**Diwali lights up the night with record turnout**

**Old Gold & Black Reporter**

By Maya Henry
Old Gold & Black Reporter

Diwali featured several dance performances celebrating the Indian New Year. More than 500 people show up for celebration of the Indian New Year.

"I have learned about the depth of the Indian community in Winston-Salem, which I was practically unaware of before, although I definitely had the desire to be involved," said Indrani Ashe, junior.

Veronica Cruickshank, director of Residence Life and Housing, was not available for comment. Connie Carson, director of Residential Life, said she plans to get the big questions answered, including how the meals will carry over from week to week and if the money in the meal plan will include money for buying books.

"We want to make sure that Wake Forest is in conformity to NCAA operating principles," said Zwick. The study focuses on three specific areas. "Sports are a huge part of Wake Forest's culture," Zwick said. "We want to examine how the university can improve the athletics program and also to improve the academic atmosphere for our student-athletes."

Robert Walsh, dean of the law school, is the chairman of the subcommittee on governance and rules. Anthony Hail, an associate dean of the college, chairperson of the subcommittee on academic integrity, Harold Holmes, an associate vice president and director of student services, is chairman of the subcommittee on equity, welfare and sportsmanship.

"The idea is to involve as many people as possible," Zwick said. Members serving on the steering committee include students and student-athletes, faculty, coaches, staff and trustees.

**University begins yearlong re-certification process with NCAA**

Committee established to examine athletic program in compliance with NCAA

By Joe Hafley
Old Gold & Black Reporter

The university has recently begun a campus-wide effort to re-certify its Division I athletics program through the NCAA accreditation program, whose purpose is to certify schools to ensure integrity in the athletics operations of colleges and universities.

The process began this month and is expected to be complete by this time next year, allowing the university to consider, identify and attempt to correct any problems within its athletics program. University President Thomas Hearn Jr. appointed Ken Zwick, the vice president for student life and instructional services, and Sandra Boyette, the vice president for university advancement, as co-chairs of the steering committee that oversees the study.

Zwick said that the program will be a mechanism used to prevent future problems in the university’s athletic program. "We want to make sure that Wake Forest is in conformity to NCAA operating principles," said Zwick.

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Members serving on the steering committee include students and student-athletes, faculty, coaches, staff and trustees. The goal of the NCAA is to ensure that the 848 institutions that participate in a variety of consistent groups inside and outside the conference are in compliance with the NCAA rules and regulations.

The idea is to involve as many people as possible, Zwick said. Members serving on the steering committee include students and student-athletes, faculty, coaches, staff and trustees. The goal of the NCAA is to ensure that the 848 institutions that participate in a variety of consistent groups inside and outside the conference are in compliance with the NCAA rules and regulations.

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Student groups raising funding rollercoaster

By Gerry Smith

Forests vendors including staff, in Benson 401. Over 50 Wake Forest University students and faculty will display handmade items that are scheduled to be sold during the Merry Market. The market will be held over the traditional fall break week.

Huntley

According to university Finan
cial, the confusion occurred when last
year’s treasurer, Steve Haberstroh, ‘94, failed to move the money raised out of the university-financed account.

“Haberstroh said he assumed that the school could distinguish between the amount of money

Four Hope House in Vienna and Wor

Traffic Violation

A student was struck by a car on Polo Road around 10 a.m. Nov. 3. The student was taken to Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center for treatment. He has been discharged from the hospital.

Alcohol and Drug Violation

University Police cited two students for failure to comply with a university policy on Nov. 5. The incident occurred in Benson 401 on the night of Nov. 3.

Misdemeanors

University Police responded to 40 calls from people throughout the fall semester. A total of 1,200 tickets were issued, with 342 of them being traffic tickets.

BRIGHTON

Screamin’ Demons Chair Chris Cagle, in a e-mail to the student body, said he anticipated a sellout for the Richmond game, leaving only 151 tickets available for the Preseason game.

Traffic Violation

A student was struck by a car on Polo Road around 10 a.m. Nov. 3. The student was taken to Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center for treatment. He has been discharged from the hospital.

Alcohol and Drug Violation

University Police issued a citation to an student who was intoxicated on Nov. 4. The incident occurred in the parking lot of the student center.

Misdemeanors

University Police cited two students for failure to comply with a university policy on Nov. 5. The incident occurred in Benson 401 on the night of Nov. 3.

Scholarship available

The school is offering a new scholarship for students who have a strong interest in public service. The scholarship is available to all students, regardless of their academic standing.

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Coffey was actually the catalyst in creating new ideas. The portfolio that won the award was based on 18 years of work,” Coffey explained. “We need the time to evaluate new ideas and to preserve the beauty of the campus. It for him. (Now) he has the plaque in his office.”

Coffey was quick to point out the progress that has been made on the Reynolda campus recently. “The department has planted 400 new trees on campus already for the arboretum and is in the process of adding parking decks,” he said. “The university has also added sidewalks in parking lots to make the campus more pedestrian-friendly. While the big plans are underway, 31 landscaping architects worked with Coffey to preserve the beauty of the campus. “A total of 1,500 hours per week is spent maintaining the grounds,” Coffey said.

An important aspect in sustaining the university’s landscaping beauty is the seasonal changing of the flowerbeds, Coffey said. “We make three changes a year in the winter, spring and summer,” he said. “Over the last few years, over 100,000 daffodils have been planted and thousands of tulips.”

 Sadly, Coffey said, a crucial member of the landscaping team is retiring this year—President Hearn. “President Hearn always wanted the landscaping to look like painting a canvas. Every year you do a little more.”

Continued from Page A1

Photo by Evan Blair

The university has also featured on the cover of the September 2004 issue of North Carolina’s magazine. The photograph used was of Wait Chapel.

Though the campus grounds were not featured, Coffey said he was still proud. “Really and truthfully, the architecture here is very beautiful,” he said. “Landscape enhances the beauty.”

The campus will not be rivaled in the PGMS competition for about 10 years, Coffey said. “We need the time to create new ideas. The portfolio that won was based on 18 years of work,” Coffey explained.

The university’s landscaping department, however, is not taking a break. “We continually work on a master plan each year, which is to get closer to the goal of a park-like atmosphere,” Coffey said.

Coffey was actually the catalyst in the process of the beautification of the university’s campus with his “master landscaping plan.” “For 30 years, the campus just sat with no new landscaping,” he said. “When I got here, it wasn’t pretty. We needed to bring it back to its original beauty and add new aspects.”

“Do I love it? Obviously,” he said. “It’s President Hearn always wanted the landscaping to look like painting a canvas. Every year you do a little more.”

A big improvement was the addition of brick walkways in the Quad, which are in their third year, Coffey said. He said that new projects such as turning the science quad into an arboretum, changing the kiosks in the residential quad, creating a stone wall in Davis Field and adding a fountain in front of Reynolds Hall are in the works and should be finished within 10 years.

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At a Glance

Medical professor gets nod for humanism award

Dr. Thomas J. Pulliam, the vice president for professional affairs and assistant professor of gastroenterology, was among the nominees for the 2004 Association of American Medical College's Humanism in Medicine Award.

Pulliam was nominated by the Organizational Student Representatives chapter of the School of Medicine.

The 64 nominees were chosen by their students for being positive and caring role models and physicians.

He was chosen for the award to advance the ideals of humanism in medicine, particularly in the context of standing by partnership, by recognizing the achievements and contributions of humanistic physicians.

Glamour inviting women to apply in Top 10 competition

Glamour is currently inviting students to apply in the 2005 Top 10 College Women Competition.

This competition recognizes the exceptional achievements and academic excellence of female college junior from across the country.

This is an opportunity for talented students to be rewarded for their leadership roles on campus and in the greater community.

The Top 10 College Women Competition depends on college and university administrators to help identify accomplished third-year women.

Winners receive $2,000, coverage in the October issue of Glamour, and the opportunity to meet with female professionals in their field, usually during a trip to New York City, where the winners have a chance to meet each other.

Students can receive an application by contacting Glamour directly.

The application must be received by the 10th of February 2005.

For questions regarding the competition, see Mary Gerardy, an associate vice president of student life, in Benson 411.

Glamour...inviting women to apply in Top 10 competition

Last year, university student Rosita Napi, ’04, won Glamour’s contest.

RASA and SG will be hosts of alternative to ‘Senior Fifth’

Resident Student Association and Student Government, with the sponsorship of the Student Activities Fee, will be providing a safe alternative to Senior Fifth at the football game versus UNC on Nov. 15.

RASA and SG will provide a free tailgate for students to play games, win prizes and decorative “spirit gear.”

Senior Laura Bergfield, SG speaker of the house and a member of RASA, said “We believe this event can become a welcomed tradition for the final home game, open to all students - Greek and non-Greek. Screamin’ Demon and Screamin’ Demon are an alternative to many unofficial traditions, we hope that this event can be something that is remembered positively and that students request its return in years to come.”

Because the tailgate has been named the “Pigskin Pigout,” RASA and SG have organized a 150-pound pig, provided by The Barbecue Lodge, to be roasted for the event.

They will also be providing a choice of three sides, bread, drinks and desserts. Those who do not care for barbecue can enjoy fried chicken or hamburgers and hot dogs.

RASA and SG will set up a spirit booth where students can decorate themselves for the game with gold and black face paint, temporary Deacon tattoos and ribbons.

A number of black plastic top hats will be available for students to customize with gold paint pens. The most creative hat will win a prize.

Beautiful Men's Casual Attire now available in the Barbecue Lodge.

RSAs and SGs have also planned a “Beat the Headliners” food drive all week for Crisis Council Ministries for Thanksgiving to complement the tailgate.

Vendor tables are set up in Benson University Center from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., to collect donations.

For every canned good or $1 donation, students will receive one raffle ticket. Winning raffle tickets will be drawn at the tailgate site half an hour prior to kickoff.

The tailgate will be located in the student parking lot of Groves Stadium and will be held from 10 a.m. to kickoff. The tailgate is free and open to all students.
Hearn: Address highlights past, looks toward future challenges

Continued from Page A1

we truly were a campus bursting at the seams,” she said. “What his administration’s building did, besides new construction, was to open space for departments like mine . . . that was able to move its many majors and growing faculty into a renovated space. It was life-giving.”

Significant gains were realized during the years that he was president, Hearn said, but, in some ways, the university has just begun to find national recognition. “The campus is still changing,” he said.

He said that the law and medical schools continue to flourish, and the divinity school is making progress to expand.

Hearn spoke of the substantial change in the gender spread of the university. When he was appointed in 1983, the male-female ratio was approximately 65 to 35. Today, the university is composed of almost equal numbers of men and women.

One of the more significant changes to affect the university in the coming year is Hearn’s retirement, and the future appointment of a successor.

Trustees who have been appointed to find a new president have been interviewing candidates and have said they expect to make the announcement early next year.

Hearn said he has high expectations for the new administration, and he detailed the improvements that are expected in future years.

He said that the Babcock School of Management will be moved from Charlotte because of space restraints and a move for the medical school is also possible as it continues to expand.

Also, the recent tuition increase for the 2005-06 academic year will enable a 3.5 percent faculty salary increase and 1 percent increase for department budgets to continue progress, Hearn said.

Hearn also stressed the importance of building the undergraduate endowment.

“We must reach $600 million,” he said. “That must continue with the next administration.”

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The faculty is an essential component of this maintenance, Hearn said, as they are to direct students to live the university’s motto Pro Humanitate.

The work invested in the student body creates dividends, Hearn said. “A great student body creates a great alumni body.”

Sophomore Kyle Smithers agreed. “What he said is completely true,” he said. “The work of the faculty determines the success of the students and the university.”

Included in his list of what the next administration should do, Hearn apologized to his audience and said that he regretted not establishing a strong enough relationship with his faculty.

“I should have spent more time with them,” he said.

We were named one of Fortune magazine’s “100 Best Companies To Work For.”

And you can bet it wasn’t because of the free coffee.

Job perks are great. And at Ernst & Young we happen to think the most important ones are those that help our employees grow. That’s why we’ve given them access to some of the best professional development programs in the country. As well as the opportunity to work on some of the most prestigious brands in the world. In turn, Fortune magazine recognized us as one of the “100 Best Companies To Work For” six years in a row. So if you’re looking for a great place to work, look for us on campus. Maybe we can grab a cup of coffee.

ey.com/us/careers

President Thomas K. Hearn Jr. addresses a 200-member audience at his State of the University address Nov. 9.
Democrats need to redefine their election strategy.

Tom Clark & Angel Hsu
Editors in Chief

Megan Donachue & Jennifer Gow
Assistant Editors

News: Brian Carlo and Jessica Pichard, editors.

Editorial: David Diamond and Angela Gerg, editors.

Design: Susan Lin, Robin Berg, and Alli Allen, assistant editors.

Life: Gail H. Ford, editor.

Editors of the week: Melissa K. Fetterman, editorial assistant.

The Student Newspaper of Wake Forest University

Politics are a product that is being sold by the media and corporations.

I spent a lot of time alone in my room after the election, thinking about the future of my country. My ideals were challenged and I spent a lot of time alone. I thought about how I could have won, as if there was a way to change the outcome.

The victory of justice over inequality is a priority for all of us, because the power to change the world is in our hands. When we make a decision, we must consider the impact of our actions on others.

Kevin Jones

The views expressed in all editorials and advertisements contained within this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Old Gold & Black. Send guest editorials to letter@wfu.edu. The deadline for submission is 5 p.m. the Monday before publication. To view editorials policies, visit wfu.edu/students/oldgoldblack.

Democrats become a commodity

Political parties are a product that is being sold by the media and corporations. It's important to understand the impact of our actions and to consider the impact on others.

Kevin Jones is a senior political science major.

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Mullet hair threatens equality

European rendition of classic hair-dos subverts its equalizing potential.

It is raining hair here in Europe. Minute filaments of dead cells are washing up as social cacophonies at the U.S. like unshelved. Yes, friends, I am referring to the mullet, the second half of which is usually dead so we know it. I speak of the mullet.

Mulletism, like the interlocking courts of judicial Merrick Garland, is an ode to a tautened, fountained. Thousands of U.S. citizens, in the religious fervor of the hair-flick from stylists,马拉松地 maintaining high levels of sexual alienation. However, like a smart cat to an SUV, the euro-style is more effective, refined and elegant. Even the most conservative level does not cascade downwards, sometimes prevailing lengths of three feet as does its American counterpart. It is not to say, Mr. 29 mullet could be quite the insurance to numerous portals at yearly Dayton Beach R&B conventions does not accompany beer-stained tank tops. The mullet, or EM, is gelled, combed, cured and groomed as a mother would need in a newborn twin.

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No matter what clothes you wore, amount of makeup you wore or money you made, escape from the mullet would mean irreparable. Insults would not sting, for the beauty of the mullet is that she too has a ridiculous mullet. Eventually a humble boundary would be reached.

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Electoral college is undemocratic

Outdated electoral system misrepresents electorate and is simply unnecessary.

The Electoral College is evil. OK, so in reality, perhaps it is less evil and more undemocratic world. It does not mean being cut off from manipulation by the federal government. Without the Electoral College, the United States government, secessionist American communities could become even more prosperous than they are now.

The time is right for a viable, effective reform movement. The U.S. military is preoccupied over China, Iran and terrorism. This new regime would love to see California secessionist to attack. The 1960s Democratic electoral votes with it. Then the rest of this nation will give up. They should get those “John Kerry 04” signs out of the garbage, dust them off and elect the Democratic presidential candidate. The People’s Republic of Hollywood can house all the comedians, Jessewitz with thedn, Frank Stella and the original Texas, and Lebbonville will be the most happening place on the continent.

The time is right for a divided nation to do it even further. U.S. citizens will vote on everything, so we should agree to disagree.

Mullet hair threatens equality

Scott Hurff

Electoral college is undemocratic

Today, in a connected society which can be anathema to the important issues, the need for a separate electorate has fallen by the wayside. Not only does the Electoral College simply not provide a true political process, it also hampers and impedes the democratic process. The American people deserve a president chosen by their own votes, not elected by separate electors.

Chris Magiera

that elects our country’s leader is undemocratic, an anachronism in a world where the system itself is necessary. The Electoral College was instituted by the founding fathers to try to find a fair and workable way to elect the president of a country that was highly divided. At the time, small states wanted more representation and large states wanted less. The large states sought to keep those things far away.

Furthermore, campaigning was considered expensive and the most general public knew very little about those running for president.

Therefore, the idea of indirect election of the president through separate electors was created.

This original system has changed slightly. Currently, each state is allotted a number of electors equal to their representation in the House of Representatives.

Jack Lyles is a senior music major.

Electoral college is undemocratic

That's right. The Electoral College is undemocratic. In 1988, the combined voting victory was a mandate of the American people. In 1992, the Hispanic vote.

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European rendition of classic hair-dos subverts its equalizing potential.

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FEARED OR LOVED? CITY OR COUNTRY? DOG OR CAT?*

you have priorities, let them guide you as you build your career, define what’s important to you and see what’s important to others.

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Battle for BCS berth brewing

By Peter Bergman
Assistant Sports Editor

With three weeks remaining, the ACC football race is surprisingly tight. In a season full of surprises, six teams are in positions to grab the ACC crown, with Virginia and Virginia Tech deadlocked on top. This past weekend was the last season of ACC football, with Virginia Tech and Virginia Tech locked at 24-13 in the championship game. However, theACC regular season champion will earn the automatic bowl bid, so both teams are still in contention. Currently, Virginia Tech is ranked No. 1 in the ACC, while Virginia is ranked No. 2. This past weekend, Virginia Tech faced off against Duke, while Virginia played at home against Miami.

The Deacons narrowly escaped being sent home early from the ACC Tournament. Senior Claire Laubach stickhandles between two North Carolina defenders in the third quarter of the game. (Photo courtesy of Wake Forest University)

Virginia Tech and Miami both won their respective games, with Virginia Tech winning 24-13 and Miami winning 12-7. This weekend's games will be crucial in determining the ACC regular season champion.

By Don Pogoda

Virginia and Virginia Tech are locked in a very tight race for the ACC regular season championship. Virginia Tech is currently ranked No. 1 in the ACC, while Virginia is ranked No. 2. This past weekend, Virginia Tech faced off against Duke, while Virginia played at home against Miami.

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Field hockey knocked out of ACCs by

By Caitlin O'Grady
Old Gold & Black Reporter

The Deacons were denied the chance to play for their third straight ACC Championship. They lost their semifinal game in overtime against North Carolina, 2-1. Prior to this game, the Deacons set a school record for points in a season, with 12-2-2. In the ACC Tournament, they were seeded fourth in the tournament, and faced Duke in the first round. The Deacons lost 2-1, and were eliminated from the tournament.

Senior Claire Laubach stickhandles between two North Carolina players in the Deacs' ACC semifinal loss Nov. 5. See Pressbox, Page B3

The Deacs made a game of the seemingly inevitable Duke game but couldn't overcome the Blue Devil defense. They managed to put the ball in the Wake Forest goal after getting by four Duke defenders, but it was too little too late for the Deacs. Virginia Tech ended up outscoring Wake Forest 2-1 for the 103-57 win in their exhibition game Nov. 4.

The much anticipated Paul versus Paul matchup came to a close with a slam dunk from Chris Paul. Chris stole the ball from C.J. about 30 seconds into the game. Chris ended up with just seven points on the night, while C.J. added 17. However, it was C.J.'s brother Chris who stole the show in this match-up. After defeating Western Michigan and Duke, Virginia Tech is looking to continue their winning streak against Miami on the road.

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Men's soccer slips past Va. Tech in ACC tourney first round

By Peter Bergman
Assistant Sports Editor

Ellington's overtime goal sets up second-round date with nemesis Virginia

By Don Pogoda

Old Gold & Black Reporter

The top-seeded and eighth-ranked Deacons narrowly escaped being sent home early from the ACC Tournament Nov. 10 in Cary, North Carolina. The Deacons' first-round opponent, the Virginia Cavaliers, kept the game at a scoreless deadlock throughout the regulation and overtime periods. The Deacons ultimately prevailed, scoring the winning goal in the second overtime period. The Cavaliers have now been eliminated from the tournament.

The Deacs closed out their regular season campaign with a record of 12-4-1, 5-2 in the ACC. The final loss came at the hands of Duke on Nov. 5. Without the services of senior Alex Leesley, junior Jonnie Mone and senior Michael Robinson, the Deacons were able to overcome the Virginia Cavaliers in the ACC Championship game. Although they lost to Duke 3-2 in their season opener, Virginia's loss to Maryland gave the Deacs' sole possession of the championship and the No. 1 seed in tournament.

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THE SKINNY:
Laubach anchors the defense and takes all the penalty corners for the No. 1-ranked field hockey team. On the season she already has eight goals and seven assists for a total of 23 points. Her percentage of shots on goal is tops on the team at 0.818, and, as a senior, she is one of the team’s leaders. After a heartbreaking ACC Tournament loss to North Carolina, Laubach will need to rally her troops to get ready for the NCAA Tournament in which the Final Four this season is being staged at Kentner Stadium. If the Deacs can make it that far, they will have a sizeable home-field advantage.

Women’s soccer team sweeps in ACC Awards on Nov. 9.

After their 2-3 loss to Duke and the acquiring of the No. 1 seed in the ACC Tournament, the men’s soccer team was honored with multiple ACC Awards on Nov. 9.

All-American senior forward Scott Sealy was honored as the Offensive Player of the Year, while junior defender Michael Parkhurst was named the Defensive Player of the Year.

Additionally, Head Coach Jay Vidovich was named the ACC Coach of the Year, his second honor in three years, after leading the Deacs to a record of 12-4-1 and 5-2 in the ACC.

AP ranks men’s basketball team No. 2 behind Kansas

The men’s basketball team was picked No. 2 nationwide in the Associated Press poll on Nov. 8 – the team’s highest preseason AP ranking in school history. The Deacs came past only No. 1 ranked Kansas, receiving 33 votes. The last Deac to attain this honor was sophomore Tim Duncan, ’97.

Joining Paul on the All-American squad are N.C. State’s Julius Hodge, Mississippi State’s Lawrence Roberts and Kansas’ Wayne Simien.

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For the Amateur
Basketball, bowling and indoor soccer signups begin, Nov. 22 and last through Dec. 3. The winter sports season will begin after the winter break on Jan. 31.

There is limited space available, so students are encouraged to sign up early.

Deac of the Week

In addition to scoring his first goal of his career in a 3-2 loss to Duke in soccer, Parkhurst was named the ACC Defensive Player of the Year.

The junior defender is also contending for All-American honors as well as being a Hermann Trophy candidate: an award that has been given annually since 1967 to the top soccer player in the nation.

Parkhurst was has been a key part of the Deacon defense, which had eight shutouts in this season alone.

Making Us Proud

Carroll, a starting midfielder for D.C. United, scored what turned out to be the game-winning penalty kick in the New England Revolution in the MLS semifinals. After playing the overtime and two overtime, the teams were tied 3-3, which sent the match to penalty kicks. Through the first five rounds, the teams each converted three kicks. Carroll then stepped up in the sixth round and converted his shot, and, after Nick Rimando made a save of the extra Carroll goal, United will appear in the MLS finals at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 14 on ABC.

Photo by Nick Babladelis/Old Gold & Black

This Week

Thursday, Nov. 11
Men’s basketball vs. Winston-Salem State; 7 p.m., Joel Coliseum

Friday, Nov. 12
Women’s basketball vs. BBall Travelers; 7 p.m., Joel Coliseum
Men’s soccer vs. Virginia (ACC Tournament); 5:30 p.m., Cary

Saturday, Nov. 13
Cross country at NCAA regional; 10 a.m., Greenville
Football vs. North Carolina; noon, Groves Stadium
Volleyball vs. Virginia Tech; 6 p.m., Reynolds Gym
Field hockey at NCAA Tournament; time TBD, Cambridge, Mass.

Sunday, Nov. 14
Men’s soccer at NCAA Tournament; 1 p.m., Cary
Field hockey at NCAA Tournament; time TBD, Cambridge, Mass.

Monday, Nov. 15
Women’s golf at National Collegiate Championship; all day, Howey-in-the-Hills, Fla.

Tuesday, Nov. 16
Women’s golf at National Collegiate Championship; all day, Howey-in-the-Hills, Fla.

Game of the Week
Basketball vs. GW
7 p.m., Nov. 15 at Joel Coliseum

Here we go. After a plethora of offseason hype in the direction of the men’s basketball team, the season finally opened against George Washington at home to begin the pressure NIT. The Colonials are no slouch, as they were recently voted the favorite to take the A-10 west division, beating out rival Xavier.

Old Gold & Black Sports
Volleyball falls to 11-15 overall after tough road trip

Deacs defeat Clemson on the road but fall at Ga. Tech and Duke.

By Boomer Kennedy
Old Gold & Black Reporter

After losing their first eight conference matches, the Wake Forest volleyball team came into their Nov. 5 match against Clemson with a 1-7 ACC record. The Deacs were able to keep the curtain from falling off the sixth-places on the Tigers, as they defeated them 3-1.

However, Wake Forest ran into its third straight conference opponent when the Tigers defeated the Deacs three games to one. The Deacs may have been hanging on too much in the first game of the match, losing to the Tigers 25-16.

In the second game, Wake Forest was able to take it from the Deacs. Wake unable to stay hot, falling to the road 3-1.

The Deacs were able to keep having won two out of their last four games, but fell at their loss at the hands of the Tigers.

In Wake Forest's 5-3 match against Clemson, the Tigers led the first game but were unable to take it from the Deacs. Wake Forest finished 1-2-3 to seal the game 30-28. With the win, the Deacs moved on to the second game, where Wake Forest finished 1-2-3 to a comfortable 24-15.

The Deacs then defeated the Tigers 3-0 to close out the season.

Continued from Page B1

Soccer:

Haas, '04, last year's NCAA Player of the Year, and his brother, Head Coach Jerry Haas, were leading the Deacs to a second-place finish at the Carpet Capital Collegiate, played Oct. 15-16.

"I called him every night," Jerry Haas said. "I was really excited. Saturday night I told him, 'Let's both have a good week.'"

While the Deacs lost 3-2, they knew they had nothing to hang their heads about.

\"I am really excited for the future of our team," Jerry Haas said. \"We feel like we can only get better. I think that we have showed that every guy on our team is capable of putting out a performance and helping us win games.\"

With their win over Clemson, the Deacs move to 11-15 overall and 3-12 in conference play. The Deacs' final home match of the year is Nov. 13 when they host Virginia Tech at 6 p.m. in Reynolds Gym.

Moore leads golf to second place finish

By Ben Phillips
Old Gold & Black Reporter

It was a good weekend for Wake Forest's golf program. During a span in which former Deacon John Petters won a Venice Beach PGA Tour Championship, his brother, Head Coach Jay Vidovich, was leading the Deacs to a second-place finish at the Carpet Capital Collegiate, played Oct. 15-16.

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**Promotions aside, Final Four needs student attendance**

**By Jason Mazda**

The NCAA Field Hockey Final Four will take place Nov. 13-14 on campus, and Sports Marketing has set out to try to keep Kenmore Stadium to its capacity of 3,500 spectators.

In 11 home games this season, the Deacons have had 2,355 spectators, an average of about 214 per game. However, director of Sports Marketing Mike Hauser has spearheaded an aggressive effort to top the attendance figures from last year’s Final Four, which was held at the University of Massachusetts. As recently as Nov. 8, signs were being put up at high-traffic areas in the community, including a large banner outside Kentner Stadium. That banner replaced one that was originally in that spot last month but was stolen.

Hauser has spearheaded an aggressive effort to top the attendance figures from last year’s Final Four, which was held at the University of Massachusetts.

The biggest challenge, Hauser said, is that Winston-Salem is not a hotbed of field hockey participation. However, it should help that the ACC has been dominant in field hockey recently.

- Last season, the Deacons were joined in the Final Four by Duke and Maryland. This season, prior to the ACC Tournament Nov. 4-7, those three teams and North Carolina were the top four teams in the national rankings. A fifth, Virginia, was ranked fifth.
- "We’re in one of the most successful eras of field hockey," Hauser said. "It’s not unforeseeable to possibly see Carolina, Duke, Wake, Virginia or Maryland make it into the Final Four.
- "We’re under the pressure of following a great host, so that’s quite a challenge."
- "Our goal is to beat those numbers."

Hauser said one of the most effective strategies, he hopes, will be the 30,000 postcards that were sent out.

They were sent to participants in youth field hockey leagues, every high school in North Carolina, Virginia, South Carolina and Tennessee that participates in field hockey, and everyone who has participated in field hockey camps at Wake Forest, UNC, Duke, Virginia and Maryland.

"It’s important that this not just be a Wake Forest event but that it represents the ACC as well," Hauser said.

As recently as Nov. 8, signs were being put up at high-traffic areas in the community.

There are also signs around campus, including a large banner outside Kentner Stadium. That banner replaced one that was originally in that spot last month but was stolen.

"I want them to be so blown away and so impressed that they want to come here every year," Hauser said.

As for the student ticket fee, Hauser said he appealed to the NCAA to allow them to grant students free admission, but was denied.

Even though the athletic department had already committed to paying the difference if a certain amount of tickets are not sold, the NCAA refused to change its policy.

Still, Hauser said, "students on campus feel like $5 is not very much money to spend to support your student athletes hopefully bidding for their third national championship."

"I know our team is ecstatic that they have the potential to be hosting the event and be playing in front of their home crowd."

Hauser’s biggest goal, he said, is to make Wake Forest stand out among the 30 or so locations that host NCAA Championship events each year.

"We want to be one of the shining lights of those 30 championship events and not somewhere they regret coming to Wake Forest," he said.

"It’s not unforeseeable to possibly see Carolina, Duke, Wake, Virginia or Maryland make it into the Final Four."

Overall, Hauser is confident that his department has done everything possible to promote this game. The two remaining factors are out of their control: weather and the $5 for student admission.

"It’s going to be the type of event where we will probably sell a lot of tickets on walk-up," he said. "Whatever your attendance is based on walk-up, weather is critical."

**Hockey: Team misses title**

The game went back and forth with each team putting pressure on their opponents. With 16 minutes left in the half, North Carolina took a penalty corner that ended in a goal, leading the score at 1-1.

Though each team had a penalty corner, neither was able to score.

The Tar Heels responded with a shot that was blocked by a diving stop from Hokies goalie Kristina Gagliardi.

However, with just four minutes left in the overtime period, North Carolina managed to put the ball in the net after a free hit, thus ending the game.

North Carolina went on to defeat Maryland in the title match to become the ACC Tournament Champions.

Next, the Deacs will compete in the NCAA Tournament, starting with a match at Harvard Nov. 12.

"Hopefully, that one will last," Hauser said.

In the upcoming week before the tournament, Hauser and Sports Marketing plans to put even more signs out, send an email to the members of Scrimmage Demons and promote the event at the Nov. 13 football game and the Nov. 18 basketball game.

At the football game, a sold-out match-up against UNC, exit cards will be handed out after the game promoting the field hockey Final Four.

At the basketball game Nov. 18, the second round of the Pressbox Nut - Hauser said there are plans to hand out entrance cards, set up ticket booths and possibly honor the team at halftime of the game.

Overall, Hauser is confident that his department has done everything possible to promote this game.

The two remaining factors are out of their control: weather and the $5 for student admission.

"It’s going to be the type of event where we will probably sell a lot of tickets on walk-up," he said. "None of the above events are going to happen; tough on students.""}

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Hauser’s biggest goal, he said, is to make Wake Forest stand out among the 30 or so locations that host NCAA Championship events each year.
Midtown cafes and desserties is the perfect spot to order a cup of coffee and enjoy one of the many options they offer. From classic flavors like chocolate and vanilla to more unique options such as horchata and rose water, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Midtown cafes and desserties also offers a variety of drinks to choose from, including traditional brewed coffee, espresso based drinks, and specialty beverages. Whether you prefer a simple latte or a more complex drink like a salted caramel mocha, they have got you covered.

In addition to their drinks menu, Midtown cafes and desserties is also known for their delicious pastries and desserts. From classic options like cookies and bars to more unique treats such as house-made brownies and cheesecakes, their dessert offerings are sure to satisfy any sweet tooth.

One of the most popular offerings at Midtown cafes and desserties is their selection of cakes and pies. They offer a variety of flavors and styles, with both classic options and more experimental flavors available. Whether you prefer a classic chocolate cake or something a bit more unusual like a pumpkin spice pie, they have got you covered.

In conclusion, Midtown cafes and desserties is the perfect spot for those looking for a cozy atmosphere, delicious coffee and tea, and an extensive selection of baked goods. From classic flavors and drinks to unique options, they have something for everyone to enjoy.

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By Carolyn Harbaugh
Old Gold of Black Reviewer

I F E

101 in a while. Honestly, the single-player is a bit tedious and ultimately fails to entertain. Simply honing your bongo-beating skills is a progression of screen symbols that is not fun, but, by adding elements such as a Puny Perforator, you can create a more immersive experience.

When it comes to the Nintendo GameCube platform for $50, "Donkey Konga" challenges players to match on-screen bongos or drums by either playing on a bongo controller to play along to a song or by using a Wii game control. Players can choose between both single-player and multiplayer modes, either unlocking different levels of song difficulty or progressing through against friends.

While most games today utilize endless levels and repetitive gameplay, "Donkey Konga" is a game that will keep you coming back for more. Whether you are a bongo pro or just starting out, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

In conclusion, "Donkey Konga" is a game that is sure to please both bongo players and new players alike. With its unique concept and engaging gameplay, it is sure to be a hit with gamers of all ages.

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About to Break Out

Slow Andy, a band that has its roots in Wilkesboro, matured from garage rock to folk and bluegrass over past six years.

By Jae Haley
Local Gold & Black Reporter

"Donkey Konga" lets players test their perception skills. While the song selections are fairly eclectic, the game also features name-like titles like "The Locomotive" and the Mario Brothers theme song. Today, "Donkey Konga" is one of the more popular releases of the game, and it is priced at a standard $50.

In conclusion, "Donkey Konga" is a game that offers something for everyone. Whether you are a bongo player or just looking for a fun and challenging game, "Donkey Konga" is sure to be a hit.
What's your favorite position?

He said

She said

There's a lot of emotional baggage to the question of one's favorite position, even in a casual setting. But if we're being honest, it's a question that we all inevitably grapple with, whether we like to admit it or not. The answer, however, is not always as simple as one might think.

For some, the question is a matter of personal preference. They have a particular position that they enjoy and feel comfortable with, and for them, the answer is straightforward. Others, however, may find the question more challenging. They may not have a preference or may not even think about the question in the same way.

But for those who do have a preference, the answer can be deeply personal. It can be a reflection of their personality, their desires, and their relationships. For some, the position can be a symbol of freedom, of control, or of submission. For others, it can be a way to express themselves or to connect with their partner.

In the end, the answer to the question of one's favorite position is ultimately a matter of personal choice. And while there may be no right or wrong answer, it's important to remember that everyone's experience is unique and should be respected.
2004-05 DEMON DEACON MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

11/15/2004 vs. George Washington (Preseason NIT) 7 p.m.
11/18/2004 vs. VCU or American (Preseason NIT) 7 p.m.
11/22/2004 vs. Yale 7 p.m.
11/24/2004 Preseason NIT Semifinals in New York, NY TBA
11/26/2004 Preseason NIT Finals in New York, NY 7 p.m.
12/01/2004 at Illinois (ACC/Big Ten Challenge) 7 p.m.
12/04/2004 vs. Richmond 2 p.m.
12/13/2004 vs. Temple 7 p.m.
12/15/2004 vs. Elon 7 p.m.
12/22/2004 at New Mexico 9 p.m.
12/29/2004 vs. N.C. A&T 7 p.m.
01/02/2005 at Virginia 5:30 p.m.
01/03/2005 at Clemson 7 p.m.
01/05/2005 vs. Maryland 7 p.m.
01/08/2005 vs. North Carolina 1:30 p.m.
01/09/2005 at Florida State 7 p.m.
01/12/2005 at Cincinnati 1 p.m.
01/14/2005 at Georgia Tech 8 p.m.
01/15/2005 vs. Miami 4 p.m.
02/02/2005 vs. Duke 9 p.m.
02/03/2005 at Virginia Tech 3 p.m.
02/06/2005 vs. N.C. State 7 p.m.
02/08/2005 vs. Florida State 1:30 p.m.
02/10/2005 at Miami 7 p.m.
02/12/2005 at Georgia Tech 8 p.m.
02/15/2005 at Maryland 2 p.m.
02/17/2005 at Miami 7 p.m.
02/19/2005 at Duke 6:30 p.m.
02/21/2005 vs. Longwood 7 p.m.
02/24/2005 vs. Virginia 2 p.m.
02/27/2005 vs. Virginia Tech 7 p.m.
03/02/2005 vs. Georgia Tech 7 p.m.
03/04/2005 N.C. State 7 p.m.
03/06/2005 N.C. State 7 p.m.
03/10/2005 ACC Tournament in Washington, D.C. TBA
03/11/2005 ACC Tournament in Washington, D.C. TBA
03/13/2005 ACC Tournament in Washington, D.C. TBA
03/15/2005 ACC Tournament in Washington, D.C. 1 p.m.
Paul ready to lead Deacs to the top

By Jason Mazda
Sports Editor

One of the biggest reasons for the hype surrounding the Deacs as this season approaches is star sophomore point guard Chris Paul.

And while Paul is incredibly talented, it might be his modest personality and team-first attitude that make the Deacs the best.

While enigmatic North Carolina star Rashad McCants made headlines a few weeks ago by saying his time at UNC was like serving jail time, Paul’s most notable quote this preseason has been one that epitomizes his personality:

“People ask me, ‘What’s it like, maybe being the best or one of the best players in the country?’” Paul said. “And I’m thinking I might not even be the best player in my dorm room or on my own team … so it’s kind of crazy.”

Paul is that rarest of players who has other-worldly basketball skills but is also just as good a person.

On the court, he is a favorite to win the Wooden Award as the nation’s best player this season. Last season he averaged 14.8 points – second on the team – and led the team with 5.9 assists and 2.7 steals per game while starting all 31 games and playing a team-high 31.4 minutes per game.

Paul ranked second in the ACC in assist-to-turnover-ratio with 183 assists and just 82 turnovers. He shot 49.6 percent from the field. He also enters the 2004-05 season with at least four assists in 20 consecutive games.

Paul beat out Duke’s Luol Deng – who was the seventh pick in the NBA Draft shortly after – for the ACC Rookie of the Year award and was named National Freshman of the Year by many sources, including The Sporting News, College Insider and Dick Vitale. He was also named to the All-ACC third team and All-ACC defensive team and was named an honorable mention All-American by the Associated Press.

Entering this season, Paul has been named a preseason-first team All-American by the AP, garnering more votes than any other player – the first Wake Forest player since Tim Duncan.

He can score almost at will from anywhere on the court, and his playmaking abilities make every one of his teammates better.

He is also the Deacs’ leader on the court – “an extension of the coaching staff,” he said.

It would be easy to rattle off things that writers from all over the country have said in praise of Paul. But perhaps the most telling comment came from arguably the greatest player to ever play basketball, Michael Jordan, when Paul was at his camp in Santa Barbara, Calif. over the summer.

“We were playing pick-up one night,” Paul said. “He passed me the ball, called me John Stockton, and told me to knock it down, so that was kind of funny. I made the shot so that made it even better.”

Paul raised his stock even more this summer by leading the U.S. team to the gold medal in the World Championship for Young Men Qualifying Tournament of the Americas. Playing mostly alongside junior Deacon teammate Justin Gray in the U.S. backcourt, Paul averaged 10.5 points, 7.6 assists and 1.8 steals per game.

On a team loaded with talent, he played 38 of 40 minutes in the championship game.

Paul said that experience was “unbelievable” and that he will be even better now that he is back to playing with teammates with whom he has been playing for over a year.

“I had to get to know different personalities over the span of a couple days,” he said of the experience. “So therefore you have to learn where this guy wants the ball, and this guy… and my teammates, I’ve been with them all day every day for the past year, so that should help me out a lot.”

But Paul has not gotten caught up in the hype of being called one of the top few players in the nation by almost every expert around. One of the first things he talks about in interviews is what he and the team still need to work on.

“There is no secret to our weakness from last year which was defense,” he said. “It’s all about communication. We have to talk more and you just have to keep your man in front of you.”

Paul said he learned a lot from last season’s loss to St. Joseph’s in the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament. In that game, St. Joe’s point guards Jameer Nelson and Tyronne Beal played extremely physically.

Paul said he has been working a lot in the offseason on bulking up so he can add that physical dimension to his game. As for the question everyone seems to want to ask him these days, Paul said, he plans to stay in school past this year.

“I love Wake Forest and there is nothing to do except study, study, for now, though, he is focused on college basketball. Paul said, “I plan on staying as long as they keep me on scholarship.”

For now, though, he is focused on this season.

“Right now our first goal is to beat George Washington (in the season opener Nov. 15),” he said. “But after that, anything less than a national championship this year and I think my teammates and I will feel like the season was a failure.”

Hometown: Lewisville
Year: Sophomore
Height: 6’0”
Weight: 175 lbs.
Position: Guard
2003-04 PPG: 14.9

Prosser says: Tremendous leader. He’s gotten stronger and improved his shooting. He’s got to be able to guard better, and he seems determined to do that.
Visser looks to build off freshman campaign

By Ryan Durham
Old Gold & Black Reporter

Coming out of nowhere, as impossible as that might seem, sophomore Kyle Visser used his 6-foot-11-inch frame to make quite an impression on Demon Deacon fans last year off Head Coach Skip Prosser’s bench. Visser, hailing from Grand Rapids, Mich., brings more than just his impressive size to the team.

Visser was bold enough to say last year that he came to Wake Forest for its academics. This probably paid off because he was voted most likely to have a 4.0 this semester by his teammates. However, Visser brings those smarts to the court as well as the classroom. And on the court, he has a difficult season ahead of him.

“The expectations of me are a little more than last year,” Visser said.

To cope with this rise in expectations in the off-season, Visser, who just recently turned 19, spent most of his time this summer working on his all-around game and “getting bigger.” He added another 25 lbs. of muscle to his already imposing frame, putting him at 250, to enable himself help the team even more this year in its quest for the national championship.

Visser had an outstanding freshman season last year, which came as quite a surprise to many basketball fans. He is one of only four scholarship players on the Demon Deacons who is not from North Carolina.

In fact, the Deacon coaching staff just stumbled upon him while recruiting another high school player in Michigan. Therefore, Deacon fans did not know what to expect of him last season.

Once Visser got on the court, he proved that he is more than just a big body in the middle. Deacon fans now refer to him affectionately as “Viss.”

Visser played in 29 games, averaging 12.4 minutes, 4.6 points and 2.4 rebounds during this time.

His breakout game came in the Deacs’ 119-114 overtime win at North Carolina, when he scored 13 points on 6-of-8 shooting and added eight rebounds.

Perhaps most importantly, he was able to fill in as the starting center for a seven-game chunk of the season during which then-sophomore center Eric Williams was struggling.

The Deacons were on a 2-6 slide before inserting Visser into the starting lineup. Even after that, Visser was solid off the bench.

“I just want to add to last year,” Visser said.

Accomplishing that could be difficult, though, because Visser backs up another ferocious behemoth on the Wake Forest squad, Williams.

While Visser and the rest of the Demon Deacons are poised to take the ACC and possibly the nation by storm this year, the team that he wants to beat the most is North Carolina.

“We want to take the ACC and get deep into the tournament,” Visser said. “Carolina is the team to beat.”

Whatever the outcome may be, one thing is for sure – Visser will be a force to be reckoned with this season for the Deacs.

His large frame, solid skills and his smarts on and off the court make Visser a very valuable component on this year’s team and a vital part of its drive to bring home the NCAA Championship this spring.

He may only be a 19-year-old sophomore, but Visser fills enormous shoes that many cannot, and Deacon fans can expect to see a lot more of him over the next three seasons.
Joyce finds ways to contribute as 10th man

By Jason Mazda
Sports Editor

Two of the most frequently cited strengths of this year’s Demon Deacons are depth and team chemistry, and junior guard Richard Joyce is a big part of that.

Joyce is that rare player who produces whenever he is called on, and he is able to maintain a positive attitude despite not getting much playing time.

“Hopefully, I can just step in and get some garbage minutes this season, because there are a lot of good players on our team,” Joyce said.

Last season, the 6-foot-5-inch Joyce made the most of that trash time. In 44 minutes, he scored 27 points. That gave him a team-leading average of 0.61 points per minute. Joyce was also second on the team in steals per minute.

While he played the least of any of the Deacs’ scholarship players last season, Joyce knows that he could be pressed into action if injuries befall some of the Deacon guards.

“I’m ready to step in,” he said. “As you’ve seen in the past, I’m not gun shy. But hopefully nobody will go down.”

Refusing to be discouraged by lack of playing time, Joyce worked hard in the offseason to improve his ball handling as well as his defensive skills.

“I think ball handling has been one of my downfalls along with my defense,” he said. “Hopefully my work in the offseason will pay off.”

Shooting, on the other hand, has never been much of a problem for Joyce. Last season, he made nine of his 21 field goal attempts for a better percentage than Gray, who was first-team All-ACC. He was also 7-of-8 from the free-throw line, making him a reliable substitute late in games for Head Coach Skip Prosser.

And, while he didn’t take many shots from beyond the arc last season, Joyce showed that he can be dangerous from long range by making six of his 20 three-pointers his freshman year.

While he knows that he will not likely be playing more than a few minutes per game, Joyce, a native of nearby Mount Airy, is enjoying his time at Wake Forest.

“It’s been a lifelong dream of mine ever since I was a little kid to play in the ACC,” he says.

When Joyce arrived at Wake Forest in 2002, he was part of a team that, besides senior Josh Howard, had all freshmen and sophomores in its rotation. That team was picked to finish sixth in the ACC.

Now, just two years later, the Deacs are being chosen by many experts to win the national championship. Joyce credits the team’s hard work with this huge change.

“When we got here, we were the underdogs,” he said. “Now, I think our hard work and our coaches’ dedication is paying off. Hopefully this year, we won’t let the media and all the hype bring us down.”
Star-studded Heels poised for a title run

Head Coach: Roy Williams

2003-04 Record: 19-11, 8-8 ACC, second round of NCAA tournament

Key Returners: Senior forwards Jawad Williams and Jackie Manuel, senior guard Melvin Scott, junior guard Raymond Felton, junior guard/forward Rashad McCants and junior center Sean May.

Key Newcomers: Freshman forward Marvin Williams and freshman guard Quentin Thomas.

Stunning Stats: Despite missing the NCAA Tournament in 2002 and 2003 and earning only a No. 6 seed in 2004, the Heels are ranked third in the nation in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches’ Poll and fourth in the Associated Press Poll this season. A large part of that is the starting five, which last season averaged 69.2 points per game.

Strengths: This team has it all in terms of talent, bringing back all five members of what some called the best starting five in the country last season. Felton, McCants and May could each be among the top five in the nation at their respective positions. Felton is a phenomenal playmaker, McCants is a pure scorer from the guard position and May can dominate inside. If sophomore Reyshawn Terry and the two freshmen – especially Williams – can contribute, as they are expected to, the Heels will be even more potent.

Weaknesses: These players still have to learn to win. After abysmal performances in Matt Doherty’s last two seasons as head coach, the Heels were 0.500 in the conference last season. Chemistry could also be a problem, as the volatile McCants has already made headlines by comparing his tenure at UNC to jail time.

Best Case Scenario: This team has all the pieces to be spectacular: talent all over the court and a great coach. If they can get it together mentally and eliminate distractions, they are a Final Four team with a good chance to win it all.

Georgia Tech

Jackets look to build on last season’s success

Head Coach: Paul Hewitt

2003-04 Record: 28-10, 9-7 ACC, lost NCAA Championship game


Key Newcomers: Freshman forward Ra’Sean Dickey, freshman guard Anthony Morrow, freshman forward Jeremis Smith and freshman guard Zam Fredrick II.

Stunning Stats: Over the past two seasons, the Yellow Jackets were 25-5 on their home court last year, but just 19-20 away from home. Jack proved to be a true Jack of all trades last season: his 12.5 points and 4.9 rebounds per game were each second on the team, and he led the Yellow Jackets with 1.9 steals and 5.6 assists per game.

Strengths: Elder, Jack and Bynum rival the backcourts of Wake Forest and UNC. All three players can be lethal from the perimeter but can also drive to the basket. Schenscher emerged as a star last season. The big Aussie, who looked lost in his first two seasons, was a dominant rebounder, shot blocker and inside scorer. Muhammad is a human highlight reel.

Weaknesses: A big part of the Jackets’ success last season was their chemistry. Can the Jackets pick up where they left off even after losing Marvin Lewis and Clarence Moore, two of their emotional leaders last season? Also, Hewitt’s squad came out of nowhere last season. This season, teams are ready for them.

Best Case Scenario: They return most of the key players from a team that reached the national title game last season, and they replace Moore and Lewis with a stellar freshman class. If Jack, Elder and Bynum can keep up with the other guards in the ACC and Schenscher keeps improving, there is no reason to believe the Jackets will not reach the Final Four again.
Blue Devils lack depth, could struggle

Head Coach: Mike Krzyzewski

2003-04 Record: 31-6, 13-3 ACC, NCAA Final Four

Key Returners: Senior guard Daniel Ewing, junior guards J.J. Redick and Sean Dockery and junior forwards Shelden Williams and Shavlik Randolph.

Key Newcomers: Freshman guard DeMarcus Nelson and freshman forward David McClure.

Stunning Stats: The Blue Devils have gotten at least as far as the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament for seven consecutive seasons. However, this season they have only eight scholarship players, five of whom averaged more than six minutes per game last season.

Strengths: The Devils' biggest strength is the winning attitude they have acquired over the years—they don't know anything other than being near the top. Duke's starting five is stacked as usual. Ewing is possibly the most underrated player in the conference, and Redick is deadly from anywhere on the court if he is open. Williams is a beast inside, especially on defense. And Krzyzewski says Randolph, a big man who can score in the paint on the perimeter, could enjoy a breakout season since he is healthy for the first time in his collegiate career.

Weaknesses: It's never good when your top three subs are junior Lee Melchionne and two freshmen—the Blue Devils' five starters will not have much help. Also, Redick will have to become more than a one-dimensional player, creating his own shots and scoring off the dribble. And while Chris Duhon was arguably the most overrated player in the country last season, Dockery will face a challenge taking over as floor general.

Best Case Scenario: Duke finds itself in the unfamiliar position of being picked to finish behind Wake Forest, UNC and Georgia Tech in the ACC this season. Even if they are able to overcome their extreme lack of depth, this team will struggle to make its eighth straight Sweet 16.

N.C. State

Hodge returns to lead strong 'Pack squad

Head Coach: Herb Sendek

2003-04 Record: 21-10, 11-5 ACC, second round of NCAAAs

Key Returners: Junior forward Ilian Evtimov, senior guard/forward Julius Hodge, sophomore guard Engin Atsur and junior guard Cameron Bennerman.

Key Newcomers: Junior guard Tony Bethel (transfer) and freshman forwards Andrew Brackman, Gavin Grant and Cedric Simmons.

Stunning Stats: Hodge led the Wolfpack with 18.2 points, 3.6 assists, 1.4 steals and 0.8 blocks per game last season. His 6.4 rebounds per game were second on the team, and he shot an incredible 50.7 percent from the field. The 'Pack were nearly unbeatable at home, going 14-2 at the RBC Center, but they were just 5-6 on the road.

Strengths: Hodge is spectacular. He can do it all, and Josh Howard two seasons ago for the Deacons. Atsur emerged last year as a stellar point guard who can compete with the best the ACC has to offer. He will team up with Bethel to form a dangerous backcourt. Evtimov, if he is healthy, should be able to step right in and replace Marcus Melvin as a forward who can pound it inside but also shoot the three. Also, the freshman class is extremely strong with three players who could contribute to this team right away. The 'Pack is one of the best free-throw shooting teams in the ACC, shooting 79.9 percent last year.

Weaknesses: The 'Pack will no longer surprise people as they did last season on their way to a second-place finish in the ACC. Also, they struggled at the end of last season when Scooter Sherrill got hurt. With him gone this season, they need Bethel to step in and be a perimeter threat. Evtimov has been injury prone, so it's risky counting on him.

Best Case Scenario: Hodge is one of the top players in the country. Depth is not a question with this team barring injuries, so if Atsur, Evtimov and Bethel can take their games up a notch to complement Hodge, the 'Pack could join the Deacs, UNC and Georgia Tech in the nation's Top 10 and make a run at the Final Four.
**Terps loaded with potential, could contend**

**Head Coach:** Gary Williams

**2003-04 Record:** 21-12, 7-9 ACC, NCAA second round

**Key Returners:** Junior guards John Gilchrist and Chris McCray, junior forwards Nik Caner-Medley and Travis Garrison, and sophomore guards D.J. Strawberry and Mike Jones.

**Key Newcomers:** Freshman forward James Gist and junior guard Sterling Ledbetter (transfer).

**Stunning Stats:** The Terps went 7-9 in the ACC before coming on strong and winning the conference tournament. Gilchrist led the team with 15.4 points, 5.0 assists and 1.8 steals per game. Jones proved to be a deadly three-point marksman, shooting 40.3 percent from three-point range.

**Strengths:** The Terps are a deep team. Gilchrist can take over a game at the point, as he showed in the ACC Tournament last season, and Jones can shoot the lights out. Caner-Medley is as clutch as they come – at 6-feet-9-inches tall with the ability to hit the outside shot or slash to the hoop, he has the potential to be first-team All-ACC. And Williams, despite his propensity to sweat more than all of his players combined during games, is one of the nation’s best coaches.

**Weaknesses:** The most glaring weakness on this team is its free-throw shooting – the Terps shot 53.1 percent from the line last season. They also lack size, as raw sophomores Hassan Fofana and Will Bowers are their only players over 6 feet, 8 inches.

**Best Case Scenario:** This is yet another ACC team for whom the sky is the limit. Gilchrist and Caner-Medley have the potential to be as any. But while the Terps are deep with solid players, they aren’t quite as stacked as the ACC’s top teams. A fourth-place finish in the conference and a Sweet 16 appearance in the tournament is as much as they should hope for.

**Florida State**

**Young ‘Noles building a foundation for success**

**Head Coach:** Leonard Hamilton

**2003-04 Record:** 19-14, 6-10 ACC, no NCAA bid

**Key Returners:** Senior forwards Anthony Richardson and Adam Waleksowski, junior guard/forward Andrew Wilson, sophomore forward Alexander Johnson and sophomore guard Von Wafer.

**Key Newcomers:** Junior forward Diego Romero (transfer), freshman guards Jason Rich, Isaiah Swann and Ralph Mims.

**Stunning Stats:** The ‘Noles were 15-3 at home and 3-10 on the road last season. They were second-to-last in the ACC in both scoring offense and field-goal percentage, but second-best in scoring defense.

**Strengths:** This team has potential to be dominant down low with Johnson and Romero, though both have yet to prove themselves. Waleksowski is a good big man off the bench – he led the team in blocked shots and rebounds last season while starting just three games. Wafer will be a star – the only question is how soon. Richardson is a shut-down defender as well as the spark plug offensively with his spectacular dunks.

**Weaknesses:** While the ‘Noles have tons of potential, they really don’t have any proven top players after losing Tim Pickett, Nate Johnson and Michael Joiner. Pickett carried this team the past two seasons, and Wafer will not be able to fill his shoes yet. They will depend on three freshmen to back up Wafer and Wilson, which is risky.

**Best Case Scenario:** This team could finish fourth in the conference if things fall their way. Wafer and Hamilton need to fulfill their potential quickly, and Romero needs to be the star that people say he is after a stellar two years in junior college. If those three take longer to develop and gel together, they won’t do much damage in the ACC this year. This is a team that is on it’s way to joining the ACC’s elite, but it will probably be another year before that happens.
Cavs will rely on Brown, young guards

Head Coach: Pete Gillen

2003-04 Record: 18-13, 6-10 ACC, no NCAA bid

Key Returners: Senior guard forward/elton Elton Brown, senior forwards Devin Smith and Jason Clark, and sophomore guards T.J. Bannister, J.R. Reynolds and Gary Forbes.

Key Newcomers: Freshman guard Sean Singletary, freshman forward Adrian Joseph and freshman center Tunji Soroye.

Stunning Stats: The Cavs were out-rebounded by an average of 6.2 per game in the ACC last season. Sophomore guards Bannister, Reynolds and Forbes each started at least 10 games as freshmen. Brown led the team with 14.8 points and 5.3 rebounds per game.

Strengths: Brown is one of the league’s top big men. Their trio of sophomore guards is decent, and you never know who could emerge as a superstar in his sophomore year. The freshman class is solid as well – especially Singletary – giving the team a promising future.

Weaknesses: This is a team that depended largely on then-senior Todd Billet last year to hit three-pointers. In a conference with such elite guards, the Cavs’ sophomore trio will be grossly overmatched. Also, one of the Cavs’ biggest advantages the past few years has been their home crowd, which will probably not be as big a factor this year because of the success of the football team and the fans’ lack of confidence in Gillen.

Best Case Scenario: Brown could be the top big man in the ACC. If he is able to dominate and the guards are able to hold their own against the ACC’s best, the Cavaliers could finish as high as sixth and become a bubble team for the NCAA Tournament. But those are big ifs.

“I learned a long time ago that you can’t let what other people say about you determine your identity and your demeanor — you’ve got to listen, but you can dictate your own destiny with hard work. We’ve got a chance to be good. We’ve got a chance to be mediocre and a chance to be bad, too, but we’ve got a chance to be good.”

Pete Gillen
Head Coach

Purnell’s young Tigers will struggle in ACC

Coach: Oliver Purnell

2003-04 Record: 10-18, 3-13 ACC, no NCAA bid

Key Returners: Senior forward center Sharrod Ford, senior forward Olu Babalola, junior guard Shawan Robinson and sophomore guard Vernon Hamilton.

Key Newcomers: Freshman guards Cliff Hammonds and Troy Mathis and freshman forwards James Mays, Cheyenne Moore and Sam Perry.

Stunning Stats: The Tigers were 13-4 on their home court last season, but they were 2-9 on the road. Purnell has been named Coach of the Year by three different conferences in his career: the Atlantic-10 (while serving as head coach at Dayton in 1998), the Colonial Athletic Association (at Old Dominion in 1993) and the Big South (at Radford in 1991).

Strengths: Ford is a great inside player offensively and defensively. He’s probably the only player on this team who would have a shot at starting on one of the ACC’s top three teams. Babalola is a strong, hard-nosed player who isn’t afraid of anyone. Hamilton and Robinson each have the potential to be very good guards. Also, Purnell gained valuable coaching experience as an assistant to Larry Brown on the U.S. Olympic basketball team in Athens, Greece over the summer.

Weaknesses: The Tigers will miss the services of guard Chey Christie, who transferred after serving as their top three-point threat last season. While Ford is strong inside, they don’t have much depth there. They will rely a ton on freshmen in general. Purnell faces a challenge in that this team has grown accustomed to losing in the ACC.

Best Case Scenario: Ford could be one of the top players in the conference this season. He will have to be if Clemson wants to compete with Virginia for the eighth spot in the conference. Even if they are only as good as last year, though, this team should have no problem defeating Miami and Virginia Tech to finish ninth.
Virginia Tech

Head Coach: Seth Greenberg
2003-04 Record: 15-14, 7-9 Big East, no NCAA bid

Key Returners: Redshirt senior Carlos Dixon, sophomores Zabian Dowdell, Jamon Gordon and Coleman Collins and junior Markus Sailles.

Key Newcomers: Freshman guard/forwards Wynton Witherspoon and Deron Washington, freshman guard Marquie Cooke and freshman center Robert Krabbendam.

Stunning Stats: The Hokies had an 11-4 record at home last season but they were 4-10 away from Blacksburg. Their top three returning scorers averaged a combined 29.3 points per game last season.

Strengths: Dixon, who sat out last season with an injury after being one of the Hokies’ top players in almost every statistical category the previous year, returns to provide much-needed veteran leadership for this young team. They are a strong defensive team – they racked up almost twice as many steals as their opponents and bring back three players who had at least 46 steals last season. Head Coach Seth Greenberg is a class act and a solid coach, and if anyone can make this team surprise people this season, it’s him. And the fact that this is such a young team bodes well as they attempt to build a program that can compete in the ACC.

Weaknesses: Besides Dixon, the only Hokies’ senior, this is a young team. They will miss Bryant Matthews, who scored twice as many points as any other Hokie last season before graduating. Also, they have a serious lack of size. The only Hokie over 6 feet 8 inches is 6-foot-11-inch, 210-pound Krabbendam.

Best Case Scenario: The Hokies will need to overcome their youth and lack of depth inside just to compete with Clemson or Virginia for ninth in the conference. Otherwise, they will battle it out with Miami for second to last. There hope for the future, though, as their top three returning scorers are only sophomores.

Miami

Haith begins rebuilding ‘Canes’ program

Head Coach: Frank Haith
2003-04 Record: 14-16, 4-12 Big East, no NCAA bid

Key Returners: Senior forward William Frisby, sophomore guard Guillermo Diaz, junior guard Robert Hite

Key Newcomers: Head Coach Frank Haith, junior center Glenn Batemon (transfer), freshman forward Raymond Hicks and freshman guard Antoine Mayhand.

Stunning Stats: The Hurricanes will fit in fine in this year’s ACC – their top two guards averaged a combined 27 points per game last season. However, among returning players, the next three highest scorers averages a combined 12.7 points per game.

Strengths: Diaz and Hite will surprise ACC fans with how well they can compete against the star-powered backcourts of the ACC’s best teams. Batemon was a solid center at Fordham before transferring to Miami, and the ‘Canes hope he can be even better for them. Haith is unproven, but after serving as an assistant coach at Texas previously, the ‘Canes hope he develops into a great coach.

Weaknesses: This team is woefully thin inside, having lost their top three big men from last season as well as their top center recruit, who backed out of his commitment after Miami changed coaches. They will depend on unproven players, and if those guys don’t step up, teams will be able to focus on Diaz and Hite. This is another program that needs to learn how to win – they have been in a tailspin after former coach Leonard Hamilton abandoned them two years ago for an NBA job, although he is now back in the college ranks at FSU.

Best Case Scenario: The ‘Canes definitely have the ingredients to pull a major upset this season against one of the ACC’s top teams – two play- ers in Hite and Diaz who could blow up at any time and a good coach who will keep this team in games. Besides that, they might manage a win or two against Clemson or UVa., and they will battle with Virginia Tech for 10th place in the rankings.
Amid hype, Prosser focusing on D

Fourth-year coach sees plenty of room for improvement

By Gerard McMahon
Old Gold & Black Reporter

Two years ago, Head Coach Skip Prosser’s mantra to his team was TJDK (They Just Don’t Know), in response to preseason predictions that picked his Deacon team to finish as low as seventh in the ACC.

This year, with his Deacons ranked No. 2 in the preseason in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll and No. 1 by several publications, Prosser stands by his TJDK attitude. “I’ve always been skeptical if somebody gives you something that you haven’t earned,” Prosser said, “and we haven’t earned anything yet.”

While the Deacons may not have exactly earned anything this season, they do return 11 of 12 scholarship players from the team that reached the Sweet 16 last year.

That is not to say, however, that Prosser is completely comfortable with his returning corps of players. While the Deacons return a team that ranked second in the nation in scoring average and first in the ACC in field goal shooting and second in three-point shooting, Wake Forest certainly has some question marks on defense.

“I don’t think you have to be John Nash, the mathematician, to see that we were eighth in the league in blocked shots, ninth in scoring defense, ninth in field goal percentage defense and ninth in three-point field-goal percentage defense,” Prosser said.

Ever since the Deacons’ 84-80 loss to St. Joseph’s in last year’s NCAA tournament, the focus for Prosser and his coaching staff has been on finding a way to tighten up his team’s defense. “We need consistency on offense and a balance in the post,” Prosser said. “But we should be able to score. On those occasions where we can’t score we must do a much better job of guarding.”

The defense figures to benefit greatly from the return of senior forward Vytas Danelius and junior forward Chris Ellis, who both missed significant portions of last year to injuries. Having those two healthy would allow Prosser to return to his natural small forward position, thus improving both Wake Forest’s rebounding and wing defense.

“Vytas’ preseason preparation this year as opposed to last year is night and day,” Prosser said. “He, Downey and Levy, a lot of what we do this year is going to be about those three guys.”

The strength of this team figures to come in the form of the Deacons’ depth up and down the lineup. The team’s first-year depth should allow Wake Forest to finally play Prosser’s true up-tempo system that stresses a fast transition game that could lead to many easy baskets for the Deacons.

Prosser said. “From the standpoint of defense and speed up the pace of the game,” Prosser said. “Last year we did all right with it, but I would like us to create more steals on defense.”

Capping off the incredible turnaround on the team is a starting five that should be able to compete with any in the country. The five include – sophomore Chris Paul, junior Justin Gray and junior Eric Williams – three players who were invited to try out for the USA Basketball 20-and-under squad.

Paul and Gray led the team to a gold medal in the World Championship for Young Men Qualifying Tournament of the Americas, while Williams was the final cut after being sick in the final week of tryouts.

Prosser is confident that the intense workouts on defense and reworking of the rotation throughout the summer, although he did express disappointment that Williams was unable to compete at full strength.

“Anytime you’re in the gym for a few weeks with (Alabama and Team USA Head Coach) Kelvin Sampson and (Marquette Coach) Tom Crean, it’s like a summer seminar overseas,” Prosser said. “From the standpoint of (Paul and Gray), it can only be an extreme positive.”

The pundits have set their predictions. The Sporting News was one of several national magazines to pick the Demon Deacons as the NCAA national champions.

It is now up to Prosser’s posse to show they can play better defensively, or else those preseason predictions will look downright offensive.

Deacs’ lone freshman likely to red-shirt

Stanley coming off major knee injury, will work to improve game in practice

By Boomer Kennedy
Old Gold & Black Reporter

With the Demon Deacons returning all five starters and six other letter-winners to this year’s squad, one member of the team may be sliding under everyone’s radar.

6-foot-7-inch forward Cameron Stanley is the only scholarship freshman on the squad and, though the coaching staff plans to redshirt him this season, he plans to make an impact by helping the team in practice.

At the same time, he hopes to improve his own game, which is currently a little rusty after he missed most of his senior season in high school with a major knee injury.

And, while a redshirt requires that he not play in any games, there is the possibility of Stanley playing if the Deacs suffer an injury.

“I’ve been known to be an offensive player, but there is no doubt that there are many weapons on this team,” Stanley said. “I just plan to bring the intangibles. Whatever the team needs at the time, whenever my number is called, I know I will be ready for whatever I have to do.”

Stanley scored over 1,000 points in his basketball career at Millbrook High School in Raleigh and verbally committed to Wake Forest following his sophomore season.

He averaged 21 points and eight rebounds a game his junior year and his senior season began just as positively. Stanley was averaging 23 points per game until, just seven games into the season, he cut his final high-school season short.

Though he tries not to dwell on the injury, Stanley remembers how hard it was to watch the majority of his senior season from the sidelines.

“In the early stages, it was real tough, especially seeing my team struggle a little bit,” Stanley said. “I tried to take what good I could out of it, and I’ve got a greater appreciation for the game now.”

Stanley spent this past summer at the university, getting a head start academically and working to rehabilitate his knee.

“Vytas and I were here all summer with the trainer, Greg Collins, and I don’t think there is any way possible I could have worked any harder,” Cameron Stanley Freshman

“We need consistency on defense. Much of what we do this year is night and day,” Prosser said. “He, Downey and Levy, a lot of what we do this year is going to be about those three guys.”

As far as the hype, we really don’t pay much attention to it,” Stanley said.

“I was here all summer with the trainer, Greg Collins, and I don’t think there is any way possible I could have worked any harder,” Cameron Stanley says. “I already had my mind set on coming here, mainly because of the academics, in case basketball doesn’t work out in the future,” he said.

As far as his decision to attend Wake Forest, Stanley says the choice was an easy one. “I had to return to his natural small forward position, thus improving both Wake Forest’s rebounding and wing defense.

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“As far as his decision to attend Wake Forest, Stanley says the choice was an easy one. “I already had my mind set on coming here, mainly because of the academics, in case basketball doesn’t work out in the future,” he said.”

On thing Stanley and the rest of the team want to try to avoid this year is getting caught up in the excitement of being selected so high in so many preseason polls.

“As far as the hype, we really don’t pay much attention to it,” Stanley said.

“We are just trying to stay focused on what our goals are. Even though he is the only new scholarship player on this squad, Stanley has fit in well with the tight-knit Demon Deacons, who have made a point to gel as a team this season. “The chemistry is great,” Stanley said. “We were given these dog tags that say, ‘It’s amazing how much can be accomplished when nobody cares who gets the credit,’ and that is the type of mindset we have right now going into the season. Everybody is in it to win, and we’re trying to get a national championship this year.”
New coach has high hopes for women's basketball

Petersen has history of helping struggling programs recover

By Jason Mazda
Sports Editor

Mike Petersen is fully aware that the Wake Forest women's basketball team, which he took over this year, finished last in the ACC last season. He's also aware that they are widely expected to finish at the bottom again this season. But Petersen believes the Deacs can be much better than that, and he is instilling that attitude in his players.

"As coaches, we're asking this group to play harder, focus more and be more unselfish than anyone in our league," Petersen said. "It would be silly to ask all of that from our players and then try to tell them, 'let's go come in last or struggle'". Petersen said, "And I think they're better than they think they are." The Deacs do bring back arguably their three top players from last season.

The Deacs are bringing back forward Liz Strunk and junior Keila Evans. "They are all freshmen to me."

Besides Strunk, Ferrell and Bond-Young, Petersen expects large contributions this season from sophomore Porsche Jones and junior Keila Evans. "Porsche has played really well this fall," he said. "She fits in with what we want to do. Keila Evans has also had a good fall."

Petersen said the Deacs have been focusing so far on adjusting to the fast-paced style that he wants to employ.

"We want to play at a very rapid pace," he said. "We're just getting our current players comfortable at the pace we want to play at."

The Deacs will play their only exhibition game against the Basketball Travelers Nov. 12 at the Joel Coliseum. They will open the season Nov. 19 against Tennessee Tech.

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Head Coach: Mike Petersen
2003-04 Record: 12-17
2003-04 ACC Finish: 4-8
Returning Starters: 4


Women's Hoops Roster 2004-05

NAME POS. HT. CL. PPG. RPG
1 Porsche' Jones G 5'3". RS So. 4.7 2.4
4 Liz Strunk G/F 6'1" Jr 13.3 5.1
5 Tiara Good G 5'9" So. - -
12 Cetolia Bond-Young G 5'7" Jr 10.4 4.0
21 Tara Tate F 5'10" Fr. - -
22 Christen Brown F 6'2" Fr. - -
23 Keila Evans F 6'3" Jr. 2.8 1.8
25 Maya Bennett C 6'2" So. 0.6 1.3
32 Jennifer Johnson G/F 6'1" Sr. 2.1 1.0
34 Meredith Bell G 5'9" Sr. 2.3 0.7
34 Melissa Washington C 6'5" So. 2.5 3.8
43 Erin Ferrell F 6'0" Sr. 11.0 4.6

ACC Tournament in Greensboro TBA
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ACC Tournament in Greensboro TBA
TBA
Danelius tries to forget junior season

By Russell Hoernig
Old Gold & Black Reporter

Many people overlook the impact the Deacon frontcourt, and specifically senior Vytas Danelius, could have in the ACC this year.

Many fans remember Danelius’ breakout season in 2002-03 as he played a key role for the ACC regular season champions.

That season, his sophomore year, Danelius averaged 12.3 points and 7.5 rebounds per game, earning All-ACC second team honors.

Danelius was a worthy complement to All-American Josh Howard that season and convinced many people that he would be a solid player for the Deacs upon Howard’s departure.

Last year, he was even named to the preseason All-ACC first team.

Unfortunately for Danelius and the Deacons, though, he did not live up to those lofty expectations as a junior.

Last year was a step backward for Danelius. Right from the start, on the first day of practice, Danelius suffered from knee tendinitis.

This hindered his play and confidence all season; and he was never able to get on track.

His scoring and rebounding numbers dropped significantly as he averaged only 6.0 points and 4.5 rebounds per game. Also, he played only about half as many minutes as sophomore year while starting only 13 of the team’s 30 games.

“IT was tough especially because I expected a better season,” Danelius said. “As an athlete I want to progress more every year and it just didn’t happen.”

Despite last season’s disappointment, Danelius can be expected to be a key contributor this season either off the bench when Head Coach Skip Prosser decides to implement the three guard lineup or as a starter when he goes with the big starting lineup.

Aside from being a great rebounder and a low post threat, Danelius also has a soft shooting touch and must be defended from behind the arc.

In last season’s limited action, he shot 37 percent from behind the arc.

According to Danelius, the coaching staff and his teammates, the forward has worked extra hard during the off season to regain confidence and recover from his nagging injuries of last season.

“I stayed here both sessions this summer,” Danelius said. “I did a lot of individual stuff with coaches and was shooting and running a lot.”

Not only did he train in Winston-Salem this summer, but he also played in the Global Games for his home country of Lithuania. Although it was not as competitive as he would have liked, Danelius said he definitely believed it was a worthwhile experience to play with his fellow countrymen again.

“And mentally, it helped me gain more positive energy.”

All of the Demon Deacon players this year will need positive energy, especially since many experts are predicting Wake Forest to be one of the top teams in the nation.

According to Danelius, the team isn’t really buying in to all the buzz swarming around them, and they are extremely focused in the early season practices.

“As coach says, you can’t swallow the elephant all at once,” Danelius said. “You have to take one bite at a time.”

One of the Demon Deacons’ biggest problems last season was their defense, and Danelius hopes to contribute to improving that aspect of the Deacs’ game.

Two years ago, Wake Forest’s rebounding was a key in its ACC regular season championship run.

However, last season the team didn’t do nearly as well, especially on the defensive side. Many opponents were able to score a lot of second-chance points, and this is something Danelius is looking to stop this year.

“THERE is an added emphasis on rebounding in practice,” Danelius said. “When we rebound and don’t give up second chances, then we are better off.”

This season will be Danelius’ final season as a Demon Deacon. While he naturally would like to play beyond this year as a professional somewhere, Danelius’ biggest concern right now is making sure that his senior season is a healthy and memorable one, unlike his difficult junior season.

“I just want to have a healthy season,” Danelius said.

“Who knows what is going to happen. I just want to enjoy my last year and for everyone to remember me as a solid team player.”

After having spent almost three and a half years at the university, Danelius is glad that he decided to come to Wake Forest because, he says, it has been a great experience in his life athletically, academically and socially.

“It’s a great experience and something I’m definitely going to miss,” Danelius said. “I’ve learned a lot, not just about basketball, but about myself too. I’ve definitely grown as a person.”
Downey is consummate team leader

By Don Pogoda
Old Gold & Black Reporter

This year's hype has surrounded the entire preseason. Whether it has been the additions of Miami and Virginia Tech to the already strong ACC conference or the prospective first place finish in the ACC for the Deacons, the excitement is there and Downey is ready to play. Whenever a team goes on a quick run or starts to pull away, Downey always seems to be able to come up with the clutch defensive steal, and sometimes both. He is used to performing at a high level and expects nothing less of himself this season.

Coming off the bench last season was something new for Downey. Although he didn't start, Downey always found ways to contribute to the team. "I try and do a lot of different things, whether it's hitting a big basket or getting a steal or a charge," Downey said. "I'll do whatever it takes to win, being on the floor or cheering the team on from the bench." When some people predicted controversy between Downey and his fellow guards – sophomore Chris Paul and junior Justin Gray – for the two starting guard spots last year, Downey knew that the three of them were the best trio of guards in the country. After a season of getting to know each other's strengths, he is extremely confident that the trio's performance will be even better than last year.

"We have a season under our belts," Downey said. "We know how to play with one another and know where to look for each other on the floor." More experience will be crucial if the Deacs are to survive their tough conference schedule. With six ACC teams in the Top 25 in the nation, the conference may be stronger than ever. Although the additions of Miami and Virginia Tech may be seen as "easy wins," Downey knows that there is too much parity in college basketball for any team to be overlooked.

"I think it will be even better because I am sure Virginia Tech and Miami will bring more competition into the league," Downey said. "It's going to be another exciting year." Fans are excited for this season, and Downey says they deserve it, as the fans have been critical to the team's recent success. "They are our sixth man," Downey said. "The environment at the Joel has come a long way since my freshman year, and I credit a lot of our wins to the fans." Downey's significance could never be overstated and his leadership on and off the court has made him a wonderful player and person to watch over the last four years.

"They are our sixth man," Downey said. "The environment at the Joel has come a long way since my freshman year, and I credit a lot of our wins to the fans." Downey's significance could never be overstated and his leadership on and off the court has made him a wonderful player and person to watch over the last four years. When asked how he would like to be remembered, he humbly answered, "A guy that did whatever it took to win."
Levy gives Deacs a defensive stopper

By Graham Hall
Old Gold & Black Reporter

In his third season as a starter, senior Jamaal Levy finds himself in a position of leadership as one of three seniors on the team. But this is nothing new for Levy, who last season was the only junior to start more than 13 games on a team that had no scholarship seniors. Levy started all 31 games for the Deacs, averaging 30.9 minutes per game.

One of the ACC’s most improved players two years ago, Levy had a breakout season last year, improving in almost every statistical category. While he has consistently been one of the best defensive players for the Deacons and in the ACC, he has also become an offensive threat. Levy’s 10.3 points per game last season were fourth on the team and his 98 offensive rebounds led the Deacs.

Levy also continued his dominance on the defensive end of the court, leading the team with 161 defensive rebounds and 27 blocks. For his outstanding defensive play, he was named to the ACC All-Defensive first team.

Levy has even higher aspirations this season, though.

“I really want to try and enjoy this last season and have a great year,” he said. “We all want to win the ACC and I would like to graduate winning big.”

Levy has greatly improved from his freshman numbers of 2.7 points and 2.0 rebounds per game to one of the best all-around players in his junior year. His average of 8.4 rebounds per game were fourth best in the ACC last season, which is incredible considering he weighs in at only 186 lbs.

Levy was also ninth in the ACC in blocked shots, 24th in steals and 27th in points last season. With the departures of N.C. State’s Marcus Melvin and Maryland’s Jamar Smith, he enters this season as arguably the top defensive forward in the ACC.

Still, he hopes to improve even more this year, especially defensively.

“I really hope to improve on all aspects of my game, especially bring up all my numbers from last season,” Levy said. “I would like to have a better field goal percentage, more assists and get more rebounds.”

While Levy’s appearance does not strike one as much more than a post player, his outstanding athletic ability makes him one of the most versatile players in the ACC. He has played shooting guard, small forward and power forward over the length of his career at Wake Forest.

This versatility has accounted for Levy’s ability to take on any role that the team needs. He has been able to step up in big games to help the team when needed.

In the thrilling triple-overtime win at North Carolina last season, Levy pulled down an amazing 14 rebounds, five of which came on the offensive end. Later in the season, he grabbed a season-high 15 rebounds in an important conference win at Maryland.

Levy led the team in rebounding in 22 of the 31 games played last season. He also led the team in scoring twice, the first time at Yale with 17 and the other time with 19 at home against North Carolina.

Throughout his career, Levy has been one of the biggest clutch players for the Deacons. He was an important part in their NCAA tournament run last season, averaging 11.3 and 7.0 rebounds in the three games.

He also was a pivotal player in the ACC Tournament. Even though the Deacons lost a heartbreaker to Maryland, Levy’s 18 points and eight rebounds helped the Deacons keep it close.

Levy believes the team can do even better this season.

“After last season’s Sweet 16 appearance, I learned that we have a good team and we can go deeper if we work on defense and take extra effort to our games,” he said.

With so much being expected of the Demon Deacons this season, Levy will be counted on to continue his outstanding play.

Additionally, with the hype surrounding sophomore Chris Paul, Levy’s unselfishness is especially valuable.

“Our team motto is, ‘It’s amazing how much can get accomplished when nobody cares who gets the credit.’” Levy said.
Healthy Ellis ready to contribute inside

By Bert Phillips
Old Gold & Black Reporter

Last season had an inauspicious beginning for junior Chris Ellis.

Ellis broke his foot in the first hour of the Demon Deacons’ first practice. At the beginning of the season, he was relegated to the sidelines, nursing the injury and then getting back into playing shape.

When Ellis was finally able to play, the frontcourt rotation had already been established.

The emergence of then-freshman Kyle Visser as a part-time starter meant that Ellis only saw minimal playing time, often trash minutes at the end of victories.

This season, assume that the 6-foot-9-inch post player from Marietta, Ga. will be able to play as big a role as Head Coach Skip Prosser’s rotation allows him.

The Deacons’ frontcourt is going to be even stronger, and Ellis will be at full strength.

“The foot’s feeling 100 percent,” Ellis said. “I don’t think it’s going to be affected this year – no injury-related issues.”

Over the summer, Ellis worked tirelessly on conditioning and strength training to prevent further injury and prepare for what should be a stellar season for his team. Ellis was humbled by the hardships he faced last year, but he is ready to contribute to this year’s campaign.

“It was a learning experience for me last year, with breaking my foot, but you know, everything comes for a reason,” Ellis said.

“I’ve just been working on being in condition so I think I should be ready for the upcoming season.”

Indeed, the Deacons are rearing and ready to go with opening night just around the corner.

“I feel everybody’s ready for the season to start,” Ellis said. “We’re excited. We’ve been gelling as a team – on the court and off the court.”

Individually, Ellis is prepared to contribute in whatever way possible.

While Prosser named him as one of nine Deacons who could start, many critics wonder if there are enough shots to go around.

Ellis, for one, is not concerned.

“I think our shot selection will be good this year,” he said. “We’re going to pass the ball to each other real well. Everybody is going to get touches.

We run the court well, and we are going to play good team ball this year.”

He is not one to let his ego get in the way of the team.

Ellis said he was content with passing up shots in favor of going after rebounds with added zeal and playing important defensive minutes.

“I just want to be a defensive presence and a rebounding presence,” Ellis said.

“Just grabbing boards is going to be my main objective. I want to play every game as it comes to me, just take everything slow and focus on rebounding and defense.”

This unselfish team attitude is the glue that will hold together this year’s star-powered Deacs. Even off the court, Ellis is capable of impacting his team – in the locker room.

He is known among his teammates as being a joker and loosening up the environment with his wisecracks. “I just try and be friends with everybody,” Ellis said. “When I see somebody down, when we see each other down, we just pick each other up. We understand what everybody’s going through. We are never hard on each other. We always try to be there for each other.”

Ellis thinks that team chemistry, rather than being a weakness, will be a strength on a team that is almost identical to last year’s Sweet 16 squad.

“We always have characters,” he said. “Everybody has their own personalities they bring to the table. Everyone likes to joke around and kid and have fun. We spend a lot of our time holding our stomachs laughing.”

From Ellis’ standpoint, this season is one fraught with possibilities and expectations.

With strong team chemistry, a rotation of elite guards and a now-healthy and deep frontcourt, the Demon Deacons will indeed be a force to reckon with on the court.

However, Ellis was suspended indefinitely by Prosser before the Deacons’ exhibition opener against USC-Upstate for violating unspecified team rules.

Senior Vytas Danelius, junior Eric Williams and sophomore Kyle Visser were impressive in his absence, and Ellis will only add to that group’s potential when he returns.
Gray remains the go-to guy for Deacs

By Caitlin O'Grady
Old Gold & Black Reporter

When many people think of Wake Forest basketball, the first name that pops into their heads is sophomore Chris Paul. However, junior Justin Gray, a first-team All-ACC selection last season, is just as integral a part of this 2004-05 Demon Deacon team as his more-hyped backcourtmate.

Gray led the Deacs last year with 17 points per game. He also led the team in field goal attempts, three-point attempts, field goals and three-point field goals. In ACC play, he led the team in free throws and had the highest free-throw percentage, 82.4.

After just two seasons, Gray ranks eighth in school history in three-pointers with 132. He has also made it to the free-throw line 225 times in his career.

Gray says he doesn’t get the recognition that he deserves based on his career accomplishments so far.

This season, he was not voted to the preseason All-ACC first team despite being one of only three returning players to have learned the honor last season, along with N.C. State’s Julius Hodge and North Carolina’s Rashad McCants.

Still, Gray said he is optimistic that this season, things will be different and that he will get the recognition he deserves in the end.

“I hope I can make some more noise this year and people will start to recognize me a little bit better,” he said.

Gray and Paul were both selected to play on the USA Under-20 National Team over the summer, winning gold medals in the World Qualifying Tournament in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Gray averaged 28.0 minutes per game in the tournament, including 34 minutes in the U.S. team’s 97-86 win in the championship game. He averaged 14.3 points per game, including 13 in the title game.

In the two medal-round games, he was 7-for-15 from three-point range – a statistic that bodes well for the Deacs, as much of their success has been due to Gray’s three-point prowess.

Gray made three or more three-pointers 19 times last season. He enters this season having made at least two trifectas in his last nine games and at least one in his last 20.

Gray said that even besides getting an opportunity to play more with his teammate and roommate Paul, the experience of the tournament was great in itself.

“It was something to represent your country because once you put on that USA basketball jersey, three things happen. You lose your sense of individualism, you lose your sense of selfishness to the team. And you lose your sense of being at the top of your game.”

Gray still feels there is room for improvement as far as making Wake Forest a more well-known name across the nation.

“This year we’re starting to get some recognition with people picking us No. 1 a lot, but I don’t think they have to pick us No. 1 for us to get recognition,” Gray said. “I think slowly but surely it’s coming around and after this season I guarantee we’ll be recognized.”

Gray has the highest hopes for his team this season. His goals are for the team to win both the ACC Tournament and the NCAA Championship.

“You really can’t focus on individual accomplishments that much,” he said. “It’s about just trying to outdo last season by bringing “energy and toughness” to the team.

However, Gray does have some goals for himself individually. He hopes to try and outdo last season by bringing “energy and toughness” to the team.

Gray, the player closest to reaching 1,000 career points on the Wake Forest roster, is highly respected by all of his teammates.

He doesn’t mind the pressure of being the top scoring option because he says that if he didn’t have such pressure then he would be doing something wrong. He considers his teammates to be some of his closest friends.

“I treat these guys like they’re my family and hopefully they do the same for me, which I know they do,” Gray said. “The teammate relationship we’re building now is going to go on further than Wake Forest and beyond the NBA or wherever we go. We’re going to be friends for life.”

Gray is also very close to his family, citing them as the biggest influence in his athletic career.

“In every game I’ve done since I started playing basketball my family has always supported me,” Gray said. “They are there for every game both home and away, and it’s obvious they are my supporters and my biggest fans.”

The Charlotte native would ideally like to play for the Charlotte Bobcats of the NBA after graduating, but he says his goal in being here isn’t just to play basketball but also to get a Wake Forest degree.

First though, he hopes to help the Deacs bring home a national title.

Gray is also making an increase in the team’s popularity. “We are starting to get more fans in North Carolina,” Gray said. “We’re starting to see a lot more Wake Forest shirts than Duke, Carolina and State.”

Along with the success, Gray has seen an increase in the team’s popularity. “We are starting to get more fans in North Carolina,” Gray said. “This season I guarantee we’ll be recognized.”

Prosser says: He’s a cold-blooded shooter. All the accolades and honors he received last year, he certainly deserved. His work ethic and preparation for this season is the best it’s ever been. He’s very competitive.
Strickland provides spark off the bench

By Alli Soule
Assistant Sports Editor

Junior forward Trent Strickland is the Demon Deacons’ ultimate sixth man and, without a doubt, the “spark” of the team.

“To me, God gave me an ability and the kind of personality that everyone kind of clutches on to,” Strickland said, “and I love it. I love my role on the team.”

With his quickness and athleticism, Strickland comes off the bench packing both an offensive and defensive punch.

“He lifts the team when they need a few points or a defensive stop, and he elevates the crowd with his acrobatic dunks — like his incredible one-handed alley-oop in the Deacs’ exhibition game Nov. 4 against USC-Upstate.

For the 6-foot-5-inch, 212-pound junior, his typical playtime is about 15 minutes per game, so naturally, Strickland does not lead in any statistical categories but still remains a presence.

In the 2003-04 season alone, Strickland pick-pocketed 14 steals and made 13-34 shots from three-point land. He also pulled down 3.4 boards per game, as well as chipping in an average of 6.4 points per game.

Strickland has also been able to produce when called up for a larger role. Last season he showed this by managing a career-high 22 points and seven rebounds against No. 18 Texas.

In other instances, Strickland was also solid, as in the triple-overtime win over UNC in which he scored 13 points and was 2-for-2 from the three-point line.

Against Memphis in the season opener, he managed 10 points, five rebounds, two assists and two three-pointers.

He did this all in just 27 minutes of play — some players cannot create his numbers in an entire game.

Strickland also remains a diverse player whose numbers are all over in the box score.

In just two years, he has seven blocked shots (most of them of the spectacular, in-your-face variety), 40 assists and 152 rebounds for the Deacons.

Thus, Strickland does it all — from blocking shots to making three-pointers to steals and assists, there is nothing he does not do for this team.

But most of the crowd loves his energy and infectious smile, and he is one reason they keep coming back.

In response to the tremendous outpouring of Screamin’ Demons, Strickland was more than appreciative.

“You know, it shows me that even though we’re a small school, we still have our people supporting us,” he said.

“I know our students support us and will be behind us no matter what.”

However, the fans are emerging now in anticipation of a Final Four-caliber team, and with the pressure of the Deacs’ high preseason rankings, the team began preparing early.

Like the rest of his teammates, Strickland spent the preseason bulking up in the weight room as well as working on elements of his game.

According to the forward, working on ball-handling skills and strengthening his jump-shot have been major priorities, as well as staying low and coming off the screen better.

Although Strickland is a consistent contributor all around, he has had some difficulty in the paint, which is evident by his team-high 15 charges last season.

However, the preseason has given Strickland a chance to grow.

“I’ve improved on everything that I’ve worked on,” he said. “It’s kind of hard not to improve when you spend, over the summer, six hours (each day) in the gym working out.”

Working in the preseason is not an option, however, and with the regular season coming, the entire team is preparing both physically and emotionally.

“I think we’re all excited and we’re nervous,” Strickland said, “but we’re ready to get out here and play some ball.”

This season, Strickland figures to play an even bigger role for the Deacons.

While the team did not lose any significant players from last season, Strickland has reportedly been one of the Deac’s most — if not the most — improved players entering this season.

He is a dangerous offensive player at the three position who should not have any problem eclipsing his scoring total of 6.4 points per game from last season.

On the defensive end, Head Coach Skip Prosser says:

“Trent Strickland will join senior teammates Jamaal Levy as the team’s two defensive stoppers. Although Strickland is known for his versatility in multiple aspects of the game, fans are perhaps the most excited about the dunks. Last season, Strickland made the front page of ESPN.com when he hoisted himself so high, after dunking, that his body was horizontal to the court.”

In the 2003-04 season, Strickland had 16 dunks, tying for the second most on the team; however, there is no doubt that Strickland’s were the most remembered.

Although Strickland had his good moments on the court, he did have one low last season.

For the Clemson game on the road, Strickland was suspended for team reasons and was not able to play.

Amidst fans and students alike, a firestorm of gossip spread thereafter.

Yet Strickland regained his momentum and chipped in five points for the Deacons in the following game against Cincinnati.

He also went on to contribute nine points, six rebounds and was 6-for-10 from the foul line in the blow-out home win over Duke.

“God gave me an ability and the kind of personality that everyone kind of clutches onto and I love it. I love my role on the team.”

As long as Strickland can contribute as much as he did last season, the Deacs will be set.

With his improvements in the preseason and his candor in the games, Strickland is sure to remain a fan favorite as well as a good “photo-op” for ESPN.
Eric Williams

Hometown: Wake Forest
Year: Junior
Height: 6’9”
Weight: 291 lbs.
Position: Center
2003-04 PPG: 12.2

Prosper says: He’s due for a breakout year. He is only beginning to understand how unstoppable he can be. He’s starting to attack the rim with a bit more ferocity. He’s a great threat inside.

The biggest goal is obviously getting to the big game.

The biggest stunner against North Carolina, Williams finished his sophomore year. In shaking off the 2004-05 season could be a means business.

Eric Williams is now ready for basketball season, and he means business.

For the 6-foot-9-inch center, the 2004-05 season could be a breakout year. In shaking off the freshman year jitters, Williams finished his sophomore season with the highest field-goal percentage on the team (.546), the third-highest scoring average (12.4 points per game) and an improvement to 68.2 percent shooting from the foul line.

After his stellar performance in December’s triple-overtime stunner against North Carolina, in which he scored 24 points and grabbed eight rebounds, Williams was voted the ACC Player of the Week and the National Player of the Week by ESPN.com and the College Insider.

Needless to say, he has a lot to live up to.

“I’m extremely excited about the season,” Williams said. “Everybody is coming back (and) everybody can’t wait.”

Through the excitement, however, Williams is preparing for the upcoming season and in the process critiquing the play from last year.

For Williams last season was a success in terms of averaging more points, executing on defense and also, “staying out of foul trouble when I needed to.”

So, naturally, this season is all about harnessing those improvements into consistent play and, of course, committing less fouls.

Williams played 147 minutes more his second year than his first and committed 12 more fouls as a result.

“It’s basically a personal issue with me,” he said. “I know what I have to do to stay out of foul trouble. Last year, I played a lot more (so) I was able to get more fouls.”

Most critics claim that Williams is “too nice,” equating his trademark grin and friendly on-court conduct to listlessness and carelessness in the paint and attributing most of his fouls to that.

“They could say I could get more aggressive on the court but I’m not going to get meaner and start cursing at everybody,” he said.

“To me, basketball has been a part of my whole life, so therefore I tie it into my upbringing. And my family never brought me up to be anything like that.

“(The coaches) say all you need to do is be more aggressive and that’s what I’m going to do, (but) I’m going to still have that big smile on my face.”

Aside from personal improvements, however, there is one objective that looms above the heads of the entire team.

“The biggest goal is obviously getting to the big game,” Williams said, referring to the NCAA Championship.

“Since we’ve got everybody back, this has been a really key thing for (the seniors) – to try to head out with a bang. I think everybody, individually is trying to improve and get better for them.”

All in all, Williams is expecting the team to go all out for Levy, Danelius, and Downey – especially due to the fact that with the void of the two big men, Williams will be the dominant force in the post.

“We know what to expect now,” Williams said. “We have nobody leaving this year; in fact, we have an addition to the team in (freshman) Cameron Stanley, so if we can just play our cards right, we’ll have a win-win situation.”

Nevertheless, saying one thing and doing another are completely different and the play at the five position could make or break this Deacon team. Moreover, glimpses of this remarkable talent were seen last season. Against Indiana last December, Williams exploded, scoring a career-high 25 points and pulling down seven boards. He even recorded two steals in the game.

Also, he essentially won the Chapel Hill thriller, shooting the two winning foul shots and capping off the game with 24 points.

Williams also managed a double-double in the Deacs win over Duke in which he racked up 16 points, 11 rebounds and two blocks.

Thus, the thing that is most torturous to the fans is Williams’ capability.

With a team on the cusp of winning an NCAA title, Williams is key.

And as long as the improvements continue, Deacon opponents can look forward to steady doses of domination from Mr. Congeniality.

By Alli Soule
Assistant Sports Editor

The corndrows were cut. Conditioning started at 7:30 a.m. every day this summer with senior teammate Vytas Danelius. After two years, the weight is from 311 to 275.

It is pretty clear that junior Eric Williams is now ready for basketball season, and he means business.

For the 6-foot-9-inch center, the 2004-05 season could be a breakout year. In shaking off the freshman year jitters, Williams finished his sophomore season with the highest field-goal percentage on the team (.546), the third-highest scoring average (12.4 points per game) and an improvement to 68.2 percent shooting from the foul line.

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