

## Golfers ready to swing into action

◆ Jack Jensen's nationally-ranked golf team must replace Saglio

BY OWEN FINBERG  
Staff Writer

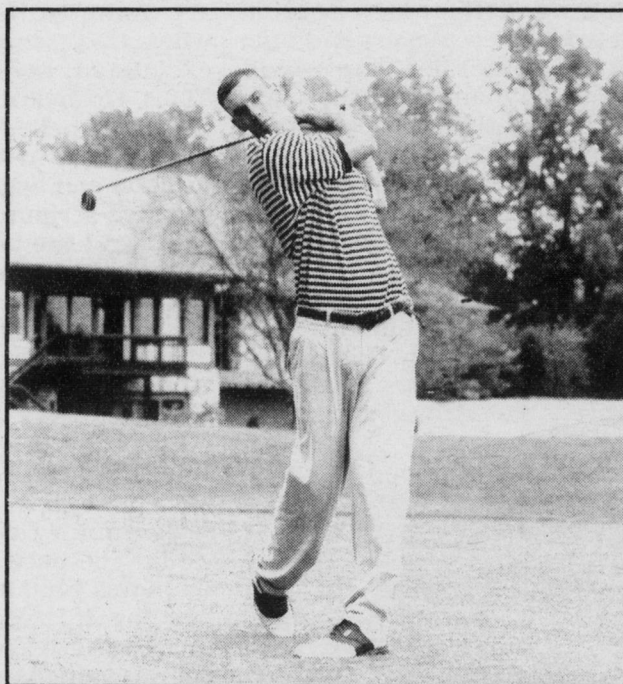
There is one word which the members of this year's golf team are very familiar with: success. After finishing fifth in the NCAA National Tournament last year, the team is looking to play even better this season.

With 21 years of coaching experience at Guilford College, head coach Jack Jensen is optimistic about the team's performance this year. "We have competed in 17 national gold tournaments during my 21 years, finishing first once, 2nd three times, 3rd once, 4th once, and 5th three times," Jensen said, speaking of his past successes and what keeps drawing him to golf year in and year out.

But aside from the rankings, the real success of the golf team is the players. Although they have lost key player Matthew Saglio to Florida Southern, the remaining

players are ready to step up to the challenge of being a successful team. Player John Caruso said on the loss of Saglio "I don't think we will be the same team this year without Matt, but with Clint and the other freshmen we have, we'll be good."

Returning Senior Ty Saloma, who was named team MVP, as well as an All-Conference and All-District team member for divi-



Senior Matt Saglio will be counted upon to make up for the transfer of Ty Saloma.

sion three in the southern United States last year, attributes team chemistry to a lot of the success the golf team enjoys. "When you think of golf, you don't really think about team, but our chemistry is what makes us so successful", Saloma said.

Also returning is Junior Bo Reitz, who made 2nd team All-American last year as well as tying for 7th in the national tournament. Joining these two are returning players Matt and John Caruso, as well as newcomers Adam Zaitz and Justin Torres.

Another noteworthy addition to the roster is freshman Clint Fields from Silver City, North Carolina, who says he is looking forward to being part of such a successful team and feels that Guilford College golf is heading for even greater things this year.

The golf team begins their season with a one-day match on September 8th. Their first tournament is September 23rd.

## Soccer Team Hopes for Improvement

BY OWEN FINBERG  
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Three weeks ago when YMCA Director Liam Behrens was named head coach of the men's soccer team a few things were granted about this year's club. They would be in shape, play smart soccer, and they would have new talent. The only question is will they have a winning season?

If Coach Behrens, a former professional soccer player with the Philadelphia Freedom, has anything to say about it they will. "This year's team must have a 'refuse to lose' attitude," Coach Behrens said. "Everyone understands their role this year and that has made for a close-knit team; all that and the amount of fitness work we do should propel us over the .500 mark."

Fresh legs, in the form of six freshmen and four new upperclassmen, combined with a strong core of returning players keeps Quaker soccer fans in suspense until September 23, when they take Haworth Field for the first time this season versus Ferrum.

Some of those exciting new

additions are in the form of freshmen Drew Wilson and Josh Gergen who are looked upon to push forward and generate offense. Wilson commented, "The game is so much faster and more physical. I'm just looking to help the team put points on the board and improve throughout the season."

Strong play from new upperclassmen has also pushed the team hard through pre-season practice. Twins Nathan and Andrew Cota acknowledge their role to provide speed and experience as they too jump into an offensive role. It is telling who is who that can get confusing.

Leading the returning players is junior, back-to-back all-ODAC selection Dax Baker. Baker controls much of the play from his center midfield spot, and says this about the Quakers chances, "This year we are 13 or 14 players deep whereas last year we were struggling to find bodies. This year we are playing well as a team and that takes pressure off everybody."

Returning to protect the "old onion bag" is goalkeeper Scott Quick. Working well with an experienced defense should keep

Quaker numbers low in the goals against column.

That defense is anchored by senior sweeper Nelson Bowman and captain Mike Stirk. Flanked by senior Nate Robinson and junior Owen Finberg, the defense looks to "Jump start the offense and provide stability," states Bowman.

At forward look for campus icon Dan "Lucky Charm" Neville to generate goal-scoring opportunities, either for himself or the other front-runners. Coming off a successful freshman campaign and a hard-working off season, Neville is expected to be the scoring staple.

Providing significant minutes will be newcomers Sivon

Irving and Luke Robinson. Look for them to see time in defensive positions.

According to Behrens, "So far I am real happy with our performance; we improve everyday and we push each other to become better. The bottom line comes down to the players; the upperclassmen must show leadership and demonstrate that no-quit attitude every time they step on the field."

That attitude will be tested early as the Quakers start off with five road games including two tournaments against tough non-league opponents. Against Ferrum on the 23rd the Quakers should show a strong crowd a new-found confidence, excitement for the future, and a winning team.

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