

## Patterson: Great Golfer, Guy, Student

Mary Layton Atkinson  
Staff Writer

"This award is just a grain of sand on an entire beach of accomplishment," said men's golf coach Jack Jensen after Guilford's Dave Patterson was named ODAC golfer of the week March 31.

Patterson, a junior sports management major from Fort Pierce, Florida, is ranked first on the team this season.

He is a 2003 recipient of the Nereus C. English '26 Athletic Leadership Award, which honors top students athletes at Guilford, and he placed second at the 2002 NCAA Division III men's golf championship, where the Quakers won their second national golf title. He is currently ranked 111<sup>th</sup> out of all college and university golfers nationwide.

To teammate Spencer Witherspoon, however, Patterson is just one of the guys.

"He can shoot 63 and still be

just Dave," Witherspoon said. "Being humble helps him to be a better player."

Nevertheless, being humble does not keep Patterson from displaying a fierce competitive spirit.

"Dave is a very competitive young man, and he does not like to lose," Jensen said. "He has a tremendous work ethic when it comes to golf. He works on his weaknesses rather than his strengths, and that is what sets him apart from some other athletes. He keeps on working to help himself improve his weaknesses even though he probably has days when he has very little success."

As a child, Patterson couldn't have imagined that he would become so dedicated to golf.

"I have been playing for about nine years. Before that, I played baseball for a long time," Patterson said.

"My dad would play golf on the weekends, and I wanted to take it up to be with him rather than stuck

in the house. I immediately just liked it more [than baseball], and within a week I was hitting the ball pretty good.

"I enjoy it because you have to constantly strive to improve; you can always be better. Golf is really challenging."

So challenging, in fact, that the team sometimes gets frustrated.

"We joke about how we probably lead the nation in 'clubs broken,'" Patterson said. "When we get frustrated is when it starts happening. It is so frustrating when we go out to play in the winter and the course is all wet. It's sad, but I have probably broken more clubs than the rest of the team has."

Broken clubs or not, Patterson remains the epitome of focus and determination.

"I was playing with Dave one day, and when he swung the face went farther than the ball," Witherspoon said. "But he finished the hole. Actually, he finished it well."



Courtesy of Sports Information.

Dave Patterson - leading the nation in "clubs broken?"

## This Week's Guilford Sports in Brief:

Adam Lerner

Staff Writer

### Softball

After four consecutive losses in doubleheaders against #12 Roanoke and Peace, the softball team rebounded with a four-game winning streak, beating Mary Baldwin, 9-0 and 10-1 in a doubleheader, and ODAC rival Randolph-Macon Woman's College, 10-3 and 8-4 respectively.

In the doubleheader at R-MWC, first-year pitcher Jennifer Evans stepped up for the Quakers, allowing only one earned run in the first game and providing four innings of shutout relief in game two.

Next Game: Sat. April 12, 2:00 p.m. vs.

Emory & Henry (doubleheader) at Western Guilford High School

### Baseball

The Quakers are 2-1 this week with a road win last Wednesday at Roanoke and a split doubleheader on Saturday against Hampden-Sydney, winning 8-6 in the first game and losing 11-9 in the second.

Against Roanoke, first-year pitcher Andrew Jackson pitched seven solid innings while allowing two runs. Senior Brad Franklin had three RBI, two of them coming on a triple in the fourth to break a 2-2 tie, to lead Guilford to victory.

Next Game: Sat. April 12, at Emory & Henry (doubleheader)

### Women's Lacrosse

The women's lacrosse team went

winless this week, falling to ODAC rivals Lynchburg (16-4) and Roanoke (15-4).

Sophomore midfielder Sarah Routhier had a hat trick against Roanoke for the Quakers and sophomore goalie Lindsey Kennedy had 15 saves.

The team will complete the regular season on a two-game road trip before the ODAC tournament.

Next Game: Mon. April 14, 4:00 p.m. at Pfeiffer

### Men's Lacrosse

Junior attackman Josh Miller paced the Quakers with three goals and sophomore goalie, Aaron Skiles, had 15 saves in goal, but it wasn't enough as Guilford fell to #18 Lynchburg in an ODAC matchup, 22-6.

The team is in the midst of an eight-game losing streak as it closes out the season on a four-game road trip.

Next Game: Sat. April 12, 12:00 p.m. at Washington & Jefferson

### Women's Tennis

The team played three matches in three days this week, as they fell to Christopher Newport, Eastern Mennonite and Bridgewater.

Sophomore Kelly Burger was 2-1 for the week in #1 singles, improving her record to a team-best 10-3. She combined with first-year teammate Carly Matteson for a 2-1 record during the week in #1 doubles.

Next Match: Fri. April 11, 3:30 p.m. vs. Randolph-Macon (at Western Guilford High School).