

## Sports

# Football wraps up season with Liberty loss

By Blake DuDonis  
Pilot sports writer

With a plague of turnovers upon them, the Gardner-Webb Bulldogs could not up-end Big South powerhouse Liberty University, and fell 30-10 Saturday night.

The Bulldogs gained 363 yards on offense, but turned over the ball four times and allowed as many sacks.

Liberty started off the game with a field goal and a touchdown run by possible All-American running back Rashad

Jennings, putting the Flames up 10-0 with a little under 10 minutes until halftime.

The Bulldogs tried to find a way into the end zone, but quarterback Devin Campbell found one of his passes intercepted by a Liberty defender.

The Flames took advantage of the pick, for a 25-yard touchdown pass that pushed the Liberty lead to 17-0.

The Bulldogs moved the ball into field goal range following the score, and kicker Ryan Gates put them on the board, cutting the lead to 17-3.

Unfortunately, the GWU defense could not stop Liberty's offense, setting the score at 24-3 heading into halftime.

The Bulldogs came out in the second half with better intensity, but missed out on a golden opportunity to score, as they coughed up the ball on the Liberty one-yard line.

The Flames took the ball down the field and got a field goal. Finally, with 10:52 left in the fourth quarter, GWU running back Patrick Hall found the football Promised Land to make the score 27-10.

After a failed onside kick, Liberty tacked on another field goal, and the Bulldogs saw themselves turn the ball over two more times before it was all said and done.

In his last collegiate game, Devin Campbell completed 24-of-40 passes for 242 yards, 10 of which were hauled in by standout wide receiver Dobson Collins for 109 yards.

Jeffery Williams led the way yet again for the 'Dawgs on defense, dragging down Liberty players 15 times on the game, while Marty Patterson and Dami

Teniola each chipped in with 10 tackles.

Gardner-Webb finished the year with a record of 5-6(2-3), and says farewell to Campbell and many other seniors who left it all on the field in their years at Gardner-Webb.

*Notes: Jeffery Williams finishes the season with 119 tackles, putting him in first place in the Big South... Ryan Gates knocked in 16 field goals, also good for first place in the Big South... Dobson Collins and Tre Perry finished second and fourth, respectively, in receiving yards per game.*

## Lady Bulldogs dominate opposition

Win by 48 points over UVA-Wise

By Lanny Newton  
Pilot sports editor

The outcome was never in doubt as the women's basketball team played its first home game Monday.

The Lady Bulldogs beat University of Virginia-Wise by the largest margin of victory in the program's history, finishing 97-49.

Also a first in the program's history was two players finishing with at least 20 points, as LaTroya Pope and Laura Povolonyte put up 20 apiece.

"We played a lot of people and mixed up some stuff; everybody contributed and I think they all did a good job and I was really pleased with how hard they worked," said Head Coach Rick Reeves.

"I think our defense was good. We mixed up our defense a lot and I went away from some of the things that we were doing well ... just so we could practice some other things after we got the game in hand."

UVA-Wise was able to keep it close for the first eight minutes, as Gardner-Webb held a 14-7 lead with 11:45 left in the first half. The Bulldogs took it

up a notch from there on out though as they went on a 29-4 run into the half.

The lead continued to grow until they held a 52-point lead at 74-22 on the Cavaliers with 11:06 left to play. With the change in defenses UVA-Wise was able to start scoring but could not make up much ground on the high-powered Lady Bulldogs offense.

Other top scorers were Dominique Hudson and Margaret Roundtree, with 14 points apiece.

In a 54-rebound effort everybody got in on the action. Sherika Montgomery led the team with 11 boards including seven offensive. Pope and Roundtree each had nine rebounds.

Courtney Epps had an all-around night of eight points, seven rebounds, seven assists, three steals, one block and no turnovers in 19 minutes. Her three steals were part of a program-record 24 steals by the Bulldogs.

Hudson led all thieves with five steals while Povolonyte had four, and Teonika Webb had three.

Meranda Burnett finished with six points, two steals and one assist, while Ashley Faulkner pulled down six boards. Monique Hudson, the

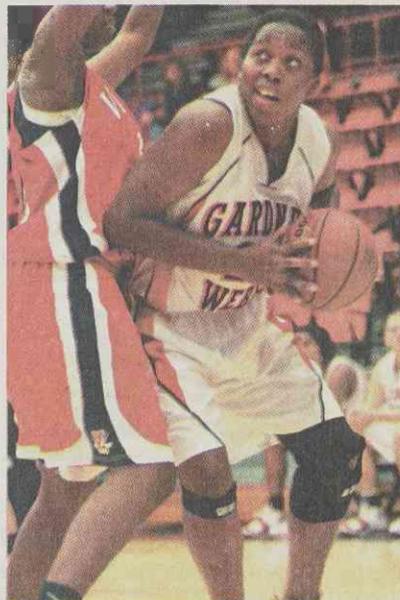


Photo by Jill Phillips

GWU's Margaret Rondtree gets ready to make a shot against in an opponent from the University of Virginia-Wise Monday at Paul Porter Arena.

reigning A-Sun Player of the Year, returning from a serious illness over the summer to finish with four points and two steals.

Breyanna Winkler finished with one rebound, one block and one steal in limited minutes.

Gardner-Webb's next

game is at home against North Carolina Central Saturday at 7 p.m. It is the second game of a four-game home stand.

South Carolina State comes to town Tuesday at 7 p.m. while Tennessee Temple arrives Nov. 29 at 3:30 p.m.

## Wrestling team outgrappled by Liberty

By Andrew Veeder  
Pilot sports writer

Competing against one of the toughest schools in the region Nov. 11, the Gardner-Webb men's wrestling team lost to Liberty University 43-6.

"They are a phenomenal team," Head Coach Scott Shipman said. "They are very deep and their ability to recruit top-notch athletes is remarkable."

Despite the lopsided score, the Runnin' Bulldogs put up a fight against the Flames of Liberty. Redshirt-junior Dustin Porter won his first match of the year in the heavyweight division, garnering three points for the 'Dawgs.

Following suit was Rob Tate, another redshirt-junior who lit up the

scoreboard for Gardner-Webb against a very tough opponent.

"Dustin Porter had a nice solid win at heavyweight, while Rob beat one of their better wrestlers. He really out-wrestled his opponent the whole time," Shipman said.

Only a few days after the contest with Liberty, the Runnin' Bulldogs were set to play Appalachian State in Boone Sunday.

Gardner-Webb again turned out on the short end of the stick, losing 27-12 to the host team.

The team showed signs of improvement.

Courtney Roberts, grappling in the 125 weight class, improved his personal record to 1-1 after beating his ASU opponent 5-4. With the win, Gardner-Webb led the

match 3-0.

However, ASU came back strong in the 133 divisions. Kyle Baird lost a close match, 6-3, to Frank Colorio.

Gardner-Webb's Tate, 141 lbs., leveled the contest at 6-6 after winning his second consecutive match of the year.

Tate has not only improved his personal record this year, but he has also moved up a weight class from 133 to the 141 division.

After Tate's win, the Mountaineers of ASU slowly began to pull out of reach of the Runnin' Bulldogs. Kurt Wentink lost his match 2-0 to Chip Powell.

In an extremely close contest, rookie Justin Guthrie lost 17-9 in the 157 divisions. Dave Swee-

ney, in the 165 division, held on until the very end, but lost a 6-1 decision.

ASU swept the 174 and 184 divisions against Johnathon Valezquez and Blake Salyer.

In the 197 division, Matthias Piascecki was held to just one point before losing 2-1.

In the last match of the day, heavyweight Porter pinned his opponent in just 1:03. However, the win came too late, as the Mountaineers dropped the Bulldogs 27-12.

The Grappling Bulldogs faced Anderson College at 7 p.m. Wednesday, but the results were not available at press time.

Don't forget to come and support the wrestling team at its first home match of the year on Dec. 4 against VMI at 7 p.m.

## Bulldogs move toward tournament after loss to High Point

By Lanny Newton  
Pilot sports editor

In the regular-season finale, the Gardner-Webb volleyball team was unable to pull off the upset, falling 3-0 (23-25, 15-25, 13-25) at High Point.

In doing so, GWU locked up the no. 8 seed in the conference tournament, which opens Friday at UNC-Asheville. The Lady Bulldogs will play no. 1 seed Liberty University

"We played really well in the first set and did some really good things," said Head Coach Chris Phillips. "We just didn't pass well the second and third sets; it kind of always comes down to passing with us."

Laura Wilcox led the Bulldogs by slamming 10 kills, while Bethany Martin had nine. Laura Evans

chipped in four kills, while Evan Moffitt, Heidi Steinebrunner and Tamia Herholz added three apiece.

Regina Feagin put up 26 assists and got down for seven digs. Katie Matykowski and Herholz led the team with eight digs each. Martin and Jessica Clayton got together to put up the Bulldogs' only block.

One of Martin's kills gave the Bulldogs a 14-12 lead midway through the first set, and an error by Audie Gonzalez followed to put the Bulldogs up three. The Panthers battled back to tie it 15-15.

The two teams scored back and forth until 17-17 when High Point went on a 4-0 run. GWU scored four of the next five points to move within one at 22-21. HPU put up three of the last five points though to win the set.

In both of the last two sets High

Point jumped out early leads and steadily pulled away. GWU committed five errors in the first set, but had six in the second, and 10 in the third. With the win High Point finished in a three-way tie for first in the conference at 13-3. The Bulldogs dropped to 3-13 in conference and 5-26 overall.

"They're a team that we actually play better against than some other teams just because they played more of our style. They like to hit the ball, and not tip the ball as much. Our defense plays better against teams like that," said Phillips about playing Liberty in the conference tournament.

With a win Gardner-Webb would face either UNC-Asheville or Winthrop in the semifinals on Saturday. The conference finals are Sunday at 2 p.m.

## Swimmers end home meet with a victory and a loss

By Lanny Newton  
Pilot sports editor

Hosting the only conference team to defeat them during the regular season in recent memory, the Gardner-Webb women's swim team blew past Georgia Southern 109-96.

The men struggled against defending D-II national champions Limestone College in several events and ultimately fell 118-86.

The women improved to 6-0 while the men suffering their first loss move to 3-1 on the season.

"It's very, very seldom that you can lose both relays in a [dual] meet and still win the meet," said Head Coach Mike Simpson.

"We knew we were swimming a team that is really, really talented. We wanted a meet where we knew we would have to get up and compete and our guys did a great job of that."

The Bulldogs got off to a rocky start as they took second and third in the 200-yard medley relay.

Elizabeth Ketterer took first in the 1,000 yard freestyle in near school record time at 10:24.23.

She swam in the next event as well and took second in the 200 yard freestyle.

Corey Hughey and Veronica Case finished gold and bronze in the 50 free.

Rachel Warkentin and Victoria Bryant won first and third place in the 200 I.M., both with top 10 times in school history.

Warkentin, Lyndsey Roka and Carrie Kibler finished second, third and fourth, respectively, while Warkentin's time of 2:08.06 was a new school record in the 200 butterfly.

In the 100 free GWU sandwiched the competition as Hughey and Case took first and third. The 200 yard backstroke

proved to be one of the Bulldogs' best events, as Bryant and Sarah Steadman took first and second place.

GWU continued to push its lead as Ketterer and Kelly Gueltig captured first and third. Mallory Baxter missed first place by a 10th of a second, at 2:28.96, while Kiah Bellows took third.

The combo of Case, Kristen Sellers, Steadman and Stephani Stadnik finished second to conclude the women's portion of the meet.

The men finished second and third in the 200-yard medley relay to start off the meet. Adams Suggs, Derek Gore and Abram Miller finished second, third and fourth in 1,000 free.

In the 200-yard free, George Partin took silver.

Steven Caudill, Colin Burchens and Adam Middleton placed second, third and fourth in the 200 I.M.

Caudill took home the first gold of the day, blowing away the competition by almost seven seconds in the 200 butterfly.

Middleton finished second at 2:03.33.

Gore finished second in the 200 back, while Saxon Simpson took fourth.

The most amazing feat of the day was the men's 200-yard breaststroke. Casey Brutus and Burchens tied for first place with identical times of 2:12.26.

Patrick Williams took fourth in the event.

The day ended as Gardner-Webb took second in the 200-yard freestyle relay as Caudill, Matthew Leonard, Middleton and Gore finished in 1:31.13.

Both teams are back in action this weekend as they swim at the Davidson Invite.

The next home meet is Jan. 17, 2009, against Duke University.

## Cross country ends season on solid note; prepares for track

By Blake DuDonis  
Pilot sports writer

After a season that saw injuries, solid finishes and tough races, Gardner-Webb's cross country team finished up its season Friday, winding up in 32nd place in the NCAA Southeast Regional.

Gardner-Webb sent three men, who did well overall.

Freshman Nick Kelly led the way for the Bulldogs, finishing the 10k race in a time of 34:36, putting a nice touch on a solid rookie campaign.

Shortly after, senior Tim Israel, in the final cross country race of his career, crossed the finish line in 36:04.

Junior Charlie Stein-

ke stopped the clock at 37:28.

On the woman's side, senior Carrie Minard completed the 6k race in 23:58, followed by Beth Long and Laura Scott, who finished in 24:53 and 24:54, respectively.

Bree Tharpe also ran for the Bulldogs, and completed the course in 25:39.

Rebecca Silleman was the last Gardner-Webb runner to come in, with a time of 26:41.

Gardner-Webb finishes the season with eight races where the team came in at least fifth place.

The runners now take a few weeks off to prepare for the indoor track season.