

SPORTS

Men's soccer ties No. 24 Deacons

BY BRYAN DELLA VOLPE
STAFF WRITER

At least one of Carolina's "football" teams had a good weekend. In front of a crowd of 1,011 on Saturday, the men's soccer team tied the No. 24 Demon Deacons of Wake Forest, 3-3.

USC junior goalie Henry Ring made a number of saves in the first half. His efforts, combined with strong defensive play by USC's Chris Morman, kept the Deacons from running away with the match.

However, the Wake attack proved too strong and the Deacons drew first blood. At 24:43, Jaron Barbee took a cross pass from Chris Lonteen and found the back of the net from five yards out.

Long balls and runs at the net were Carolina's offensive weapons of choice in the first half. Sophomore Joey Worthen and senior forward John Harr found themselves ahead of the pack repeatedly, but they were unable to convert.

The Gamecocks evened the score with an acrobatic goal at 29:16. Wake keeper Sean Conner was unable to corral a long shot by Alex Belasco, and Rodney Perry leaped into the air and headed the ball up and over Conner into the net.

"I saw Alex's shot come off [Conner], and I just tried to get it over him the best that I could," Perry said.

Perry, a freshman forward, made things happen in open space and stretched the Wake defense with his speed.

"Rodney is an extremely talented player," USC coach Mark Berson said afterward.

Just eight minutes after Perry's goal, Wake pulled ahead once again. With 7:03 remaining, Matt Thompson took a pass down the left side and kicked the ball past Ring into the net. The Gamecocks ended the half trailing 2-1.

The second half was a completely different game. USC and Wake battled back and forth, using physical play and wide open offenses. USC saw more scoring chances in the second half but was unable to make the most of them.

Wake, on the other hand, did manage to convert. At about the 53-minute mark, Wake put pressure on Ring and the Carolina defense, holding the ball deep in the zone and getting off good shots.

Eventually, the Carolina defense cracked. Wake went up 3-1 when Greg Krauss scored. Krauss' goal marked the first time Carolina had given up three goals in a game since the 1997 season.

USC wouldn't go quietly. Time ticked away as both teams tried to make something happen. Finally, something did. Worthen took a crossing pass from Tim Glowienka and rifled it into the open net, pulling the Gamecocks within one.

Two minutes later, at the 76:43 mark,

Glowienka tallied another goal as he took a pass from Perry and fired the tying shot from 10 yards out.

Carolina then proceeded to pressure Wake for the final 15 minutes of the match. The Gamecocks almost avoided overtime when Harr found room to shoot with 24 seconds remaining; however, the shot was wide.

After 30 minutes of overtime, the score remained tied, 3-3.

Berson said he was pleased with the effort of his team.

"I thought we showed tremendous character in the second half coming back," Berson said. "I'm very proud of that fact. We showed a lot of heart."

Volleyball wins two at Georgia Tech tourney

VOLLEYBALL ROUNDUP
THE GAMECOCK

The USC volleyball team won two of four matches over the weekend in the Georgia Tech Classic. Carolina defeated host Georgia Tech on Friday and Virginia Tech on Saturday. The Gamecocks played Georgia Tech after a 3-0 loss to Arizona State and defeated the Yellowjackets in five games with scores of 15-6, 3-15, 12-15, 16-14 and 15-11. The Gamecocks then faced No. 9

University of California at Santa Barbara. UCSB defeated South Carolina in three games with scores of 15-6, 15-8 and 15-5.

Despite USC's lackluster performance against UCSB, it was able to come back strong against Virginia Tech. The Gamecocks defeated the Hokies in three games with scores of 15-7, 15-6, 15-6.

USC will play at Clemson on 7 p.m. Wednesday.

Offensive production lacking for Carolina

BY SHANNON ROOKE
STAFF WRITER

All the numbers come back the same. When it came to offense, Georgia dominated the whole game against USC on Saturday.

In 81 total plays, Georgia connected for 431 total yards, while USC managed 218.

Why was this? "I thought that in the second half we showed a little spark offensively, but we've got to give our backs some room to run," USC coach Lou Holtz said. "With the wide receivers and running backs that we have, a good offensive line is critical."

Of course, most of the players on that line aren't offensive linemen by trade. "We don't want to make excuses," USC offensive guard Melvin Paige said. "A lot of people are getting down on the line as being the weak point of the team, but we just need to get past that."

Another factor this season has been the loss of Philip Jones at right guard. And sophomore Larrell Johnson, who three weeks ago was a third-string defensive lineman, had to step in at center against Georgia when Scott Browne was injured in the second quarter.

"Anytime you have injuries, it's going to affect how you play," quarterback Phil Petty said.

Most of the team agreed that there was something lacking in the offense. But was it chemistry, or not having the right people in the right place?

"There was something missing out there," Holtz said. "I even told Phil that I might be inclined to go to a different quarterback just to see if we could establish some rhythm, but [assistant coach] Skip [Holtz] talked me out of it."

Perhaps Holtz should've gone with his instinct. When Petty wasn't getting sacked, he was tripping over something at the line of scrimmage. When he did have enough time to throw, the passes were usually either off target or too shaky for his receivers to catch. He ultimately ran for a net of minus-33 yards and threw for two interceptions.

Holtz stressed that definite changes need to be made before the team's next game, against East Carolina.

"What we have to do is anticipate the receivers," Holtz said. "When you have a defensive line like theirs, guys that are 6-foot-6, 250, you're not going to have a lot of time, and they're just going to engulf your quarterback."

In the end, the Gamecocks pulled together enough in the fourth quarter to score their first touchdown of the season.

"When we finally got those points on the board, it really showed the guys that we can score," Paige said. "We know we have the potential. We need to capitalize on it now."

Gamecock fans are hoping that some improvement is in the works. Without some help offensively, and with seven more SEC games looming, USC's season could prove to be a long one.

www.gamecock.sc.edu

RUSSIAN TRIVIA
QUESTION OF THE WEEK:
Which Russian writer was forced to reject the 1958 Nobel Prize for Literature?
ANSWER: Boris Pasternak won and accepted the 1958 Nobel Prize for his work "Doctor Zhivago". But he was denounced by various Soviet Communist groups, including the Writers' Union, and he was unwilling to accept the prize. He received the prize. His son, Yevgeny Pasternak, accepted the prize on his behalf in early 1979, after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

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Tee times 12:30pm - 3:00pm

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Sign ups being accepted now thru Thursday, Sept. 23rd.
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Call 777-4593 for more information

The Office of Campus Recreation
202 Blatt PE Center
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the first Great GAMECOCK Tailgate Party of 1999

September 18 (USC vs. East Carolina) 4-6:30 pm
featuring the band: CALVIN & FRIENDS

Seawell's parking lot - 1125 Rosewood Drive across the street from "the ROCKET" at the State Fairgrounds.

The best part is that it is all FREE: Music, Lots of Great Food, Drinks and Door Prizes.
Souvenirs for the first 250 USC students in attendance.
General parking is available at Seawell's for \$7 per vehicle.

THIS TAILGATE PARTY IS AN ALCOHOL, OTHER DRUG AND VIOLENCE-FREE ENVIRONMENT sponsored by the USC Office of Alcohol & Drug Programs and GAMMA (Gamecocks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol). Paid for, in part, with student activity fees. Additional funding provided from SC DAODAS Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Project.

Actual time or event may change due to funding or programmatic decisions. For additional information, please call 777-6688.

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