



SSC WEEKLY RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, June 1, 2010

FLORIDA TECH CREW PLACES 4TH, BARRY EIGHT 3RD AT NCAA ROWING CHAMPIONSHIP



Florida Tech concluded the NCAA Division II Championships on Sunday in fourth place with nine points, six of which were earned by the varsity four and three were recorded by the varsity eight. Western Washington (20 points) took home the NCAA Division II Team Championship for the sixth consecutive year, Seattle Pacific (11 points) finished second and Philadelphia (10 points) placed third.

In the opening event, the Varsity Four Grand Final, Tech was up against Western Washington and Philadelphia. From the start, Western Washington jumped ahead of its two opponents. Philadelphia worked itself away from the Panthers at the 500-meter mark, however, Tech would roll past Philadelphia and never look back. Western Washington hung on to win the Division II Fours Championship, stopping the clock at 7:25.35. One day after improving by 12 seconds from Friday's heat time, the Panthers shaved nearly 13 seconds off Saturday's repechage time to finish at 7:43.84. Philadelphia rounded out the field at 7:56.92.

Immediately following the varsity four final, the Varsity 8 Petite Final occurred, and it featured Tech against Philadelphia. The Rams had a small advantage over the Panthers within the first 500 meters. Philadelphia would extend its lead further, but the Panthers gave a strong effort and finished second in the race at a time of 7:02.52 and sixth overall in the varsity eight. Philadelphia won the Petite Final with a time of 6:55.06.

In the Varsity 8 Grand Final, Barry took a third place finish with a time of 6:51.76.

The Buccaneer Eight boat competed for a national championship against Mercyhurst, Western Washington, and Seattle Pacific. At the end of the first 500 meters, Barry trailed the lead by a mere 00:00.52 seconds. Ahead of the Bucs was Western Washington and Mercyhurst in the lead.

At the 1000 meter mark, Barry remained in third but fell back to the lead by just over 00:03 seconds with Mercyhurst in first and Western Washington in second. With 500 meters to go, the Buccaneers still held third place.

At the finish was Mercyhurst in first with a blazing time of 6:42.53, Western Washington in second at 6:44.92, Barry in third, and Seattle Pacific in fourth with a time of 6:53.04.

** This is the final SSC Weekly Release for 2009-10. The release will resume in August when fall sports begin. **

** A recap of NCAA Division II Rowing Championship action leading up to Sunday's final races appears below.*

DAY ONE RECAP (MAY 28): In Friday's opening races at the NCAA DII Rowing Championship, the Barry Varsity 8 finished second in its heat, while the Florida Tech Varsity 8 placed third. In the Varsity 4 event, the Panthers logged a second-place finish.

In the first Varsity 8 heat, Florida Tech remained close to both Mercyhurst and Seattle Pacific in the beginning until Mercyhurst began to pull away. From that point, the Lakers did not look back, finishing the heat in first place at 6:49.66. Seattle Pacific came in second, just over four seconds later, and the Panthers placed third at 7:09.19.

The Mercyhurst win puts the crew in Sunday's grand final. Florida Tech and Seattle Pacific will row in Saturday's repechage race.

The Bucs raced in the second heat of the day against Western Washington University and Philadelphia University. The Bucs finished second in a time of 6:54.84, almost 11 seconds behind winner Western Washington (6:44.81). The Bucs led after the first 500 meters with a 1:39.63 split, however Western Washington rowed the final 1500 meters nearly 12 seconds quicker than the Bucs. Philadelphia took third in a time of 7:01.98.

With the win, Western Washington automatically qualifies for the grand final on Sunday afternoon. Barry and Philadelphia will earn a second shot at qualifying for the grand final when they compete in the repechage race tomorrow.

The Division II Eights repechage race will take place at 10:30 a.m. PST (1:30 pm EST). The top team from the repechage race will join Western Washington and Mercyhurst in the grand final.

In Varsity 4 action, Florida Tech met Western Washington in heat two, and the Lakers once again showed why they are defending champions. The Panthers gave Western Washington a strong effort, but the foe prevailed, crossing the finish line at 7:38.98. Tech stopped the clock at 8:08.46.

The Panthers will meet Seattle Pacific in the varsity four repechage Saturday at 10:45 a.m. PT/1:45 p.m. ET.

DAY TWO RECAP (MAY 29): Barry's Varsity 8 and Florida Tech's Varsity 4 enjoyed a successful second day at the DII Rowing Championship on Saturday, earning slots in their respective Grand Finals.

Florida Tech, Barry, Philadelphia and Seattle Pacific squared off in the first of two Division II repechages. Barry powered to an early lead followed by Seattle Pacific. Philadelphia would overtake the Falcons with 1,000 meters to go. Tech and Seattle Pacific appeared to be rowing at similar rates at that point, however, Seattle Pacific quickly made a strong push. As the boats entered the stretch, Seattle Pacific passed both Barry and Philadelphia to finish first at 6:54.63. Barry and Philadelphia hung on for second and third place, respectively. Tech came in fourth at 7:09.74.

Seattle Pacific and Barry will move on to the Grand Final to face Mercyhurst and Western Washington, who earned spots there in Friday's heats. The Grand Final is set for 12:30 p.m. PST (3:30 EST). Tech will row against Philadelphia in the Petite Final at 9:15 a.m PST (12:15 EST) on Sunday.

In the Varsity 4 repechage, Florida Tech appeared to have the stronger boat from the outset. Within the first 500 meters, the Panthers held a good lead over Seattle Pacific. Despite the separation they built, the Panthers continued to sprint to the line, leaving the Falcons several boat lengths behind.

Tech crossed the finish line at 7:56.39, and the Falcons stopped the clock nearly 15 seconds after the first-place boat. In an impressive fashion, the Panthers sliced a whopping 12 seconds off the time they earned in their heat against Western Washington on Friday.

Sunday's Varsity Four Grand Final, slated for 9 a.m. PST (12 EDT), will pit Tech against Philadelphia and Western Washington to determine the NCAA Division II fours champion.

2010 Sunshine State Conference Rowing Update (through May 31, 2010)

NCAA Division II Championship • Friday, May 28 - Sunday, May 30 (Gold River, Calif.)

Varsity 4 - Heat 2

1. Western Wash. 7:38.98
2. Florida Tech 8:08.46

Varsity 8 - Heat 1

1. Mercyhurst 6:49.66
2. Seattle Pacific 6:53.71
3. Florida Tech 7:09.19

Varsity 8 - Heat 2

1. Western Wash. 6:44.78
2. Barry 6:55.07
3. Philadelphia 7:02.08

Varsity 4 Repechage

1. Florida Tech 7:56.39
2. Seattle Pacific 8:11.05

Varsity 8 Repechage

1. Seattle Pacific 6:54.63
2. Barry 6:56.20
3. Philadelphia 7:02.59

Varsity 4 Final

1. Western Wash. 7:25.35
2. Florida Tech 7:43.84
3. Philadelphia 7:56.92

V8 Petite Final

1. Philadelphia 6:55.06
2. Florida Tech 7:02.52

V8 Grand Final

1. Mercyhurst 6:42.53
2. Western Wash. 6:44.92
3. Barry 6:51.76

GEORGIA COLLEGE ELIMINATES TAMPA AT DII BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



The University of Tampa baseball team saw its season come to an end at the 2010 NCAA Division II Championship, as it was edged by a 2-1 score by Georgia College & State University.

UT managed seven hits off GC&SU pitcher Jason Nicholas but got only one unearned run off those hits. Nicholas also surrendered two walks in eight innings of work, while striking out six. Benton Yaun was the difference for the Bobcats, as he drove in both Georgia College runs.

GCSU got on the board first in the bottom of the second inning. Richard Pirkle drew a two-out walk from Tampa starter **Josh Bowman** and scored all the way from first on a double to right-center by Yaun. Tampa tied the game at 1-1 in its next at-bat, using a bunt single, an errant throw to second on a bunt attempt, and a two-out single up the middle by **Mike Schwartz**.

In the bottom of the fourth, a leadoff walk by Steve Muoio and infield singles by Shawn Ward and Pirkle loaded the bases for Yaun, who lifted a fly ball to center to drive in his second run of the game and give the Bobcats the lead again.

Patrick Donahue had three of Tampa's eight hits, and Schwartz added a pair. Bowman went 6.1 innings for the Spartans, giving up two runs on six hits and four walks. He struck out eight Bobcats.

The Spartans conclude the season as the Sunshine State Conference and NCAA South Region champions. UT also registered the program's eighth straight 40-plus win campaign under head coach Joe Urso.

2010 Sunshine State Conference Baseball Update (through May 31, 2010)

SSC BASEBALL STANDINGS

	SSC Games			Overall			
	W	L	PCT	W	L	T	PCT
Tampa	21	3	.875	46	11	0	.807
Rollins	16	8	.667	41	19	0	.683
Nova Southeastern	15	9	.625	35	21	0	.625
Florida Southern	14	10	.583	41	16	0	.719
Florida Tech	14	10	.583	39	16	0	.709
Barry	13	11	.542	32	19	0	.627
Saint Leo	6	18	.250	20	34	0	.370
Lynn	6	18	.250	16	37	1	.306
Eckerd	3	21	.125	20	28	0	.417

NCAA DII BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Cary, N.C.

SATURDAY, MAY 22

Central Missouri 3, Tampa 0

MONDAY, MAY 24

Georgia College & State Univ. 2, Tampa 1

SSC TEAMS IN RANKINGS

Collegiate Baseball Newspaper Poll (5/19):

2. Tampa, 15. Rollins, 16. Florida Southern, Florida Tech received votes

NCBWA Poll (5/11):

3. Tampa, 21. Florida Southern, Rollins received votes