

Sports

Equestrian Team, Third in ANRC Na- tional Champions

The ANRC National Championships were held April 29-May 1, at the Deep Run Hunt Club, Richmond VA. The event was hosted by Sweet Briar and UVA.

Overall, the St. Andrews team of Margaret Fuller, Katie Martin, and Cathy Rice finished third, behind Sweet Briar and UVA. Katie Martin finished 7th overall, and Cathy Rice finished 8th.

St. Andrews won the written phase held on Friday, April 29, with Margaret Fuller placing first for the second year in a row. The team placed second behind Sweet Briar in the stadium jumping and third in the program ride phases of the competition.

Sophomore Beth White and Freshman Susan Yeaman competed as individuals.

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tween sporting events," Scoles said.

St. Andrews is excited about becoming a member of the NAIA, but there are a few additional drawbacks. The change will most likely eliminate the possibility of competing with compatible teams that St. Andrews has established ties with, such as Greensboro College and Methodist College.

"There simply will not be enough time in the shortened season to play all the teams that we enjoy competing against," Coach JoAnn Williams said. "This will be a bigger problem with tennis than volleyball, because all matches must be played during daylight hours while students have classes."

The concern that Coach Williams and others share is the detraction from student-athletes' education because of sports. This is addressed by the NAIA in a pamphlet which states, "The NAIA believes in the educational value of intercollegiate athletics. The NAIA was founded on an 'educational model' and thus academic excellence is placed before athletic participation."

The NAIA implements the strongest academic requirements of any organization in the nation that participates in intercollegiate athletics. The Association recognizes academic achievement in all sports through "Academic All-America" and scholarship programs.

Student athletes must score at least a 700 on the SAT and maintain at

least a 2.0 GPA to participate in the Carolinas Conference athletic programs.

The statement of philosophy of the NAIA is as follows:

"The purpose of the NAIA is to promote the education and development of students through intercollegiate athletic participation. Member institutions, although varied and diverse, share a common commitment to high standards and the principle that athletics serves as an integral part of education."

St. Andrews was enabled membership into the NAIA because "the primary criteria for selection and encouragement of membership is educational emphasis, rather than size of enrollment."

Most of the schools St. Andrews will be competing against are larger, more established schools in athletics. "Switching to NAIA will have a tremendous impact on women's basketball because we will be competing against some of the top teams in the nation," Coach Marcy Maurer said. "We have already played five or six of the teams, but they were not conference games."

The two sports that will be least affected are softball and the equestrian program. The Riding Program is a varsity sport, but is not sanctioned so it must only observe the NAIA general rules.

"We are excited about our ability to offer scholarship money now," said riding coach, Jon Conyers. "This will result in increased quality of our riders, our horses, and our level of competition."



The Lady Knights, the only Carolina Conference team that plays fast pitch softball, will not be affected greatly by the NAIA switch.

Track Breaks School Records

Eric Eubank

The St. Andrews Track Team broke several school records at the Furman Invitational and the Dixie Conference meets. "I was very pleased with our performance at both meets," said S.A. Track Coach, Gordy Scoles. "I don't see how our overall performance could have been any better."

George Onyenyonwu won the 100 meter and 200 meter sprints at Furman, breaking school records in both. He ran 10.84 seconds in the 100 meter dash, and 21.94 seconds in the 200 meter dash. In addition, the 1600 meter relay team of Joe Nocon, John Thomas, Cajetan Chukwulozie, and Onyenyonwu set another school record in 3:23.74, while finishing fourth.

In the D.I.A.C. meet, Onyenyonwu again won the 100 meter and 200 meter dashes, and anchored the winning 400 meter relay team, leading the Knights to a third place finish in the conference (out of three teams). The 400 meter relay of Thomas, Nocon, Chukwulozie, and Onyenyonwu set a school record in a time of 43.54 seconds. The next meet is May 7, at the University of Georgia.

Softball coach Marcy Maurer feels the switch will not have a large effect on the softball team, because the Carolinas Conference plays slowpitch softball. The Lady Knights are the only women in the conference who play fast pitch softball.

"If the Conference switches to fast pitch, then we would have stiffer competition," Maurer said. "As of now, we are the only fast pitch team in District 26, as well as in the Carolinas Conference."

Tennis and Volleyball Coach JoAnn Williams has some misgivings about the transition. "Until now, we have been competing to win with people who enjoy what they do, but now we have the added factor of money involved."

"It will take a couple of years to get organized, but I have a lot of confidence that it will all work out," Williams said.

Kristi Kluegel, rising senior volleyball and tennis player, said she is glad that St. Andrews will have more recruiting power. "We are not developed enough yet to be too successful in the new Conference, but we will be, after about three years of heavy recruiting," Kluegel said.

Women's Basketball and Softball Coach Marcy Maurer summed up the feelings of all those interviewed by saying, "The decision has already been made, so we will just have to jump in 100%."