

Extra Time with Adam:

# The anguish in losing

by: Adam Beeson  
Managing Editor

*"Winning is habit. Unfortunately, so is losing."* The one and only Vince Lombardi said that years ago. Sadly Vince, I'm beginning to think that you're right.

The men's soccer season wrapped up last weekend with a disappointing 0-6 loss to Virginia Intermont College in the first round of the AAC tournament, leading our disheartened team to another losing record, this time: 5-9-3. For all of you whom I promised a conference championship in August, I mournfully apologize. I was wrong.

But so what? We lost. Does that make us losers? It has come to my attention, after three unsettling seasons at Brevard, that losing comes with the territory of college athletics. Some teams find ways to avoid this dreaded territory, but most teams don't.

We are not losers.

However, fellow athletes, as our athletic department expands into a bigger division with better competition, the pressure to win will undoubtedly increase. We *must* begin to prove that Brevard College does not produce losing programs. If, for nothing else, the pure joy of winning.

To quote author Pat Conroy, "there is no downside to winning. It feels forever fabulous." Example: the 2004/2005 Brevard College Lady Tornados basketball team. Now that was a team that knew how to win. And until that 20 game winning streak came crashing down with an unfortunate loss last winter, I can almost guarantee those players felt no anguish and, more importantly, made the school proud to house such a program.

But how do we maintain that level? This, my friends, is a question that may never be answered. However, there is at least one obvious step that should be taken to help the school move in the right direction.

Brevard College athletes need support

from fellow students. It is extremely difficult to find the much needed inspiration to win while playing in front of a crowd of seven. As winter approaches, it would be nice to rid the apathy and produce some interest in the basketball season. Then, carry that energy over into the spring and maybe the school will begin to see more positive results.

I know that I'm not alone when I say that I hate losing. But remembering how to win is, regrettably, becoming a faded memory. And if this commentary isn't enough to spark a change, just think about what George Brett said in 1986 after the Royals took an appalling beating:

"If a tie is like kissing your sister, losing is like kissing your grandmother with her teeth out."

## BC basketball ready for season tipoff

by Adam Beeson  
Managing Editor

With the end of the fall sports season rapidly approaching, it's time we turn our attention to winter sports. And winter in Brevard means one thing: basketball.

The men's basketball team looks to outshine last year's Appalachian Athletic Conference (AAC) record of 16-6, a second place finish, by working together to achieve the ultimate team goal, a conference championship. But the task won't come easy.

The Tornados are returning nine players, after losing seven from last year's side. Of these nine returnees, one was a regular starter last season. This, with the addition of three freshman recruits and one red shirt, will complete the men's team. Key returnees for the Tornados include seniors Rashad Mosely and Jared Ramsey. Sophomore Thomas Moore returns this year to lead the Tornados' backcourt, with the help of sophomore Jeff Carburn, after red shirt-

ing last season due to a hamstring injury.

"I believe this season will be different from any season since I have been here because we have four new starters and we only have three players with significant playing time," Moore said. "However, our goals as a team don't change. We still want to win the conference and end our season in Missouri (at the national tournament) in March."

The Tornados were given a pre-season ranking of sixth in the AAC poll, behind conference rivals Union, Tennessee Wesleyan, Bryan, Bluefield, and Montreat College. "Expectations by others is probably low because of the key losses of players," Moore said. "But we know what were capable of and that's all were worried about is the twelve individuals that have Brevard on their jerseys."

The men's season opens at home against Embry-Riddle University on Nov. 5 at 5:30 p.m.

The Lady Tornados look to defend their 2004-2005 regular season conference

championship record of 21-1 with the addition of new head coach Bill Wilson. Wilson, former head coach of Upper Iowa University where he set the school record for most wins (99) and was named coach of the year by both the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and the Women's Basketball Coaches Association, will rely on the team's four returnees for leadership and support.

"The success the Lady Tornados have experienced in recent years has created what every college team strives for — a strong foundation, a tradition," Wilson said. "One of the ingredients to tradition is championships and that is what we will strive for every day on the basketball court."

The Lady Tornados were ranked ninth in the AAC pre-season poll. Their season tips off on Nov. 4 at the BP Classic in Mt. Vernon, Georgia at 2:00 p.m. The home opener for the Lady Tornados is Nov. 15 against conference rival Bluefield College at 5:30 p.m.