

SPORTS

Lady Bishops fall in NCAA first round

By SHANNON ST. GEORGE

The Lady Bishops soccer team ended another successful season with a 16-4-1 record, the regular season Dixie Conference Championship, and a trip to the NCAA tournament before falling in the first round.

For the second time in the team's history, the Bishops were honored to host the NCAA South-Regional. The #1 seeded Bishops faced the #4 seed, Villa Julie College, in the first game on Saturday, and the #2 Salisbury Seagulls played the #3 Lynchburg Hornets in the second game.

Unfortunately for Wesleyan, a repeat performance of last year's regional championship was not in order this time, as the Bishops fell to Villa Julie, 2-1.

The Bishops took an early 1-0 lead after Shannon St. George

(Jr.) sent a great through ball to Kristi McGuire (So.) who calmly finished a 1 v 1 with their goalkeeper. After the goal, Wesleyan kept the pressure on as they fired a total of 16 shots at the Mustangs' net.

However, no one could capitalize on the opportunities. With only six minutes remaining in the match, Villa Julie was awarded a direct kick and finished a scramble in front of the net for the tying goal. Just two minutes later, the Mustangs again finished a free kick in the same fashion. A late flurry by the Bishops almost tied the game, but the ball just wouldn't bounce in their favor.

"It's very disappointing to end this way," said Coach Kelly Walters. "We controlled most of the game but just couldn't quite put it away when we needed to. Nonetheless, I'm extremely proud of the team's effort this year and

want to congratulate them on a successful season."

The Bishops are currently ranked #14 in the Nation and #2 in the South Region with a 16-2-1 record. Wesleyan won their fifth consecutive Dixie Conference Regular Season Championship this year with a perfect 6-0 record.

They defeated Ferrum College 5-0 in the first round of the first-ever Dixie Conference Tournament and but lost to Christopher Newport the next day for the Tournament Championship and the automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

The Lady Bishops opened up the first tournament by hosting the number 4 seed, Ferrum College. Playing at home, the Bishops were able to seal the victory early with a 2-0 score at half time.

Kristi McGuire (So.) provided what ended up being the game-winning goal, with an assist from

Meredith Bawden (Jr.), Michele Desmarte (Sr.), Katie Hodge (So.), Wendy Brown (Fr.), and Shannon St. George (Jr.).

Assists were provided by: Katie Hodge (So.), Jill Fulton (Jr.), and Kristen Christakis (Fr.). The win advanced the Bishops to the final against CNU, winners in a shoot-out against Methodist College.

N.C. Wesleyan then suffered a devastating loss in overtime to conference opponent Christopher Newport in the championship game. The win gave CNU an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

The Lady Bishops found themselves up 1-0 in the first half with a goal from Caitlin Sanderson (So.), assist provided by Shannon St. George (Jr.).

Christopher Newport was able to tie it up in the second half with a goal off a corner kick sending the game into overtime. Although the Bishops played well in overtime they were unable to finish the game off and CNU capitalized once again on a corner kick scoring a "golden goal" and sending them to the NCAA Tournament.

The Lady Bishops dominated the Dixie All-Conference selections as they placed six members on the All-Dixie First Team and three players on the All-Dixie Second Team. Coach Walters won Dixie Conference Coach of the Year Honors.

The six players making the First Team were:

Backs — Katie Hodge, Sophomore, Newport News, Va. (Warwick H.S.), four goals, five Assists, 13 Points, one game winner;

Shannon St. George, Junior, Newton, Pa. (Archbishop Wood H.S.), eight goals, three assists, 19 Points, two game winners.

Midfield — Caitlin Sanderson, Sophomore, Neptune, N.J. (St. Rose H.S.), 10 Goals, eight assists, 28 points, three game winners.

Jill Fulton, Junior, Raleigh, (Leesville Road H.S.), eight goals, eight assists, 24 points, two game winners.

Forward — Kristi McGuire Sophomore, Marlboro, Md. (Frederick Douglas H.S.), nine goals, two assists, 20 points, two game winners.

Goal — Rachael Whicker, Sophomore, Kernersville (East Forsyth H.S.), 83 saves, 12.5 shut-outs.

Named to the Second Team:

Back Alison Kirch, Junior, Virginia Beach, Va. (Kempsville H.S.), and Forwards Camil Velazquez, Sophomore, Metuchen, N.J. (Metuchen H.S.), four goals, two assists, 10 points, and Michele Desmarte, Senior, Blackwood, N.J. (Highland Regional H.S.), six goals, two assists, 14 points, and three game winners.

Bishops finish soccer season tied for fourth in conference

By SHANNON ST. GEORGE

The North Carolina Wesleyan Men's Soccer Team ended the 2000 season in dramatic style.

The Bishops needed a win or tie over first place Christopher Newport University to continue their season and propel them into the first ever Dixie Conference Tournament. Although Wesleyan had homefield advantage they were not able to pull off the upset as they lost the match 4-0 to finish the season tied for fourth place

in the conference with a record of 6-12.

The Battling Bishops lose two seniors this year, Brian Elison and co-captain Ron Fullerton, both starters for this year's team. Other key players for the team were Sophomore Shaun Oliveria (27 pts., 11 goals, five assists, one game winner), a First Team All-Conference Selection, Junior Joey Arment (22 pts., six goals, 10 assists, one game winner), and Sophomore Cameron Johnson (19 pts., five goals, nine assists, two

game winners), both Second Team All-Conference Selections.

Johnson was also the only Bishop to receive Dixie Conference Player-of-the-Week honors this year.

Although the men's team posted a losing record, their graduating of only two seniors leaves them in good shape with a positive outlook for the next season. Coach Vogel commended the team on a good season and congratulates the two seniors on their success on and off the field.

Volleyball team falls in tournament

By SHANNON ST. GEORGE

The 2000 Season for the North Carolina Wesleyan Volleyball Team came to an end at Ferrum College in the second round of the Dixie Conference Tournament.

The Lady Bishops lost the match to Averett College, dropping three straight sets to the Cougars and finishing the season with a 15-13 record.

Wesleyan faced conference rival Methodist College in first round action, and defeated the Monarchs three games to two (13-

15, 15-13, 15-12, 13-15, 15-7) to advance and face Averett College.

This year's team graduates three seniors, Tabitha Wilcox, Carrie Morrison, and Laura Hilbert. All three played vital roles in the Bishops success this year and will be greatly missed.

Although Wesleyan had no players named to the All-Conference Teams, the squad received outstanding play, hard work, and hustle from each player. At different points throughout the season, different players were able to step up and make huge contributions for the team.

Season highlights for the Lady Bishops include wins over Washington & Lee, and two wins over Methodist College, once in the regular season and in the first round of the conference tournament. Teammates, and roommates, Nicole Hicks and Hannah Chelikowsky agreed it was a great season and attribute the Bishops success to excellent coaching from first year head coach Robyn Pietryk, and the team's unselfish, "together" attitude.

The volleyball team would like to thank their dedicated fans and congratulate this year's seniors.

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