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Department of  
Communications

For immediate release

**Linwood Vrolijk**, head field hockey coach at Eastern Mennonite University, has resigned from the position.

EMU vice president and academic dean William J. Hawk accepted Vrolijk's resignation as a result of improper behavior involving a member of the field hockey team.

"EMU expects the highest levels of professional conduct from its coaches," said Dr. Hawk. "Coach Vrolijk accepted responsibility for his actions and conveyed to the team his profound regrets. Through the years, Linwood established an outstanding competitive record while earning the respect and admiration of his players. We are all saddened by these events," the dean added.

Vrolijk led this year's squad to a No. 1 ranking in the nation in Div. III and a 23-1 season record, losing 1-0 in the first round of the NCAA regional tournament on Nov. 6 to Hartwick College of Oneonta, N.Y.

Vrolijk was an assistant field hockey coach before taking the head coaching position in 1995. He compiled an 83-7 cumulative record over four seasons, led the team to four consecutive Old Dominion Athletic Association championships and four national playoff berths and was named ODAC "coach of the year" for 1997 and 1998.

"Through this transition, the EMU community stands with the players, assistant coaches and friends of this year's highly successful team," Hawk said. "Our prayers go out to the players and to Coach Vrolijk, his family and many friends. JB/11-30-98

For additional comments: Dr. William J. Hawk, 432-4105

Harrisonburg VA 22802-2462  
Office: (540) 432-4211  
Home: (540) 432-6208  
Fax: (540) 432-4448