

Champions of the heart

SPORTS COLUMN

BY JULIE MILLS

Every time they take the field, the perseverance and determination of the young women that make up the Lady Tornado soccer team is on display for all to see. I have watched the Brevard College Women's Soccer team develop for the last few years into a great, respected team. As they venture into a new millennium as NAIA members, I would like to pay a tribute to all this team has accomplished on their road to victory.

Coming from all parts of the world, bearing different traditions and lifestyles, these young women have come to Brevard College all sharing one common interest: a love for the game.

From the moment these young women step on the pitch, they are aware of the traditions and high standards expected by the team and realize each day they will be challenged to reach above the standards, whether on or off the field. The start is rough, but enjoyable. With 21 young women coming together, there are bound to be some conflicts and clashes along the way, but instead of letting problems bring each other down, they use their own weaknesses to

make them stronger. A mutual respect for the game and one another begins to grow between



players.

The life of a college athlete is no doubt busy, stressful and full of deadlines; however, the best of every player is expected. Coach Bartlinski presents a work ethic to all his player. "Challenge yourself, your teammates, never except mediocrity." The players push

themselves and each other in order to achieve more, whether it's coming out early to practice or

calling a teammate in the morning to make sure that they get to class on time. These are the little things that have built this team and provided them with success.

These young women have "battled it out" on the soccer field, pushing each other and demanding the best. Their practices are long,

and such things as technique, over power and total soccer are drilled into the players. Despite all their daily demands, the team always manages to have a good time.

The freshmen Lady Tornadoes have been subjected to the "latest fashion trends" as seen by their older teammates. The day of style and laughter is known as "Freaky Freshman Day." Team dinners are prepared on post-game nights. They even have their own "call," which can be heard time to time on campus. There is no doubt that this team is full of personality and charisma; where else can you find teammates with names like "princess," "spaz," and "sunny?"

Just as in any good friendship, hard times occur, times when the responsibilities and pressures that accompany soccer and school weigh heavily on the team. "We have had a few locker room battles, however it was nothing that we couldn't solve on our own" comments Rachel Scalf, a sophomore on the Lady Tornado squad.

Each player, more so this season, has realized they are fallible, for

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Help save the mountains of West Virginia

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM CONCERNED CITIZENS

Senators in West Virginia are attempting to reduce Environmental Protection Laws concerning water and mining restrictions. This attempt to open up doors for mining initiatives is attached to other funding legislation. If the bill passes, mountain-tops will be cut from one-third to one-half and dumped into stream valleys, adding to existing destruction of thousands of acres of mountains.

Send a letter to President Clinton or any/all of the Senators listed below. EMAIL is fast and easy. Or call or fax. SO WRITE TODAY! The folks in Washington need to hear from us now.

CALL SENATORS, PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE-PRESIDENT GORE NOW!!! If you can't call, FAX. If you can't fax, E-MAIL.

Tell them you demand they vote against or veto the spending bill rider

That would negate Judge Haden's decision on mountaintop removal coal mining in West Virginia!

CONTACT INFORMATION

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(To send a pre-written message automatically, go to <http://takeaction.worldwildlife.org/personalnew.html>)

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