

Men's Baseball Starting Up

BY TRISTY MCKENNEY

The St. Andrews men's baseball team has been practicing six days a week for the upcoming season. The NAIA pre-season rankings have put the Knights 18th in the nation. The 13 returners that helped earn last years 42-14 record established this ranking.

"We have a lot of experience and not a lot of depth," said coach Gary Swanson. "We are going to play old fashioned baseball where the position players pitch and the pitchers hit."

Chip Hodges, a St. Andrews graduate and former baseball player has taken over the assistant coaching duties for the '94 season.

Men's Tennis Opens With Two Strong Wins

BY TRISTY MCKENNEY

The St. Andrews men's tennis team, currently ranked #20 in the nation, opened the season with two strong wins. They defeated Catawba 8-1 and Coker 6-3.

Leading the team playing first singles and first doubles is Chris Simmons, a sophomore from England. He was last years Carolinas Conference "Player of the Year." He is ranked #50 in the country among NAIA tennis players.

The team also returns three other players. Mark Eggleton, a sophomore from England, Ted Pelot, a sophomore from Lake Ridge, Va,

and Jamie Humphreys, a junior from Winchester, Va. They will all contribute with their leadership and experience, according to coach Chad Esposito.

Some newcomers will help the team in its efforts to capture the Carolinas Conference title.

Freshman Neil Bennett from England has outstanding strokes and should make an impact as the season progresses, Coach Esposito said. He also pointed out that Stephen Moody, a sophomore from Pensacola, Fla. has exceptional ground strokes and will add power to the team. Fresh-

man Seth Swain from Sanford, had an outstanding fall season going undefeated in the #6 singles spot. Swain is also expected to be a consistent contributor.

"This team will be exciting to watch and will be very successful. We have seven quality tennis players which adds depth to a talented team," said Esposito. "All of the members of this year's team want to win, and particularly with tennis, 90 percent of this game is mental attitude. They are extremely motivated and focused and are ready to embark on the season."

Lady Knights Work Through Adversity

BY RHONDA FARMER

St. Andrews women's basketball team started the season with five wins, including three conference wins, but problems seemed to plague the Lady Knights.

At the beginning of the season, the team consisted of 12 players: freshmen Christie Patterson, Kristie Ballard, Tonya Holly, and Sara LaGrande; sophomores Willow Brunwig and Heather Cannoles; junior Amy Balser; and seniors Shannon Rivers, Cheryl McNair and Rhonda Farmer. Injuries have decreased the number of players. Cannoles required an ACL reconstruction and McNair broke her hand.

"With the injuries and some disciplinary actions, the team has had many problems. The one good thing about our team is that we are able to come together and work through the adversity," said St. Andrews head coach, Nancy Swain.

As the season drew to a close, with the conference tournament on Feb. 25, the team still had high hopes of competing for a bid at the national tournament, which included #1-ranked Barton and #2-ranked Mt. Olive.

The women played Mt. Olive, who is also hosting the conference tournament, Feb. 25 at 8 p.m. Shannon Rivers, senior and captain of the team, said before the tournament, "We pull together well and all the losses before don't account for anything. Now, it matters how well we play at the tournament."

LACROSSE

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lacrosse. It's a sport that kids fall in love with. I think it will affect the college's ability to attract bright young males who are athletically inclined," Ullrich said. "It's a great game for spectators as well as participants. It's much more exciting and fast moving than even ice hockey."

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Softball Team Off To A Rough Start

BY TRISTY MCKENNEY

With 11 remaining players due to injury and financial problems, the softball team has gotten off to a rough start, with a record of 0-4. Only three returners occupy positions. Lack of experience has led to a number of defensive errors.

The team began the home season Feb. 22 with a doubleheader. The ladies took on Rio Grande University from Rio Grande, OH. In the first game eight errors were committed by the defense, helping Rio Grande earn nine runs. St. Andrews could not score any runs off the tough fastball the Rio Grande's pitcher hurled. St. Andrews pitcher Stacy Jordan did some hurling of her own. Jordan pitched six innings with one walk, seven strike outs, and only

allowed five hits. Jordan also went two for three at the plate. The final score was 0-9.

Although they lost game two of the doubleheader as well, it proved to be a much more positive game for the team. Kim Ribauda went two for three, Sonja Stuhbs hit a double and scored twice, and Jordan once again with a very strong showing went two for three, with two doubles and three runs batted in. The final score was 4-0, but only two errors were committed by the defense. Co-captain

Erin Sutton said, "We are just keeping our heads up and thinking positive. Our hard work will pay off." The Lady Knight's next home game is March 2 against Elon College at 2:30 p.m.

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