

# Golf And Tennis: The Teams

By FLIP FILLIETAZ

It occurred to me last month before the vacation break that not much had been written on the tennis and golf teams this spring. Regardless of whether our sports teams win or lose they are still performing for Wesleyan College and they should be recognized. I will attempt to recap some of this 'lost' athletes who spent many hours practicing and playing for the college on the athletic field.

Poor Coach Scalf! After four lean years of steak and wins he ran into ground beef and losses. Led by senior Charlie Herring, Wesleyan's number one man at tournament time, the golf team left itself in water traps and sand traps throughout the season. Elbert Wampler, missing at tournament time because of a May Term trip, was our number one man before he left and losing him definitely hurt our team's chances of winning anything. With Wampler gone everyone moved up one position was amply filled by Lang Hardison. He is a transfer student who will be back next year. The number four slot was taken up by a soccer transplant, Charlie Read. Read, incidentally, set a few records this season. During the tournament he shot a fantastic 122 for 18 holes. A enormous 18 on

one hole. His teammate John Jarema, playing out of the number five position, was attempting to break Charlie's record but fell short of the mark by getting a 102. Bob Martin, catcher on the baseball team, played number six in the tournament and shot in the mid-eighties. Not bad for a guy who didn't get more than a few days of practice.

Coach Scalf had an impossible rebuilding job as golf coach this year because he had to replace Terry Britt, Jim Thornes, Doug Ball, Ned "No" Goode and Bob Woodard. Britt was All-District last year as well as All-Conference as was Thornes. Losing five golfers is a tremendous loss. Fortunately Goode, Wampler, Hardison and Biggs should be back next year. These players as well as some freshmen prospects should help put Wesleyan back on top of the conference next year. After being champs four years in a row it is tough to accept what happened to the golf team. Two guys, whose names need not be mentioned, that were on the team at the beginning of the season failed to show up for a match and this had to hurt the team's morale and performance. Bad luck is part of the game but bad attitudes do not

have to be tolerated so Coach Scalf 'asked' these two to leave the squad. It is a sad state of affairs when others have to suffer because of irresponsible acts.

Look for the golf team to improve next year. It should be easy to improve on this year's 3-9 record. I should like to point out that Elbert Wampler played on a bad knee during the season and it is a tribute to his athletic ability that he could even compete. Coach Scalf has lost enough hair over the years and let's hope he won't lose anymore next year.

I have a very strong emotional attachment to Wesleyan's tennis team. After graduating last year I thought sure that this year's team would fold without me. To my disappointment they did not. What they did was to continue winning in the same tradition that Coach Jimmie Purser instilled in the team some five years ago. Who will ever forget that first year? David Walker, Tom Geraghty, Doug Kozlozski, Allen Winter, Martha Crew, Tom Howell, Bruce Ankuda and yours truly. Coach Purser did an almost unbelievable job turning the program around. And he did it by recruiting two players that have been the nucleus of the

tennis program for 4 years. I don't think two finer tennis players could take their places. Jack Casey and Martin Saunders are just two great tennis players. Without them Wesleyan tennis would never have amounted to a damn. Saunders is probably the best singles player the college has had. Short for a tennis player he still possessed the ability to hit the big serve, the winning volley and the overhead smash. I'll miss Martin, as many of us will, but I for one will next forget his tremendous contribution to Wesleyan tennis. Thanks Martin.

And there's Jack Casey. Easily the best doubles player in Wesleyan tennis history, Jack had the uncanny ability to return impossible shots. Looking more like a carrot on two legs than a tennis player, he gained the respect of Dixie conference opposition by making the All-Conference team 3 out of the first four years he attended Wesleyan. I'll never be embarrassed to say that I am proud of the way my former teammate performed on the court.

Ed Stiles epitomizes what a gutsy player is. I emphasize gutsy because at the athletic banquet Coach Purser correctly

pointed out that, "Ed Stiles is the only player on the team who does everything wrong." A better characterization could not be written. As unorthodox as he is he certainly deserves credit for keeping the guys in line. One thing puzzles me about Ed. How can an out-of-shape player who has not played a match in almost a year defeat Stiles in three sets? Ed played number code 3 this year.

Mike Long moved up from the number three singles position to number two this year. He made it to the finals of the conference tournament this year losing to Jim Costa of UNC-G. Wedding bells will be ringing for Mike in June and hopefully this will not hurt his game for next season. He is likely to be Saunderson's replacement at the number one singles position.

Freshman Gary Quam filled the number four position. He lacked experience in tournament play and unfortunately this hurt him in the conference tournament when he lost in the first round. But Gary is going to be a good one for Wesleyan. In years to come he may rewrite the record books.

Number five singles player Terry Jones is a transfer

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The 1974 Wesleyan Tennis Team. First row: Terry Jones, Martin Saunders, Gary Quam, Eddie Stiles. Second row: Jack Casey, Dan Weber, Mike Long, Tom Gainor, Sandy Saunders, and Head Coach Jim Purser. [Photo by Henney.]