

Runnin' Bulldog Sports

Sports Talk

Hello, and welcome to this edition of Sports Talk. I'm your host Randy Capps.

Takiya Patrick, the other half of the Pilot Sports dynamic duo, is on hand to drop the feminine perspective on you, our loyal readers.

Let's get some work done today.

Hey dude, this is Brad from Fort Bragg. You haven't had much to say about the NFL lately. I know how you feel about the Panthers, but how about the rest of the NFL?

Ask and ye shall receive. I'll start in the NFC. I'm not betting against the Green Bay Packers. I think Brett Favre and Reggie White will lead the Pack back to the Super Bowl this season.

And I hate Dallas. A lot. But, I must be objective, so I'll admit that even though they look absolutely terrible right now, the Cowboys will still be playing football deep into the playoffs.

San Francisco will be a force as well, but I'm not convinced that Steve Young alone will be enough to overcome the Cowboys and Packers. And don't forget that their coach is a rookie.

In the AFC, there are two dominant teams right now.

The New England Patriots are the most talented offensive team in football. Drew Bledsoe is a good, young quarterback with a lively arm and Curtis Martin is one of the best young running backs in football.

Make no mistake, however. This team will eventually miss Bill Parcells' coaching and motivation. Count on it.

On the other hand, the Denver Broncos have the total package. John Elway is still a touchdown waiting to happen, and Terrell Davis is my favorite running back in the NFL. By the way, their defense is pretty good as well.

By the time you read this, New England and Denver will have played on Monday Night Football. Even though I haven't seen it, I bet it was a good one. Hey, TP! Pick up the phone, it's probably for you anyway.

Hi, Takiya. This is Tony from Tennessee. I want to know who you like in the NFL and why.

Well, Tony, I like a lot of different teams. I like to cheer for the underdogs most of the time, but my favorite team is the San Francisco 49ers.

I've been watching the 49ers play since I was a kid. Montana and Jerry Rice were what attracted me to the team.

I was amazed how they played so well together. Even though I didn't know what was going on most of the time, I knew this team had something I liked.

Now that know what's going on, I can see what attracted me to them. I think they'll have a good season although there are a couple of injuries.

I'm looking for the 49ers to go all the way this season.

Thanks, Takiya. Well, that's enough for this time. Thanks for letting Sports Talk flow. Until next time, play a sport and don't bite anybody.

Volleyball team continues winning ways

by Takiya Patrick
staff writer

The Women's Volleyball team just keeps on winning.

The Lady Bulldogs are 16-3 on the season, and 6-1 in South Atlantic Conference play. The ladies are currently tied with Mars Hill and Presbyterian for the top spot in the league.

Not only is the SAC a very tough volleyball conference, the Southern Region is loaded with talented clubs as well.

Gardner-Webb is rated as the sixth-best team in the region. Tampa is not only ranked number one in this region, but it is the best team in the nation.

On Sept. 23, the Lady Bulldogs traveled to Mars Hill to take on the Lions. GWU lost a close one, three games to two.

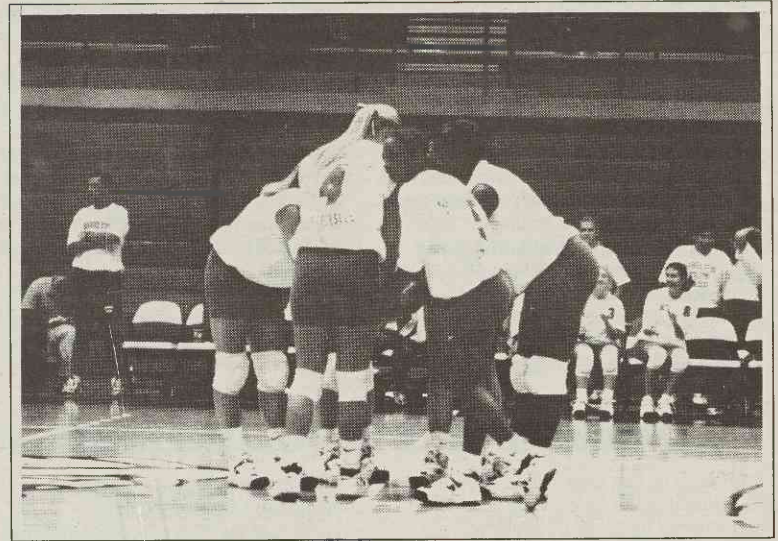
Kathy Smith led the squad with 19 kills, while Trisha Beatty added 15 digs in a losing effort.

The following week, the ladies played host to Presbyterian College. GWU handed the Blue Hose their first conference loss of the season, with a 3-0 victory.

Heather Hauser led the Lady Bulldogs with 23 digs, while Linette Ramseur chipped in with 12 kills and 11 digs.

"The Presbyterian match was a big win for us," Coach Angell Kirkpatrick said.

They followed up the big win against



RICHELLE ELLISON/staff

The Lady Bulldogs discuss a little strategy during a recent South Atlantic Conference match with Presbyterian College. GWU went on to a 3-0 victory as they now hold a share of first place in the conference.

PC with a road win against Catawba.

Heather Hauser was a major factor in the 3-2 win. She had 39 digs and 18 kills against the Indians.

The team will begin a road trip on Oct. 8 against Anderson, followed by SAC matches at Catawba and Wingate.

GWU will end the road swing with a tournament at USC-Aiken before finally

returning to Paul Porter Arena on Oct. 22 to host Carson-Newman.

The importance of these matches is not lost on Coach Kirkpatrick.

"We will approach each match aggressively," Kirkpatrick said.

The Lady Bulldogs hope that their aggression and talent will lead them to their first-ever conference title this fall.

Men's Soccer team making the best of things in '97

by Takiya Patrick
staff writer

Despite a rash of injuries that have plagued the Runnin' Bulldog Men's Soccer team, they are still determined to have a successful season.

"The biggest key is healing injuries," Coach Tony Setzer said.

Setzer feels that he has a young team and, although they have played inconsistently at times, they are eager to get better.

The men are 4-6 on the season with a 2-3 mark in South Atlantic Conference matches.

After dropping two straight matches to Catawba and USC Spartanburg, 6-1 and 5-0 respectively, they bounced back with a 1-0 win over Carson-Newman and a 2-1 defeat of USC Aiken.

"No one player can be pointed out as being the biggest contributor," Setzer said.

With the number of injuries that this squad has had to face, they almost have to play as a team to survive.

The men will host the Maxwell B. Hamrick Memorial Tournament on campus during Homecoming Weekend on Oct. 10-11.

There are just two conference matches remaining this season. The Bulldogs will travel to Mars Hill on Oct. 15 for a match with the Lions and they will host SAC power Wingate on Oct. 22.

With the South Atlantic Conference Tournament less than a month away, the men's soccer team will need to somehow speed up the healing process and continue to play as a unit if they hope to make any noise in the post season.

Pilot Sports Top Five

1. Florida Gators (6) 33 pts
2. Penn State Nittany Lions (1) 29 pts
3. Florida State Seminoles 19 pts
4. Nebraska Cornhuskers (1) 18 pts
5. North Carolina Tarheels 9 pts

Hey, we're big time around here now. Pollster Daniel Thomas was at "The Swamp" in Gainesville for the Florida Gators 56-7 squeaker over the Arkansas Razorbacks.

I'll bet that was a lot of fun. Who cares that this game was over as soon as the coin was flipped. I hate Florida, but that has to be one of the best atmospheres in all of college football.

Our top five is unchanged from last week, as all five members won easily.

Penn State continues to play well against a weak schedule, while the quarterback debate rages on at UNC as Chris Keldorf threw for 415 yards in a 31-10 victory over Texas Christian.

Florida State handed the Miami Hurricanes their worst loss since World War Two, as the Seminoles cruised to a 47-0 win.

Nebraska keeps marching along with a 56-26 win over Kansas State.

Thanks for voting, everyone. If you want to get in on the act, call in your vote at #4389 on Sunday night, Oct. 19.

**Coming next issue:
A complete wrap-up of
Homecoming Weekend '97**