

L-R Women's Lacrosse Voted Second In SAC Preseason Poll

Written by Staff Reports

Thursday, 30 January 2014 08:26

In the very first South Atlantic Conference Women's Lacrosse Preseason Coaches poll, Lenoir-Rhyne University was picked second out of seven teams.

Queens was voted to win the inaugural league regular season championship. The Royals finished with 35 total points including five out of the seven first-place votes. The Bears, with 32 total points, received the other two votes for first place.

Lenoir-Rhyne also placed five players on the 2014 All-South Atlantic Conference Preseason Teams including three first-team honorees: junior attacker Lauren Donovan (Hollywood, Md.), sophomore midfielder Claire Wach (Cary, N.C.) and senior defender Rachel Hall (Durham, N.C.).

Donovan, a two-time All-Independent honoree (2012-13), finished with 27 goals, 12 assists and 63 ground balls last spring.

Wach was named to the 2013 Independent All-Freshman Team after finishing with 13 goals,

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four assists and 45 ground balls last year while Hall anchored the defense. Hall started all 16 matches and tallied 20 ground balls in 2013.

Senior midfielder Hayley Beattie (Lebanon, N.J.) and senior defender Victoria Velton (Centreville, Md.) were named to the All-SAC Preseason Second Team for the Bears.

Beattie, a three-year starter, led the squad in ground balls (64) and draw controls (48) last year to go along with 18 goals and nine assists while Velton started 15 of 16 matches and totaled three goals and 13 ground balls.

Lenoir-Rhyne opens the 2014 season on Saturday, February 15, against St. Andrews on the road in Laurinburg, N.C., beginning at 2:00 p.m. L-R's first home contest takes place on Thursday, February 20, versus Pfeiffer at 4:00 p.m., at Moretz Stadium.

Lenoir-Rhyne finished last year with a record of 7-9. The 2014 Food Lion SAC Women's Lacrosse Tournament Championship takes place on April 17-19 in Charlotte, N.C. Queens will serve as the host institution.

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2014 South Atlantic Conference

Women's Lacrosse Preseason Coaches Poll

1. Queens 35 (5)

2. Lenoir-Rhyne 32 (2)

3t. Catawba 22

3t. Newberry 22

5. Wingate 15

6. Coker 14

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7. Brevard 7

2014 All-South Atlantic Conference

Preseason Women's Lacrosse Teams

FIRST TEAM

Attacker

Jena Ready, Queens

Lauren Donovan, Lenoir-Rhyne

Kerri Ann Barlage, Newberry

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Meredith Jones, Catawba

Midfielder

Brittany Barnwell, Queens

Arika Zimmerman, Queens

Claire Wach, Lenoir-Rhyne

Ebony Mills, Catawba

Defender

Akasha Kasper, Queens

Bridgette Larranaga, Queens

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Kelsey Perusse, Catawba

Rachel Hall, Lenoir-Rhyne

Goalkeeper

Bethany Davis, Catawba

SECOND TEAM

Attacker

Maggie Masters, Queens

Hayley Ferone, Coker

Mackenzie Baker, Coker

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Midfielder

Carly Marksberry, Newberry

Hayley Beattie, Lenoir-Rhyne

Victoria Thomas, Newberry

Alyssa Corace, Catawba

Defender

Chelsea Sorensen, Catawba

Sydney Dishman, Queens

Tricia Powell, Newberry

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Victoria Velton, Lenoir-Rhyne

Goalkeeper

Danielle Horoschak, Queens

L-R Men's Lacrosse Picked Fourth In SAC Preseason Poll

The Lenoir-Rhyne Men's Lacrosse Team was voted fourth in the inaugural South Atlantic Conference Preseason Coaches Poll, league officials announced today.

The 2014 season marks the first year men's lacrosse will be sponsored as a championship

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sport by the league. Eight of the 12 conference members will compete in the sport this year.

Mars Hill and Queens were both picked first in the poll. The Lions garnered four first-place votes while the Royals picked up three. Both schools totaled 45 points. The Bears, meanwhile, received the other first-place vote.

Four L-R players earned preseason all-league accolades including three on the first team: senior midfielders Tyler Kotch (Butler, Pa.) and Sam Ashton (New Market, Md.) and junior defender Stephen O'Hara (Bellport, N.Y.).

Last year, Kotch tied for the team lead in goals scored with 27 to go along with 11 assists and 19 ground balls while Ashton finished first on the squad in assists (34) and points (55). Ashton also scored 21 goals and tallied 29 ground balls.

O'Hara, who started 15 matches last season, anchored the defense last spring and finished with 30 ground balls on the year.

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L-R senior midfielder Imari Davis (San Marcos, Calif.) was named to the 2014 All-SAC Preseason Second Team. Davis was fourth on the team in goals scored (21) to go along with 13 assists and 21 ground balls. All four players were named to the 2013 All-Deep South Conference Second Team.

Lenoir-Rhyne, which finished last season with a record of 8-8, opens the 2014 campaign on Saturday, February 8, against Limestone in Gaffney, S.C., beginning at 1:00 p.m. The inaugural Food Lion SAC Men's Lacrosse Tournament will take place April 17-19 in Charlotte, N.C., on the campus of Queens University.

2014 South Atlantic Conference

Men's Lacrosse Preseason Coaches Poll

1t. Mars Hill 45 (4)

1t. Queens 45 (3)

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3. Catawba 36

4. Lenoir-Rhyne 34 (1)

5. Coker 24

6. Wingate 20

7. Tusculum 13

8. Brevard 7

2014 All-South Atlantic Conference

Preseason Men's Lacrosse Teams

FIRST TEAM

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Attacker

John Scheich, Catawba

Jimmy McBride, Mars Hill

Ryan Maurer, Coker

Midfielder

Anthony Malcolm, Mars Hill

Tyler Kotch, Lenoir-Rhyne

Sam Ashton, Lenoir-Rhyne

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Defender

Patrick Murphy, Queens

Gage Mason, Catawba

Stephen O'Hara, Lenoir-Rhyne

Long Pole Midfielder

Tanner Leach, Mars Hill

Specialist

Daniel Rew, Catawba

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Goalkeeper

Patrick McMahon, Mars Hill

SECOND TEAM

Attacker

Ryan Vogrig, Wingate

Garrett Chan, Queens

Casey Hock, Queens

Midfielder

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Imari Davis, Lenoir-Rhyne

Bryce Sneed, Wingate

Timothy Smith, Coker

Defender

Patrick Thomas, Queens

Max Baltzer, Coker

Jim Elliott, Coker

Long Pole Midfielder

Tim Cloud, Queens

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Specialist

Kenneth Stryker, Queens

Goalkeeper

Tim Ryan, Coker