By Matt Smith
Sports Editor

The 2008 Black and Gold men’s soccer season was defined by major highs and even lower lows.

The Braves finished the year with a 9-9-1 record, the first time the team finished at .500 or better in three years.

With their 500 record, the team also had big wins over No. 10 Lees-McRae and a 4-0 shutout of Chowan on senior nights.

But, the Braves also struggled to find productivity, losing players to illness and injury and inexplicably struggling to find production.

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Men’s soccer works to find consistency in 2008

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The Black and Gold men’s soccer team picked up three All-Southeast Region selections as forward Carlos Cipriano, midfielder Ferrer and defensive back Michael Davis were named to the Daktronics Men’s Soccer Second Team All-Southeast Region squad.

Cipriano, a freshman from Raleigh, scored a team-high eight goals in only 13 games for the Braves this season.

Cipriano also had five assists for the Black and Gold and scored three game winning goals in consecutive games.

Cipriano’s most productive game of the season came in an Oct. 29 contest against Chowan where the freshman had a two-goal, two-assist night to help lead the Braves to a 4-0 senior night victory.

Ferrer, a senior forward/midfielder from Miami, Fla., earned his second straight All-Region laurels after earning All-American honors in 2007.

Ferrer, also a PBC All-Conference selection, started all 19 games for the Braves.

Ferrer led the Braves with 22 total points on six goals and a team-best 10 assists.

The final UNCC All-region selection was senior midfielder Michael Davis.

Davis, a product of Charlotte, started all 19 games and played every minute of 18 games this season for the Braves’ defensive unit.

Davis scored three goals for the Braves and tallied two assists, including scores in consecutive home games against Pfeiffer and his hometown school of Queens.

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