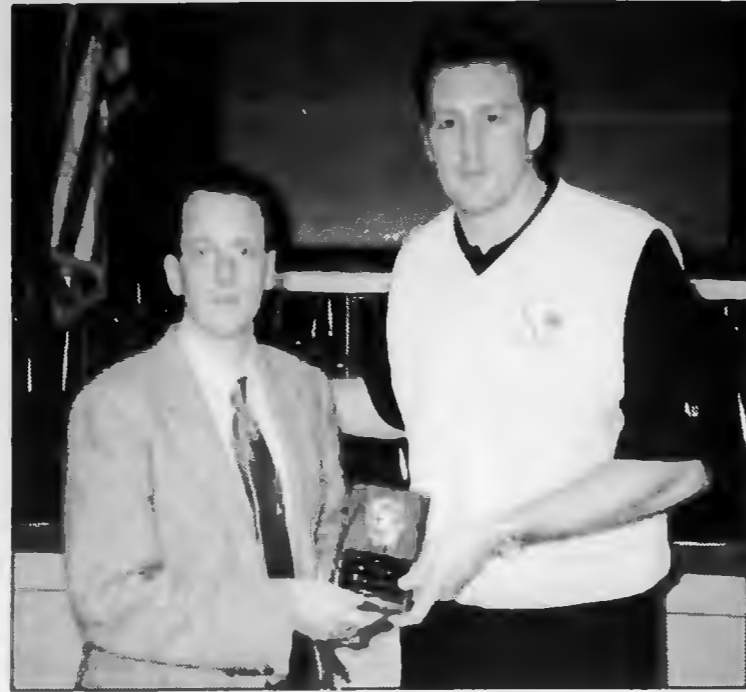


SPORTS

FLORA MACDONALD ACADEMY



Southeastern Independent Conference Player of the Year Amy McNeill with 950 career points and 603 career rebounds.



Head Coach Shane Compton (left), of Flora Macdonald, and Heath Vandevender of Trinity Christian were named SEIC coaches of the year for girls and boys basketball.

Basketball team earns trio of awards

BY JOEL BEACHUM
Flora Macdonald Academy
Sports Information

When awards were passed out at the conclusion of the season, Flora Macdonald made it a clean sweep of the conference awards. The Southeastern Independent Conference Player of the Year and the SEIC Tournament Most Valuable Player both went to senior forward Amy McNeill. Coach of the Year went to head basketball coach Shane Compton. "Winning both players of the year and MVP of the tournament was an honor and an accomplishment," said McNeill. I had to work hard all year to achieve these awards, but I

could not have done it without my teammates and coaches." McNeill finished the season as the first girls basketball player with 300 points in one season. She had well over 900 points in her career. Compton and assistant basketball coach Spencer Willard helped in turning the program around from finishing in the fifth place a season ago. McNeill, who completed her career with over 600 rebounds, said that it has been the best season ever. "Everyone worked hard all year long and get along great. The coaches spent a lot of time working with us, but all the hard work paid off. The fans were great this year and I think the Lady Cougars gained

more respect," said McNeill. "My goal in basketball has always been to be undefeated and to make it to the states. This year it finally happened. Thanks to everyone who supported us." The remainder of the all-conference team was junior two-guard Sophia Duncan and eighth-grader Beth Hester. They combined for 350-plus points. Hester finished second on the team in rebounds. Duncan led the team in three point attempts and three-point baskets. McNeill, Hester and Kayla Currie were all named to the all-tournament team. Currie was recognized for her defense, as she did not allow Northwoods Megan Epler to score in the title game.

Shemenski in sports Who's Who



Megan Shemenski

Megan Elizabeth Shemenski, a 12th grade at Flora Macdonald Academy has been selected for inclusion in the 2002-2003 High School Edition of Who's Who In Sports, a national publication that honors outstanding achievement in high school athletics. Megan's accomplishments include SEIC Goalkeeper of the Year 2001 and 2002; All Conference in Soccer 200 and 2002; Most Valuable

Player in soccer in 2002. Less than one-half of one percent of high school students participating in athletics will appear in Who's Who In Sports this year. These athletes are selected based on their athletic achievement from the nearly seven million students who participate in competitive athletics. Megan is the daughter of Doug and Holly Shemenski of Raeford.

Lady Cougars start in the 'W' column

After practicing just eight days with the majority of the team and only five days with the entire team, the hard work and effort made a difference on Monday. Two second-half goals by Lindsay Wood and Jenny Launder led Flora Macdonald Academy to a 3-1 win over Whiteville High School in varsity soccer action. Wood scored earlier in the game on a penalty kick in the first half for FMA (1-0). After being tackled inside the penalty box, Wood scored in the right corner of the net early in the game. The goals were her ninth and tenth of her two-year career. Katy Williams of the Lady

Eagles (0-3) tallied a goal off a corner kick. The score happened late in the first half past a diving keeper Megan Shemenski. Launder made the score 2-1 early in the second half off of a pass from Wood. Wood then scored 15 minutes later on a through ball from mid-fielder Deborah Ayers. "We did extremely well for it being our first game. All of the girls have improved since last year," said Launder. "It was good beating Whiteville since they were the reigning champions last year and we were able to shut them down." Flora Macdonald had several other scoring chances with 24 shots

on goal. Leading the way on shot attempts was Launder with 11 on goal. Wood added five shot attempts. Leading the defense was Sophie Duncan with 20 defensive clears and Mary Moses with 14 defensive clears. Carrie Wood added 11 clears to bring the team total to 70 on defense. Ashley Butler, Erica Jones, and Ann Powell led the shot attempts on goal for Whiteville. The two teams will meet again next Thursday at Flora Macdonald. Southeastern Independent Conference play begins on Thursday, March 20 at Trinity Christian School.

ACC football season promises to be exciting

BY HAL NUNN
Sports writer

The Atlantic Coast Conference football schedule has some high impact games scheduled for next season. With match-ups against last year's National Champions to backyard brawls between two schools that compare each other to the Hatfields and McCoys.

With local Hoke players playing in the conference and freshman going into the conference, this year in the ACC will be one of the most exciting years ever. East Carolina gets into the mix this year as well.

Here are just a few of the games so you can mark your calendars for these key match-ups.

Aug. 30, Florida State at North Carolina
Sept. 13, N.C. State at Ohio State
Sept. 20, East Carolina at Wake Forest
Sept. 27, North Carolina at N.C.



The Pirates hope to knock out the Tarheels next October when they meet in Greenville.

State
Oct. 11, North Carolina at East Carolina
Oct. 18, Arizona State at North Carolina
Nov. 1, Duke at Tennessee

Bucks fall by four

Rocky Mount takes Bucks down in second round

BY HAL NUNN
Sports writer

The Hoke County boys basketball team ended its season last Wednesday night at Rocky Mount in the second round of the state playoffs.

The Bucks played extremely well in the 4-point loss and have a lot to be proud of this season. One of the biggest wins in this era was the victory over Seventy-First back in early February.

That win broke a long losing streak against the Falcons and seemed to be the shining moment for the season.

In the conference championship Hoke lost to Jack Britt but even in that loss there is reason to be proud. Jack Britt won the 4-A East Sectional last Friday night with a win over Greenville Rose.

The Bucks beat the Buccaneers earlier in this season. Hoke County was also ranked in

the top 10 of the State Coaches Poll most of the season and should build on that ranking next year.

Reporter's note: As a newcomer to this area I have to say some of the most exciting high school basketball in the state is right here in Hoke County. I look forward to the next basketball season with great joy and anticipation. Go Bucks, and hold your head high, you have quite a bit to be proud of. Congratulations on a terrific season!

Mitch Tyler Scholarship Golf Tourney raises \$4,000

The 1st Annual Mitchell Tyler Scholarship Golf Tournament took place this past weekend at Bayonet Golf Course.

Coordinator Dave Trinidad said, "This tournament raised \$4,000 dollars for the scholarship which was named after the late former Hoke County Schools Superintendent."

The tournament which will be held each year, was captains choice and had 62 golfers on the first day. "We hope to increase the number of players next year and move the tournament further into the summer," said Trinidad. "Many sponsors help make this event enjoyable and we would like to thank some of them. Ronnie Sutton from The House of Representatives, Glen Maynor, Mike Ward, Phil Kirk, Hoke County Schools, Raeford Hunt Club, Lafayette Ford, Baker Chevrolet, Red Springs High School, The Cummings Family, Health Keepers, UNC-Pembroke, Cape Fear Valley Health Care, Unilever, John's Texaco, Collins Masonry, Reverend Julian Ransom and Family, Pembroke Fast Lube, Robeson Family Practice, Terry Collins Construction, Heritage Funeral Home, Harris Grocery, Hammonds Construction, Shannon Mini Mart, Dairy Ranch, Dicks Sporting Goods, Johnny Hunt, Dr. Harrison, S&S Trucking, Locklears Garage, HPC Investment Company, Gateway Properties, Shannon Assembly of God, Crumplers Funeral Home, and The Rev. Roy Clark and family." Trinidad would like to acknowledge Debbie (the li'l dictator) Chavis for all her help. "Next year's tournament will have a theme, Catch A Dream.



A player putts under the watchful eye of other players.



Winning team from the Mitch Tyler Scholarship Golf Tournament.

"We hope to help at least one student pursue their dream of success through this scholarship fund," said Trinidad.

School sports

This week at home

Mar. 5, JV baseball, Home vs. Cape Fear, 4 p.m.

Mar. 5, Women soccer, Home vs. Lumberton, 7 p.m.

Mar. 6, Varsity softball, Home vs. Terry Sanford, 4 p.m.

Mar. 7, Varsity baseball, Home vs. Lumberton, 5 p.m.

Mar. 10, Golf @ Bayonet, 1 p.m.

Mar. 10, Women soccer, Home vs. Pine Forest, 6 p.m.

Mar. 11, Varsity softball, Home vs. Lumberton, 4 p.m.

Mar. 11, JV baseball, Home vs. Purnell Swett



Parks & Rec standings

STANDINGS COMPILED BY HAL NUNN

Novice League Standings (ages 7-9)

REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS
As of March 1, 2003

Post-season play begins Saturday, March 8.

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES
Bucks	6	1
Lakers	6	1
Heat	5	2
Magic	3	4
Nets	3	4
Sixers	3	4
Hornets	1	6
Mavericks	1	6

Midget League Standings (ages 10-12)

REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS
As of March 1, 2003

Post-season play begins Saturday, March 8.

TEAM	WINS	LOSSES
Nets	7	0
Lakers	6	1
Celtics	3	4
Knicks	3	4
Magic	3	4
T-Wolves	3	4
Clippers	2	5
Kings	1	6

Parks & Rec baseball registration underway

Baseball/softball

Youth registration for Parks & Rec baseball/softball will continue through March 14, weekdays, 8 a.m. - noon or 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. A Saturday registration will take place March 8 at 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. The fee is \$25 per child.

Registration after March 14 will bring a late fee of \$5 if space is available.

Parents and guardians are asked to take their child/children's birth certificate and register at the Parks & Rec. office.

Coaches

Coaches are needed for the upcoming season. If you love children and want the opportunity to help make the season a success, you are asked to drop by the Parks & Rec. office Monday - Friday at 8 a.m. - 12 noon or 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. for an application.