

Gardner-Webb Sports

GWU volleyball sets new record

by: B.J. Johnson

The 1996 version of the Gardner-Webb volleyball team may be the best in school history. The team set a new record for wins recently with a victory over Pfeiffer. It was Gardner-Webb's 15th victory of the season, breaking the school record of 14 wins set last year.

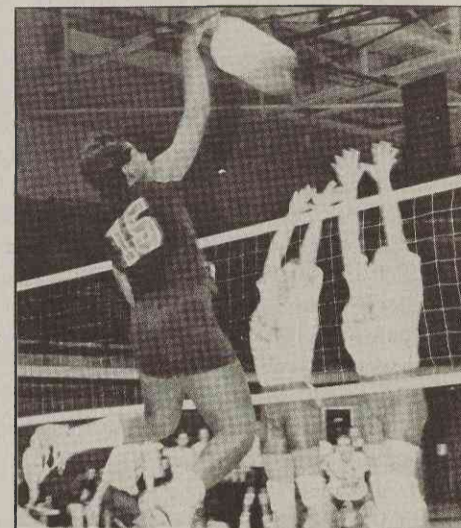
The Bulldogs captured the Fayetteville St. tournament winning all five matches. They lost only one game in the entire tournament as Kathy Smith brought home the tournament MVP.

GWU then won over Presbyterian 3-2 after dropping the first two sets. Heather Hauser had 24 kills and 21 digs in the victory.

Gardner-Webb is currently 21-6 and tied for first place in the SAC with Elon. The team has been getting key contributions all season from Smith, Hauser, Tracy Schroder and Kellie Williams.

Smith, Hauser and Schroder have all been named "Player of the Week" in the South Atlantic Conference. All three women are among the conference leaders in kills per game. Smith is third in the SAC in blocks per game and Schroder is seventh. Williams is the conference's leader in assists per game.

GWU will be back at home on Monday, Oct. 31, versus Mars Hill. They will have away matches against Elon, Carson-Newman and Lenoir-Rhyne before the season ends with the SAC tournament Nov. 7-9.



Gardner-Webb's Kathy Smith returns a shot in a recent game. Smith has played a big part in the Bulldogs success this season.

(Photo taken by Amanda Williams)

Tennis teams pick up first win

by: Randy Capps

The Gardner-Webb men's and women's tennis teams each picked up their first victory of the season over USC-Aiken on Friday, Oct. 4th.

The women won 4-1 and the men were victorious 4-3. These were big non-conference wins for both squads.

"I think it shows character and it's also good because it helps teach us how to win these close matches," Coach Andy Smith said.

Leaders are emerging on both of these young teams this fall. Senior captain Mindy Mallard won the Ultimate Tennis Championships at Limestone College last month, and along with Hannah Valdez and Lindsay Spradley, is providing valuable leadership for the ladies' team.

On the men's team, co-captains Mitch Lake and Randy Capps are providing leadership both on and off the court.

With two more tournaments to go before the end of the fall season, the men's and women's tennis teams hope to end this fall schedule on a high note.



Men's soccer looks to post season

by: B.J. Johnson

The Gardner-Webb University men's soccer team has had quite a bit of a roller coaster season. They have struggled at times but have also shown flashes of brilliance. However, with the South Atlantic Conference Tournament at home, there could be a light at the end of the tunnel.

The Bulldogs played well in the Hamrick Memorial Tournament over Homecoming weekend. In the first game, Jerome Lee Yaw scored two goals to sink the Flying Fleet of Erskine 4-2. The Dogs then went on to rout North Georgia 4-1 to gain the championship.

GWU then used its momentum to beat conference foe Elon. The Fighting Christians were as brave as Sir Robin, as

Vince Bueno blazed two goals in route to a 5-0 embarrassment of Elon.

The Dogs slipped a little with losses to nationally ranked Alabama-Huntsville 4-1 and SAC foe Mars Hill 2-0. GWU is currently 5-7-2 overall, 2-3-1 in conference play.

Jerome Lee Yaw was recently named SAC "Player of the Week" for the second time this season. To earn this accomplishment Yaw racked up six goals and two assists during the week. The all-american is the SAC's all-time leading scorer and leads the conference with 14 goals so far this season. Those 14 goals rank him second nationally as well.

The Bulldogs have only one more regular season game at home as they face Johnson & Wales on October, 26. The South Atlantic Conference tournament will be at Gardner-Webb as the semifinals will be Nov. 9, and the finals Nov. 10.

Lady Bulldogs having tough season

by: Randy Capps

The GWU women's soccer team is having an interesting season to say the least. With two matches remaining, the team's record stands at 6-6-2 overall and 1-4-1 in the South Atlantic Conference.

GWU's team defense has been very good this season, but at times this team has

a little trouble scoring goals. The team's last four matches are a good example.

The Lady Bulldogs defeated Lenoir Rhyne 1-0 on Oct. 9, outlasted Coker College 1-0 on Oct. 11 but were shutout in two consecutive conference losses against Wingate and Elon.

GWU will finish the regular season with two home dates against Carson-Newman on Oct. 23 and Francis Marion on Oct. 24.

Wherever they may finish in the regular season, if the Lady Bulldogs can get their offense going, look for them to make some noise in the conference tournament at Mars Hill College on November 1-2.