

Coach Lewis celebrates 100th win

BY THOMAS DEANE
STAFF WRITER

Head Women's Soccer Coach Eric Lewis will always remember Sept. 22 as the date when he became the first coach at Guilford College to achieve 100 career victories, following a 6-0 win over Eastern Mennonite University.

In his 11th year, Lewis became the winningest head coach as well as the longest tenured women's soccer coach. Achieving the 100-win mark bolsters what has already been a highly illustrious career.

Lewis started his coaching career as an assistant coach at Gardner-Webb University before a brief stint as an assistant coach for the Guilford's men's soccer team. Following his time at Guilford, Lewis moved on to Louisburg College in Louisburg, N.C., where he racked up more than 30 wins as head coach of the women's soccer team. Lewis then applied to be the head coach for the women's team at Guilford, under the impression that it was a one-year job.

"They needed someone to come in as a temporary thing," said Lewis. "And here I am, 11 years later."

Coach Lewis attributes a lot of his success to two main things: time and recruiting.

"The secret (to) success is time," said Lewis. "Have good recruiting classes

every year to make sure you have a full team."

Indeed, being a good recruiter can be a huge weapon in a coach's arsenal. A necessity of every successful coach is being able to bring in players that can win.

"He is a very good recruiter," said



Women's soccer head coach **Eric Lewis** attributes wins to time and recruiting.

sophomore soccer player Hannah Schiltz. "He's recruited girls from all over—very good, smart-playing girls."

Once these talented players are brought in, Lewis likes to instill his own brand of soccer, which may not always be the same from year to year.

"I've always wanted to play high-pressure (soccer)," said Lewis. "But the

styles can change each year, sometimes within the year, too."

Lewis' coaching style also preaches a dedication to the task that is being completed at the moment. He feels that the players that are able to accomplish tasks both on and off the field are usually the most successful.

"Jay Bilas (leadership forum speaker) came in last week and said it perfectly, 'Whatever you are doing in the moment, that's the most important thing,'" said Lewis. "The kids that do things right in the classroom tend to do it right out on the field."

Lewis' players are also very proud of their highly accomplished coach. Junior soccer player Caroline Bishop saw this win as a momentous milestone.

"It is a great accomplishment and it's a target point for any coach," said Bishop. "(It is) a very successful achievement."

Lewis also has a great affinity with his players. While on the field, Lewis strives to get the best out of them.

"He's very direct," said Schiltz. "He's not afraid to tell you what you are doing right or wrong. He wants you to know what you can do better."

Coach Lewis' 100th win really speaks volumes about his coaching methods. There is a lot to be excited about moving forward with the team. 100 wins is nothing to scoff at, so congrats Coach Lewis. You've earned it.

Athletic Leadership Program lifts off at Guilford College

BY COLLEEN GONZALEZ
SPORTS EDITOR

On Sept. 23, student-athletes of Guilford College were ushered into the Ragan Brown Field House for the first speaker of the newly established leadership forum.

This program is based on the current Bryan Series, but is aimed more towards students than the entire Greensboro community.

It was proposed by Guilford alum, athletics hall of famer, and former basketball coach Dave Odum '65.

His plan is to give encouragement to student-athletes through speakers who not only have ties to athletics, but who will also take the time to talk to the students and visit the college.

Kicking off the event was guest speaker Jay Bilas, ESPN broadcaster and college basketball analyst.

During his speech Bilas mentioned three key ideas athletes should keep in mind that apply to competing on the field as well as when they graduate and obtain jobs.

These ideas involve concentration, preparation and being a good team member.

Bilas emphasized that athletes should treat each competition and practice as if it were the championship game and when it is time to work, the game should be the only thing in the athlete's mind.

He also encouraged athletes to try to get something out of their practice instead of just working to get through it.

Finally, Bilas mentioned how athletes, whether the best or not, should play some sort of role on the team and exhibit integrity in every competition.

Athletes rely on teammates during games and a victory comes easier when every player has a role and works together.

Coaches, athletes and administrators have taken Bilas' speech to heart and have been working to apply his methods to their own situations, whether in the classroom or working on that new play at practice.

Bilas' appearance garnered praise from those who attended, which gets the forum off to an excellent start.

The next presenter, comedian Jeanne Swanner Robertson, will speak on Nov. 4.

Thoughts and Impressions:

"I was surprised how humorous he was and what I got most out of it was as a role player on the team. I've never been a star, ever, and him putting it into terms really inspired me for the last 30 days of football because I'm a senior and about to graduate. It made things real for me."

Senior football player **Thor Pate**

"The thing I liked the most was about not just getting through a workout, but getting something from the workout. I think that was very applicable to our situation here... I've seen athletes trying to just get through a workout and I would much rather they work hard and get something out of practice or a meet."

Head Men and Women's Cross Country Coach **Danny Cash**

"I liked his method on concentration. I think the value in it is if you can get student and athletes ... when their concentration when they get there is on that event and not on something else and when they come to class their concentration is on class. You show folks you can concentrate on those areas when you get there."

Assistant Professor & Coordinator of Sports Medicine **Craig Eilbacher**

What's Going On in Guilford Sports

LAST WEEK'S GAMES AND MATCHES

Soccer

MEN'S SOCCER:

Sept. 25: vs Roanoke [L 2-1]

Sept. 29: vs Shenandoah [W 7-0]

WOMEN'S SOCCER:

Sept. 26: vs Lynchburg [L 5-0]

Sept. 29: vs Randolph-Macon [L 1-0]

Football

Sept. 29: vs Washington and Lee [L 42-21]

Volleyball

Sept. 26: vs Lynchburg [L 3-0]

Sept. 28: vs Salem [W 3-0]

Rugby

MEN'S RUGBY:

Sept. 22: vs. UNC Charlotte [W 12 - 10]

UPCOMING GAMES AND MATCHES

Soccer

MEN'S SOCCER:

Oct. 7 @ Bridgewater

Oct. 10 @ Randolph

WOMEN'S SOCCER:

Oct. 6 @ Virginia Wesleyan

Oct. 10 vs Randolph

Football

Oct. 6 @ Shenandoah

Oct. 11 vs Bridgewater

Volleyball

Oct. 6 @ Salem College

Oct. 10 @ Roanoke

Cross Country

Oct. 6 @ Hagan Stone Park, Greensboro

Rugby

MEN'S RUGBY:

Oct. 27: vs. Fort Bragg

@ SIGNIFIES AN AWAY GAME
VS. SIGNIFIES A HOME GAME