit .333, while junior Jessica Hauff hit .538 and recorded nine kills. Defensively the Deacs shut down the Wolfpack's offense forcing them into an attack percentage

of .200 for the entire game and a dreadful .079 in the third game. Sophomore Tawni Schulte tallied 10 digs for Wake Forest and junior Sarah Beth DeLisle had 11. The win gave the Deacs momentum going into their Nov. 9 game against UNC.

Despite playing their best, it seemed as if the Deacs wouldn't be able to even win a game, but the Deacs broke through in the third game. In winning the third game by the score of 30-27 after dropping the first two 30-28 and 30-22, the Deacs gave the record crowd at Reynolds Gym a reason to believe. Wake Forest did all they could in the fourth game, but they couldn't stop the Tar Heels as they finished

off the Deacs by a score of 30-25. Offensively the Deacs hit the ball very well, as four players totaled double digits in kills and junior Sara Beth DeLisle recorded a double-double with 14 kills and 21 digs. "Sara played her best game of the season," commented Coach Baker. Baker also commended Jessica Hauff as she tallied 12 kills but most impressively recorded no errors throughout the entire match. "Hauff showed a great deal of competitiveness," Baker said. "She brought her fellow teammates to the same level that she was."

The game marked the last time that seniors Ashlee Phillips and Amada Tiller would ever see the

floor at Reynolds Gym during the regular season. Coach Baker had high praise for her two lone seniors. "Amanda was a great positive leader on and off the court, and will be missed," she said. When asked about Phillip's contribution to the program, Baker said, "Ashlee played a huge role in the developing the team, she will be an area that we will sorely miss."

Wake Forest closes out their regular season with two more road ACC regular season games against Georgia Tech and Clemson. The Deacs dropped their previous match to the Yellow Jackets in four games while they swept the in the earlier meeting.

No. 25 Maryland 24, No. 13 N.C. State 21

The N.C. State Wolfpack, who saw their Fiesta Bowl chances end last week, saw their chances of winning the ACC crown end this week, as the Terps of Maryland won on a 27-yard field goal with 34 seconds remaining. While the Wolfpack are on the decline, Maryland is the hottest team in the ACC, and has a chance to win the conference should Florida State lose one of its final three games. Maryland won this game despite being outgained, 401-322, and giving up seven minutes in the time of possession. Inconsistent Wolfpack quarterback Philip Rivers threw for 297 yards on 24-40 passing, but had two costly interceptions. Maryland did not turn the ball over and made plays when they had to. Terp quarterback Scott McBrien got off to a rough start, but finished strong completing 10 of 18 passes for 130 yards. For Maryland, this was their seventh straight win.

No. 15 Florida State 21, Georgia Tech 13

The Yellow Jackets of Georgia Tech almost played spoiler two weeks in a row, but Florida State held them off to stay perfect in the ACC. Coming off an upset victory over N.C. State, Georgia Tech played well again, but came up just short. The Jackets have more offense and twice as many first downs as the Seminoles.

The Seminoles had only 279 yards behind a shaky Adrian McPherson, who replaced Chris Rix at quarterback two weeks ago. He finished the game completing 8 of 24 passes for 139 yards. The surprise player for the Seminoles was running back Nick Maddox, who ran for 122 yards on 22 carries after replacing star Greg Jones in the Wake Forest game last week. Florida State needs only to win the rest of their league games to capture their 10th ACC championship in 11 years.

Preview

No. 20 NC State (9-2, 4-2 ACC) at Virginia (6-4, 4-2 ACC)

The Wolfpack try to right their sinking ship on Nov. 16 against a Virginia team that can still make a strong bowl game with a good finish. The Wolfpack have lost two in a row, after starting the season with nine straight victories, a school record. While their chances of an ACC championship are gone, they can also make a strong bowl game.

This game matches the ACC's two premier quarterbacks, Philip Rivers and Matt Schaub, who are one-two respectively in passing efficiency. Similar to the Wolfpack, the Cavaliers have lost two straight after winning six in a row. They are 4-1 at home this season, though, and this will be State's third game in four weeks on the road. This starts a brutal stretch of the schedule for the Cavaliers as well, as after N.C. State they have Maryland and Virginia Tech, all ranked teams.

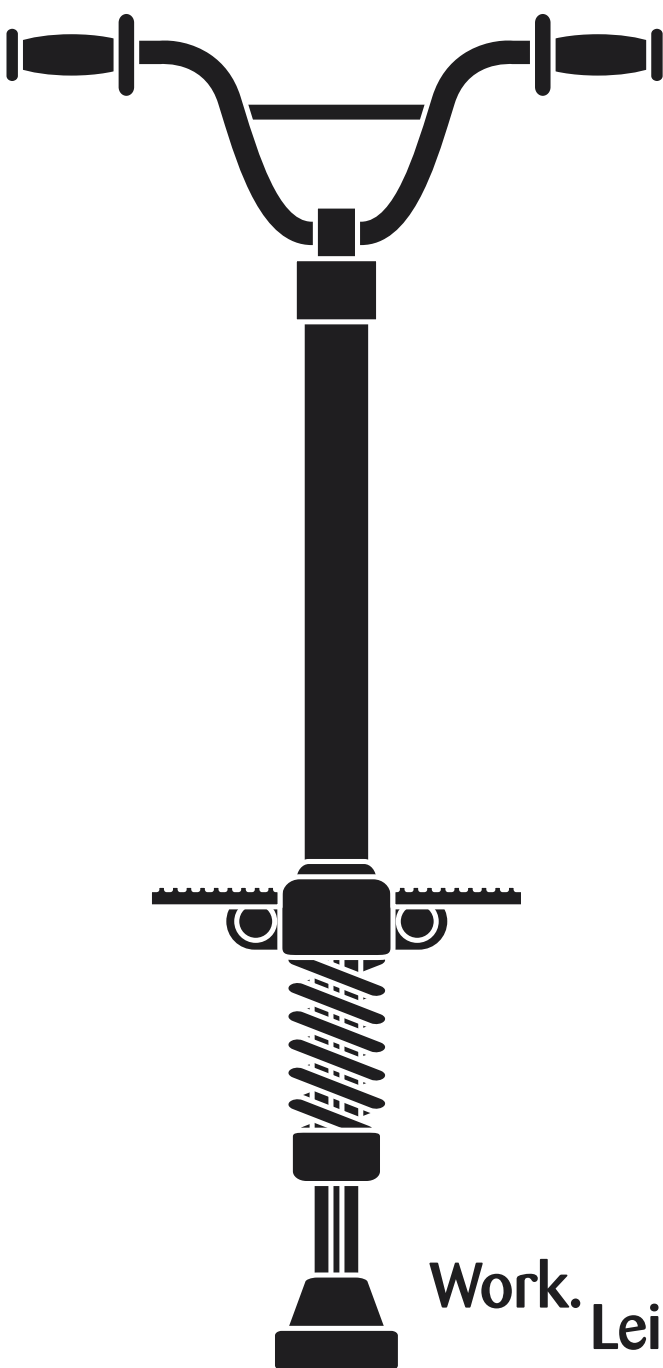
No. 19 Maryland (8-2, 4-1 ACC) at Clemson (6-4, 4-3 ACC)

The Terrapins try to keep their ACC championship hopes alive as they travel to South Carolina to take on the Tigers. Should Maryland win out, they would need Florida State to lose at least once more. Maryland is the hottest team in the ACC, having won seven in a row and having broken into the Top 25 for the first time since the beginning of the season.

Clemson is riding a three-game winning streak of its own, and is under a lot of pressure during a difficult season.

Standings:

Team	ACC	Overall
Florida State	6-0	7-3
Maryland	4-1	8-2
N.C. State	4-2	9-2
Virginia	4-2	6-4
Clemson	4-3	6-4
Georgia Tech	3-4	6-4
Wake Forest	3-4	5-5
Duke	0-6	2-8
North Carolina	0-6	2-8



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