

Campus
Recreation
Intramurals



Jen Leone

Softball



Thursday, May 1

Men's -

5:15 p.m.

Tri-Lamb vs.
BAT&B Company

6:15 p.m.

Chows vs Softball
team

Women's -

5:15 p.m.

Dixie Belles vs.
A&A

6:15 p.m.

Wonderwoman vs.
Creep mob

@ the Firehouse
Fields

**New Supervisors-
In-Training** are
needed for Fall '97
Intramurals.
Applications are at
the Campus
Recreation desk,
and interviews will
begin soon.
Call ext. 2780 and
leave a message
with your name and
number if
interested.

Men's Tennis Wins 8th SAC Title; Women Finish Second

Colleen Herndon
Sports Editor

After winning seven straight South Atlantic Conference championships, the men's tennis team added its eighth one this past weekend in Salisbury.

However, the women's tennis team could not pull off an upset against No. 1 ranked Presbyterian, losing 5-1.

The women are preparing for the regional tournament this weekend at Elon. The men are ranked No. 1 in the region and automatically skip regionals and receive a bid to the national tournament. The women will be vying for a bid to nationals in Springfield, Mo. during the regional tournament.

The men defeated Lenoir-Rhyne (9-0) and Wingate (5-0) to get to the finals of the SAC tournament. The Fightin' Christians easily defeated Presbyterian 5-0.

Several Elon players were honored for their outstanding play this season. Senior Robert Eskilsson was named Player of the Year and All-Conference. Adriano Blacutt was awarded Freshman of the Year and All-Conference. Ning Dalodom, Daniel Neuman and Jan Friden were also named to the All-Conference group.

As the top player on Elon's squad, Eskilsson was pleased with his team's success this season and during his career at Elon. "We started out slow," Eskilsson said. "...but I look back on it as a really good season."

"We (the team) always have a lot of fun," Eskilsson said. "We have a great bunch of players."

The Player of the Year said he will miss his tennis team, not necessarily his tennis career.

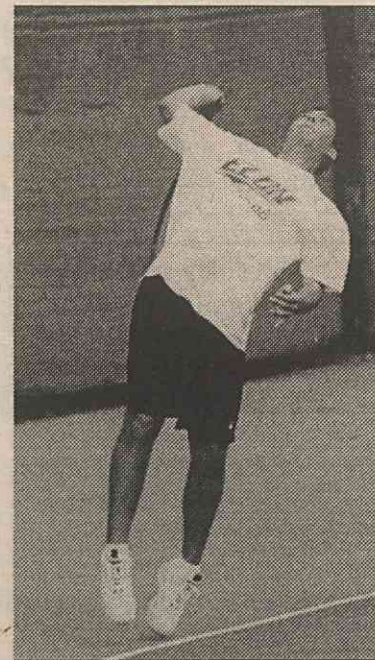
"I'm not tired of it (tennis)," Eskilsson said. "But my hunger for tennis is saturated."

Head Coach Tom Parham was also honored as Coach of the Year.

The men's tennis team believes it will be competitive in the national tournament and could pull an upset. "We have a good chance to win round one," Eskilsson said. The Fightin' Christians finished the season at 16-8 overall and a perfect 7-0 in the SAC.

The women's tennis team defeated Gardner-Webb (7-0) and Wingate (5-3) to reach the finals of the tournament against Presbyterian. However, with the loss of first singles player Jenny Thigpen because of mononucleosis, the team could not defeat top-ranked Presbyterian.

Teammates Kara McLaughlin



Andrew Brickey/ The Pendulum

Adriano Blacutt was chosen as "Freshman of the Year."

and Sarah Collins both agree the addition of Thigpen would have had an extreme impact on the game. "I think we could have beaten Presbyterian if we had her," Collins said.

"It really hurt us," said McLaughlin about the absence of Thigpen.

The highlight of the match against Presbyterian was the first doubles play of Collins and Kristin

Fleming. The duo defeated a previously unbeaten Presbyterian doubles team. "It felt like we won Wimbledon," Collins said.

This weekend the team will play Pfeiffer in the first round and the winner of Carson-Newman and High Point. Thigpen is still unsure if she will return to play for the regional tournament.

However, Thigpen has not gone unnoticed for her exceptional effort this season. She was named Freshman of the Year and All-Conference. "I'm satisfied with the way things went (this season)," Thigpen said. "I learned a lot from other players on the team."

Collins and Fleming also earned All-Conference honors.

The Lady Christians are aiming to win the regional tournament at Elon this weekend to compete in the nationals in Missouri. "We started off rocky this season," Collins said, "but at the end we started to pull it together."

The close-knit team will miss the two graduating seniors, McLaughlin and Alicia Otte. Fleming will be back next year since she has one year of eligibility remaining. "It will be sad," McLaughlin said. "Kristin, Alicia and I came in together. It was such a good four years."

Untimely Errors Cost Softball SAC Title

Troy Adams
Pendulum Reporter

This past weekend the Elon softball team finished third in the South Atlantic Conference tournament, behind Carson-Newman and Gardner-Webb.

The tournament was seen as a disappointment to the players who wanted a conference title in the last year in Division II.

"It's upsetting to leave Division II the way we left it," shortstop Kelly Lloyd said. "We know we're a better team than third in the tournament and second overall."

Though the team did have high expectations for the SAC title, the Lady Christians were not upset with their season.

**LEARN TO
SKYDIVE!
CAROLINA SKY SPORTS
(919) 496-2224**

"I was pleased with the way we played," Lloyd said. "The record doesn't show how well we played, who we played or how close the games were."

"We got over 30 wins, which was one of our goals," injured catcher Melissa Sommers said. "We wanted to win the conference but that's O.K. We'll show everybody in Division I next year."

In the first round of the tournament, Elon lost 7-6 to No. 7 ranked Mars Hill, whom the team defeated twice in the season.

Elon trailed 7-0 in the top of the seventh inning and scored six runs with two outs, but then fell short.

"We should have jumped on them before the sixth inning," second baseman Heather Dennis said. "It would have made the tournament go by a lot smoother. Getting out of the loser's bracket is almost impossible."

"We thought it would be such

an easy game that we really didn't take them seriously," said outfielder Jen Warren. "If we would have gone in thinking one game at a time, that would have changed it."

The loss put Elon in the loser's bracket, leaving them with a long climb and eventually three games to be played all on Saturday.

"That really hurt us," catcher Holly Briel said. "We had to come back and win all those games on Saturday. It put us in a bad position."

The team was very successful on Saturday though, defeating Wingate 10-0, Lenoir-Rhyne 8-1 and Catawba 6-2.

On Saturday the team rallied together to win convincingly over Wingate.

"We were thinking if we lose this game, we go home," Dennis said. "We weren't ending our season against Wingate."

Elon then challenged Carson-Newman in the loser's bracket fi-

nal. "I personally thought we were going to walk over Carson-Newman, but we had a tough first inning and couldn't get it back," said pitcher Gina Krueger.

The team made some untimely errors that put them behind and led to the 2-1 loss and their elimination from the tournament.

However, one of the highlights of the season was the selection of Dana Wascak and Krueger to the All-SAC First Team. Krueger was also selected as Freshman of the Year and Theresa Schifano was selected as First Union Scholar Athlete.

"Even though we didn't win the conference, we have so much more talent than any of the other teams," Dennis said. "When that talent comes through, we'll be able to hold our own with any Division I team."

"I think we'll be ready for Division I," pitcher Kristen Kendrick said.