Sports-Women's tennis defeats Emmanuel 7-2



(Left) Marek Slagle leaps for a ball during her and Kimberlee Cooper's 8-3 win in No.3 doubles. (Right) Lindsay Schaeffer waits intently for her match to resume. Schaeffer won the No. 1 singles match in straight sets, 6-0, 6-2. This meet was the last chance to see the tennis team at home until March 26 when they host Mars Hill College.

photo by Liza Sholokhova



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Softball storms to impressive start

by Johnny Lange Sports Editor

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After struggling through a difficult season in 2007 that saw only one victory, the Lady Tornados softball team have come out of the gate swinging compiling a 6-4 record. This past week the Tornados swept Montreat and split a doubleheader with Lees-McRae.

In the opening contest against Montreat (0-8) on Valentines Day, the Tornados jumped out to an early lead putting up two runs in the 1st inning and adding another in the 3rd before Montreat could reply with 2 runs in the top of the 5^{th} . The next inning saw the Tornados answer back with a

run and sophomore Jennifer Gift (3-2 on the season) slammed the door shut preserving the 4-2 victory.

Game two against Montreat was a bit of a different story. After falling behind on an early Montreat homer, the Tornados took a 2-1 lead in the third inning. In the 4th and 5th innings Montreat scored one run each to reclaim the lead at 3-2. In the bottom of the 7th the Tornados still trailing but battled through and won on a game winning RBI by junior Katie Thornburg that scored sophomore Kristina Clayton who went 3-4 with two runs scored for the game. Jennifer Gift picked up her second win of the day and improved her record to 4-2.

On Saturday the Tornados welcomed Lees-McRae to campus and lost the opening contest 4-0, snapping their 5 game winning streak. In the second half of the doubleheader the Tornados took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the 6th inning thanks to a wild pitch by the Bobcats pitcher. After knotting things up in the top of the 7th inning Lees-McRae took the lead in top of the 8th by a score of 2-1. The Tornados however got that run back and won the game on a double by senior Kristen Tettemer that pushed sophomore Jennifer Brown across the plate. Sophomore Jennifer Gift (5-3) picked up another win after

relieving senior Aimee Rogers who gave up one run over 6 2/ 3rd innings.

The Tornados finish off their home stand this weekend with double-headers against Mountain State on Friday and Milligan on Sunday. Both twinbills begin at 2 P.M.

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