

# Throwing, running and passing into spring sports

BY JOHN KLUEPFEL

STAFF WRITER

Guilford athletes are gearing up for the spring sports season in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference. Guilford's spring teams are all looking forward to a strong season.

## Men's Baseball

**Previous Record:** 21-20

**Head Coach:** Nick Black '02

**Preseason Conference Ranking:** 5th

Junior Gabe Mirabelli noticed changes in the team's expectations from last season during this preseason's training camp.

"Last year we were a little bit of an underdog because we were young, and people didn't know what to expect," said Mirabelli. "Now we aren't that, and people are saying 'Okay Guilford, they're gonna be good this year.'"

## Golf

**Previous Record:** Won ODAC Championship, 11th in NCAA Div. III Championships

**Head Coach:** Corey Maggard

**Preseason Conference Ranking:** n/a

Building off a strong 2012 campaign, the golf team looks to take it one step further.

"Our team goal is to win a national championship but first the

ODAC because that's how we get to nationals," said first-year Michael Almonte.

## Men's Lacrosse

**Previous Record:** 6-9

**Head Coach:** Tom Carmean

**Preseason Conference Ranking:** 7th

The lacrosse team has been working on their fundamentals to improve from their subpar 2012 season.

The team is bolstered by a strong, experienced defense.

"The introduction of a really large, really talented freshman class is the key to the season," said sophomore Sam Cole. "We have a lot of kids from around the country. I think the game most of the guys are looking forward to is revenging last season's loss to Greensboro (College). We want that game back and we want some blood."

## Women's Lacrosse

**Previous Record:** 17-23

**Head Coach:** Sarah Lamphier

**Preseason Conference Ranking:** 5th

Head coach Sarah Lamphier believes that the way the team handles adversity will determine how well the season goes.

"I've been really impressed with their chemistry," said Lamphier. "They very much enjoy each other's company. It doesn't matter if you're a first-year, senior or junior, they all get along and want to spend time with each other."

## Softball

**Previous Record:** 17-23

**Head coach:** Dennis Shores

**Preseason Conference Ranking:** 9th

The softball team has worked on pitching and key hitting this offseason. The team is much deeper than in years past.

Head coach Dennis Shores sees every opposing team as a rival.

"The team goal is to win the ODAC," said Shores. "Although they ranked us to finish 9th, never wake a sleeping dog."

## Men's Tennis

**Previous Record:** 11-8

**Head Coach:** Dave McCain

**Preseason Conference Ranking:** 3rd

The tennis team faces high expectations as they were ranked 3rd in ODAC preseason polls. First-singles Turner Votipka has worked on his core to prepare for the season.

"We have a really hard season ahead of us," said Votipka. "I'm just excited to play these really tough guys who are good players and can challenge me."

## Women's Tennis

**Previous Record:** 9-9

**Head Coach:** Dave McCain

**Preseason Conference Ranking:** 6th

The tennis team has a strong mix of young players and veterans. Their season starts on Feb. 15 against Virginia Wesleyan.

"I think (Kim and Natalie) are really good captains and we can tell them things, they are really open with us," said second-singles first-year Allie Guy. "We have good communication between the team and the captains."

## Men's Track and Field

**Previous Record:** n/a

**Head Coaches:** Danny Cash and Kimberly Cash

**Preseason Conference Ranking:** n/a

First-year Sherod Johnson cites his coaches for his improvement as a runner and student. Johnson is excited to be transitioning from winter track to outdoor track, where he believes he thrives in the warmer climate.

"The Cashes have helped me academically and have gotten me to where I want to be physically," said Johnson. "They've put me through a series of weight training and have made me stronger mentally."

## Women's Track and Field

**Previous Record:** n/a

**Head Coaches:** Danny Cash and Kimberly Cash

**Preseason Conference Ranking:** n/a

Sophomore captain Jodie Geddes is excited about the ODAC Division III championships on Feb. 22. The team has two record breakers with Jennifer Thomas and Jasmine O'Neill in the 200 and 800 meter events, respectively.

"We finally have a large enough team that we can get as many points as possible," said captain junior Jodie Geddes.

"I think we can take the ODAC. We should."



Meredith Shaffer, sophomore, gets ready to serve the ball.

COURTESY OF ZACH MORGAN

# Ice, ice, baby! Hockey season begins

BY JOSH BALLARD

STAFF WRITER

The rink lights up. The alarm sounds. The players burst onto the ice ready to skate anew. The crowd roars, and the puck drops. The 2012-13 National Hockey League lockout is over.

After roughly 113 days of debate, hockey fans can at last rejoice as the 30 teams that make up the NHL return to the rink.

"I am really relieved that the lockout ended," said New York Rangers fan and senior Tali Raphael in an email interview. "After there was no deal by Thanksgiving, I was really thinking there would be no season."

The NHL Board of Governors and the NHL Players' Association agreed on a new, 10-year collective bargaining agreement in early January. Changes include a new contract term limit of seven years, a 50-50 split of hockey-related revenue between players and owners, a new payroll cap at \$64.3 million and a cap on contract salary variance at 35 percent.

Additionally, every non-playoff team has a chance to win the top pick in the draft lottery — originally, this was reserved for the bottom five teams.

"The owners won this tussle," commented Forbes analyst Patrick Rishe. "(However,) the players ended up retaining far more perks than I ever believed they would."

The question remains: will the league bounce back?

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman estimates that the overall league loss per day was between \$18 and \$20 million, with players losing \$8 to \$10 million. However, players are now earning an average of \$310,000 less per person because of the 50-50 split of league revenue.

The total number of games has decreased due to the lengthy lockout. This season will consist of 48 games, just under 60 percent of the normal count of 82 regular season contests.

In catch-up mode, teams are working hard to attract fans they may have lost during the lockout.

"I know many teams have made a concerted effort to reach out to the fans and make games more accessible, especially in the early stages of the season," said Sports Information Director and Assistant Director of Athletics Dave Walters in an email interview. "My sister and I had our best seats ever at the Carolina Hurricanes season opener thanks to a 50 percent discount on opening night."

Raphael suspects that viewership and fan interest will pick up near the playoffs.

"I'm really just glad to have it back, even if this season is going to be a mess," Raphael said. "The sport gets going during the playoffs, where it shows its best."

Skeptical fans worry that a lockout may occur again, especially after the newly made 10-year CBA expires. There are a number of visible ways to fix the problem.

"The way I think we can prevent future lockouts is by getting rid of Bettman," suggests Raphael. "Bettman has dealt with three lockouts in his tenure as commissioner."

Other fans call for understanding on both sides.

"I think the players need to stand together," said senior Brendan Wynands, a Carolina Hurricane fan. "And the owners need to listen to the more moderate voices within their ranks."

Hopeful fans, however, see a simpler solution.

"Don't be greedy," Walters suggests. "Live peaceably with a spirit of trust and good faith."

## Men's Rugby Club is recruiting!

Interested? Pass this along or show up to any of our **OPEN PRACTICE SESSIONS** Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Have any questions? Please feel free to email president Zachary Kronisch at [kronischzi@guilford.edu](mailto:kronischzi@guilford.edu).

Not interested in playing but interested in supporting the team? Come out and watch a live match on any of the dates below! And remember, Saturday's a rugby day!

### Upcoming matches:

vs. Wingate (Feb 16)  
vs. ETSU (Mar 2)  
vs. Tablerock (Mar 16)  
vs. Guilford College Alum.  
(Apr 6)

(Unless otherwise noted, each home match will begin on Saturday at 1:00 p.m.)