

Volleyball 5-1: Lady Quakers host tri-match tonight

Scott Genualdi
Copy Editor

The women's volleyball team opened its second week of play with three more wins in four matches to lift its record to 5-1. The Quakers defeated Sweet Briar in straight games following a successful showing in the Greensboro College Tournament where the team won two of three matches.

In the Greensboro College tournament, Guilford defeated Maryville 15-9, 15-17, 15-13, 15-5 and the host 14-16, 15-11, 15-6, 15-12 while falling in a tough match to Mary Washington 15-5, 5-15, 12-15, 15-6, 15-12.

Coach Currie had several compliments for the strong Mary Washington team.

"Mary Washington is a well-coached team," she said. "They tipped and dumped a lot, meaning that the hitters would tip the ball over the net instead of spiking and the setters would dump the ball over the net instead of setting to a teammate. We had to

make adjustments on defense which is a difficult thing in volleyball because refinements are difficult in a confined area during a match."

In the tournament, Brenda Davis and Laura Klingseisen were named to the All-Tournament team. Davis compiled 43 kills for the three matches while Klingseisen registered 34 kills in the tournament. Alison Raney earned 90 assists for the tournament.

Individual game performances of note includes Carolyn Doss' six aces against Maryville and Christine Schroeder's 20 digs also against Maryville. Davis contributed three blocks against Greensboro while Klingseisen compiled seven digs. Against Mary Washington, Trudy Buckingham showed a good all-around game with 12 blocks, 16 digs, and 2 aces.

Although the team has played six games, they are still polishing the lineup and fine-tuning their game.

"After six games," Currie said, "we have got to the point where the people play their positions well. But I am still considering the lineup and we are still shifting positions. We are not there yet."

In the match against Sweet Briar last Tuesday, the lineup was shifted again when some players missed curfew.

"That precipitated changes in the lineup," said Currie. "I am glad that we have the flexibility and depth to deal with the changes."

The Quakers won the match but not without difficulty in the first game, 16-14, 15-0, 15-4.

"We struggled because there were changes," Currie said. "I am glad that it was a win in the ODAC."

Tricia Allman and Clarice Forsyth led Guilford with eight kills while Emily King led the team with 15 assists. Buckingham earned nine digs and Klingseisen and Bar-

bara Schmitz each served four aces.

The week ahead for the Quakers include a home tri-match against Elon and Averett on Tuesday and a key ODAC match against Bridgewater during Family Weekend this Friday night.

"We finally get to play at home," Currie said. "Bridgewater is one of the top two teams in the ODAC."

Currie stresses that the team needs to refine its game.

"Since we have a lot of depth," she said, "we can do a lot of things with our lineup. We need to settle some of them. It's a good situation to have."

"We are starting to put in plays—a faster tempo offense that is more versatile," Currie continued. "It either looks great or foolish but it's more exciting to watch and more difficult to defend against. It all depends on accurate passes because your offense is only as good as your passes."

Let's separate the contenders from the pretenders

Peter Smith
Staff Writer

Sadomasochist I'm not, but on the evening of Sept. 10, I must admit I derived intense pleasure watching the University of Miami football team physically annihilate an athletically inferior, but nonetheless highly-ranked University of Houston team. Final score 40-10, Miami.

It was an unusually soothing feeling to find myself smiling after each Miami score, especially considering that I dislike anything associated with U of M football. But like many other things in life, the situation that evening was ironic. Indeed, I was cheering for the otherwise detestable Hurricanes essentially because they are legitimate contenders, not pretenders. Quite the opposite for Houston, which, despite its recent NCAA rule violations, I do not detest in the least, except for the simple fact that Houston is just a pretender. Indeed, Houston suffers from the ever-so-irritating and problematic phenomenon known as an **OVERRATED** team.

Question: Is there anything more exasperating than watching overrated teams each week grab national headlines by defeating the likes of La. Tech or Cal. St.-Fullerton? College play-off arguments aside, what upstanding coach or sports writer could possibly vote each week in the AP and UPI polls for teams who pad their schedules with such lightweight competition? This mystifies me.

Can you identify some of the names of these less-than-brave schools who are afraid to take on the big boys? Who are these culprits, the Saddam Husseins of college football? Consider teams like Brigham Young, Virginia, Houston, West Virginia, Nebraska, Georgia Tech and Clemson, just to name a few. For these teams, a difficult

schedule is a true anomaly, a once-in-a-team's history kind of thing. Such teams purposefully design easy schedules and every so often steal away with a national championship or two while the Florida States, Michigans, Miamis and Notre Dames of the world beat up each other. Let's consider a few examples:

In 1981, Clemson comes from nowhere and escapes with a national championship, defeating the perennial paper tiger Nebraska 22-15 in the Orange Bowl. Clemson succeeds by playing a predominantly ACC schedule and avoiding the big boys.

In 1984, BYU steals the national championship after playing a joke of a schedule against a series of joke teams collectively called the WAC conference. BYU wins the championship with a victory in the ever-so renowned Holiday Bowl (can you say Holiday Bowl without laughing?), escaping with a 24-17 victory over a 6-5 Michigan team, unranked in the AP and UPI top twenty and suffering its worst season during the 1980's.

In 1988, West Virginia finds itself 11-0 and ranked #2 in the country entering the Fiesta Bowl. Significant factors in West Virginia's Cinderella story include victories over the likes of Bowling Green 62-14, Cal St.-Fullerton 45-10, and Cincinnati 51-13 during the regular season. Cinderella's slipper does not fit as Notre Dame toys with the Mountaineers on its way to a 34-21 victory. Rare Justice.

Finally, who could forget last year, the year of the ACC, all jokes aside. Virginia and Georgia Tech find themselves ranked #1 during the season. The Cavaliers are #1 and 7-0 in October. The Yellow Jackets are #1 (UPI) and 11-0-1 Jan. 2. Virginia proves its mighty prowess with victories over Kansas 59-10, Navy 56-14, Duke 59-0, William

and Mary 63-35 (but must come from behind to win) and Wake Forest 49-14.

Tech was less impressive but certainly more effective.

Was Tech a pretender or contender? You be the judge, but please don't forget that the eventual UPI champion Yellow Jackets would desperately need 14 fourth-quarter come-from-behind points to beat a mediocre NC State team in Atlanta; tied an easily beatable, albeit improving UNC team 13-13; and escaped with their stingers barely intact 6-3 over Virginia Tech. You may also want to consider that Tech was 12-21 under coach Bobby Ross before suddenly going 11-0-1 last year. Interesting.

Honestly, ask yourself how the 1990 Virginia or Georgia Tech teams would have fared against Notre Dame's 1990 schedule or the 1991 Florida State schedule? In 1990 Notre Dame abused itself by challenging #1

Colorado (AP), #3 Miami, #7 Michigan, #8 Tennessee, #11 Penn State, #16 Michigan State and #20 Southern Cal. Likewise, Florida State will have to defend its present #1 ranking against currently ranked #2 Miami, #3 Michigan, #5 Florida and #18 Syracuse. In addition, FSU has already trashed one would-be pretender for national honors—BYU. This is how it should be. Welcome to the big time.

Indeed, easy schedules just might win national championships. So all you potential sports writers and college football coaches (future voters in the AP and UPI polls), not to mention avid sports fans, please remember to do the right thing and separate the pretenders from the contenders.

The world already suffers enough from injustice and can ill-afford to grant another **OVERRATED** team in college football an undeserved championship.

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