

## Fall sports teams are gearing up for the semester

**Meredith's tennis, soccer and volleyball teams are looking forward to a new season with returning players and new freshmen.**

**AUTUMN  
METZGER**  
Staff Writer

As another semester kicks off, so do the seasons of the Meredith fall sports teams of soccer, volleyball and tennis. All three teams welcomed new freshman this year and are ready to head into a new season with a fresh attitude.

Prospective volleyball and soccer players moved on campus with seasoned players on Thursday prior to orientation. Practice began prior to the start of classes.

Tennis players moved in on Saturday when freshmen arrived, and they began practicing soon afterwards.

All three teams have held tryouts and chosen the new teammates.

The volleyball team has nine returning players and welcomed five new freshmen players. The only two returning seniors, Sawai Sonko and Meredith Carr, are captains this year.

The team opened with a scrimmage game against Shaw University, a Division II school, and was able to win the match three games to one. They also hosted a one-day tournament on August 30, where they competed against Peace College, Salem College and Randolph-Macon College.

The Angels swept the tournament, defeating Randolph-Macon College 3-0, Peace College 3-1 and Salem College 3-0. Kathy Mayberry is the coach again this year and seems very optimistic about the upcoming season. She feels this year's team has a will

to win and will go very far in the conference.

Mayberry is assisted by Christie Evans, a former Meredith volleyball player. The team's next game is September 3, at Meredith, against NC Wesleyan at 6:30 p.m.

Meredith's soccer team took on seven new freshman players and had fifteen returning players.

The captains this year are seniors Annie Palmquist and Amanda Smith, and junior Ashley Ellis. All three have been MVP's in past seasons. Paul Smith is returning as coach and he has previously coached several elite soccer teams in the area.

Soccer opened with a scrimmage against Louisburg College that ended in a tie. They also scrimmaged an elite Capital Area Soccer League 18 team that is currently ranked in the state.

This weekend the team

traveled to Maryland to play in a tournament against Johns Hopkins University and Christopher Newport College. The next home game will take place at the Meredith Classic tournament on September 6 at 1 p.m. against Agnes Scott College.

Another fall sport, tennis, has eight players, three of which are freshmen. Head Coach Mary Kovell and Assistant Coach Sarah Huffman lead the team again this season.

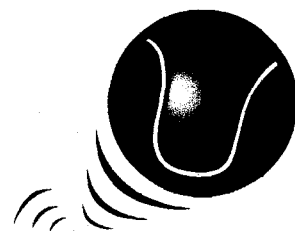
The Meredith tennis team has placed in the top 25 or better, four out of the last six years in NCAA Division III rankings.

The season begins this Friday at the Intra Squad tournament; there will be a home match at 1 p.m. They play a twenty-match schedule, and play both fall and spring season.

Los Angeles Lakers coach Phil Jackson said, "Creating a successful team

is essentially a spiritual act. It requires individuals involved to surrender their self-interest for the greater good so that the whole adds up to more than the sum of the parts. This oneness is the soul of the team."

As the Meredith Angels start the season this year, they will be making new friendships, learning leadership skills and doing their best to compete at a college level. With a legacy of success, these Angels will definitely succeed in attaining athletic excellence. Don't miss your chance to support these great women and show our competition the unity and spirit that make Meredith Angels a team.



## Soccer team looking strong

**AMANDA SMITH**  
Contributing Writer

Every year offers the same goal-to be nationally ranked. A strong recruiting class and six ranked teams on the schedule may help Meredith's soccer team finally achieve this goal.

"It's an exciting year. We've had a great start and it only keeps getting better," stated third year head coach Paul "Topgun" Smith.

The freshmen class joins an already strong returning core to provide important depth and versatility. In the past, the team has faced problems with injuries; however, this year there is

enough talent to fill any holes.

"We have many highly skilled athletes and it is exciting to explore different line-ups and find ways to expose their talent," said Coach Smith.

Senior captain Annie Palmquist states, "I am very excited to begin our season. We have a great group of athletes who understand the importance of hard work, but also know how to have fun. These are two key components of a great team."

Freshman Margot Childs has proven to be an aggressive mainstay in the back for the Angels. She is a relentless defender and has

dominated the center of the field during preseason scrimmages. Alongside Childs returns 2002 Defensive MVP, Alison Stahl, a leader and aggressive defensive player. Other key returning players include midfielders sophomore Brynn Shoffner and Palmquist. Two other returning impact midfielders are 2001 MVP, senior captain Amanda Smith and 2002 Award winner, junior captain Ashley Ellis.

The Angels have already seen action in three scrimmage games versus local Capital Area Soccer League teams and against nationally ranked Louisburg College

Meredith was able to control the midfield and maintain possession for the majority of the game against Louisburg. The game ended in a scoreless tie even though the Angels out shot Louisburg 14-2. "Our defense is strong, we're going to control the midfield, and we will find ways to score," comments Coach Smith.

The team opened its season with the Johns Hopkins Tournament in Baltimore, Maryland this past weekend. The team faced Johns Hopkins University on Saturday, and on Sunday they battled Christopher Newport University.

The first home game of

the season will be this weekend as the Angels host the 3rd Annual Meredith College Classic. Saturday, Meredith will play Agnes Scott College at 1:00 p.m. followed by Peace College vs. Mount Olive College at 3:00 p.m. Agnes Scott and Peace will begin the games on Sunday at noon, and Meredith will face Mount Olive College at 3:00 p.m. The Angels are two time returning champions and will once again battle to defend their title.

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student athletes!**