



# Seahawk Sports

NOVEMBER 2, 2000

## SCOREBOARD

### MEN'S SOCCER

Record: 4-11-1 (1-4-0 CAA)  
Wed. Nov. 1  
WILLIAM & MARY (Late)

### VOLLEYBALL

Record: 4-20 (0-8 CAA)  
Wed. Nov. 1  
COASTAL CAROLINA (Late)

### MEN'S & WOMEN'S TENNIS

Wed. Nov. 1  
at Rolex Regionals (Winston-Salem, N.C.)  
Day One: (Late)

### MEN'S GOLF

Mon & Tue. Oct. 30-31  
at ODU/Seascape Invitational (Kitty Hawk, N.C.)  
UNCW: 306-308=614 (16th out of 20 teams)

## SCHEDULES

### WOMEN'S SOCCER

Record 8-11 (1-7 CAA)  
Thu. - Sun. Nov. 2-5 TBA  
at CAA Championships (Virginia Beach, Va.)  
Round One (Thu.):  
UNCW vs. James Madison at 5 p.m.

### MEN'S SOCCER

Sat. Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m.  
at Old Dominion  
Tue. - Sun. Nov. 7-12 TBA  
at CAA Championships (Virginia Beach, Va.)

### VOLLEYBALL

Fri. Nov. 3 at 7 p.m.  
AMERICAN  
Sat. Nov. 4 at 2 p.m.  
GEORGE MASON  
Mon. Nov. 6 at 7 p.m.  
CAMPBELL

### MEN'S & WOMEN'S TENNIS

Wed. - Sun. Nov. 1-5 All Day  
at Rolex Regionals (Winston-Salem, N.C.)

### WOMEN'S GOLF

Mon & Tue. Nov. 6-7 All Day  
at Edwin Watts Palmetto Women's  
Intercollegiate (Liaway Island, S.C.)

### SWIMMING AND DIVING

Sat. Nov. 4 at 2 p.m.  
DUKE

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Sat. Nov. 4 at 7 p.m.  
CHARLOTTE STARS (Exhibition)

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Sun. Nov. 5 at 2 p.m.  
NWBL (Exhibition)

BOLD indicates home game

## BASE jumpers enjoy wild, wonderful West Virginia

TODD VOLKSTORF  
STAFF WRITER

The world's longest single arch steel bridge spans the New River Gorge in West Virginia. Every year on the third Saturday in October, jumping and rappelling from the bridge is legal.

The New River Gorge Bridge Festival celebrates the Oct. 22, 1977 completion of the bridge. It has been held every year since 1980. The bridge, located in Fayette County, West Virginia, is the second highest in the country at 876 feet and crosses the second oldest river in the world.

The four-lane bridge is part of US-19 Corridor "L" in southern West Virginia. For the festival, the southbound lanes of the highway are closed to vehicular traffic from Fayetteville on the south side of the bridge to a half-mile past it on the north. Vendors selling everything from food and drinks to furniture cram into every space available on the closed portions of highway, but not on the bridge itself. The bridge is reserved for pedestrians who marvel at its height and beauty but also the beauty of the river and surrounding mountains. The magnificent fall foliage presents a superb background for the festival.

There are those who come to the festival for other reasons besides the food and the fall foliage. BASE jump-



A fearless jumper descends from the New River Gorge Bridge during the annual festival celebrating the completion of the West Va. bridge.

ers and repellers attend the festival because it is the only time of the year where they can "legally" enjoy their sports at this particular bridge. The other 364 days of the year it is illegal to jump or rappel from the bridge.

The "BASE" in BASE jumping stands for Building, Antenna, Span

and Earth, and is referring to the objects, manmade or natural, from which these people enjoy jumping. The sport has actually been around long before skydiving. People have been hurling

SEE JUMP, PAGE 16

## Perseverance pays off for senior Mary Gill

ERICA HARBATKIN  
STAFF WRITER

The athletes line up at the starting line. The starter gives instructions and fires the gun. The race is off. There could be a hundred people in the race, many of whom probably have amazing stories of how they arrived at that starting line. Senior Mary Gill, UNC Wilmington's No. 2 runner for the year, however, has probably cleared more hurdles than most hurdlers. The determination is evident in her eyes as she fights for position and breaks to the front of the pack. That

determination was always crucial in Gill's voyage to the top.

Gill started in athletics at a young age when one of her friends was taking a recreational gymnastics class. She began taking gymnastics classes once a week and immediately fell in love with it. She soon began competing on a higher level and aspired to participate in college gymnastics on scholarship, eventually competing on the national level.

During Gill's senior year in high school, the track coach approached her to ask if she would fill a missing void in the school's 4 x 800 team. Her older brother had been a

good runner, so the coach hoped the talent might be in her genes. Gill accepted the offer, the 4 x 800 team made it to the state meet and Gill fell in love with track.

"I just completely stepped out of the gym and stepped into running," she said.

Gill elected to attend UNCW her freshman year. Her start in college athletics marked the beginning of a long, uphill journey.

"I came in wanting to be at where everyone else was, and I didn't realize you can't just jump

SEE GILL, PAGE 17