

carry Elon tennis into 2014 season

man is in a great position to make some noise in the national event, citing his hatred of losing as his main asset going into the matches.

For Silverman, there is no better test of skill than matchups with some of the best talent in the nation.

"Playing against some of the top teams is great," Silverman said. "It's good to start off with these tough teams because the conference ends up being a bit of a drop off compared to these ACC schools."

A player like Silverman can often transform a program. For Leonard, his goal is to make the most of having such a talented student athlete.

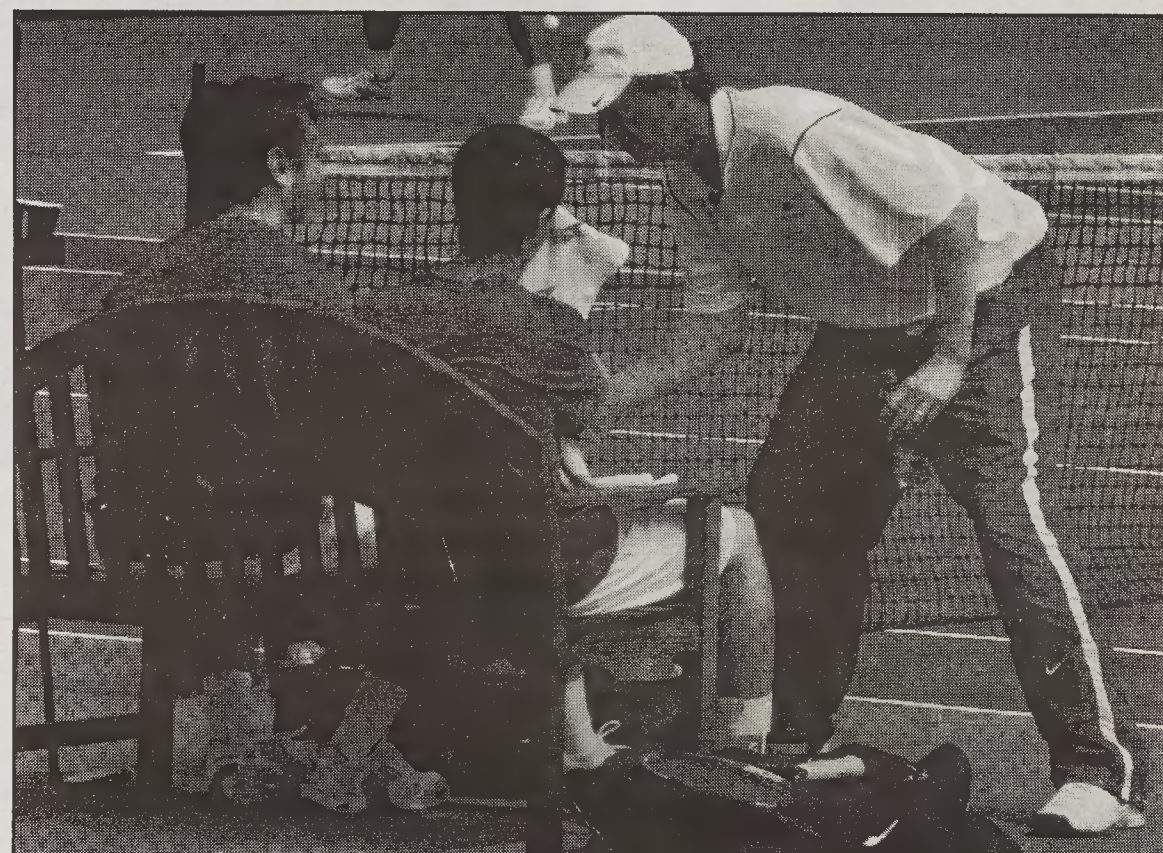
"The big thing for me is making sure he gets the same resources that he would get at a bigger school," Leonard said. "It would be a shame for a kid like that to [go to waste]."

Leonard also noted that having a player like Silverman can have huge benefits in terms of recruiting. Like many Elon students, Silverman hails from the Northeast (Mount Kisco, N.Y.). Ever since Silverman's enrollment at Elon, Leonard has noticed an increase in interest from top players throughout the region.

"I try to show other people that you can go to a school like Elon, a mid-major school, and still be a highly ranked player," said Silverman.

Silverman is also striving to make an impact on the players already playing at Elon. "I've always been a good tennis player, but I think as I've gotten older and the years have gone on I've become more of a leader," Silverman said.

Silverman expects big things from himself as well as his teammates. "I'm just trying to win as many matches as I can," said Silverman. "I just want to win the Southern Conference before I leave."



Elon Coach Michael Leonard has been recognized as SoCon Coach of the Year four times in nine seasons at the helm. CAROLINE OLNEY | Photo Editor

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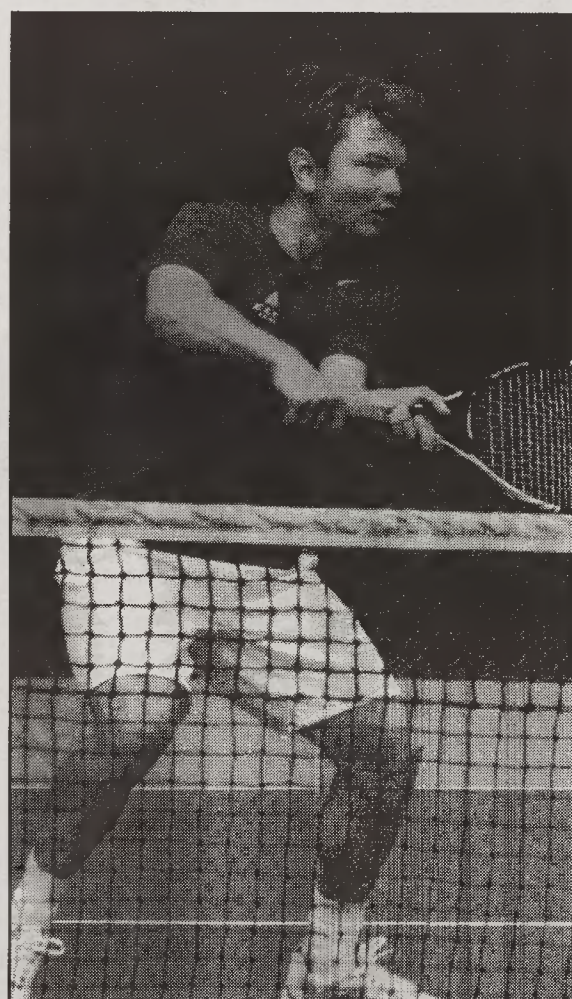
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Robert Lindgren, a native of Sweden, was named to the SoCon All-Freshman team last season. CAROLINE OLNEY | Photo Editor

Recap of upset over No. 7 Duke

Doubles:

- No. 1: Tahir/Saba (D) d. Silverman/Fortmann, 6-5.
- No. 2: Lindgren/Kowalski (E) d. Hemmeler/Semanzato, 6-4.
- No. 3: Madrid/Kaufman (E) d. Hammond/McCall, 6-5 (5).

Singles:

- No. 1: Silverman (E) d. Tahir, 6-5 (4), 3-6, 6-1.
- No. 2: Saba (D) d. Fortmann, 6-2, 6-1.
- No. 3: Semenzato (D) d. Lindgren, 6-0, 3-6, 6-0.
- No. 4: Kowalski (E) d. Hemmeler, 6-3, 2-6, 6-5.
- No. 5: Levine (D) d. Madrid, 6-3, 6-2.
- No. 6: Kaufman (E) d. Hammond, 5-6 (7), 6-0, 6-3.