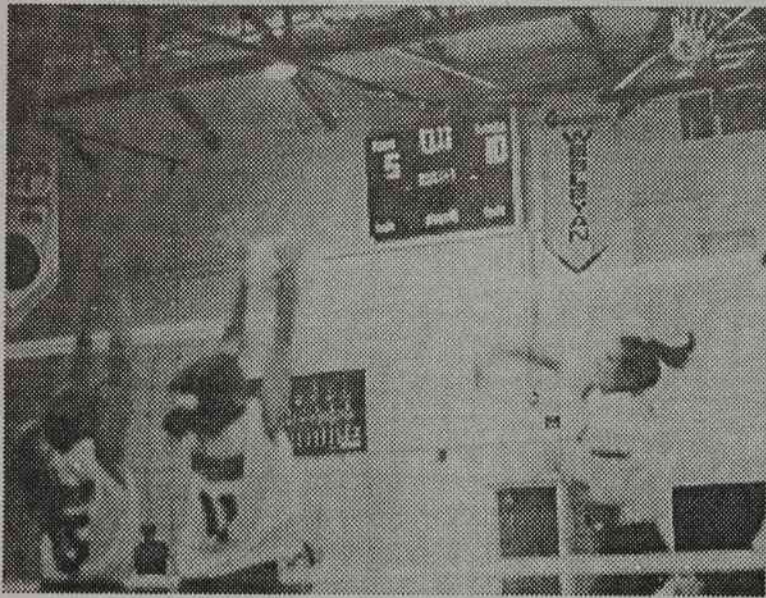


SPORTS



BUSY AT HOME — Toni Ninni goes up for a spike in a recent volleyball game. (Photo by Karolyn Braun.)

Volleyball team drops three recent matches

The Battling Bishops volleyball team lost three matches over a recent weekend.

The losses evened out their record at 11-11.

The team lost to Ferrum, 3-1 (5-15, 15-8, 8-15, 12-15), followed by Greensboro, 3-1 (17-15, 10-15, 4-15, 11-15), and

Guilford 3-0 (6-15, 2-15, 12-15).

"I am pleased with our continued improvement but we came up against some strong offense this weekend," said head coach Michon Lubbers.

Toni Ninni leads the Battling Bishops in kill average with 2.3 per game.

Womens' soccer extends win streak

The Battling Bishops women's soccer team pushed their winning streak to seven games with a 5-0 win at Ferrum and a 7-0 Homecoming victory vs. Villa Julie.

The Bishops controlled both games from the outset, outshooting their opponents 17-2 and 30-1 respectively.

Senior Allison Patrick scored two goals in each game and leads all Bishop scorers with 14 goals and two assists for 30 points. Freshman forward Alexa Kap-

tanakis added three goals and an assist to raise her point total to 23 (seven goals, nine assists).

"Alyson and Alexa both play up front and compliment each other very well," said Head Coach Rob Donnawirth. "They take advantage of their opportunities and are able to put teams away."

Alyson Patrick has now moved into second place on North Carolina Wesleyan's Career Point List with 71 points (30 goals, 11 assists).

Men top St. Mary's

The men's soccer team rebounded from another tough 3-2 loss against Randolph-Macon with a 4-0 Homecoming victory vs. St. Mary's.

The Bishops dominated St. Mary's, outshooting them 12-6. Junior Scott Kennell scored two goals and leads Bishop scorers

with nine on the season.

Senior Rob Simn picked up the Bishops' first shut-out of the season.

"This is the most consistent we played all season," said head coach Greg Vogel. "This is a sure sign that a young team is growing."

ACC season shapes up just as predicted

By JAMES BELL

Every year at the beginning of the Atlantic Coast conference's (ACC) football season a script is said to be written.

As the script goes, the Florida State Seminoles will walk through the ACC schedule on their way to a possible National Championship and everyone else is playing for second place. Well, so far, this season is playing out exactly how it is supposed to.

After starting fast with early victories against ACC rivals Duke and North Carolina State, Florida State secured first place with a defensive victory over the Tar Heels of North Carolina, who were the only team with a real chance of upsetting the powerful 'Noles.

North Carolina's schedule is as difficult as they could have made it this early in the season. They started by shutting out Clemson at home and then traveling to Syracuse to beat the Orangemen 27-10. North Carolina followed that victory up with another shutout handed to the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets before being shutout themselves at

the hands of Florida State.

The Virginia Cavaliers, the last ACC team that actually beat the Seminoles, have also started impressively by racking up a 4-0 record with wins over Central Michigan, Maryland, Wake Forest, and Texas. They have a strong running game and an adequate passing game. With a game against Florida State on Oct. 26, a win could guarantee a major bowl appearance.

Even though Georgia Tech lost an early game to rival North Carolina, the Jackets are a team that may be able to sneak up and win some conference contests. This would give them much needed confidence and hope. They have a decent defense and an offense that is capable of putting big numbers on the score board. The Yellow Jackets are a team that just needs to put all of the elements of winning together.

The five other teams in the ACC will once again have to suffer another season full of losses. North Carolina State has suffered devastating losses to two conference teams and the Wolf Pack is destined to finish near the bottom of the ACC. Wake Forest and

Duke have also failed to get into the win column.

Clemson and Maryland have yet to get a win within the conference but both have won outside of the ACC. With some luck and maybe some divine intervention, these two programs can turn their season around.

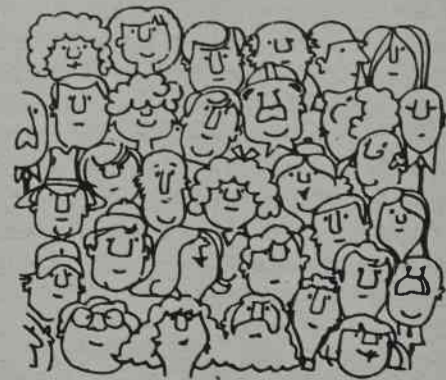
These five teams, even though they have substandard records, could easily surprise a team that makes the mistake of looking past them. They have plenty of talent and may be on the road to future winning seasons.

So far the ACC season has been, for the most part, predictable. Florida State has quickly established its early dominance over the rest of the conference. The Heels have shown that if the 'Noles slip they are ready to assume the ACC crown. Virginia knows that they can win, and the rest are just trying to turn the corner.

However, there is still a long season to be played out. At the end only one team can claim the Atlantic Coast Conference title, but with a decent record many of the ACC teams can make it to a post season Bowl Game.

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