

## Head Baseball coach, athletic director resigns

by Angelita Colón-Francia  
Asst. Dir. of Public Relations

Brevard College's head baseball coach and athletic director Gill Payne has resigned to take over as head baseball coach at Elizabethton High School in Elizabethton, Tenn.

"We wish him well and appreciate the job he's done for the college," said Brevard College President Drew Van Horn.

Brevard College's baseball program has enjoyed success under Payne's leadership. He led squads to numerous post-season accolades including an Appalachian Athletic Conference (AAC) regular season championship, three AAC tournament championship titles, and a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Region XII championship.

The college has already begun the search for Payne's replacement.

## Volleyball beats Milligan

by Brenda Skeffington  
Volleyball Coach

The Women's volleyball team defeated Milligan September 6, 3-1 at Milligan. The game scores were: 27-30, 30-18, 30-19, 28-30.

Jami Perry, a freshman setter from Brevard scored on 8 out of 11 setter attacks and put up 40 set assists.

Sandy Tabor lead the attackers with 19 kills and 11 blocks. Junior, Marquessa Chappell scored 9 kills and senior, Beth McGowan scored 8 kills.

Brevard College is ranked second in AAC this week. Freshman, Jami Perry was selected both All Conference (AAC) and All Region Setter of the week, last week. Sandy Tabor lead the conference in blocking and was second in the AAC in both kills and hitting percentage. Marquessa Chappell is second in the Conference blocking and third in the conference in hitting percentage.

Brevard is currently 3-1. The next home match is Tuesday Sept. 13 against third seed U. Va. Wise at 6:30 pm.

## BC student competes in U.S. Open tennis tournament

by Angelita Colón-Francia  
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Brevard College freshman Elizabeth Williams will be one of 16 top athletes from around the globe to compete in the U.S. Open's inaugural Wheelchair Competition at the 2005 U.S. Open September 8-11 in Flushing Meadows, N.Y. She will compete in both the women's singles and doubles events.

"I was thrilled, excited and a little nervous when I found out my entry had been accepted," said Williams. "I think it will be amazing. I'm ready."

The U.S. Tennis Association (USTA) announced in April that the U.S. Open would hold its first Wheelchair Tennis Competition. Athletes will compete in four events: men's singles; women's singles; men's doubles; and women's doubles. The U.S. Open Wheelchair Tennis Competition is an event on the international professional wheelchair tour and is sanctioned by the International Tennis Federation (ITF).

Competitors for the event will include top athletes from Australia, Great Britain, France, the Netherlands and the U.S.

Williams, who is from Durham, N.C., said she has faced several of the women players she will play in the Open in the past but that it was some time ago. She said she maintained her regular training routine since arriving at Brevard and has been able to train with the college's head tennis coach, Paul Thomson, prior to heading to the Open.

She is ranked 17th internationally by the ITF. Her major achievements include being a member of the 2005 U.S.A. World Team Cup team and the 2002 and 2003 U.S.A. National Junior Wheelchair Tennis Cup team at 'Les Petits As' in Tarbes, France. She has also earned two USTA National Championship Gold Balls and two USTA National Championship Runner-up Silver Balls.

Four American men and five American women will represent the United States in the U.S. Open Wheelchair Tennis Competition. The U.S. men will be led by No. 13 Derek Bolton of Nashville, Tenn.; No. 27 Lee Hinson, currently residing in Australia; No. 33 Paul Walker of Lakeland, Fla.; and No. 36 Larry Quintero of San Antonio, Texas, a 2004 Paralympic competitor. The women will be represented by No. 12 Beth Arnoult-Ritthaler of Kula, Hawaii; No. 17 Williams; No. 22 Karin Korb of Atlanta, Ga., a two-time Paralympian; No. 27 Jan Proctor of Delray Beach, Fla.; and No. 57 Kaitlyn Verfuert of Chino, Calif., a 2004 Paralympic competitor.

Franklin R. Johnson, chairman of the board and president of the USTA, said in a statement that the competition will provide a high-profile showcase for wheelchair tennis on one of the grandest stages in sports. "Tennis is truly the most inclusive of sports," Franklin said, "and this new initiative at the U.S. Open reinforces our ongoing commitment to recognize the talents of those competing in wheelchair tennis at the highest levels."

Born with spina bifida, Williams is a competitive athlete. She fell in love with the game of tennis and started playing at the age of five. She entered her first tennis tournament at age 13. That same year she won her first professional match.

She also competes in wheelchair basketball, and whitewater canoeing and kayaking. In 2001, she took home a bronze medal from the U.S. National Open Boat Whitewater Races on the Catawba River near Morganton, N.C.

Although Williams is just beginning to settle into life as a college freshman, her parents felt it was important for her to compete at the U.S. Open's inaugural competition.

"We were concerned about Liz missing school right off," said her father, Duke, "but this is the first time the U.S. Open has offered a wheelchair competition. This is a big deal."



Elizabeth Williams