Tennis and Volleyball Teams Spend Break on the Court

By Justin Boer
Contributing Writer

When spring break comes around everyone is kicked out of the dorms. People go their separate ways, but some stay with the EMU athletic crowd. This year the men’s volleyball team and the men’s and women’s tennis teams spent their spring breaks together in order to prepare for their seasons.

After a good amount of fundraising, the men’s volleyball team was able to head to the West Coast to test their skills against some of California’s finest. The first match was against California Baptist, the number one ranked NAIA team in the nation. Even though EMU lost in three straight games they were close, and the team played very well. The Baptist team thought they would have a very easy win and blow the East Coast team away, but if they play well they could beat La Verne.

In the men’s final match EMU faced Hope International, a Division I NAIA team. Finally the team was able to fight its way to victory. Even though Hope International had three match points, the Royals were able to fight them off and take victory in five games.

The men’s and women’s tennis teams headed to cloudy Hilton Head, South Carolina. The first challenge came with the limited number of players on each team. Both the men’s and women’s teams only had five players of the full six-player team roster. This meant the teams had to forfeit the six singles spot and the third doubles spot, making a victory all the more difficult. Another drawback was that the teams were unable to practice outside before spring break because of snow. So each team started its season with about three practices under their belts.

The women’s team fared well, winning one of their two matches, and having some outstanding personal performances. The women’s team defeated Ferrum College 5-0, and had the remainder of the match suspended because of rain. Even though the EMU royals lost to John Carroll 2-7, they had a couple of huge double victories. The rest of the women’s matches were rained out. It looks as if the women’s team will have a strong line up with the Muller sisters, Laura Miller, Stephanie Good, Sharon Krain, and the two stragglers that couldn’t make it to Hilton Head; Rachel Miller and Angela Boose.

The men’s team lost each of their matches against Ferrum and John Carroll and had their other two matches rained out. The first doubles duo of Drew Foderaro and Mike Barsteika had a couple of big wins, and the team shows potential. Even with a returning squad of four of the seven from last year, the team ought to still compete strongly. Players Jesse Bloser and Steve Owens will have to step up for some big wins as well as from returning players; Drew, Mike, and Justin and Sean Boer.

Tennis and Women’s Volleyball Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Mar. 5</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Juniata</td>
<td>L 1-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, Mar. 6</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Kenyon</td>
<td>L 4-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Mar. 7</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Goshen</td>
<td>L 8-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Mar. 8</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Bluffton</td>
<td>L 9-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, Mar. 9</td>
<td>Baseball vs. Guilford</td>
<td>L 0-3</td>
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</tbody>
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March 13, 2003

Wrap Up

Sunday, Mar. 2
Baseball vs. Bluffton, W 9-5

Monday, Mar. 3
Baseball vs. Kenyon, W 6-4

Tuesday, Mar. 4
Baseball vs. Thomas More, L 1-11
Baseball vs. Goshen, W 9-5
(M) Tennis vs. Ferrum, L 2-5
(W) Tennis vs. Ferrum, W 5-0

Wednesday, Mar. 5
Baseball vs. Juniata, L 5-11
(M) Tennis vs. John Carroll, L 2-5
(W) Tennis vs. John Carroll, L 2-7

Thursday, Mar. 6
Baseball vs. Kenyon, L 4-6

Friday, Mar. 7
Baseball vs. Goshen, L 8-15
Baseball vs. Bluffton, L 4-6

Saturday, Mar. 8
Baseball vs. Guilford, L 0-3, 3-17

Tuesday, Mar. 11
Softball vs. Bridgewater, L 0-8, 2-11
(M) Tennis vs. Washington & Lee, L 0-0

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