

Sports

BC baseball expecting to bounce back from last year's injury-plagued season

by **Gretchen Allie**
Staff Writer

Last season BC baseball was filled with injuries and not much hitting, resulting in a record of 10-38. With a healthy team and several new players, baseball is preparing to start their 2009 spring season off on the right foot Saturday.

Head baseball coach Todd Anderson said that this year's team has the best team chemistry he's seen since he's been at Brevard. Older players have stepped up and taken younger players under their wing. Coach Anderson said that in the past, team chemistry has hurt the team, but now, chemistry is great on and off the field.

"What killed us last year, was our hitting," Coach Anderson said. However, he says that they have added a lot of power to the team this year.

There are many new faces on the baseball team, with eight freshmen and a number of transfers. Although all the pitchers came back, there are only three returning players who started. Because of this, there will be five or six new starters.

The SAC is very competitive and the baseball team will go against several highly ranked teams this season.

"It's a very good conference for baseball," Coach Anderson said.

The SAC includes teams such as Tusculum and Catawba who are ranked 23rd and 29th in the country, respectively. They will also play Erskine who is ranked 22nd.

The BC baseball team had one game in the fall against Young Harris. Young Harris is a junior college, and is ranked 3rd

in the nation. NCAA does not permit the score to be kept during the off season, but Coach Anderson said that overall, BC did very well.

The first baseball game will be a double-header at home on Feb. 7 at noon against Ohio Valley. Their first SAC game will be a double header against Newberry on Feb. 21 in Brevard at noon.

Both basketball teams stumble at Mars Hill

by **Johnny 'Stats' Lange**
Sports Editor

Women

An early deficit again proved too much for the Brevard College women's basketball team as they fell to South Atlantic Conference rivals Mars Hill College. The loss drops the Tornados to 5-14 overall and 0-8 in the S.A.C.

With 8:56 remaining in the first half the Lions held a 25-9 lead, before the Tornados came storming back. A 24-10 run made the score 35-33 in favor of Mars Hill at the intermission.

Early in the second half, the Lions extended the lead to 10 points, and forced the Tornados to play comeback ball once again. B.C. was able to fight back to close the gap to within 3, however Mars Hill was able to hold on for a 73-61 win.

Junior Samantha Winn led the Tornados with 18 points and sophomore Amanda Whitaker and freshman Holly Flippo each scored 13 points. Junior Millie Wharton also contributed with seven points in 16 minutes off the bench.

Men

On Saturday, the Tornados travelled 50 miles to the north to take on South Atlantic Conference rivals Mars Hill College. On this day, the Lions were able to avenge their earlier loss to the Tornados, win 95-78. The loss drops the Tornados to 10-9 overall and 2-7 in the S.A.C.

The Lions came out firing on all cylinders, starting the game on a 21-4 run over the first 5:52 of the game. The Tornados were able to close the gap within 9 points with 6:56 remaining in the first half, but Mars Hill extended their lead to 19 at the half, going into the locker rooms with a 48-29 edge.

In the second half the lead grew to as many as 34 points with 11:54 remaining, but the Tornados were able to claw their way back to within 17 when time expired.

With a career high 16 points, junior Cody Siniard led the Tornados while classmates Jonathan Whitson and Darin Dellinger each scored 15. Fellow junior Shane Galloway shot 4-6 from three point country and put up a season-high 14 points on the afternoon.



photo by C. Ashill-Beck

Sam Winn goes up for two of her game-high 28 points during the Lady Tornados' 74-66 loss to SAC-leading Lenor-Rhyne on Wednesday in Boshamer Gymnasium.