

# Braves take 4-0 series win over Bloomfield



Photo by Glory Attaochu

Black and Gold righthander Weston Sherrill throws a pitch down the heart of the plate against Bloomfield Feb. 21. Sherrill pitched one inning in the 11-5 win against the Deacons.

**By Matt Smith**  
Sports Editor

The Black and Gold baseball team completed a 4-0 series sweep over Bloomfield Feb. 21, picking up 11-1, 7-0, 12-1 and 11-5 victories over the two day series.

The high power Black and Gold offense had a combined batting average of .383 for the weekend, picking up 49 total hits in the series.

In game one, senior all-American Matt McGovern led the Braves on the hill, throwing seven complete innings while allowing no hits on two runs. McGovern

picked up eight strike outs in the Braves' 11-1 victory while not allowing a walk.

Shortstop Jordan Pegram and outfielder Derek Funk led the Braves at the plate, going 2-for-4 with each picking up an RBI.

### Game two

In game two, junior Justin Yow led the Black and Gold on the mound, throwing six innings of one hit baseball. Reliever Anthony Constantatos closed the game in the seventh inning in the Braves' 7-0 win.

First baseman Seth Kivett led UNCP with the bat, going 3-for-4 at the

plate with a run scored and a RBI.

In game three, the Black Gold's offense continued to lead the way, as the team posted 12 runs in a 12-1 victory. UNCP picked up 14 hits in the victory, with outfielder Josh Haley posting a 3-for-4 mark at the plate.

Junior Tyler Wood pitched six innings on the hill, allowing three hits and earning four strikeouts in his second win of the season.

### Final game

In the Braves' final game, UNCP posted an 11-5 victory while throwing out six pitchers

against Bloomfield.

Senior Rudy Brown picked up his first win for UNCP this season after throwing two innings of hitless ball. Josh Bagley, J.B. Brewer, Weston Sherrill, Nilly Dudding and Brian Willis all pitched an inning of relief in the contest.

Haley and designated hitter Joe Mangum picked up three hits apiece for the Black and Gold, while Mangum and Keith Whitman posted three RBIs apiece.

UNCP will next be in action Feb. 27 on the road against Peach Belt Conference foe North Georgia.

## Lander sweeps Braves

**By Matt Smith**  
Sports Editor

The Black and Gold tennis team found themselves swept away Feb. 21, as visiting No. 38 Lander posted a perfect 9-0 win over the Braves at the UNCP Varsity Tennis Courts.

The loss was the third straight for UNCP, who has fallen to Pfeiffer, North Georgia and Lander in a two-week period.

The Braves' poor showing reared its head early in the match, as all three Braves' doubles teams were swept in straight sets.

In No. 1 doubles, the

UNCP pair of Maricel Quintero-Prieto and Janna Oxendine was handled 8-0 by Lander's Brandi Cordell and Aurelia Ruffat.

The next two doubles matches produced the same result, with Mia Winterbottom and Meredith Pierson falling 8-0 to Eliza Adusumilli and Nicola James in No. 2 doubles.

### Doubles sweep

Lander completed the doubles' sweep with Ana Luiza Zaia and Melanise Newbold defeating the Braves' pair of Christian Minnick and Beverly Vause 8-0 in No. 3 doubles.

In singles action, all six Braves were swept in straight sets. Winterbottom suffered a 6-0, 6-1 loss to Cordell in No. 1 singles action to lead off for the Braves.

The losing trend continued into the other matches, with Pierson taking a 7-5, 7-5 loss to Ruffat in No. 2 singles and Quintero-Prieto falling 6-4, 6-2 to Adusumilli in No. 3 singles.

In the No. 4 singles battle, Oxendine lost 6-2, 6-2 to James. Minnick posted a 6-4, 6-3 loss to Newbold and Vause ended the Braves' day with a 6-0, 6-1 loss in No. 6 singles.



Photo by Glory Attaochu

UNCP's Mia Winterbottom returns a serve against Lander.

## Braves add Bersack

**By Matt Smith**  
Sports Editor

The UNCP women's soccer team revealed a new signee to the squad Feb. 17, as head coach Lars Andersson announced the signing of Francis Bersack to the Lady Braves' squad.

The 5-6 forward signed her national letter of intent for the 2010-2011 school year after playing for the St. Margaret's varsity squad in Kitty Hawk, N.C.

"Frankie is a very versatile player," Andersson said. "She can be used in a number of positions on the field and gives us additional depth on our roster. Her work ethic, enthusiasm and love for the game will have her challenging for playing time the minute she steps on the pitch in pre-season camp."

During her career with St. Margaret's, Bersack was named the most valuable player and recognized as an all-league member by the Independent Schools' League. Bersack earned these honors in her sophomore and junior years, and along with playing soccer, the versatile standout also participated in varsity field hockey, basketball and swimming.

## Track competes

**Nick Phillips**  
Asst. Sports Editor

The men's and women's track and field teams traveled to Chapel Hill on Feb. 12, to compete in the UNC Invitational.

On the men's side, junior Maurice Eubanks finished with a fourth place finish in the 200-meter dash with a time of 22.20, while finishing seventh in the 60-meter dash with a 6.94 time.

Junior Karlos Jordan followed behind his teammate, posting a 13th place finish in the 200-meter dash with his 22.80 time,

and 11th in the 60-meter dash with a time of 6.97.

Senior David Lynn also performed well for the Braves, finishing 20th in the weight toss with a distance of 11.63 meters and 21st in the shot put with an 11.89 meter toss.

For the women, junior Jessica McDowell jumped 5.11 meters in the long jump, finishing in 13th place.

McDowell also competed in the 60-meter dash, finishing 24th.

Juniors Katherine Davis and Nicole Hill both competed in the weight throw for the Lady Braves.

## Weather delays Braves' games

**Matt Smith**  
Sports Editor

With the winter weather invading UNCP in the last couple of weeks, many sports schedules were altered.

In all, four Black and Gold teams had their regularly scheduled games postponed or cancelled.

### Gallagher Dinner

The weather first took its toll on UNCP's "Joe Gallagher Night," which was scheduled to honor former UNCP basketball player Joe Gallagher.

Gallagher was supposed to be honored in

between the women's and men's basketball games on Feb. 13 against North Georgia.

Both games were rescheduled for Feb. 22 due to a snow storm moving through Pembroke, so the Gallagher reception was moved to the English E. Jones auxiliary gym. Gallagher was presented with a framed jersey for his former efforts with the Braves.

### Basketball moved

The women's and men's game was moved to Feb. 22, with the men's team needing a win to stay eligible for the Peach Belt

Conference postseason tournament.

The women's team won 88-85 in overtime, while the men fell 78-69.

Along with the basketball teams, the Black and Gold had their match against Mt. Olive postponed to March 17 at 2:30 p.m. The Braves still took on Pfeiffer, falling 4-5.

### Baseball cancellations

The baseball team's schedule also changed thanks to snow cancellations, as the baseball team's home match against Salem International was cancelled.

## Softball takes game one; earns split against Pfeiffer Falcons

**By Nick Phillips**  
Asst. Sports Editor

The UNCP softball team split a doubleheader against Pfeiffer on Feb. 11 in the Lady Braves first action away from home in the young season.

The Lady Braves took game one 5-2 behind senior Jelena Shaw's four RBIs, before falling in the nightcap 5-1.

In the first game, Pfeiffer jumped out to an early lead before UNCP took the lead by scoring four runs in the fifth inning.

In the fifth inning, Shaw blasted a three-run homer to left field to put the Lady Braves on the board, driving in senior Morgan Patrick and sophomore Jamie Burwell. Later in the same inning, junior Courtney Hill

scored on freshman Holly Berry's single to right field.

Each team would tally a run in the sixth inning, as Shaw was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded to earn her fourth RBI of the game.

Junior Caroline Newman gave up two runs on seven hits, while striking out seven batters to earn the game one win.

In game two, Pfeiffer posted two runs on the scoreboard in each of the first two innings.

UNCP would tally their only run as Shaw scored on a throwing error in the third inning.

Pfeiffer would add one more run in the fourth inning for the game's final score, as the game was called after five innings due to darkness.



Photo by Matt Smith

Black and Gold third baseman Jelena Shaw sets the Braves' defense. Shaw finished with four RBIs in the first game against Pfeiffer.