

# Fall sports teams prepare for stellar season

TRACY SUMNER  
Staff Writer

The Meredith soccer, tennis and volleyball teams are in their second week of practice as they prepare for a busy and exciting fall sports season.

After a spectacular spring season, the tennis team, under the guidance of new Head Coach Mary Kovell, boasts a preseason ITA national ranking of 25.

The team is led by returning juniors Jessica Lewis, Collins Dineen and Amy Blackman. Sophomores Ashley Dempsey and Kendall Shoffner will also play key roles for the young team.

Dempsey played exceptionally well last season, earning a 2000 preseason ranking of 18th in the South region.

Freshmen Kasey Miller, Elizabeth Bell and Sarah Graham are also expected to contribute.

The Angels will play in their

first tournament Sept. 9 at Mary Washington where they will face Mary Washington, Longville and the Naval Academy. They will play Randolph-Macon at home on Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 3:30 p.m.

"We have a good returning core," commented Kovell. "We also have a strong freshman class that can contribute.

"Our older players have improved over the summer and have earned starting positions. I think we will be ready to go in the spring," she said.

Meredith's volleyball team also looks forward to a successful year after a 26 - 9 record in the 1999 season.

The team is led by a trio of seniors: Tamara Foulks, Kelly Davidson and Katharine Wit. Sophomores and freshmen complete the roster.

Sophomores Amber Scott, Joy Graham, Sue Anne Lewis, Beth Brown and Swaidou Sonko will be expected to provide valuable leadership.

Head coach Cathy Mayberry will also look to freshmen Libby Wit, Meredith Carr, Jenna Hottel, Karla Gregory, Katy Jo Haywood and Lindsey Cox to contribute.

The team kicks off its season this weekend at a tournament at Lynchburg College. Next Wednesday, Sept. 6, the team will play against Peace College at home at 7 p.m.

Captain Tamara Foulks is excited about the upcoming season. "We have a lot of talent from the returning players and a lot of potential. I can't wait to see the outcome of it all," Foulks said.

The Meredith soccer program is changing faces with the addition of new Head Coach Glad Bugariu.

Returning team members Samantha Plume, Monisha Egerton, Jade Buchanan and Katie Phillips will be expected to lead the team as Bugariu must rely heavily

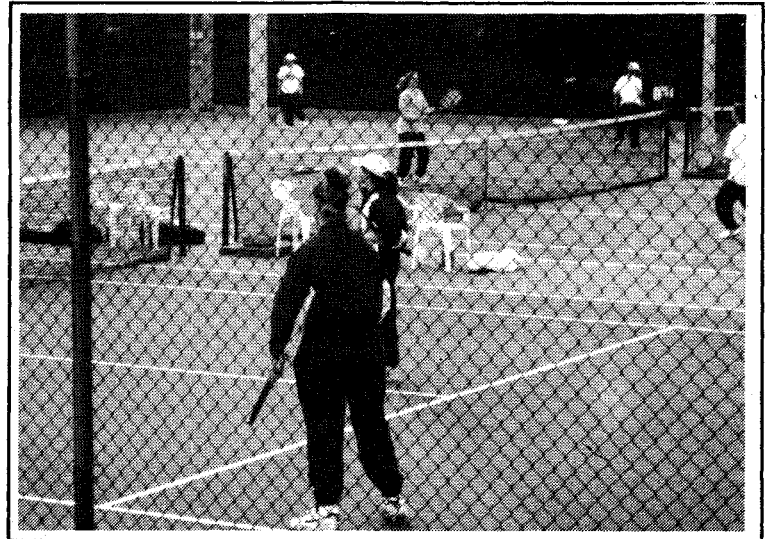
on contributions from underclassmen.

Phillips, who recently re-injured her knee, is expected to be out most of the season.

After a slow recruiting year, Bugariu is still searching the campus for new players to complete his roster. However,

he remains optimistic about the season. "If we keep things positive we can work through adversity and surprise some people," he said.

The soccer team's first home game is Friday, Sept. 15 against Emery and Henry College.



Among other fall athletic teams, the tennis team hopes for a good season.

HERALD FILE PHOTO

## September's Sports Calendar

- September 1: Volleyball at Lynchburg  
 2: Volleyball at Lynchburg  
 6: Volleyball vs. Peace at home  
 7: Soccer at Randolph Macon  
 8: Volleyball at Chowan  
 9: Volleyball at Randolph Macon  
 Soccer at the University of the South  
 10: Soccer at Washington and Lee  
 13: Tennis vs. Randolph Macon at home  
 Volleyball at Methodist  
 15: Soccer vs. Emery and Henry at home  
 Volleyball vs. Guilford at home  
 16: Soccer vs. Virginia Intermont at home  
 18: Tennis at Wingate  
 19: Soccer at Converse  
 Volleyball vs. NC Wesleyan at home  
 21: Volleyball at Salem College  
 22: Soccer vs. Hollins at home  
 23: Tennis at Hollins  
 25: Soccer vs. Pfeiffer at home  
 26: Tennis at Peace  
 Volleyball vs. Ferrum at home  
 28: Soccer at Southern Virginia  
 Volleyball vs. Methodist at home  
 29: Tennis at Mary Washington  
 30: Tennis at Mary Washington  
 Soccer at NC Wesleyan

**Everyone is invited to come to the  
first MRA meeting:**

**Friday, September 1, 10 a.m..**

**114 Harris.**

**Remember, everyone is a member of  
MRA, so come and find out what we  
are all about.**

**MRA-ALL THE WAY!**

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First Meeting  
Wednesday  
September 13  
6:30 p. m.  
Counseling  
Center

Call Lynne at 760-8427 for more information.