

Sports- **Lady Lions looking to dominate**

Training in the Netherlands helps women's soccer become more unified

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If you're wondering what it's like to travel overseas, then just ask the 2000 Lady Lions soccer team.

The team spent 10 days in the Netherlands, at Emerson's Castle, beginning its preseason play with two games against regional European teams.

Both games ended in 1-1 ties, but this less-than-stellar start didn't get the Lady Lions down. They came back from across the pond to scrimmage against Wentworth Institute of Technology on Aug. 29.

The tough 4-3 loss in this scrimmage fueled the fires for their first sanctioned game back in the States.

The Lady Lions finally came alive and squashed Eastern Nazarene with a 3-1 win on Sept. 2.

In the following two games, against the University of Massachusetts on Sept. 7 and Norwich on Sept. 9, the team struggled.

The Lady Lions were forced to settle for a scoreless tie due to a power outage, which they then followed with a 2-0 loss to Norwich.



The women's soccer team has a record of 1-3 so far this season.

The final scores for all of these games do not reflect the true nature of the actual game play.

The Lady Lions dominated the games, keeping the play within their opponents' halves more than 75 percent of the time, head coach Kristin Parnell said.

The team out-shot U-Mass 34- 2, another statistic that would equal victory under normal circumstances.

The Lady Lions' dominance, according to the team, comes from a strong sense of unity among the young players.



The Lady Lion's soccer team shows their unity during a practice. The team is strong and has the potential to lead the GNAC this semester.

There are no seniors on this year's team, but the roster was filled with seven new freshmen and one transfer, all strong players.

This unity makes for a strong bench, which kept the intensity of play up for longer amounts of time.

"We are a strong, unified team," sophomore Lily Baldwin said. "We are starting to dominate the competition."

This season, the players were put through a much more rigorous fitness program, putting them all in better shape than before.

They are prepared to improve upon last year's numbers and push forward into a new year and a new team.

The team knows that it has the potential to lead the GNAC league this semester. "With the skill that we have, anything less than a winning season will be a disappointment," junior captain Jaimie Langevin said.

Emerson faces a challenging league this year. In a league in which Norwich will be the average level of competition, the Lady Lions are sure to be forged into a powerful force.

The Lady Lions' next game, Sept. 16 against Daniel Webster at 12 p.m., will be the next chance the team has to get closer to its goal of dominating the GNAC.

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