Lady ’Dawgs, ’Dawgs anticipate great seasons
By Sarah Padelford and Jeremy “Moose” Langston Staff Writers

Lady Bulldogs

The Lady Bulldogs began a winning season despite injuries and being one of the youngest teams in Union’s basketball history.

Team spirit is high among the players as they anticipate a winning season.

“One time we learn each other’s game, we’ll be the best,” Celestine Gholston, sophomore forward, said.

The freshmen show promise as they prove themselves to be college basketball material.

“I like being the youngest on a winning basketball team, because I have to work hard to prove myself,” Ginger Bryant said. Bryant averages 9.8 points per game. Alisha Lehmkuhl shows shooting ability on the three point line with an average of 0.526. Carolyn Sassu is a very quick inside player. Amy Grace, freshman walk-on, averages two rebounds and two points per game.

Bulldogs

The Bulldogs are off to a 3-1 start in the new season. With victories over Mount Senario College (105-79), Purdue University at Calument (78-58), and cross-town rival Lambuth (92-91) the team is having one of their best starts in years.

“I think the kids are playing very hard, and I’m very happy with the season thus far,” Coach Ralph Turner said.

The Bulldogs are playing without star forward Matt Hoover, who is out with a stress fracture. “I can’t wait to get back out on the court. I’m excited about all the talent on the team this year,” Hoover said. He is expected to be back in the line up by the end of the month.

Point guard Brandon Wood is the only senior on the team. “I try to help out the new guys in whatever ways I can,” Wood said.

Another big contributor to the team has been sophomore center Gaylon Moore. “As long as we play well together and take it one game at a time, we should have a great year,” Moore said.

Injuries have forced the team to work harder, and Turner feels the men have responded well. “I’m proud of how our big guys have played,” Turner said.

There is no doubt the Bulldogs have the talent to go a long way this season, but Turner stresses that the talent won’t be enough. “There are plenty of teams out there with talent, but it’s having that talent play together that makes a great team,” Turner said. “We appreciate all the fan support, and hope everybody comes out for what I think will be a great season,” he continued.

Soccer club wraps up season

• Team ends year with 4-8-2 record

By Nathan Jones Staff Writer

Tupelo, Miss.- The University soccer club wrapped up its final season under club status at the Southeastern Collegiate Soccer League Tournament on Nov.14-15. Union tied one game and had two losses against schools more than 10 times the size of Union.

Although going up against larger schools took its toll on the team, members saw it as a good learning experience.

“We were able to learn from playing the larger schools. It will help us next year on how bigger and better teams can move,” Stephen Horn, freshman offense, said.

Friday evening, Union faced the University of Florida. Union had only 13 players dressed out due to a long season plagued by injuries.

Union suffered an 8-1 loss to the University of Florida with the team’s only goal coming from Kyle Huggins, junior offense.

Saturday, Union once again met the University of Southern Mississippi and the University of Mississippi at Columbus.

On Sept. 13, Union beat University of Mississippi at Columbus 1-0 in Columbus.

Union tied University of Southern Mississippi 1-1 at home Oct. 11.

Saturday, Union lost against the University of Southern Mississippi, 3-1, and tied the University of Mississippi at Columbus, 2-2.

Because of injuries, some Union players stepped up to fill voids.

“I’ve had more playing time this weekend than I did all year,” Trey McClain, junior defense player, said.

“It was very encouraging seeing certain players that hadn’t gotten much playing time step in and play well,” Lee Davis, senior defense player, said.

Davis missed the game against University of Southern Mississippi because of an injured ankle from University of Florida game.

Union dedicated the team’s last game to the two graduating seniors, Craig Dismuke and Jon Boord. This was also the last game that Union played under club status.

The Bulldogs finished the season with a 4-8-2 record. Next year Union’s soccer program will be a varsity team in the TranSouth Conference.

“We obviously view this year as a stepping stone to the 1998 varsity season. Nine out of 15 of our players were freshmen, and the freshmen proved themselves,” White said.

Provost

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Union University, Dr. Sanderson is one of the most talented administrators I’ve ever known or observed,” he added.

If Sanderson is approved for the position, she will continue to serve as dean of the school of nursing for the 1997-98 academic year to prevent two dean searches from being conducted at the same time, the first being the search for a new dean of the college of arts and sciences. Dockery hopes to have a new dean installed in the College of Arts and Sciences by the fall of 1998 and a new dean in the School of Nursing by the fall of 1999.

Sanderson said she is excited about her candidacy and prospective opportunity to serve as Union’s chief academic officer.

“There are so many exciting things about our future,” she said. “Under Dr. Dockery’s leadership, we are casting some visions. I would like to be at the steering wheel for the future. I look forward to learning what I need to know in order to make things happen. The future of higher education will be much more integrated, and I want to be a facilitator for that,” she continued enthusiastically.

Sanderson said she never envisioned herself in a role such as dean or provost, but tried to make herself available for different roles during the years. With the opportunity that may be just around the corner, though, Sanderson has her eyes open wide to what she would hope to bring to the position.

“It’s important for me to be not just a figurehead, but someone who cares and wants to help students be all God intends for them to be,” she said.

Sanderson has received positive feedback from faculty so far, but also realizes unique opportunities could arise from her appointment to the office. She values her chance to bring a woman’s perspective to the administration as a dean and would hope to continue her relational role as provost. She believes diplomacy will be a key in the future and hopes to remain sensitive to other colleges’ needs.

“That’s my learning curve right now - understanding and knowing how to help other faculty,” she admitted. “But one of the things I enjoy the most is making things happen for people,” she said of her desire to learn to serve the faculty better.

Not only does the candidate for provost want to understand others’ disciplines, but she also wants to get to know students.

Senior Paige Williams, Sociology major, does not know the candidate on an academic level; rather, she has developed a professional and personal friendship with Sanderson as the family babysitter.

“I think (her candidacy) is a great thing for this campus,” Williams said. “She is just a wonderful friend to so many people - faculty and students - because she knows both sides. She has such leadership qualities and plenty of experience,” she continued.

Developing relationships with students is exactly what Sanderson hopes to continue in whatever capacity she serves in at Union.

“For me, what really drives all of us (the faculty) is student exchange. It’s important to find a connection to Union’s ‘reason to be,’” Sanderson said. She stressed that she wants to be better known outside of her school and her position. “I want to be approachable. There’s a whole lot more to my interest than administration - it’s the students,” she said.