



SPORTS NEWS

Presidents' Athletic Conference

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Saint Vincent College to Host 2012 PAC Softball Championships on May 3-4

NEW WILMINGTON, Pa. - The **2012 Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) Softball Championships** will take place this **Thursday-Friday, May 3-4, 2012**, with play beginning each day at 11 a.m. The four-team, double-elimination tournament will be held for the first time at the Saint Vincent softball field in Latrobe, Pa. The 2012 PAC Tournament Champion will earn the PAC's automatic bid to the 2012 NCAA Division III Softball Tournament.

The 2012 tournament will have a very different look than 2011 as only one team, Westminster, participated in last year's conference tournament. Saint Vincent earned the number one seed with a 13-5 PAC record, while Thiel, Westminster, and Geneva all had an 11-7 record in the PAC. The number two through four tournament seeds were based off of three-way head-to-head tiebreaking criteria where Thiel (3-1 vs. WES/GEN) earned the number two seed, followed by Westminster (2-2 vs. THI/GEN) at number three, and Geneva (1-3 vs. THI/WES) was seeded fourth. It is the first-ever PAC Tournament appearance for both the Saint Vincent and Geneva programs.

The top-seeded and host Bearcats of sixth-year head coach **Nicole Hinerman**, will look to several key players to make an impact at the tournament. Freshman **Shannon Baczek** leads her team with a .382 batting average and boasts a perfect 1.000 fielding percentage, while sophomore **Becky Deane**, a member of the 2011 All-PAC Second Team, is hitting .355 with five doubles. In the pitching circle, the Bearcats are ranked 13th in the NCAA with a team earned run average (ERA) of 1.58. Saint Vincent will look to junior **Emily Lauterbach**, who has a 1.33 ERA and a 10-3 win-loss record, and sophomore **Ally Vreck**, who has a 1.30 ERA and a 6-3 win-loss record to lead the way.

Number two seed Thiel is led by **Amy Schafer**, who is in her sixth season at the helm of the Tomcat softball program. Freshman **Danielle Massengill** has a .422 batting average with 75 total bases and is ranked sixth in NCAA Division III with eight triples. Sophomore **Molly Jo Everett** is hitting .368 with 32 RBIs, while classmate **Ashley Dolan** holds a .359 average and has struck out just three times in 117 at bats. The team will rely on freshman pitcher **Amanda Callahan**, who has an 8-8 win-loss record with 111 strikeouts in 103.1 innings of work.

Westminster is seeded third in the tournament and is led by 16th-year mentor **Jan Reddinger**. The Titans will look to sophomore **Kelsey Squelch**, who is leading the team with a .348 batting average, 12 doubles and 64 total bases on the year, while senior **Erica Kimmick** is hitting .337 and with a team-high 24 RBIs. The Titans will look to pitching ace junior **Chelsea Brown** in the circle, who was a member of the 2011 PAC Softball All-Tournament team. Brown holds a 2.48 ERA to go along with a 15-8 won-loss record and has fanned 108 batters on the year.

The fourth-seeded Geneva Golden Tornadoes, led by 10th-year head coach **Van Zanic**, are eligible for the PAC and NCAA tournaments as their Division III provisional status concluded in 2011. The Golden Tornadoes will look for an offensive spark from sophomore **Ashley Davis**, who was listed on the 2011 PAC Coaches Honors (All-PAC equivalent for NCAA Division III provisional members). Davis is hitting .365, has belted three home runs and has 25 RBIs, while senior **Marti Adams** has a .349 batting average, 63 total bases, and is ranked fifth in NCAA Division III with 0.86 walks per game (38 total). Senior pitching ace **Julie DiLorenzo**, who earned 2011 PAC Coaches Honors, has taken the 2012 NCAA rankings by storm. DiLorenzo is ranked in the NCAA D-III top five for three different categories: third with 251 strikeouts, fourth in shutouts with nine, and fifth with 23 victories on the year.

Founded in 1955, the Presidents' Athletic Conference continues its mission of promoting intercollegiate athletics and the pursuit of academic excellence. Consisting of 10 select private institutions in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Kentucky, the PAC remains a unique organization in this day of high pressure intercollegiate athletics. With academics at the center of each member's philosophy, the PAC is built on the principle that an athletic program is a part of college life, but not an entity in itself. The PAC annually crowns champions in 19 sports (10 men, nine women) as a member of NCAA Division III.