

Braxton Qualifies For National Championships....The Lenoir-Rhyne University Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field Teams wrapped up the VertKlasse Meeting Saturday at Dick Vert Stadium with

several more school records.

Lenoir-Rhyne sophomore Kevin Baxter (Columbia, S.C.) qualified for the NCAA Division II National Championships for the second consecutive year with his first-place finish in men's 110-meter hurdles with a wind-aided time of 13.81.

Baxter's first-place time of the 14.02 in the preliminaries of the men's 110-meter hurdles was also a school record. The Division II Finals this year take place May 22-24 in Allendale, Mich.

In addition, L-R freshman Brooke Robinson (Newton, N.C.) won the women's 400-meter dash with a school-record time of 56.70 and placed fourth in the women's 200-meter dash (a school-record 25.57).

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Written by Staff Reports
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Meanwhile, the women's 400-meter and 1,600-meter relay teams established new program marks with times of 49.46 and 4:14.30, respectively, for the Bears. Robinson, as well as freshman Farrah Young (Hickory, N.C.) and sophomore Vertrice Wilson (Carrollton, Ga.), were part of both squads.

Lenoir-Rhyne junior Jarrod Spears (Bunnlevel, N.C.) won the men's 200-meter dash with a time of 22.69 and finished fourth in the men's 100-meter dash (10.69).

Several field athletes competed for the Bears in the Terrier Relays, hosted by Wofford, in Spartanburg, S.C., at Spartanburg High School today.

Lenoir-Rhyne freshman Domonique Jones (Greensboro, Ga.) placed fourth in the women's discus throw (116'5") while sophomore Ashley Wells (Arrington, Va.) finished fourth in the women's javelin throw (116'1"). Finally, Lenoir-Rhyne junior Latham York (Huntersville, N.C.) took fourth in the men's hammer throw (140'3").

Lincoln Memorial, Lenoir-Rhyne Earn DH Split

No. 18 Lenoir-Rhyne (32-9, 10-4) and Lincoln Memorial (23-12, 9-5) split a South Atlantic Conference softball doubleheader Saturday afternoon at Bears Field. The Bears won the first game, 2-0, but fell in the second contest by a 3-1 score.

Game One - Lenoir-Rhyne 2, Lincoln Memorial 0

L-R sophomore Maryann Hoskins (Havelock, N.C.) threw her third consecutive shutout as the Bears triumphed in the first contest. Hoskins (16-5) limited the Lady Railsplitters to just three hits in addition to striking out seven batters.

Lenoir-Rhyne scored both its runs in the second inning including an RBI infield single by freshman outfielder Dakota Keller (Mooresboro, N.C.).

Lincoln Memorial's Samantha Smith (Knoxville, Tenn.) (13-6) suffered the loss despite allowing just one earned run in going the distance with five strikeouts.

Game Two - Lincoln Memorial 3, Lenoir-Rhyne 1

Lincoln Memorial designated player Amanda Snow (Knoxville, Tenn.) broke a 1-1 tie with a two-run home run in the top of the sixth inning as the Lady Railsplitters salvaged the split.

L-R senior shortstop Jody Mizelle (Colerain, N.C.) hit her team-leading 10th home run of the year in the third inning before Lincoln Memorial tied the contest with an unearned run in the fourth.

Smith (14-6) pitched a complete game once again en route to the victory while Lenoir-Rhyne sophomore Brandi Hole (Sandy Ridge, N.C.) (16-4) suffered the loss and the Bears saw their seven-game winning streak come to an end.

Lenoir-Rhyne hits the road Tuesday to face Catawba in a South Atlantic Conference doubleheader beginning at 2:00 p.m., in Salisbury, N.C. Lincoln Memorial plays at Brevard on Wednesday in a doubleheader starting at 2:00 p.m.

Anderson Takes Two From Lenoir-Rhyne

The Anderson Baseball Team (16-24, 11-12) won both games of a South Atlantic Conference doubleheader over Lenoir-Rhyne (11-28, 7-18), 4-3 and 8-7, Saturday afternoon at Memorial Stadium.

Game One - Anderson 4, Lenoir-Rhyne 3

The Trojans' Thomas Goodman (Sarasota, Fla.) earned the complete game victory after limiting the Bears to just two earned runs to go along with five strikeouts as Anderson won the first game on the day.

Anderson took the lead for good in the bottom of the sixth inning when Brett Cash (Anderson, S.C.) scored on a wild pitch which broke a 2-2 tie. Nathan Galliford (Miami, Fla.) added a solo home run for the Trojans.

For Lenoir-Rhyne, senior outfielder Mike Gasque (Mebane, N.C.) had a run-scoring triple but junior Ivan Vieitez (Miami, Fla.) (3-5) suffered the loss on the mound despite striking out nine batters and pitching into the seventh inning.

Game Two - Anderson 8, Lenoir-Rhyne 7 (seven innings)

Anderson's L.J. Newman (Piedmont, S.C.) broke a 6-6 tie with the game-winning, RBI double in the bottom of the fifth inning while Landon Beck (Hartwell, Ga.) (4-4) went the distance for the complete game victory as the Trojans completed the sweep.

Gasque drove in three runs while senior outfielder Brandon Walker (Otisville, N.Y.) added three runs scored and two hits as the Bears rallied from a 4-1 deficit to tie the contest despite the loss.

Newman finished with three hits and Paul Como (Missouri City, Texas) hit a solo home run for Anderson in the win. Lenoir-Rhyne senior Eric Ryan (Baltimore, Md.) fell to 1-4 after being tagged with the loss.

Lenoir-Rhyne Women's Lacrosse Takes Out Brevard, 19-1

The Lenoir-Rhyne Women's Lacrosse Team (8-6, 4-1) remained in second place in the South Atlantic Conference standings with a 19-1 win over Brevard (0-10, 0-4) Saturday afternoon at Tornado Field.

Fifteen players scored for the Bears, who held a 17-1 advantage at intermission before coasting to the road victory.

Four players - sophomore midfielder Bailey Leonard (Cornelius, N.C.), junior midfielders Katherine Henderson (Cookeville, Tenn.) and Kirsten Smith (Dunkirk, Md.) and freshman attacker Torrey Schwitkis (San Diego, Calif.) - all scored twice for the Bears in the win.

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The Bears, who scored the first 13 goals of the match, also held the advantage in both shots taken (37-2) and ground balls (25-14) in the victory.

Lenoir-Rhyne senior Amanda Cotto (Fort Myers, Fla.) earned the win in goal after playing the first half.

For Brevard, Madison Ellis (Peterborough, Ontario, CANADA) scored the Tornados' lone goal of the match in the first half while Brianna Bangle (St. Paul, Minn.) totaled 13 saves in the losing effort.

Lenoir-Rhyne hosts Mount Olive on Senior Day tomorrow afternoon at 3:00 p.m., at Moretz Stadium. Brevard next hosts Coker in a league match Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.

Lenoir-Rhyne Men's Lacrosse Rolls Over Brevard, 23-2

The Lenoir-Rhyne Men's Lacrosse Team (8-3, 5-1), ranked No. 12 in NCAA Division II, remained in the hunt for the first-ever South Atlantic Conference championship with a 23-2 victory over Brevard (3-9, 1-5) Saturday afternoon at Tornado Field.

L-R junior attacker Jay Goldsmith (Jamestown, N.C.), the team's leading scorer, finished with a match-high six goals including five in the first half as the Bears remained tied for first in the league standings with Queens. Goldsmith has a team-high 26 goals this season.

Lenoir-Rhyne senior midfielder Sam Ashton (New Market, Md.) and redshirt freshman attacker Cole Abourjilie (Greensboro, N.C.) added three goals each as the Bears held the Tornados scoreless after the first period and scored the final 16 goals of the match.

Brevard, a first-year program, received goals from Alsharif Blackmon (Easton, Pa.) and Matthew Droplijic (Brampton, Ontario, CANADA). Andrew Reilly (Delmar, N.Y.) was credited with 16 saves in goal despite the loss.

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Lenoir-Rhyne held the advantage in both shots taken (58-12) and ground balls (33-14) and 10 different players scored for the Bears. L-R junior goalkeeper Alex Squires (Lawrenceville, Ga.) earned the win after stopping seven shots on the day.

Lenoir-Rhyne rounds out the regular season with a South Atlantic Conference match against Catawba on the road next Saturday in Salisbury, N.C., beginning at 7:00 p.m. Brevard looks to snap a five-match losing streak against Queens next Saturday at home starting at 3:00 p.m.

Tusculum Women's Tennis Downs Lenoir-Rhyne, 8-1

The Tusculum Women's Tennis Team (16-1, 7-0) remained in first place in the South Atlantic Conference and ran its winning streak to 13 matches with an 8-1 victory over Lenoir-Rhyne (8-12, 1-8) Saturday afternoon at Hickory, N.C.

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Despite the loss, Lenoir-Rhyne junior Zorica Djuric (Belgrade, SERBIA) won at first singles over Tusculum's Sarah Baker (Marietta, Ga.), 6-2 and 6-1, and improved to 9-1 in her last 10 matches at No. 1 singles.

Lenoir-Rhyne remains at home to face Queens in a South Atlantic Conference make-up match on Monday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Tusculum, meanwhile, hosts Brevard tomorrow in a league match beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Lenoir-Rhyne Women's Tennis Final

Tusculum 8, Lenoir-Rhyne 1

April 5, 2014

Hickory, N.C.

Hickory High School

Singles competition:

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1. Zorica Djuric (L-R) def. Sarah Baker (TC), 6-2, 6-1
2. Erin Mills (TC) def. Nateesha Hurtt (L-R), 6-2, 6-1
3. Kate Hutchinson (TC) def. Lela Sparks Thompson (L-R), 6-1, 6-4
4. Kealee Heffner (TC) def. Lacey Lapp (L-R), 6-2, 6-0
5. Adrienne Kaye (TC) def. Maggie Brown (L-R), 6-1, 6-4
6. Amanda Sumner (TC) def. Amanda Bryan (L-R), 6-0, 6-2

Doubles competition:

1. Kate Hutchinson/Kealee Heffner (TC) def. Zorica Djuric/Lela Sparks Thompson (L-R), 8-3
2. Adrienne Kaye/Erin Mills (TC) def. Nateesha Hurtt/Meaghan Liner (L-R), 8-2
3. Amanda Sumner/Emily Waters (TC) def. Maggie Brown/Lacey Lapp (L-R), 8-2

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Records: Tusculum (16-1, 7-0 SAC), Lenoir-Rhyne (8-12, 1-8 SAC)

Photo Courtesy: Kevin Braxton, L-R Athletics