



# SSC WEEKLY RELEASE

7061 Grand National Drive, Suite 140, Orlando, FL 32819  
Phone: 407-248-8460 • Fax: 407-248-8325 • [sunshinestateconference.com](http://sunshinestateconference.com)

Contact: Kelly Harrison, Assistant Commissioner for Internal Operations  
[kharrison@sunshinestateconference.com](mailto:kharrison@sunshinestateconference.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, May 18, 2009

## NOVA SOUTHEASTERN WINS WOMEN'S GOLF NATIONAL TITLE

*Story Courtesy of NSU Sports Information*



The No. 1 ranked Nova Southeastern University women's golf team won the first NCAA National Championship in the history of NSU Athletics on Saturday afternoon, defeating Grand Valley State by 15 strokes at the Findlay Country Club.

"This is not just a women's golf team championship," said NSU head coach **Kevin Marsh**. "This is a complete athletic department championship, from Athletic Director Michael Mominey to Sports Information to Athletic Training to Academic Support. Everyone had a role in helping us reach this point."

Leading by 10 strokes over University of Indianapolis and by 11 strokes over Rollins College entering the final round of play, NSU shot a fourth round low team score of 307 to clinch the Championship while Indianapolis carded a 315 and Rollins shot a 314. Grand Valley State moved up to second place in the final standings by recording the second lowest score in the final round, a 309.

"Right from the beginning, we knew the best team was going to win this week," Marsh said. "The way the course was set up and with the weather conditions the way they were, this was definitely the toughest course we have played this season. After an average first day, we followed with a great next day by making up about 30 strokes over the course of 36 holes to lead by 10 heading into the final round of play. We felt that Rollins was the team to beat and getting off to a great start today was big for us. The experience we gained by coming in second place at last year's tournament really paid off."

The Sharks were led by sophomore two-time All-American **Sandra Changkija**, who shot a final round 75 to conclude play in a tie for second place among all individuals with Pfeiffer's Charlene Reid. Changkija was just two strokes behind tournament medalist Lyndsay McBride of Indianapolis, who carded a 77 to win the individual title. Junior three-time All-American **Maria Garcia-Austt** also finished in the top ten, placing in a tie for 7th place with a final round 75. Sophomore **Nicole Whitmore** had an impressive 14th place finish and was followed by sophomore All-American **Taylor Collins** in 21st and sophomore **Fredrika Hakansson** in 28th place.

"I'm very excited, especially after coming in second place last year," said Garcia-Austt. "We won a lot of tournaments this year, but we knew that this was the one that we really wanted. We had great team spirit and really pulled together as a team, which led us to win the tournament."

"It feels great," Changkija said. "We were inexperienced last year and the experience we gained from that tournament was great for us to draw upon today in the final round. We didn't really feel the nervousness and pressure that we felt a year ago."

The Sharks (1230) held off Grand Valley State (1245), who finished in second place 15 strokes back. Rollins College (1248) and University of Indianapolis (1248) tied for third place while Florida Southern (1258) rounded out the top five.

The national title culminates a season in which the Sharks held the top ranking in the nation from beginning to end. NSU won seven of the 11 tournaments they competed in, including the NCAA Division II South Regional and the NCAA Division II National Championship. At one point during the season, NSU won a program record three consecutive tournaments and concluded the season by winning seven of their last nine competitions.

The Sharks' title is the 10th consecutive women's golf championship won by an SSC member institution. Florida Southern won three straight crowns in 2000, 2001, and 2002. Rollins then reeled off four straight in 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006. The Mocs then won again in 2007, and Rollins claimed the championship in 2008.

A round-by-round recap of the NCAA Championship appears on the SSC website.

## LYNN & FSC TO SQUARE OFF FOR SOUTH REGION BASEBALL TITLE MONDAY



Despite playing in Gulf South Conference country, the NCAA DII Baseball South Region championship will be an all SSC affair, as Lynn and Florida Southern will square off Monday for the regional title and the right to advance to the NCAA Baseball Championship.

With a 3-1 win over host and No. 1 Southern Arkansas, Florida Southern ensured that an SSC team will be advancing to the NCAA Division II Championship next week in Cary, N.C. The Moccasins will face No. 5 Lynn on Monday morning with the South Region championship on the line.

The Knights had claimed their slot in Monday's title game by virtue of a 7-3 win over Southern. That loss sent the Mocs to an elimination game on Sunday afternoon, which tilted in their favor. Their opponent in that contest, Southern Arkansas, had staved off elimination earlier Sunday morning with a 12-5 win over No. 7 Valdosta State.

FSC scored the first three runs of the game, and that proved to be all they would need. All three runs were unearned thanks to fielding mishaps by the Muleriders. Nick Stanley drove in Trae Gore with an RBI grounder for the first run of the afternoon. Stanley would also drive in the second run of the game with an RBI triple in the fifth. In the very next at-bat, Zach Maggard drove home Stanley to give Southern a 3-0 advantage. The homestanding Muleriders answered with a run of their own in the bottom of the fifth, but they would get no closer the rest of the way.

The Moccasins and Knights will face off in the championship game at 11 a.m. CT on Monday. If Lynn wins, the Knights advance to the DII Championship May 23-30. If FSC wins, the teams would play a second game to determine who would advance. The Knights have won all four of the teams' previous meetings this spring.

On Saturday, No. 5 Lynn kept its momentum rolling in the nightcap, downing No. 6 Florida Southern 7-3 to stake its spot in Monday's regional championship game. Both squads got off to a quick start in the first inning, plating two runs each. The Moccasins took what would prove to be their only lead of the game with a go-ahead run in the fourth. From there, the game belonged to the Knights, as they plated at least one run in the sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth to take the win.

A day-by-day regional summary is available on the SSC website.

### 2009 Sunshine State Conference Baseball Update (through May 17, 2009)

#### SSC BASEBALL STANDINGS

	SSC Games			Overall		
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Barry	18	6	.750	44	11	.800
Florida Southern	16	8	.667	41	15	.732
Tampa	16	8	.667	39	17	.696
Lynn	14	10	.583	41	16	.719
Florida Tech	12	12	.500	32	22	.593
Rollins	10	14	.417	27	24	.529
Nova Southeastern	9	15	.375	37	19	.661
Saint Leo	8	16	.333	22	34	.393
Eckerd	5	19	.208	23	31	.426

#### SSC TEAMS IN RANKINGS

##### Collegiate Baseball Newspaper Poll (5/11):

3. Barry, 10. Tampa, 14. Fla Southern, Lynn & NSU received votes

##### NCBWA National Poll (5/12):

3. Barry, 16. Tampa, T21. Florida Southern, Lynn received votes

#### NCAA DII SOUTH REGIONAL Hosted by Southern Arkansas University Magnolia, Ark.

##### THURSDAY, MAY 14

Game 1 - No. 1 Southern Ark. 14, No. 8 Stillman 1  
Game 2 - No. 5 Lynn 11, No. 4 Tampa 8 (10)  
Game 3 - No. 7 Valdosta St. 8, No. 2 Barry 3  
Game 4 - No. 6 Florida Southern 14, No. 3 West Alabama 7

##### FRIDAY, MAY 15

Game 5 - No. 4 Tampa 21, No. 8 Stillman 8  
Game 6 - No. 3 West Alabama 14, No. 2 Barry 9  
Game 7 - No. 5 Lynn 5, No. 1 Southern Ark. 4  
Game 8 - No. 6 Florida Southern 6, No. 7 Valdosta St. 3

##### SATURDAY, MAY 16

Game 9 - No. 1 Southern Ark. 10, No. 3 West Alabama 6  
Game 10 - No. 7 Valdosta St. 10, No. 4 Tampa 5  
Game 11 - No. 5 Lynn 7, No. 6 Florida Southern 3

##### SUNDAY, MAY 17

Game 12 - No. 1 Southern Ark. 12, No. 7 Valdosta St. 5  
Game 13 - No. 6 Florida Southern 3, No. 1 Southern Ark. 1

##### MONDAY, MAY 18

Game 14 - No. 5 Lynn vs. No. 6 Florida Southern, 11 a.m. CT  
Game 15 - (If necessary) Same as Game 14, 2:30 p.m. CT

## LYNN FALLS TO ARMSTRONG ATLANTIC IN WOMEN'S TENNIS FINAL

Story Courtesy of Lynn Sports Information



In a rematch of last season's NCAA Division II National Championship, Lynn University's second-ranked women's tennis team fell just short of earning its seventh national title with a 5-2 loss to third-ranked Armstrong Atlantic State on Saturday afternoon. The Fighting Knights finish the season 28-1 after going undefeated up to the championship match.

"We had another great season," Lynn head coach **Mike Perez** said, "but things just didn't come together at the end. Our team is young with a lot of heart and a strong bond, and I think that we're just a few small things off from winning another championship in the future."

Lynn closes out the year as the runner-up for the second-straight season. The Blue and White have played for the NCAA title seven times since 1997, now going 3-4 in the main event.

Opening play with a doubles split, the Pirates took the early edge 2-1. Second-ranked Martina Beckmann and Alida Muller-Wehlau topped fifth-ranked **Katerina Jiskrova** and **Eleonora Iannozzi** 8-2 in the top spot while seventh-ranked Gabriella Kovacs and Sona Novakova beat No. 24 **Magdalena Ekert** and **Alisson Siaci** 8-5 in the second flight.

Lynn's lone doubles point came in the third position as **Tessie Salame** and **Jessica Yanoff** outlasted No. 12 Kathleen Henry and Tina Ronel 9-8 (2) in the tiebreaker.

"We took a point in doubles and an early point in singles that gave us momentum," Perez said. "The bottom of our lineup played extremely well and helped put us into a position to win."

The Knights looked to have the edge on the Pirates to open singles action, taking all four of the first sets in the bottom four flights. Lynn evened the score early as Salame dropped Alisa Kagukina 6-1, 6-0 in the sixth spot to knot things up at 2-2.

Answering back, Armstrong took the top two singles matches to go up 4-2. Top-ranked Novakova beat 11th-ranked Jiskrova 6-3, 6-3 while No. 16 Muller-Wehlau downed 15th-ranked Ekert 6-4, 6-0.

Closing out the win in the fourth position, No. 19 Kovacs came from behind to defeat Yanoff 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 to seal the championship for the Pirates.

Unfinished matches included No. 46 Iannozzi split with 30th-ranked Beckmann 7-5, 4-6, 4-3 in the third spot and Siaci tied with No. 46 Ronel 6-4, 4-6, 1-2 in the fifth flight.

"It's always difficult when you lose in the finals," said Perez, "but you can't blame any of the players. Each and every one of our girls played their hearts out the entire tournament. We're lucky to return all seven of our players next season, so we'll be back to give it another shot next year."

A round-by-round summary of NCAA tennis action appears on the SSC website.

### 2009 Sunshine State Conference Women's Tennis Update (through May 17, 2009)

#### SSC WOMEN'S TENNIS STANDINGS

	SSC Games			Overall		
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Lynn	8	0	1.000	28	1	.966
Rollins	6	2	.750	20	4	.833
Florida Southern	6	2	.750	16	7	.696
Barry	5	3	.625	17	8	.680
Nova Southeastern	5	3	.625	17	8	.680
Florida Tech	3	5	.375	20	9	.690
Saint Leo	2	6	.250	9	17	.346
Tampa	1	7	.125	10	14	.417
Eckerd	0	8	.000	0	15	.000

#### NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIP

##### WEDNESDAY, MAY 13

Lynn 5, Bloomsburg (Pa.) 0 (NCAA Round of 16)

##### FRIDAY, MAY 15

Lynn 5, BYU-Hawaii 3 (NCAA Quarterfinal)

Lynn 5, Abilene Christian 2 (NCAA Semifinal)

##### SATURDAY, MAY 16

Armstrong Atlantic St. 5, Lynn 2 (NCAA Final)

## BARRY SUCCUMBS TO ARMSTRONG ATLANTIC IN MEN'S TENNIS FINAL

*Story Courtesy of Barry Sports Information*



In a titanic championship match lasting exactly five hours, the top-ranked and defending DII national champion Armstrong Atlantic State men's tennis team erased a 2-1 deficit in doubles to win, 5-4, over second-ranked Barry and capture its second consecutive NCAA Division II Men's Tennis Championship on Saturday in Altamonte Springs.

The match came down to No. 5 singles, where Armstrong sophomore Rafael Array and Barry's **Roman Werschel** played a three-set match to determine the match. Array won the first set, 6-4, but Werschel rallied to win the second set, 7-5, and set up one set for the title. Already down a break at 5-3, Werschel failed to hold serve and Array took the set, match and championship.

Barry finishes runner-up for the second time in a row and fourth time overall in school history, ending its season at 27-3, the most wins in school history.

Barry (27-3) started off well, taking a 2-1 lead after doubles. The Pirates (30-1) got on the board first with an 8-3 win at number three doubles as Eudaldo Bonet and Akos Torok defeated **Jakub Fefjar** and **Sergio Velez**. Barry picked up a late break at the topflight with **Emanuel Fraitzl** and **Max Wimmer** edging Paul Bishop and Mikk Irdoja, 8-6.

At the pivotal number two doubles match, Array and Tim Johannsen found themselves down, 6-3, but battled back to take a 7-6 lead. Barry's **Ales Svigelj** and **Andrew Sharnov**, however, won the final three games to come away with a 9-7 victory.

In singles, every match but the final one ended in straight sets, setting up the drama. Twenty-sixth-ranked Irdoja gave the Pirates a singles point with a 6-2, 6-1 win over #46-ranked Sharnov at number three singles to even the match. Wimmer knocked off 50th-ranked Fitzgerald 6-2, 6-3 at number four singles, handing Fitzgerald his first dual match singles loss of the season to put Barry back up 3-2. Johannsen defeated Fefjar 6-4, 6-0 at number six singles to even the match up at 3-3.

Barry was one point away from the title after 18th-ranked Fraitzl defeated #20-ranked Bishop 6-3, 6-4 at number two singles. Nevertheless, second-ranked Bonet won a pivotal first-set tiebreak and went on to a 7-6, 6-0 win over #5 Svigelj at the top flight to make it 4-4.

A round-by-round recap of NCAA play is available on the SSC website.

### 2009 Sunshine State Conference Men's Tennis Update (through May 17, 2009)

#### SSC MEN'S TENNIS STANDINGS

	SSC Games			Overall		
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Lynn	6	0	1.000	19	4	.826
Barry	5	1	.833	27	3	.900
Florida Southern	4	2	.667	15	10	.600
Rollins	3	3	.500	18	9	.667
Florida Tech	2	4	.333	16	10	.615
Eckerd	1	5	.167	6	14	.300
Saint Leo	0	6	.000	5	16	.238

#### NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIP

##### WEDNESDAY, MAY 13 (ROUND OF 16)

Barry 5, BYU-Hawaii 0  
Lynn 5, Kutztown (Pa.) 0

##### THURSDAY, MAY 14 (QUARTERFINALS)

Armstrong Atlantic St. 5, Lynn 2  
Barry 5, Georgia College & State Univ. 0

##### FRIDAY, MAY 15 (SEMIFINALS)

Barry 5, Concordia (N.Y.) 3

##### SATURDAY, MAY 16 (CHAMPIONSHIP)

Armstrong Atlantic St. 5, Barry 4

## **2009 Sunshine State Conference Women's Golf Update (through May 17, 2009)**

### **NCAA DII Women's Championship • Wednesday, May 13 - Saturday, May 16 (Findlay, Ohio) • 12 Teams**

#### **TEAM SCORES**

1. Nova Southeastern 314-302-307-307=1230
- T3. Rollins 309-315-310-314=1248
5. Florida Southern 320-307-320-311=1258
- Florida Tech

#### **TOP GOLFER**

- Sandra Changkija T2nd 76-74-75-75=300  
Joanna Coe T9th 78-77-77-77=309  
Heather Burgner T9th 78-76-79-76=309  
Daniela Iacobelli 6th 74-80-73-78=305

## **2009 Sunshine State Conference Men's Golf Update (through May 17, 2009)**

### **UPCOMING SCHEDULE**

#### **NCAA Division II Men's Golf Championship**

May 19-22  
Loomis Trail Golf Club  
Blaine, Wash.

### **SSC TEAMS IN RANKINGS**

#### **Golf World/Nike DII Men's Golf Poll (5/14):**

3. Barry, T4. Lynn, 8. Nova Southeastern, 9. Florida Southern, Rollins received votes

## **2009 Sunshine State Conference Women's Rowing Update (through May 17, 2009)**

### **UPCOMING SCHEDULE**

#### **NCAA Division II Rowing Championship**

May 29-31  
Cooper River  
Camden, N.J.