

PEMBROKE STATE UNIVERSITY SPORTS

Gary Spittler
Sports Information Director

MEDIA DAY SET FOR TUESDAY

News media members from across the state will attend PSU's Annual Media Day on Tuesday, October 23 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Media members will interview the coaches, eat lunch in the hospitality room, and then talk with players and

take photos in the afternoon.

TEAMS DOING WELL IN FALL

PSU's volleyball team stands 25-3 on the season after downing Lenoir-Rhyne on Tuesday 15-7, 10-15, 15-7, 15-13. A special event will be held on Oct. 24 at the PSU-Columbia and Coker volleyball match at 6 p.m. Plan to be

there.

Soccer stands 4-9-1 on the season while cross country is 45-15. Women's tennis finished their fall season a perfect 5-0 while golf will wrap up their fall schedule at UNC-W on Monday and Tuesday.

BASEBALL LOOKING OPTIMISTIC

by David Leek
Student Assistant SID Harold Ellen, head coach of the baseball team at PSU says he is very optimistic about the upcoming season.

"Last year we had some

players playing out of position which caused problems," said Ellen, "but this fall we have worked very hard on getting players adjusted to their positions.

Gone is NAIA First Team All American Johnny Dial who wrote his name into the PSU record books by batting .492, hitting 13 HR's, 60 hits, 60 doubles, and 37 RBI's, but back are seven of the regular starters which won 20 games and finished third in the conference, the highest ever.

Leading the Braves will be Joe Strouse. Last season Strouse batted .324 with 34 hits, 19 RBI's, and 9-10 in the stolen base department. He will play third base.

Also back are Greg Beasley (OF) and Bill Wieder (SS). Beasley batted .311 with five HR's, while Wieder batted .308.

The other regular starters back are Bobby Bousman (OF) (.277), Tim Caradonna (2nd, .272), Jack Brown (.264) and David Willoughby (OF .192).

Filling a void at first base will be Keith Atkinson. Atkinson hit two HR's and batted .259 in a limited playing role.

"Atkinson will see more playing time this year," said Ellen, "he has the potential to be a long-ball threat."

Coach Ellen admits that after the starting eight, the Braves will be a little bit thin.

"All of our regular players will have to stay healthy for us to win. I have freshmen that have the ability to start, but I don't want to rush them along too fast.

"Depth will be a problem, but I hope that the newcomers will respond when needed."

A newcomer added to the team for depth is Thomas Pritchard, who will be a utility infielder.

"Pritchard has looked good in the fall," says Coach Ellen, "and he has had some experience of varsity sports having played on the soccer team."

Leading the pitchers will be Jerry Moore, who had a 5-2 record last year.

Other lettermen returning are James Bird, (1-2), Dwight Johnson (4-2), Todd Leisure (1-0) and Todd Taylor (0-0).

"Pitching is always a concern to me," says Ellen. "No matter how good they pitch now, next spring is where it counts."

"Bird has looked good, along with freshman Jimmy Schultz of East Bladen. Starter Dwight Johnson has had some elbow problems but is expected to be ready next spring."

Mark Painter and Mark Hetrick starter from last year, did not return for the 1984-85 academic year.

New recruits expected to play in the spring are Jimmy Schultz (P) East Bladen, Matt Victor (Inf.) Woodbridge, Va., Rick Ellen (C) Lumberton, John Ashford (QF), transfer from Methodist, and Darryl Jackson (P) St. Pauls.

"Schultz has been looking real well on the mound," says Ellen. "he will probably fill a spot on the pitching rotation. Victor and Ellen have hit the ball well in fall practice and will see playing time in the spring."

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