

Diamond Dogs Preparing to take the Field

Special to The Pilot

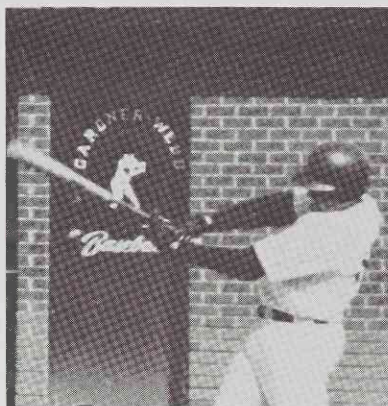
Baseball Head Coach Clyde Miller enters his third season as the skipper at Gardner-Webb, and the rebuilding program is moving in the right direction. Last season's 18 wins were the most in recent years, and many of the key players from that team will return.

Heading the list of veterans is outfielder/pitcher Mickey "Mantle" Munn. Munn was named to the Honorable Mention All-American team last season and was the South Atlantic Conference Player of the Year. Munn batted .351, had a slugging percentage of .584 with 54 total hits. Among those were 15 doubles, three triples and five homers. He also chalked up 40 RBIs.

Terry Wright returns to his centerfield position, where he is anchor of the Dogs outfield. Wright joined Munn on the 1991 All-South Atlantic Conference team. Last season, he batted .335 with 57 hits, including 11 doubles.

The infield returns four players with starting experience. Chris Bortnick batted .212 with five doubles. He provided a solid defensive presence at first base. Frank Elmore returns at second base after playing in 41 games and batting .257 in 1991. He had a .957 fielding percentage. Joel Taylor returns at shortstop after batting .234 last season. He is a streak hitter and is capable of producing extra-base hits. Doug Jones returns at third. his 27 RBIs were second on the team last year.

The pitching staff figures to be the team's strength this season. Six pitchers return from last season. Dennis Wilson had a 4-3 record and led the team with a 3.54 ERA. He pitched three complete games. Chris White, a southpaw, had a 4-2 record and a 4.44 ERA last season.



He was used primarily as a reliever. Terry Wright did not pitch last season, but he will be the only other lefty on the team. Munn will also see duty on the mound. He posted a 2-1 record with one save last season. Darren Wilson returns for his senior year, after posting a 1-4 record in '91. He will be a starter. Steven Hodge posted a 3-1 record last year, and is expected to become even more important this year. Steve Queen appeared in only five games as a freshman, but he has worked hard in the off-season and should see more action.

Several newcomers are also joining the team. Catching duties will be handled by Andy Collins and Shane Gunn. Gem McCutcheon, a transfer from USC-Salkehatchie, will play outfield and see time on the mound. Greg Emerson is a freshman shortstop from New Bern. David Morton and Mark Jolly will provide depth on the mound, and Chris Shuford will see time at first base. Troy Ozias is a first baseman and outfielder. He is a power hitter and may see considerable action at the designated hitter position.

Women's Tennis Set

By Brian Siatkowski
Sports Writer

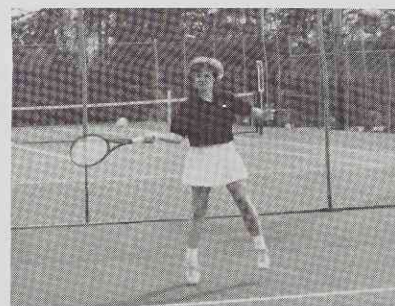
After leading a successful women's basketball team to the conference finals, Coach Brenda Halford now leads a new team on a different court. Though the team only won one match last season, the outlook is bright.

Coach Halford said that she feels this year's team is better, player for player. Three returners, Dee Pollard, Kelley Hayes and Christy Coonse, have shown a lot of improvement. Freshman Jenny Triband will add greatly to the lineup with her quickness and talent. Another recruited player who also doubled on the basketball court is Andrea Dockery. Halford said Dockery uses finesse and baseline as a lethal combination. Shelly Henderson, Misty Caine and Kathy Ingrall will also contribute to the success of the team.

The conference that the women's team competes in is very strong and their schedule is filled with last year's nationally ranked #1 Lander College, UNC-A, Elon and Presbyterian.

The doubles will pair Kelley Hayes and Jenny Triband, Dee Pollard and Andrea Dockery, and Christy Coonse and Shelly Henderson.

The women's tennis team started their season Tuesday against Elon.



Lacrosse Hot

By Brian Siatkowski
Sports Writer

The GWC lacrosse team is off to a dazzling start with a 5-3 record. Coach Mills has brought this team a long way to compete with the best.

The team's offense is led by Owen Benedict, Sean Brown and Larry Kennedy. Goalie Tony McColley holds the defense together by averaging about 20 saves per game.

Over spring break, the team defeated Queens College (NY), 16-10, Gettysburg



College (PA), 23-3, and the University of Pittsburgh (PA) 14-3. Last weekend the team travelled to Daytona to battle in a prestigious open tournament.

One Funky Final Countdown Week '92, April 21 - 25

April 21

Game Show: "You Laugh, You Lose," 9 p.m. in the theatre.

April 22

Movie: "Edward Scissorhands," 9 p.m. in the banquet hall.

April 23

"Bowling for...", 9 p.m. to midnight, Shelby Bowl.

April 24

Webb Jam IV -

Rockin' Reggae sounds of "One."

April 25

Spring Formal Dance with S&L Sounds, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m., LYCC

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