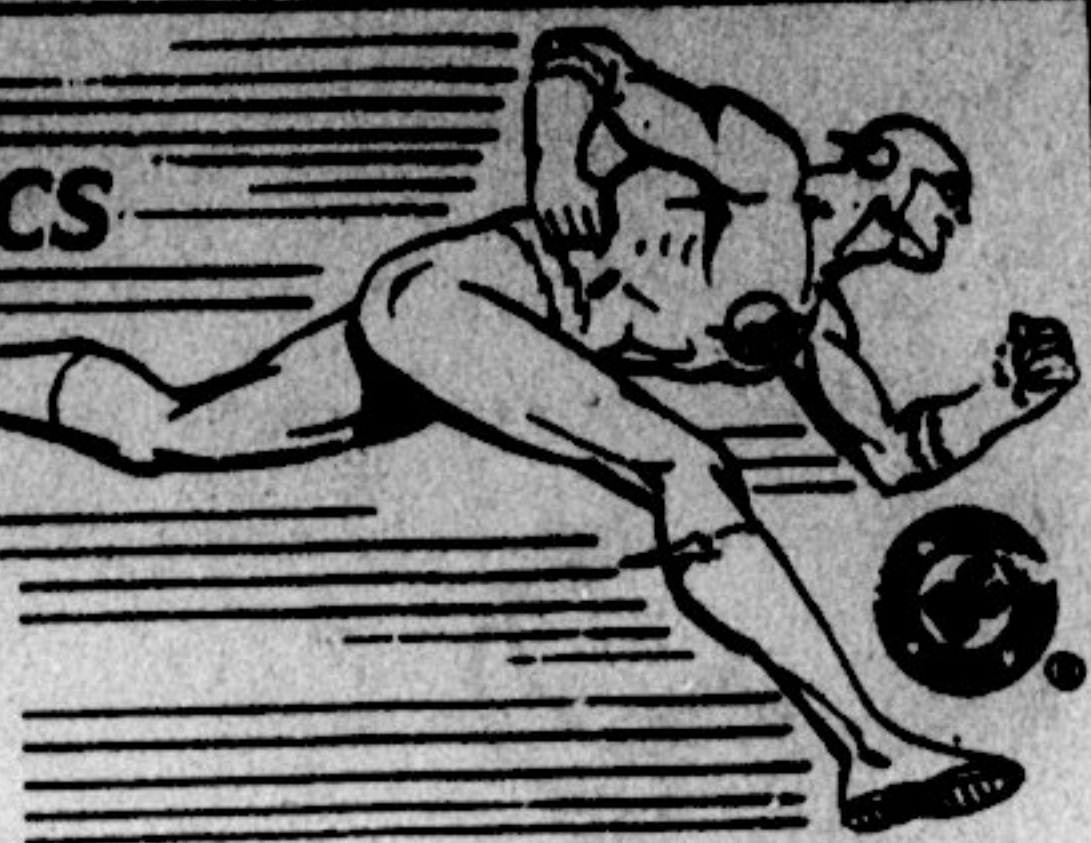


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SPORTS

Men's soccer closes season

**William & Mary win
championship again**

Emily Koperniak
STAFF WRITER

ECU men's soccer team ended the season with a loss in the first round of the CAA tournament on Tuesday.

"As a team we played with our heart, we gave great effort and came together," said junior defender Nick Errato. "We gave a great performance

as a whole. It was a heartbreaker for the seniors to go out with a loss."

The Pirates went into the tournament at Virginia Beach, Va. holding the number seven seed. They faced VCU, who held the second seed, and has been ranked seventh in the nation. ECU lost to VCU in the final season game as well.

"It was pretty bad," said senior forward A.J. Gray. "We played good. It was a close game, close at half time."

VCU attempted 20 shots throughout the game, but did not score until the 82nd minute. "It was

the senior's last game, going out like that is crappy," Gray said.

"There was like eight minutes left in the game when a real controversial goal was made," Gray said. "It kind of killed us; we didn't have much of a chance."

The controversial goal Gray referred to was a possible handball made by the offense of VCU before the goal was scored. ECU tallied three shots on the day.

"The ref may have overlooked the calls, but we played our hearts out and gained respect," said senior defender Brett Waxer. "We worked

so hard from beginning to end."

Freshman goalkeeper E.J. Marvinney earned five saves and one goal allowed. Marvinney completed the game in the goalkeeper's position.

"Our record does not reflect how we played," Waxer said. "We stuck together and worked through the obstacles."

The Pirates ended the 1999 season with the quarter final game. William & Mary won their fifth soccer championship 4-2 over VCU.

This writer can be contacted at ekoperniak@studentmedia.ecu.edu.



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