

Baseball Team in Driver's Seat for TVAC Title

by Amy Buckner

Behind the arms of Shane Hatcher and Jamie Jessee, the baseball team retained first place in the TVAC by splitting a double header with the Tennessee Wesleyan Bulldogs Sunday.

Catcher Rusty Fleshman stated, "These games were big in bringing us one step closer to the big fat (Championship)

rings."

The Bulldogs squeaked by 2-1 in game one after 13 innings of outstanding defense and pitching.

Shane Brannock doubled to lead off the game. After a wild pitch, senior Chris Robertson beat out a hit, scoring Brannock in the process.

The lead held up until the top of

the sixth inning when a 2-base error led to the Bulldogs tying the score on a single by center fielder Dave Roberts.

From there, the game turned into a pitcher's duel between Cavs ace Shane Hatcher and Bulldogs reliever Charles Brown, who matched goose eggs from there until the top of the thirteenth inning, when Brown scored on a 2-out single by shortstop Travis Lanier.

In game two, the team fought back to win 2-0. Robertson again came through by hitting 1-3 and blasting a 2 run homerun that clinched the victory. Freshman Heath Bishop batted 2-3.

Jamie Jessee gave up only 2 hits and managed thirteen strikeouts. In each game, the team committed only two errors.

Linda Vance, mother of baseball groupie Marci Vance, quipped, "Jessee is out of control!"

"Chris Robertson came through with a backside bomb and for as much trash as Tennessee Wesleyan talked, they sure couldn't hit," Jessee exclaimed.

Coach Darin Chaplain explained, "Both pitchers were outstanding but both of them have been for all four years they have been here."

Pitcher Chopper "the Rev." Souder related, "The pitchers did a heckuva job, but the hitters just failed to carry their load."

Sophomore DH Trey "Mad Dog" Massie commented, "We are so excited and confident about winning the conference. This has been our goal from day one."

Today the team invites Wofford College to Newell Field for Senior day. Saturday and Sunday the men will travel to Clinch Valley for a 3 game series.

Errors "Kill" Softball Team

by Queen Musengwa

On April 18, Tusculum College swept a doubleheader against the softball team, 9-2 and 13-5.

Becca Wineka explained, "Errors are what killed us, we took the game out of our own hands."

Errors were not the only problem, "They've improved since last time we played them, but we still could have beat them if we didn't make mistakes early in the game," observed Lisa Brooks.

Irritated last Saturday after a five-hour drive to Bluefield, the women didn't have the opportunity to play due to the rain.

Amy Mercer enthused, "We are going to have a "whoosh" of all the ball games and I am going to do my step-mother (Coach Everhart) proud."

Mary Custer revealed, "We were

disappointing to ourselves, but if we continue our hard work, we will finish strong."

With eight games remaining, the team is preparing to rock the TVAC tournament. Elisha Perkins voiced a note of optimism, "We played good in Tusculum tournament, so there is a good chance that we can win TVAC tournament."

"We better not make any errors because we don't want to do sprints. We want to walk away with the title, looking better than a first year program" mouthed Mercer and Perkins.

Fans Emily Willis and Kevin Doyle grumbled, "we wish that they have home games so that we can watch Amanda Nesbitt our favorite player, unfortunately we can't watch the games. However, we wish them luck for the rest of the season, including the TVAC tournament."

Bowers, Lassiter Awarded \$6K Science Research Grant

by Jeff Sheets

Junior Scott Bowers and associate professor Mark Lassiter were recently awarded a \$6,000 grant for scientific research this fall by the Appalachian College Association (A.C.A.).

Bowers, an environmental studies major, and Lassiter, associate professor of biology and environmental studies, turned in a submission to the A.C.A. requesting funding for their research entitled: "Environmentally Responsible Production of Energy from Various Biomass Sources: The Isolation of Cellulose from Refuse and its Acid/Enzyme Hydrolysis Coupled with Solar Distillation."

The research entails rapidly converting cellulose or plant waste into ethanol through distillation. This is similar to the distilling process used in beer and wine production, except the end product of ethanol is much stronger (195-200 proof) and is hazardous for consumption. However, it is ideal for use in electricity production for it burns much cleaner compared to other combustible materials.

"I'm trying to get a good end product from a bad product without harming anything along the way," admitted Bowers who will be doing much of the research. "Hopefully in the distant future someone will be able to take their biodegradable trash and throw it in a compactor to be made into ethanol for home energy use."

Three main variables will be studied during this project: The cellulose materials-comparing the rate of fermentation in each, the processes used in breaking

cellulose down-examining which is more efficient, and the distillation methods-studying the proofing rates of solar versus conventional.

Fellow environmental studies major Matt Kolodzik summed up, "It will be exciting to see what comes out of the research."

Personal achievement is not the only incentive driving Bowers. "I'm hoping to get Montreat back on the map in the scientific realm. Getting involved with the A.C.A. could open up a lot of student opportunities," remarked Bowers.

The A.C.A. is an exclusively educational organization that is composed of 34 colleges and universities in the Appalachian region, Montreat included. One of its functions is granting money for scientific research

Bowers added, "Down the road other Montreat students could receive grants, but they must make submissions. The money is there, a student just has to go after it."

Lassiter echoed the same thoughts, "We want to put a lot of students in this type of position for research. Scott's helping open our eyes to these opportunities."

"Bowers also sees this research as beneficial for graduate school. "On a personal level, this project is excellent prep for medical school where I want to be engaged in research there."

At the end of spring 97, the results of the scientific research will be presented to the A.C.A.

Lady Tennis Players Fall in Tourney, Men Grab Fifth

by Christian Malone

In their first ever TVAC tournament, the women's tennis team fought the competition, but were eliminated in the first round.

The loss culminated a tough inaugural season for the Lady Cavs. In a tough situation, the women had only the minimum six players on their team, and were forced to play with a lot of heart on the court.

Though they finished winless, they continually refused to give up on the court.

Said men's team member Phil Quinn, "The stats don't show what kind of effort was put out by this team. I myself am proud of these six girls who persevered through this sea-

son."

The men's team finished the tournament fifth out of nine places missing fourth by one match.

The highlight of their season was an upset of five-time defending TVAC champion Virginia Intermont at V.I.

Individually, the men got solid performances out of Juniors Jon Abel and Jason Guengrich and Sophomore Sam Simpkins, as well as #1 player Josh Schatzle.

Quinn, who sat out with a shoulder injury, has extremely high hopes for the 1997 season, claiming that the Cavalier tennis program will possess at least two or three good players.

Area Musical Opportunities

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CCCU Rewards Biblical Scholarship

The Coalition of Christian Colleges and Universities recently announced a June 1 deadline for applications for the Carl F.H. Henry scholarship. The scholarship offers \$5000 to students communicating biblical truth to a secular audience through the print media.

Students seeking additional information may contact Montreat English professors or Jennifer Voskuil, CCCU, 329 Eighth St. NE, Washington, DC 20002.

Newspaper

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Newspaper accepts student editorials, subject to standards of length and clarity. Signed submissions may be made to MC Box 130 and are preferred on IBM diskette in the MSWord format.