

Sports

Softball 'Dogs play hardball, defeat Coastal

By Lanny Newton
Pilot sports editor

Christine Murray won two games in two days to lead the Bulldogs to a series victory over conference foe Coastal Carolina.

In the final game of the series Sunday, Gardner-Webb took a 2-1 victory over the Chanticleers. For pitching two complete

game wins in back-to-back days, Murray was named the New Balance Pitcher of the Week.

"We got on the board 2-0, and Christine Murray just shut them down the whole rest of the way," said Head Coach Tom Cole.

"In the sixth inning she gave up a solo home run to make it 2-1, but we played solid defense and

we got the runs we needed to win.

"It was an all-around team effort. It was an important weekend from the standpoint that we got Mandy Ward back, we hit the ball well, got key hits, and so it was a very good weekend for us."

Ward had missed 15 games due to injury and had played 15 others as the designated hitter, but

Fullwood followed with a single to center to score Smith from second.

After Ward drew a walk to load the bases, sophomore left-fielder Kelly Witter hit a deep fly ball to right field to score Harrell from third, and put Gardner-Webb up early at 2-0.

Ward came up big for the Bulldogs hitting a home run in the first game

of the series on Saturday. She also drew two walks and threw out a baserunner at second in the seventh inning of the game Sunday.

Gardner-Webb returns to action on Friday as the Bulldogs host the Liberty Lady Flames in a double-header starting at 1 p.m. at Varsity Field.

Coach Cole appreciates all supporters.

has defeated at least once this season. After jacking multiple home runs in the first two games of the series, the Chanticleers kept the Bulldogs in the park, forcing them to play small ball.

Coastal jumped out to a 5-0 lead before the Bulldogs woke up. Justin Loyd led off the inning with a single, but he was picked off at first base. Kurt Fulginiti singled and went to second on a wild pitch.

The Chanticleers walked Ty Boyles and both runners moved up on a wild pitch. Matt Rizzuto scored Fulginiti on a groundout, but the Bulldogs were unable to plate any more runs in the inning.

Diamond 'Dogs drop series

By Lanny Newton
Pilot sports editor

Gardner-Webb's high-powered offense was unable to keep up with Coastal Carolina, which was ranked number 19 nationally. In the series finale the Diamond 'Dogs fell 10-4 on Sunday.

"Coastal Carolina is one of the top teams in the country and is nationally ranked and I thought we played well, but right now they're a cut above everyone in the league," said Head Coach Rusty Stroupe. "One of the strong points of our team is how well we've hit the ball, if we can continue hitting and get our pitching straight our defense is good so hopefully we can finish the season strong."

GWU scored at least 4 runs in each game of the series versus a team that didn't even allow that many runs to UNC, Tennessee or Kentucky, each of which Coastal Carolina

a double to right center field.

Jon Ahearn then cut the deficit to 10-4 with a run-scoring groundout, ending the scoring for the day.

"We've had a few of our seniors and most veteran pitchers, three seniors and a junior, go down with injuries and that's put a lot of strain on people we didn't think would pitch as much."

"If we could get everyone healthy I think our pitching would be pretty good," said Stroupe.

With a couple of them coming back soon, the Bulldogs will look to improve on their 14-13 (4-5 Big South) mark as they travel to Davidson tonight at 6, and Friday to VMI to kick off a three-game series.

The Diamond Dogs return home April 17 to play UNC-Asheville at 3 p.m. Coach Stroupe appreciates all the fan support given.

by Coastal, the Bulldogs started to rally in the eighth. Rizzuto, Jake Watts and Aaron Miller all walked with one out, before Adam McFarland brought in 2 runs with

doubles matches, although Presbyterian went out with a fight.

Paired up with Rita Gouveia, Kriett and her teammate were able to win handily 8-3. The other two matches, however, would prove to be much closer.

Beavers and Kasey Ellis matched up at the second doubles slot and, after tying up the match at 7-7, and to enter a little "overtime." The ladies were able to pull off two wins in a row and get the point, winning 9-7.

Gomez and Tavenner Black paired up, pulling out an 8-6 win.

The win snaps a four-match skid for the ladies. The team will return to action April 16-19 during the Big South Conference Tournament held in Rock Hill, S.C.

Golfers win University Cup again

By Blake DuDonis
Pilot editor in chief

For the third consecutive year, Gardner-Webb's men and women's golf teams took down Appalachian State to win the University Cup.

The event is a mixed-team tournament, with a male and female pairing up during the round. The format was stroke play and the tournament saw six mixed teams compete, as well as four single matches.

Alex Finke and J.J. Regan picked up the two single match points for Gardner-Webb. Finke shot a solid 78, while Regan beat his opponent by five strokes with a score of 80.

In the mixed-team matchup, the duo of Immu Korevmaa and Yayoi Garcia were able to notch a win, squeaking out

Lady bulldogs make last match special

By Blake DuDonis
Pilot editor in chief

Last Saturday marked senior day for the women's tennis team at Gardner-Webb, as Amy Beavers, Jenny Gomez and Laura Kriett were all honored.

The three seniors made sure that the post-match ceremony was not the only happy time during the day, as all three won their single matches in straight sets against the opposition from rival Presbyterian College.

Kriett won from the one spot for GWU, winning 6-3, 6-2. Gomez, seeded third, took down her opponent 6-0, 6-4. Beavers won with a similar score of 6-0, 6-3, from the five spot.

All three seniors also won their

Track and field team continues its successful outdoor season

By Blake DuDonis
Pilot editor in chief

Gardner-Webb's track and field team found themselves spread out over two states in three different events last weekend. Competing at Duke University, North Carolina A & T and at Texas, team members produced 21 Top10 finishes over the three meets.

At the A&T meet, senior Kelly Bridges continued her dominance in the women's pole vault. Bridges' height of 3.50 meters gave her first place as she adds on to her illustrious career.

Senior Bree Tarpe also impressed at the meet, finishing the 5,000 meter run in second-place with a time of 19:46.62.

The women have been running well in the 3,000 meter run this year, and this meet was no excep-

tion. Laura Scott led the way for the Bulldogs with a time of 10:51.55, putting her in second-place.

Scott was followed by Carrie Minard in third-place at a time of 11:03.84.

Diana Palka splashed her way to a third-place finish in the 3,000 meter steeplechase with a time of 12:42.19, breaking her old personal record in the event by more than 20 seconds.

Gwenetta Jones and Caryn Daane finished fourth and sixth, respectively, in the shot put. Jones toss traveled 13.02 meters, while Daane was not far behind with a distance of 12.53 meters.

On the men's side of things, Paul Steinke and Nick Kelly ran their way to third-place finishes in their events. Steinke took third in the 400 meter hurdles with a quick time

of 52.66, while Kelly took third-place in the 3000 run with a time of 9:12.28.

Red-shirt freshman Christoph Hutschalik also came in third-place, his event being the hammer throw.

The German native turned in an impressive toss of 54.86 meters.

At the Duke meet, transfer Jason Wenzel, along with Kelly, finished in the top-20 in the men's 1,500 meter developmental run.

Wenzel cruised across the line in a time of 4:03.97, and Kelly finished right on his heels, in a time of 4:05.67, putting them in 11th and 17th-place respectively.

The Bulldogs will take Easter weekend off before returning to action April 16-18 for the Big South Conference meet at Radford University in Radford, Va.



Photo by Tyler Kucifer

Senior Ryan Bernthal practices his forehand as he and the GWU tennis team prepare for the Big South Conference Tournament.

Men's tennis preps for post-season play

By Blake DuDonis
Pilot editor in chief

Despite a recent loss to Radford, Gardner-Webb's men's tennis team has won three out of their last four matches, thanks to victories over Presbyterian, Liberty and Queens University.

In the matchup against Presbyterian, the doubles teams of Evgeny Slesarev/

Rafael Altmayer and Carlos Quijano/Andrew Veeder came up with two big wins to start GWU on the right foot.

During the singles, Veeder, Jamie Lawlor and Ryan Bernthal all narrowly lost in their matches. Slesarev, Altmayer and Quijano were all able to pound out victories, giving GWU a 4-3 victory.

The team travels to Appalachian State Thursday for a 2 p.m. match.

GWU judo novices faring well in national competitions

By Molly Phipps
Pilot staff writer

Three Gardner-Webb students won high marks in a national judo competition held in Durham on March 28.

Justin Lindly, Tyler Willoughby and Travis Millsaps placed first, second and third, respectively, in their divisions.

The students, all freshmen, just started training last semester with GWU student Aaron Allison, known around campus as "Judo."

"I've been doing judo for 13 years," said Allison. "Me and my dad started together as kind of a father-son bonding

thing."

Allison said he has always taken judo seriously, to an extent, but more so now.

"I guess recently, when I got to college actually, I started training real hard and going to some clinics and such," said Allison, "So I guess that's when I started getting better."

Allison described judo as a martial art with many throws and grappling moves. All of these are done in a ghee, which is the traditional uniform worn in judo.

The competition in Durham was open to everyone.

Individuals had to

sign up online. The national event was divided into classes: weight classes and belt ranks.

Allison won in the medium-weight black belt division. The three students competed in the white-belt division in varying weight classes.

Allison said teaching judo to good students is something he enjoys and would like to do possibly for the rest of his life.

He also said having three students compete and place in a competition was a first for Gardner-Webb.

Allison said he could always tell that his three students had potential.

But the students are no strangers to success. Lindly won second place in a competition in Atlanta a few months ago.

He and Millsaps also competed in November at the University of Tennessee, where Lindly placed third.

Next, the students will travel to the South Carolina State Championships April 26.

All three students and their teacher will compete; the students in the white/green belt division and Allison in the black-brown belt class.

"I'm just really thrilled to see three of my students excel," said Allison.



Photo courtesy of Aaron Allison

Justin Lindly, Travis Millsaps, Aaron Allison and Tyler Willoughby hold their trophies after a competition in Durham last month. Allison is teaching the other three GWU students the sport of judo.