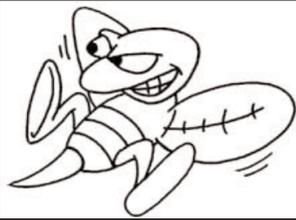


## Upcoming Events



### Baseball

4/2 - 1 p.m.  
vs. Bluefield  
4/4 - 1 p.m.  
vs. Randolph  
Macon\*  
4/7 - 4 p.m.  
at Bluefield

### Softball

4/4 - 2 p.m.  
at Guilford\*  
4/5 - 1 p.m.  
vs. Sweet Briar\*

### Tennis

4/4 - 1 p.m.  
vs. Randolph\*  
4/5 - 2 p.m.  
at Hampden-Sydney\*  
(Men's)  
4/5 - 2 p.m.  
at Sweet Briar\*  
(Women's)  
4/7 - 4 p.m.  
at UVA Wise\*

## Senior Spotlight

## Senior Second Baseman Josh Nelson

**CH:** What is your favorite thing about baseball?

**JN:** My favorite thing about baseball would have to be that you can play the game without being a superior athlete. I absolutely love crossing the line with my teammates and Coach McCall to be a part of this great game.

**CH:** Why do you enjoy playing second base?

**JN:** I really enjoy playing second base because you are so involved in many of the plays throughout the game. From turning a double play to simply covering first on a bunt, it keeps you on your toes every pitch.

**CH:** What is something that the average fan can't appreciate about the position?

**JN:** There is a lot about baseball that an average fan can't appreciate. As simple as baseball seems, it is very complex in different situations that arise during a game. Coach McCall does a great job in preparing us for these situations that help us on the field and in other aspects of life.

**CH:** What player did you try to model your game after?

**JN:** I have always looked up to players that give everything they have to give. Players like David Eckstein who are not necessarily great athletes but play as hard as they can truly catch my eye.

**CH:** Who is your favorite baseball player?

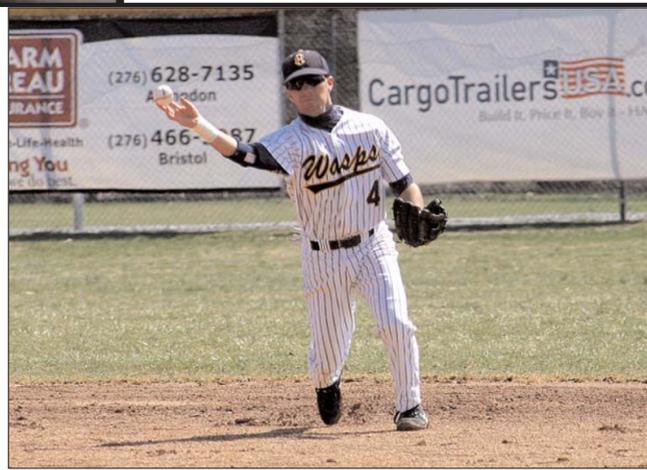
**JN:** Growing up my favorite player was always Yankee great Don Mattingly. He always did the right thing and had an incredible plate approach in the clutch.

**CH:** What are you majoring in?

**JN:** I am a Physical Education major and I have recently been enrolled in the Education Masters Program here at Emory & Henry College.

**CH:** What is it like being part of the football staff?

**JN:** Being a part of Coach Montgomery's staff has truly been a pleasure. I have loved every minute of it. Everyone on the football staff that I have worked with -- especially Coach Montgomery and Coach Grande -- has taught me things ranging from responsibility to ways to carry myself in a professional manner.



E&H Sports Information

**CH:** What is your favorite E&H memory?

**JN:** During my time here at Emory I have had so many memories it is hard to pinpoint one as my favorite. In baseball, it would have to have been this season at Roanoke when we turned our season around with a conference win on the road.

**CH:** What is your favorite sports team?

**JN:** My favorite sports team would have to be the Buffalo Bills. As my family is from Buffalo, it is always fun to follow the Bills.

**CH:** What is your favorite food?

**JN:** My favorite food would have to be my Mom's homemade lasagna. It is amazing!

**CH:** Alex Rodriguez is? ...

**JN:** ARod is an unbelievable athlete and baseball player. It is sad to see such a figure wrapped up in so much negative publicity seemingly every week.

*Every issue of The Whitetopper for the remainder of the year will include a profile of an E&H senior athlete.*

## Intramural Basketball champions bask in glory



Alex Veatch

The Volleyball Girls won the women's championship over THE FIRE by the score of 49-24.



Alex Veatch

The men's championship team was Don't Worry About it. They beat the Basketballers 66-51.

**Brett Sample**  
bsample@ehc.edu

The Intramural Basketball Championships were decided Monday night in the King Center in front of about 50 students.

The Women's championship was played at 7 p.m. and featured The FIRE vs. The Volleyball Girls. The Volleyball Girls won

49-24. The men's championship was between the Basketballers and Don't Worry About It. Don't Worry About It came out on top 66-51.

Congratulations to those teams and thanks for another great season of Intramural Basketball.

**Interested in intramurals?  
Contact  
Brett Sample  
bsample@ehc.edu.**

## Sports Opinion

### Studs and Duds of the NCAA Tournament

By Chris Hatcher

#### STUDS

**Arizona-** The Wildcats were widely viewed as the team that was least deserving to even be in the dance out of the at-large teams. "Zona silenced doubters by going on deep tournament run all the way to a Sweet 16 berth before being hammered by #1 overall seed Louisville. Still, keeping things in perspective, in their wins Arizona beat both teams by double-digit margins. Despite being dealt fairly easy opponents on the way to the Sweet 16, even winning one game would have been considered a success for the Wildcats. The bottom line is that Arizona stepped up and became one of the studs of the tournament.

**Missouri-** The Tigers had the advantage of coming in under the radar, but changed all that with a win over Memphis and a trip to the Elite 8. The Tigers were undoubtedly the weakest of the 3 seeds, and not many people thought that this competitive Big 12 team, who might not have deserved a 3 seed, would perform on the biggest stage in college basketball. Missouri instead played like one of the best teams in the nation and proved that they were capable of making a deep tournament run.

**Villanova-** The Wildcats proved that they were more than a one-man attack, beating three powerful foes to reach the Final 4. Despite their unconventional backcourt heavy offense, the Wildcats upended mighty Pitt, the Duke Blue Devils and the 11-time national champion UCLA Bruins. Bottom line: Villanova outplayed superior competition to make it to the last week of the tournament, earning much due respect.

**Connecticut-** It's difficult to say that a #1 seed is a success by making it to the Final 4, but

UConn is just that. Despite the mid-season loss of point guard Jerome Dyson, the Huskies plugged on and finished the regular season in style. They continued that run in the tournament, beating every team in the first three rounds by more than 10 points. The Huskies did draw the easiest road to the Final 4 out of any team, but the point is that they won without Dyson and now are the favorite to cut down the nets.

**Siena-** In a game that started to look destined for another 6OT finish, the Saints took down Ohio State in 2OT in the Buckeyes' backyard (Dayton). Despite the fact that it was an 8/9 game, Siena was a heavy underdog (pun intended for those of you who really know college basketball). Granted the Saints lost to #1 overall seed Louisville in the second round 79-72, but is that actually a game that anyone expected them to be competitive in or even there in the first place? No way. Kudos to the Saints for a magical March.

#### DUDS

**Wake Forest-** A 4 seed in the NCAA Tournament and briefly ranked as the top team in the nation during the season, the Demon Deacons fell to the lowly 13 seed Cleveland State Vikings 84-69 in the first round of the tournament. Wake was a popular choice to take down 1 seed Louisville when the two met up, but a loss at the hands of the Vikings insured that would not happen. Doubly painful, Wake's top three players (Jeff Teague, James Johnson and Al-Farouq Aminu) should all declare for the NBA Draft, as Teague and Johnson have the possibility to be lottery picks and Aminu could be drafted as high as the mid-first round.

**Pittsburgh-** It's hard to call a

team that made it to the Elite 8 a "dud," but the Panthers had realistic National Championship aspirations. Pitt played the entire tournament in uninspired fashion, allowing opponents to play them close and almost pull off the upset on three separate occasions. Their fourth such encounter was too close of a call for the Panthers as they were upended by Villanova. The Panthers beat only one team (ETSU) by double-digits, and the 10-point win against the A-Sun champion Bucs was much closer than the score indicated, scoring the final bucket with mere seconds left. Poor play by senior point guard LeVance Fields and slow starts doomed the Panthers in the end. Pitt will in all likelihood lose DeJuan Blair in addition to Fields and Sam Young, meaning a long road back for Pitt.

**Clemson-** The Tigers lost their focus, losing to a capable but lucky-to-be-dancing-at-all Michigan team. In one fell swoop (literally), Clemson's Terrence Oglesby was ejected after elbowing a Michigan player in the face, adding to a disappointing 1 of 8 shooting performance. Although appearing to play better after his ejection, Clemson severely missed their three-point ace down the stretch. The Tigers lose K.C. Rivers to graduation and possibly their best player in Trevor Booker.

**Predictions:** In the game between North Carolina and Villanova, expect the Wildcats to be outmuscled by the Heels down low. In the matchup between UConn and Michigan State, expect the Spartans to have no answer for the 7'3" monster Hasheem Thabeet. Carolina has the most talent of all the teams remaining, but I just don't like how they match up against the Huskies. Despite the point guard issues, UConn will cut the nets!