Drills Pay Off: Women’s Soccer Rolls Over NC Wesleyan in Season Opener.

By Kai Orenic
Sports Editor

The celebration began early for the lady Royals soccer team. Senior forward Ellie Lind scored eight minutes into the season and EMU defeated North Carolina Wesleyan 4-0 in Rocky Mount, N.C.

Freshman Kristina Robinson scored her first collegiate goal at 14:39 and Lind followed with her second goal late in the first half. Lind’s third goal at 77:25 was her 54th career goal; tops all time at EMU and the eighth highest total in Old Dominion Athletic Conference history.

Rochelle Yoder and Joy Shaeibble combined for the shutout.

EMU played to a rain shortened tie against Greensboro College, on the second day of the North Carolina Wesleyan Tournament. Neither team scored before rains made the field unplayable.

Upcoming Games:
- Sat 9/6 1pm JMU Club Home
- Wed 9/10 4:30pm Frostburg State Home

Season Record:
- Wins: 1
- Losses: 0
- Ties: 1
- (Home: 0-0 Away: 1-0-1 ODAC: 0-0)

Cross Country Team Lost Key Runners, Gained New Talent

By Wayne Paxton
Sports Writer

Sweating heat, driving rain, and other unpleasant weather extremes keep mortal students shut up cozily in their dorms. The cross country team just keeps running.

EMU’s coterie of hard-working harriers enter another season of grueling competition, and Lester Zook, now in his 15th season as head coach, is once again optimistic of his squad’s potential.

"We lost key runners to graduation, but gained several new athletes that work hard, and I expect good things of them," Zook, who ran cross country and track at Messiah College in Pennsylvania.

Justin Hawkins, Andrea Kniss, and Wendy Driver will serve as team captains of their respective teams. Hawkins is the defending state champion and all-region qualifier who will lead the men’s charge to the front of the pack. Kniss, a sophomore, and Driver, a junior, bring a solid work ethic to a women’s team who lost top runner and national qualifier Andrea Good to graduation.

One problem the new faces must overcome is the change in distance of the courses. College races are eight kilometers whereas high school events are only five.

"New runners have a tendency to start the race at too fast a pace. They could get away with it in short high school meets; here they will not be able to," Zook said.

The squad’s first meet is Saturday, September 6, at Anne Arundel Community College in Baltimore, Maryland. Hopefully the inaugural race of the 2003 season will be a precursor to future success.

Lady Royals Volleyball Squad Ready for Success

Coach Wideman has confidence in her current combination of players

By Wayne Paxton
Sports Writer

When a volleyball enthusiast talks about EMU, generally the men’s squad comes to the mind first.

That is a travesty.

The Lady Royal netters bring their own scrappy brand of the game to the court, and the upcoming season looks to be no different as head coach Ruth Ann Wideman, now in her eighth season as skipper, has recruited solid new players and retains talented upperclassmen, a combination that screams success.

"Technically this is a rebuilding year for us, but we are in an interesting position," Coach Ru said of her squad. "We have a team that can compete with the best in the ODAC and beyond."

Returning as team captains are Becky Langstrat and Steph Miller. Langstrat is a middle front hitter and blocker, a brick wall for frustrated opposing hitters. Miller, an opposite hitter, absolutely bludgeons the ball on serve; she holds the ODAC record with 16 aces in a match.

Coach Ru and her ladies start their quest to supplant perennial ODAC favorite Washington and Lee Wednesday at Shenandoah, then travel to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania for a 16-team tournament this weekend.

“We hope to stay injury free and win as many games as possible,” Wideman said.

“The girls are gelling well, and we look forward to a good season.”