

Soccer Going Strong

By Daniel Park

After a slow start, playing five 4-A schools, the Unicorn soccer team has had a string of six undefeated games in which they have achieved a span record of 4-0-2. As a result, the Unicorns have jumped quickly to the top spot in the conference, and it seems that the Unicorns will keep its top spot. The men's team has already played and defeated every team in the conference without giving up a goal.

The outlook of the season

is bright. Confidences of both the player and the coach are high. Senior Rob Farrell, commented that, "Our record should be totally opposite, total turn around, this year, compared to last year's."

Junior Pete Paschall feels that, "Soccer is better here than at my old school because people who play here are more dedicated."

Coach Barkovich has added contention for the state championship to this season's goals. When asked what his goals were at the beginning of the year, Coach Barkovich

said, "To win the conference and have a winning record." He also feels that the team is improving well, pointing out the current streak.

Why not feel confident? The team has beaten three conference rivals by the total score 14 - 0 (Clinton 4-0, Fuquay-Varina 7-0, Northwood 3-0). Senior Rob Farrell's goals are "to dominate the conference and do well in state [playoffs]." With an undefeated in conference and senior and juniors S&Mers playing well together, this season may be one of the more successful seasons at NCSSM.

Tennis, Volleyball Wrap up Season

by Darice

Witherspoon

The season is near completion for fall sports competition. The tennis and volleyball teams have both played well this year.

Their hard work has been rewarded with successful seasons. With two remaining matches, the tennis team has a 4-4 overall record. The team hopes to do well in the tournament beginning October 25.

The development of good relationships on the team has contributed to its success. Team member Stella Cline commented, "We are a real team even though tennis is a very individual sport." She was also excited about the enthusiasm displayed by the juniors on the team.

Kristen Kolenski and Soo Kim, seeded first and second

respectively, have led the team. Kolenski stated, "We are finally starting to do well and may even end up with a winning season."

Much of the success can be attributed to the dedicated coach, Warren Basket. "He is with us all the time. He wants us to have fun and to enjoy the sport, instead of concentrating only on winning," stated Cline.

"We really enjoyed the home support. We went undefeated in our own gym."

Volleyball ended the season with a 10-10 overall record and a 8-10 record in the conference. Holding fourth place in the conference, they are eligible to participate in the state playoffs.

The team was eliminated

from the conference tournament. After winning over Fuquay in three games in the first round, they were defeated by Louisburg in the second round. Two volleyball games were played in the NCSSM gym. The team was overwhelmed by the enormous school support. J.D. Johnston said, "We really enjoyed the home support. We went undefeated in our gym."

Coach Lisa Washington is pleased with the performance of all team members. She especially commends the outstanding work of Kori Sill and Catherine Woodard for the entire season.

Washington is really proud of the team. They have good potential and have proved themselves. "I would not trade them for any other team," she says.

Most importantly, Washington believes, "Volleyball has finally gained some respect around here."



Josh Humphreys sets up for a goal.

Cross Country Team Undefeated

by Jenny Gardner

This year is a year of changes for NCSSM, and the cross-country team is no exception. Not only do they have a whole new set of junior runners, but they are now under the instruction of a new coach, Mark Roy.

This year's team, with sixty members on the roster, is the largest in NCSSM's history. Approximately one out of every eight S&M students is a runner.

The team practices every day after school from 3:30 to 5:00 pm, and some Saturday mornings. Susan Covington, a

junior, commented, "The main reason I'm running cross-country is to get in shape for track. It's fun and it gives me a break from academics, but it's also a lot of work."

So far, the team's conference record is 2-0. They've defeated Western and Southern Alamance and Cummings, but lost to non-conference Durham Academy earlier in the season.

Lisa Sitek, a senior runner, said, "We are all really enthusiastic about our new coach. With a lot of returning seniors and hard-working new juniors, we're on our way to becoming a prize-winning team!!"

Halls Vie for Director's Cup

by Joe Fernandez

Intramural sports will see an increase in popularity this year due to the refinement of the rules of the Director's Cup.

The Director's Cup is the award given to the hall with the most accumulated points at the end of the year. The point system was revised by Eileen Witt to make sure that appropriate points are given to the teams.

One thing that hasn't changed is the emphasis on participation. High points are scored for entering a team in any sport, and points are awarded for the number of

participants. Teams also earn points for winning games and championships. Ms. Witt said that she hopes to begin posting the weekly standings in the Director's Cup race on a bulletin board outside the athletic office.

Competing in the volleyball championships are Catherine's Chicks and the Best of Beall. In flag football playoff action, Kearney's Kolliders and the Lepers will represent Division A but Division B has one more play date. Millard's Men have clinched a berth with a record of 4-0, but the other position is still up for grabs.



Kathy Dy sets the ball for Koren Sill.