

## Oglesby leads in more than basketball

BY TAYLOR HALLETT  
STAFF WRITER

Gabby Oglesby, a junior on the women's basketball team, proves to be a leader on and off the court.

Head Women's Basketball Coach Stephanie Flamini appreciates having Oglesby as part of the team.

"She works very hard and she has the right attitude," said Flamini. "She definitely leads us in many ways."

Oglesby is still getting accustomed to this new leadership role she has found herself in.

"Now coach uses my name a lot in the sense of me being a leader to the underclassmen and to the whole," Oglesby said. "I'm adapting to that and learning how to play that role this year."

Oglesby's teammates are also glad to have her on the team and find her to be a source for inspiration.

"She's one of everyone's favorites on the team," said senior teammate Jaclyn Nucci. "Even in practice when it's going bad or we need a pick-me-up, she can make a joke. Her sense of humor can pick us up when we need it."

With the women's basketball team off to a good start and considering their high profile success last season, there are certainly high expectations for what the

team will accomplish.

"We are really coming together as a team," said Nucci. "I think we are only going to go up from here."

While Oglesby looks forward to team accomplishments, she is particularly focused on her ability to contribute to the team personally.

"One of my personal goals is to reach 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds. Apparently I'm pretty close."

Last season, Oglesby won recognition as the Old Dominion Athletic Conference Player of the Year. She was a key player in the team's success and led the Quakers in scoring 14.7 points per game, 7.9 rebounds per game, a field-goal percentage of .514 and had 66 blocked shots.

Despite these impressive statistics which show her devotion to athletic improvement, Oglesby engages in many activities besides basketball.

Oglesby also finds enjoyment in making music.

"I play bass guitar sometimes," said Oglesby. "I just do it for fun; I've been playing for three years now."

However, schoolwork and academics are still a priority for Oglesby.

"School is obviously the reason why I am here," said Oglesby. "School is first, basketball comes second."

Oglesby is currently reading pro-

basketball player Lisa Leslie's book "Don't Let the Lipstick Fool You." She cites Leslie as an inspiring figure, in her achievements on and off the court.

"She has all these defining roles that she plays in her life that people don't see because they think she is just a basketball player," said Oglesby. "I relate to that a lot."

Last semester, Oglesby excelled in a class called "The Female Athlete," taught by Professor of Sports Studies Kathleen Tritschler.

"It was really wonderful to have Gabby as a member of last spring's class," said Tritschler in an email interview. "In fact, it was so great that I begged her to TA for this spring's class, but unfortunately she needs to take a course for her major instead."

Oglesby also cites church and religion as being an important aspect of her life.

"I try to go to church whenever I can," said Oglesby. "When I am home, I am there every Sunday. God and family are the two most important parts of my life."

Clearly, Oglesby has much to look forward to, both as an incredible athlete and as a diligent student.

"She is one of the best kids I've ever coached," said Flamini. "More than being a great player, she's an even better person."



What's Going On  
in Guilford Sports

### LAST WEEK'S GAMES AND MATCHES

#### Basketball

##### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Nov. 16 vs. Southern Va. [W 71-67]

Nov. 17 vs. William Peace [W 93-56]

Nov. 20 @ Averett [L 71-67]

Nov. 28 vs. Eastern Mennonite [W 67-64]

##### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Nov. 17 vs. N.C. Wesleyan [W 70-54]

Nov. 18 vs. York (Pa.) [L 55-51]

Nov. 20 @ Averett [W 75-42]

Nov. 26 vs. Meredith [W 71-56]

Nov. 28 vs. Eastern Mennonite [L 57-44]

### UPCOMING GAMES AND MATCHES

#### Basketball

##### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Dec. 1 vs. Randolph-Macon

Dec. 5 vs. Greensboro

##### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Dec. 1 @ Washington and Lee

Dec. 5 vs. William Peace

#### Track and Field

Dec. 1 Classic Kick-Off @  
Winston-Salem, JDL

#### Swimming

Dec. 1-2 @ Randolph-Macon  
Invitational

@ SIGNIFIES AN AWAY  
GAME

VS. SIGNIFIES A HOME  
GAME

## Catastrophic health insurance: can you pay the price?

BRITTANY MURDOCK  
STAFF WRITER

The average expense of a spinal cord injury in the first year is \$1,023,924. Could a Guilford College football player's family afford such an expense?

Catastrophic insurance is a policy which covers expenses when a student-athlete suffers catastrophic injuries. Fortunately here at Guilford, the athletic department has an emergency action plan and, the NCAA sponsors catastrophic insurance for every Division III school.

In the world of high school football, catastrophic insurance isn't always available.

E:60 is ESPN's prime-time news magazine that features profiles, investigations and cutting-edge stories on emerging and established sports. In the E:60 episode of "Busted Coverage," two high school football players and their families share stories of their spinal cord injuries and the everyday struggle to fight sores and infections and to maintain the will to survive.

Diondre Preston was a starting quarterback at Molina High School in Dallas. He was a Division I prospect, receiving 30 recruiting letters a week. Two years ago, he suffered a helmet-to-helmet hit and fractured two vertebrae in his spinal cord, leaving him paralyzed from the neck down.

Preston's high school is one of the few high schools in Dallas to actually have a catastrophic insurance policy. This policy should insure him \$6 million dollars in coverage over a 10 year time span. Phone calls have gone unanswered since he graduated, which was over a year ago.

"The school helped us out in the beginning by paying for supplies, equipment, medical bills and even donated their van for him," said Preston's mother Maya Preston in an interview with E:60. "Every time I try to call I get the run around."

What happens if a high school athlete is catastrophically injured in the state of North Carolina?

During a phone interview, Gary Cavanaugh, business manager of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association, told The Guilfordian that it is mandatory that all members of the association have a catastrophic insurance policy in place.

"Catastrophic policy is used when the total claim of an injury is over \$25,000," said Cavanaugh. "We don't want any athlete who has suffered a catastrophic injury to have their family get crippled

with bills."

In the state of North Carolina, the limit is \$1 million. What is one to do after the policy has maxed out?

The other football player in the video was Rocky Clark, who was paralyzed during a tackle 12 years ago at Eisenhower High School in the Chicago suburbs. Fortunately for Clark, his school had catastrophic insurance.

However, 10 years after his injury, the policy had maxed out, and the benefits were cut off. He was soon hospitalized as his physical condition worsened and his systems started failing him.

A year and five months after the insurance policy had maxed out, Clark passed away at the age of 27.

Where does one turn to after the money comes to a sudden halt?

Two hundred and sixty five high school football players have been paralyzed from spinal cord injuries since 1977 and that number keeps growing.

"My mom would let my brothers play football when they were little, but not when they got older," said sophomore Logan Hardin. "The sport got more aggressive, and my mom didn't want them playing because of all the injuries that could potentially happen."

Guilford has an emergency action plan that is updated every year by Head Athletic Trainer Gary Rizza, which includes what to do with specific injuries and who is responsible and emergency numbers. The NCAA sponsors a catastrophic injury insurance program for every Division III school which covers a student-athlete who is catastrophically injured while participating in a covered intercollegiate athletic activity.

The NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook states, "The policy has a \$90,000 deductible and provides benefits in excess of any other valid and collectible insurance."

When asked if the fear of a potential catastrophic injury ever restricted one from playing football, senior Trey Billian answered, "The fear of a serious injury never stopped me from playing because it's a risk when you play the game and everyone knows it. If you think or worry about it too much and you play scared, that's when people get hurt."

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