
The Knight Beat

Summer 1999

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Nova Southeastern University Department of Athletics

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THE KNIGHT BEAT

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Summer 1999

Knights earn region crown

Softball only second NSU team to capture NAIA Southeast Region championship; Knights advance to third round of nationals before falling

By the NSU Sports Information Office

To say that advancing to the 1999 NAIA Softball National Championship Tournament was an expected event for the Nova Southeastern University women's softball team would be an understatement. After all, this was a team that lost the bulk of its players due to graduation last year (seven players, five of those starters) and was to be talent-laden with mostly freshmen and sophomores. At best, a conference championship and a good showing at regionals would be cause for celebration.

Scratch that.

This year's Knights turned in the finest performances the five-year program had seen, winning its third consecutive Florida Sun Conference title, the program's first-ever NAIA Southeast Region championship, and a top-12 finish at the 1999 NAIA Softball National Championship Tournament in Jupiter, Fla. Thus, so much for lowered expectations. "A lot of people thought that we wouldn't be able to live up to the standards that previous teams set here," fifth-year

head coach Robyn Handler said. "Well, this year's team proved them wrong. This group went out and exceeded all expectations and then some. A young group? Please, this team of freshmen and sophomores were like juniors and seniors. Can't win the big game? They went out and dominated the region, and then performed nicely at nationals. This team that wasn't supposed to be so good this year went out and gave this school the best year it's ever had."

Handler's Knights set numerous team records en route to the national tournament, including: best record (53-7), hits (502), doubles (88), home runs (32), runs batted in (281), total bases (714), slugging percentage (.469) and shutouts (32). Graduating senior Shannon Sawyer was also named First-Team All America, while freshman Jennifer Ridenoure was a Second Team selection. Sawyer and Ridenoure joined Sherri Waddell and Diane Ocampo on the All-Region Team. The rest of the championship roster included Stephanie Gleicher, Alison Balkan, Nikki Hyatt, Cheryl Bond, Julie Levy, Dana Deis, Cameran Morgan, Lisa Marcinkoski, Angie Hill, Kerri Phagan and Jaime Sawyer.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>August 1999</h1> <h2>Nova Southeastern University Knights Department of Athletics</h2>						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 Volleyball, men's and women's soccer return	14 Athlete physicals (to be scheduled)
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 VB @ Palm Beach Atlantic College Jamboree
22	23 First day of classes	24	25 VB @ Florida Atlantic University, TBA	26 7 p.m. WSOC VS Barry University	27	28 VB @ St. Leo College Invitational, TBA
29 VB @ St. Leo College Invitational, TBA 5 p.m. WSOC VS Huntingdon College	30	31 7 p.m. VB Alumni Game	1 7 p.m. WSOC VS Palm Beach Atlantic	2	3 5 p.m. MSOC VS Life University	4 10 a.m. VB VS Carson-Newman 2 p.m. VB VS UNC Pembroke 4 p.m. WSOC @ Barry University

Home soccer games played at the NSU Soccer Complex.....Home volleyball games played at Broward Community College's Central Campus Bldg. 10

NSU notes, quotes and anecdotes...

*AWARDS BANQUET

Trantham, Wisniewski take home top honors

Graduating seniors Michelle Trantham (volleyball) and Paul Wisniewski (cross country) took home respective Female and Male Scholar Athlete of the Year awards yesterday (Sunday), at NSU's annual Athletic Awards Banquet, held at Signature Grand. Camille Walker also took home the Golden Pencil Award for excellence in the sports information office, while parents John and Eileen Sawyer and Bob and Charmayne Payanis were recognized for their support of NSU athletics. Team honors included:

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Most Improved: Chris Hannon

Most Valuable: Arik Chellew

Captain: Chris Hannon

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Most Improved: Lauren Komara

Most Valuable: Jennifer Whitesel

Captain: Alyson Dion

VOLLEYBALL

Most Improved: Carol Douglas

Most Valuable: Beth Chorzewski

Captains: Katie Banks, Beth

Chorzewski, Lori Caporaso

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Most Improved: Jessica Narvaez

Most Valuable: Marissa Abbott

Captains: Marissa Abbott, Olivia Bernal,

Cindy Ojeda

MEN'S SOCCER

Most Improved: Juan Camandona

Most Valuable: Michael Rivera

Captains: Cliff Cameron, Christian Goffi,

Jason Morris

GOLF

Most Improved: Justin Burkhart

Most Valuable: Ryan Cobb

Captain: Mark Aldridge

BASEBALL

Most Improved: Blake Paynter

Most Valuable: Rolando Bello

Captains: Charles Vaughn, Ben Prill, Jim Birch

SOFTBALL

Most Improved: Stephanie Gleicher

Most Valuable: Shannon Sawyer

Captains: Julie Levy, Shannon Sawyer, Sherri Waddell

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Most Improved: Liz Lowe

Most Valuable: Sharnel Carr

Captains: Tajuana Lee, Heidi Turczynski

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Most Improved: Brad Kaczynski

Most Valuable: Sherard Hernandez

Captains: Sherard Hernandez, Robert Robinson

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