

Sports Tid-Bits

SPORTS

By Jennifer Ashnault
Decree Staff

CHAMPS!!!

The N.C. Wesleyan Lady Bishops volleyball team conquered another mountain in their travels this season. The ladies won the N.C.A.I.A.W. Division III State Tournament on the weekend of Nov. 7 and 8.

Four Lady Bishops were honored at the tournament. Jetanna McClain and Marie Pruden were voted to the all tournament team, Arlene Massey, McClain, Pruden and Joyce Sparks were listed on the all conference team. Sparks was also named the most valuable player of the tourney. The team travelled to Maryville, Tenn., to compete in the regional tournament on November 20, 21, and 22.

A Season Ends

The Wesleyan soccer team ended its season with a 4-14 record. The record wasn't as good as the team expected, but there are high hopes for the upcoming seasons. The Bishops are a young team so watch out in the future. For more soccer viewing, the team will be playing this

winter in the indoor soccer league.

Here come the Ladies

The Lady Bishop basketball team will meet their first enemy on November 24. If when you see the ladies, the team looks small; it is because four of the team members are on the champion volleyball team. Susan Heaton, Jetanna McClain, Olga Surmaj, and Arlene Massey will be joining the team as soon as the volleyball season is over.

Basketball

The Bishop basketball team is fastbreaking into the upcoming season. The team lost only two seniors last year. So, the faces are going to be much the same. The coaching staff did an excellent job in bringing freshmen Pete Davis, David Hagan, Steve Henderson, and Eddie McKoy. These four young men have made the varsity team and have great potential. The starting team has not been announced yet, and it is easily seen why--the players are equally matched. When the first team is found there will be an excellent bench to back them up.

Good luck to all the teams, especially the Regional bound state champion volleyball team.

Soccer season ends on sour note

By Chris Bragg
Decree Staff

Another season has come and gone at N.C. Wesleyan with the Bishops posting a disappointing 4-14 record. However the losing season was not a total loss. While the Bishops offense still needs help, the defense was quite good.

After giving up 80 goals last season, the Bishops allowed only 49 goals in 18 games. If the four games against V.C.U. (5-0), U.N.C.-W. (6-0), U.N.C.-G. (8-0), and Richmond (5-1) were not counted, the Wesleyan defense then only allowed 25 goals in the remaining 14 games for an average of 1.7 goals per game.

The Bishops ended their season with losses against St. Andrews (3-1), Richmond (5-1), and E.C.U. (2-0). The

Richmond game was a total disaster. The Bishops defense, which had kept a good record in many games, just broke down. For once the Bishops offense scored in the opening minutes of the game. It looked like Wesleyan would have an easy time of it, but Richmond fought back and scored 3 goals in the first half and 2 more goals in the second half.

The St. Andrews and E.C.U. games were almost identical except for the score. In both games the Bishops outplayed their opponents and dictated most of the game. Against St. Andrews, Wesleyan probably played their best game of the season. The offense and defense linked together passing the ball as a unit. There still remained one problem: putting the ball into the goal.

The Bishops tried and tried, but not until late in the second half did they score on a penalty kick by Ed Moore.

The same thing happened against E.C.U. After a mediocre first half, the Bishops took control of the game: Wesleyan passed and moved the ball extremely well, but just couldn't score and went down 2-0.

Coach Ferrell said that from watching the team over the season he was impressed and came to respect his players. There were many games when the Bishops faced teams with high skill levels and better players but, with the exception of one or two games, the Bishops fought hard for the entire game. Coach Ferrell was also impressed with the team's attitude for most of the year--this helped the team through along season.

The soccer season is over, but the players will start practicing again in January. During the winter, soccer will be played indoors. When spring rolls around the Bishops will play between 20 and 30 games. This period's emphasis will be placed on individual skills and techniques. Hopefully this will pay off for the players, so when fall comes next year, the Bishops will be able to better their previous records.

+++A reminder to the soccer players+++

Just because there is no formal practice until January, staying in shape is very important. It would be foolish to enter the indoor season out of shape. If you need inspiration, just remember the first few weeks of practice this season.

Wesleyan women take to the court

By Chris Bragg
Decree Staff

The N.C. Wesleyan women basketball team will be directed by a new head coach: Laura Ferrell. Coach Ferrell comes from rival Methodist College with impressive credentials. As head coach of the three major sports, Ferrell guided two, volleyball and basketball, to state championships.

The women's basketball team will be composed of five returning lettermen, six freshmen, and one transfer.

Coach Ferrell believes that the key to this season rests upon the incoming freshmen and a minimum of injuries. If the freshmen improve both physically and mentally, as Ferrell expects, the Lady Bishops could have an excellent season.

Coach Ferrell is looking to the returning players, Misty Barnes, Olga Surmaj, Sharon "Bubba" Arrington, Jetanna McClain, and Joyce Young to provide the leadership. With all the freshmen this year, there will be a great need for leadership. The returnees will be responsible for this.

The Lady Bishops have been working since the second week of September. The first month of practice consisted of conditioning--weight lifting, running, and hundreds of sit

ups. Since Oct. 15, the Lady Bishops have been on the court concentrating on fundamentals. Within the last week, Coach Ferrell has started implementing her style of play.

The Lady Bishops should be tough on the boards. They will have four ladies standing 5'9" or better. Another plus for the team will be their quickness. If Coach Ferrell can combine the team's height and quickness, they will be awesome with the fastbreak.

Coach Ferrell sees the conference races as being tough. "Each school in the conference is really upgrading their women's program," stated Ferrell. She sees the addition of post season play and the regionals as one of the factors for the upgrading of the programs.

Another factor is that good women athletes are attending smaller schools when they can't get the scholarships at the bigger schools. This aspect is evident at N.C. Wesleyan.

As a member of the NCAIAW Division III; Wesleyan can not offer its athletes scholarships. Even with this limitation, Ferrell has recruited a fine freshman class of women who can play ball.

Coach Ferrell is optimistic about the upcoming season. "The team is coming along fine, and we are all really enthused about playing," she said. There could be one snag for the Lady Bishops at the beginning of the season. Four of the members of the basketball team are still involved with post season play with the volleyball team.

Even with their absence, Ferrell feels that she has a talented group of ladies.

The Lady Bishops will open their season Nov. 24,

against Meredith. This opening game will be at home, and tip-off time is at 7:30 p.m. Let's get the ladies off to a good start with a packe gym of Bishop fans!!

Jim Clacks

Sports Station

Westridge Village - Rocky Mount
443-0121

A GIANT IN SPORTS

Jim Clacks

Sporting Goods

124 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount
446-3291

**Converse, Nike, Pony, Spotbilt,
and Asahi Shoes
Spalding and Rawlings
Footballs and Basketballs**

**10 Percent discount
to N.C. Wesleyan
students at both stores**

With This Ad

