Women’s Soccer

Final Record: 16-4-2
NCAA Second Round

UNCP senior Faye Corbett was one of four Lady Braves named to the PBC all-conference team. Corbett was also named to the Darktronics all-region team.

By Nick Phillips
Sports Editor

The 2010 edition of the UNCP women’s soccer team had a mixture of what all good teams look for during a season. Winning streaks, talent, depth and great goalkeeping propelled the Lady Braves to the NCAA Division II National Tournament, where the season ended in the second round.

UNCP finished with a final record of 16-4-2 overall, with a 7-2-1 mark in Peach Belt Conference play. In the middle of the season, the Lady Braves rolled off an 11-game unbeaten streak from late September until the end of October.

They beat everyone else except for their PBC foes. Per the Lady Braves in another conference, and they may still be playing in the national tournament.

All four of UNCP’s losses came from the hands of either Columbus State or Armstrong Atlantic, with the Lady Braves dropping one game to both foes in the regular season and in postseason play. UNCP’s PBC record doesn’t add in the loss in the PBC Tournament or the NCAA tournament loss, even though the national tournament defeat came from a conference opponent.

The Lady Braves had four players named all-conference by the PBC, with sophomore forward Anna Svensson and senior midfielder Faye Corbett joining goalkeeper Britney Bennett with first-team honors, while Bennett was also named PBC Freshman of the Year.

Also joining them on the all-conference squad was sophomore Fanny Forsman, who received second-team defensive honors. A pair of UNCP senior players were named to the PBC all-academic team, as Sam Dunn and Shenae Matur each earned their second honors to the team.

Both Dunn and Matur are also two-year PBC Presidential Honor Roll selections.

To go along with the all-conference teams, Dunn was also named to the CoSIDA all-district academic team for her second consecutive year.

Finally, Svenson, Corbett and Bennett were all named to the Darktronics all-region second team. Svenson led the Lady Braves in most statistical categories, leading them in total points, 39, and the most goals on the team with 17.

Corbett also finished atop one category, leading the Lady Braves with nine assists in her final season wearing the Black and Gold.

In her first campaign with UNCP, Bennett finished with 10 shutouts in goal, allowing only 10 goals all season in comparison to 112 saves over the season.

The 2010 team’s win total sits as second best all-time in program history behind the 2008 team that went 19-3-1 overall.

Women reach NCAAs

Men’s Soccer

Final Record: 5-9-4

By Nick Phillips
Sports Editor

The UNCP men’s soccer team experienced a change at the top of its program for the first time in 30 years prior to the 2010 season, as new head coach Phil Hindson took over for the retired Mike Schaefer.

Hindson’s first Braves squad finished its season with a 5-9-4 overall record, as UNCP won only one Peach Belt Conference game, finishing the conference schedule with a 1-5-2 record.

A team with six seniors, the Braves opened the Hindson era with two consecutive losses before giving the new coach his first Black and Gold win on Sept. 8 against Barton.

Two weeks later, the Braves notched their second win, a 4-0 victory over regional rival St. Andrews, and then 17 more days before the team’s next win.

On Oct. 9, UNCP suffered what proved to be its only PBC win over Georgia Southwestern by a 2-1 score and followed that up with an identical 2-1 score in a win against Mt. Olive on Oct. 20.

The Braves took their most lopsided win of the season on Oct. 27, as they shutout nine goals in a shutout victory over Chowan in what ended up being their final win of the season.

Six days later, on Nov. 2, UNCP was ousted in the PBC tournament’s opening round by Lander to officially end the 2010 campaign.

The Braves had seven players start all 18 games during the season, with junior Stuart Rodgers and senior Connor O’Boyle each tallying 1,700 minutes of action.

Freshman Brett Luccia finished his first season with a team-high six goals for the year, while also leading the team with 14 points in his opening campaign.

Braxton Perkins totaled seven assists to lead the Braves in that category in 2010, while Martin Tomter’s 51 shots, 32 of which were on goal, also led UNCP in those categories.

Freshman goalkeeper Ryan Hanson finished his first season at UNCP with 70 saves in 18 games, allowing 29 goals throughout the year as he finished with a 1.58 goals allowed per game average.

Looking ahead to 2011, the Braves youth will now have a season of experience under their belt, as 10 freshmen gained a collegiate season’s experience.

In addition to the rising sophomores class, there will be five rising juniors and four rising seniors on next year’s squad.

With such youth returning, the future of the Phil Hindson era and the UNCP men’s soccer program should once again be promising.