

## Sports in a nutshell

### Women's Tennis places second

The NCSSM women's tennis team finished the season 7-3 in the conference and claimed second place. Three players were named All-Conference: Senior Betsy Dorsett, Senior Sara Eslinger, and Senior Rekha Perumallu.

In the conference tournament, Perumallu placed second in number-one singles, Eslinger won first in number-two singles, and Junior Mary Pride Clark was second in number-three singles. Perumallu and Eslinger placed second in the doubles competition. -AP

### Soccer team goes to state playoffs

The NCSSM men's soccer team ended their season with a record of 10-5-2. The team's conference record was 9-1. NCSSM's season ended when the Manteo beat them in the first round of the state playoffs, 2-1. Coach Mike Beer complimented to team on "playing hard and well in a very difficult season." -AP

### Students participate in racquetball tournament

The tournament was organized by seniors Rupen Amin and Mackenzie Stogner and sponsored by Jeff Bray and Branson Brown. They used official racquetball rules in a double elimination, with 2 out of 3 victories constituting a match winner. The tournament is currently in the first round and is expected to conclude around Thanksgiving. Amin and Stogner are planning various doubles tournaments for after Christmas. Rules and brackets are posted in the PEC. -DL

### Cheerleading team selected

Cheerleading tryouts were held Oct. 28-31 to select the eight-person squad and two alternates. In the past, controversy has arisen about whether or not NCSSM should have a cheerleading team because of the risk associated with some of the stunts. This year, the team is being organized on a "ground bound" principle — no stunts above the chest of the person(s) basing a stunt are allowed. Senior Co-captain Kim Logan said that the goals of the team are to "have fun, to work hard with 110% dedication, and most importantly to emphasize the aspect of school spirit." -KH

### Students kill teachers in softball

NCSSM's fall softball team finished the season with the Student/Faculty game on Oct. 30. The students wiped out their teachers 10-7 in three and one-half innings of play. Dr. Myra Halpin pitched for the faculty and got the loss. -AP

### Triathlete Club strives for ultimate fitness

Members of the Triathlete Club, a first-year club at NCSSM, are swimming, biking, and running their way into shape. The club is working on the sprint distance (800 meter swim, 18 mile bike ride, 3.1 mile run) and plans to work up to the Olympic distances of two kilometers swimming, 45 kilometers biking, and 10 kilometers running. Branson Brown is sponsoring the club, which is lead by president Josh Gullet. -KH



Photo by Lakdeep Deol

Lamar Mack demonstrates a new move on Michael Murphy.

## Seniors lead new season

DAVID LAWSON

"We are intense; intensity is our motto," said senior Peter Boyd-Bowman in describing this year's NCSSM wrestling team. This year's team is coached by Avery Winford and led by seniors Peter Boyd-Bowman, Josh Breedlove, Hyomni Choe, Jeremy Kindy, Lamar Mack, Laurel Varnado, and Doug Wilkinson.

Coach Winford said that he has a lot of the same senior leadership he had last year in addition to more juniors who have wrestled before coming to NCSSM. He said that he thinks he can take at least half of the team to the state finals and that the team can either win the conference or finish in the top two.

Coach Winford, a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, has

wrestled for ten years. He was a four time state qualifier in high school, finishing high school with a 135-10 record and finishing college with a record of 107-25. He also was an All American at 134 pounds while in college.

This year's wrestling practices officially began on Nov. 1 and last for about two and a half hours daily. Practices include ten to fifteen minutes of warm-ups, followed by an hour and a half of drills, 45 minutes of live wrestling and conclude with fifteen minutes of calisthenics. "We beat you down 'til you cry and bleed," Boyd-Bowman said of practices.

Last year's squad finished the season at 9-7, second in the conference, and fourth as a team in the regionals. The team also had five members who qualified for the state tournament.

## Women's bittersweet volleyball season ends

CARRIE JOHNSTON

The NCSSM Women's Volleyball team got out to a competitive start and ended the season with a record of 11-7. Although not the start many of the seniors of the team had hoped for, the team managed to grab a piece of the three-way tie for second place in their division.

Senior Loria Caulder said, "The season and tournament were disappointing for me. It is hard playing for two years and in your last year not having an outstanding record."

NCSSM Volleyball ended their bittersweet season as a result of a three-way tie. The tie was broken by the team that had

previously been beaten by the 5th seeded team. Playoff hopes for Science and Math were ended by Franklinton. Earlier in the season, NCSSM had been beaten by Franklinton, the 5th seeded team.

Although the team was not eligible for playoffs, seniors Nora Wilson and Krista Duran were selected for all conference.

Asked what could be done to improve

the team's performance, Junior Brittany Pratt said, "We could all have worked harder."

*"Everyone should communicate and get involved. This is important not only for the team, but for the crowd as well."*

- Nora Wilson

Nora Wilson, a team captain, agreed and added, "Communication is the key to successful games and good team morale."

Looking back at the 96-97 volleyball season, Wilson

said, "It's important to see how the crowd affected our playing. Our best games were when the crowd was involved and pumped

up. It was great."

Many students have noted how hard it is to support the team and attend the games due to homework and other obligations. However, other students try to make the time and become active. One spectator, junior Monique Williams, said, "I really enjoyed watching the team. They were awesome. We stomped right over the other teams."

What advice does the team have for a successful season? Caulder said, "Practice, work hard, and stay focused!"

Wilson and Pratt agree. "Everyone should communicate and get involved. This is important not only for the team, but for the crowd as well," said Wilson.