

SPORTshorts

A quick look inside athletics at Guilford and beyond

Butch Maier
Sports Editor

BUCS WIN A TONY: Guilford College shortstop Tony Womack was selected by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the Major League Amateur Baseball draft this summer. Look right.

EL S.I.D.: Brett Ayers has been named Sports Information Director at Guilford, replacing Tom Neff, who resigned to take a similar position at Lenoir-Rhyne. For a profile of Ayers, look down.

DALY NEWS: Senior Jill Daly earned Honorable Mention All-American for a school record fourth straight year as the Lady Quaker tennis team placed 18th at the NAIA



Daly

National Tournament this spring.

HAAR-LOW SCORER: A seventh-place finish at this year's NAIA National Golf Championships gained Guilford senior Chris Haarlow All-American honors for the third straight year.

NET GRADES: Senior tennis player Heather Kennedy has been named a NAIA Scholar-Athlete, making her Guilford's first athlete to be so honored in two different sports. Kennedy received the same recognition while on the volleyball team in 1989 and 1990.

Tennis teammates Emily King and Cari Peterson also garnered student-athlete attention, making second team on the GTE Academic All-District At-Large College Division squad.

COACH ROACH: Guilford's Athletic Director Phil Roach talks openly about the school's completed move from NAIA competition to NCAA Division III play. Look far right.

ERIC THE WELL-READ: Sports enthusiast Eric Pappas lists the best on the college grid iron. See who's for real and why on page 7.

WHO ARE YOU?: From a Lazyboy perch, the armchair quarterback questions any and all sporting decisions. For a critique of this self-proclaimed expert and similar others, see page 8.

THE HEAT IS ON: After contracting 48-hour pennant fever in Pittsburgh, the Guilfordian Sports Editor details his weekend journey. See page 8.

BEATS UP: Anyone with some dedication and little effort in them can take over a Guilfordian sports beat.

Pirates pluck Womack from Quakers

Scott Genualdi
Copy Editor

Former Guilford baseball standout Tony Womack was chosen by the Pittsburgh Pirates in the eighth round of the Major League Amateur Baseball Draft held in June.

Womack, a shortstop for the Welland (Canada) Pirates in the New York-Penn League (Class A), batted .277 for the season despite an injury that hampered his first few weeks. Womack stole 26 of 27 bases (.963 success rate) for the Pirates. As of August 18, Womack was third in the league in stolen bases.

Guilford baseball coach Robert Fulton witnessed Womack's play recently.

"The Pirates are definitely interested in him," said Fulton. "He started slowly but when I saw him he was batting leadoff and

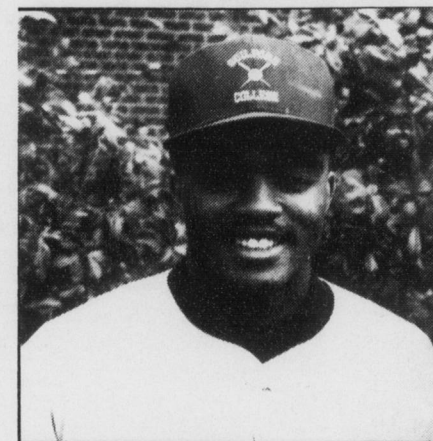
playing shortstop."

Womack, a senior from Chatham, Va., has enrolled for the fall semester at Guilford due to a clause in his contract that has the Pirates providing time for him to complete his degree in sport management.

Last season for the Quakers, Womack hit .350 while setting a school single-season record with 22 stolen bases. Womack also competed on the Guilford football team, finishing in the top five nationally in kickoff returns with a 30.8 yard per return average.

Womack is the 41st Guilford student playing professional baseball and the first since pitcher John Wilcox was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds in 1982.

Seven Quakers have played major league baseball. The most famous of the seven was Ernie Shore, a Boston Red Sox pitcher who threw one of the 15 perfect games this cen-



Womack

tury, in 1917. The most recent major leaguer was Rick Ferrell, who played 18 years for three different teams from 1929 to 1947.

New SID to upgrade office

Scott Genualdi
Copy Editor

Guilford's new Sports Information Director, Brett Ayers, arrives from Elmhurst College in Illinois to work on advancing the athletic public relations department and has proposed obtaining up-to-date computer software for the office's Apple Macintosh and a new communications link with the college's admission staff.

Ayers replaces Tom Neff, who took the SID position at Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, NC.

"Tom left the office in good shape [with the media]," Ayers says. "I'm planning on coordinating this office with on-campus offices."

Ayers stressed the importance of coordination with the Admissions Office.

"With all of the publications that the Admissions Department works on, I would like to have some correspondence with them," Ayers says. "We are isolated over here and I want to be on the same wavelength with admissions. It's important for the image of the school."

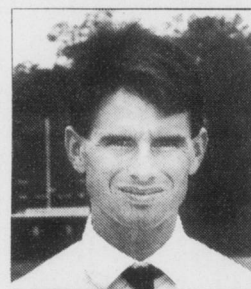
Working on modern facilities is Ayers' other concern.

"We can do a lot with desktop publishing," Ayers says. "We need to obtain the necessary software to upgrade the computer. We work closely with the coaches and staff and give them what information they want. The computer only helps us."

Ayers worked as the SID, head cross-country and track coach, and weight room supervisor during his 2 1/2 years at Elmhurst, located near Chicago. From 1987 to 1989, Ayers worked as the head cross-country and track coach at Harper College in Illinois. Before his move to the Midwest, Ayers worked as an assistant cross-country and track coach at Springfield College in Massachusetts.

Despite his coaching experience, Ayers did not plan on becoming a coach.

"I wanted a position in athletic adminis-



Ayers

tration," he says. "Coaching is good preparation for being an athletic director."

Dealing with the media promises to be one of Ayers' more difficult tasks.

"In Chicago, we got good press from the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Chicago Sun-Times*," Ayers says. "But we had difficulty because we were in a major league market. We couldn't get any coverage from television."

"Here we have difficulty because the *Greensboro News & Record* just doesn't have the pages," Ayers continues. "A daily section will have two, maybe three pages of sports. The other schools here, UNCG and North Carolina A & T, also don't receive that much press [from the *News & Record*]. We compete against the ACC more than A & T and UNCG. In terms of media, I am at more of a disadvantage here than in Chicago because the ACC is followed more intently here than the Big 10 in Chicago."

Ayers has a simple solution to this problem.

"We just need to develop good working relationships with the people of the print media and television," Ayers says.

The three previous schools that employed Ayers are members of NCAA Division III. Ayers plans on using his experience there to help Guilford in its first year of eligibility for Division III playoffs.

"I like Division III," Ayers says. "I know what they expect. Division III is easier for me. I think we are part of a good conference (ODAC) with schools that are similar to us with their academic reputations. I think we have some natural rivalries with them in all sports."

Roach speaks on NCAA move

Butch Maier
Sports Editor

The Guilford College athletic department has completed its move from NAIA to NCAA Division III play. Phil Roach, in this third year as Athletic Director at Guilford, recently commented on the effects of this move to the Guilford sports program.

GUILFORDIAN: *What is Guilford's current athletic status?*

PHIL ROACH: We are now fully engaged in NCAA Division III play and eligible for the ODAC championship, as well as individual Old Dominion Athletic Conference awards. Also, we now have an avenue through the conference to post-season play.

GUIL: *What was the advantage off the field of becoming an ODAC member?*

PR: The schools in that conference are more like us—quality academic institutions. We're pretty even . . . and have similar facilities, admissions standards, and kinds of students.

GUIL: *How has this move affected the recruiting process?*

PR: Because we were in the process of moving during the last couple years, I think we have brought in some pretty good quality athletes. I go down to the football practice field and see some fine players. I look over Jack's [Men's Basketball Head Coach Jack Jensen] roster and see some more fine players, and so on.

GUIL: *What's the basic feel about the move?*

PR: We are now more focused in our direction, being in the NCAA. I am excited that the Quaker Club funded \$25,000 that fixed up our training room, football locker room, and will soon expand the weight room.

The department as a whole is really up. There is a sense that the coaches and players like the conference affiliation. That makes them much more determined to win.