

Patriot Golf & Tennis

by Matt Williams

PATRIOT MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF

After being crowned NCCAA Champions in the fall, the Patriot Men's team finished the 2009-2010 season with their second consecutive berth to the NCAA Division II Super-Regional Tournament. After one day of play at the tournament, the Patriots found themselves tied for fifth place after firing a 296 in the opening round, but windy conditions on days two and three forced the Patriots to an 18th place overall finish.

DBU recorded eight top five finishes in 10 tournaments this season, including two first place finishes in the fall, as well as a second place finish at both the St. Edward's Invitational and the Midwestern State Invitational midway through the spring season.

The Patriots were led throughout the year by senior Bennett Smith, who finished with three top ten finishes on the season, including a fourth place finish at the Pioneer Shootout. In the Heartland Conference Tournament, Smith shot rounds of 73, 69, and 74 to finish with an even-par-216, good enough for a tenth place individual finish and to earn him All-Heartland Conference First Team honors.

Freshman newcomer, Will Dusenbury, finished the season with six top ten finishes, including second place honors at both the NCCAA Championship in October



Front Row: Nic Tacher, Michael Lutz, Will Dusenbury, Justin Wileman, Calvin Clyde, Student Assistant Coach Connor Smith; Back Row: Head Coach Kenny Trapp, Brandon Johnson, Bennett Smith, Jeffrey Juillerat, John Olin.

and the Heartland Conference Tournament, where he shot six-under-par in the third round, his lowest round of the season. Dusenbury took home the first place trophy at the DBU Patriot Classic in March after shooting a season low, three-round total of 211 (one-over-par), and was voted as a First Team All-Heartland Conference member, the Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year, and was selected to the Division II PING All-South Central Region Team.

Junior Nic Tacher brought home two second place trophies during the season, one of which came at the Heartland Conference Tournament. Tacher fired an impressive eight-under-par total of 208 on his way to the second place overall finish, earning him Second Team All-Heartland Conference honors.

The Lady Patriot Golf team concluded their 2009-2010 season with seven top 10 finishes, including fourth place finishes in both the Pioneer Shootout and the Heartland Conference Tournament.

For the second season in a row, the Lady Patriots were led by senior Heather Wilbur, who finished the season with three top 20 finishes, including an eighth place finish at the Lady Buff Stampede. More recently, Wilbur recorded a fourth place finish at the Heartland Confer-



Front Row: Krystle Chick, Whitney Novak, Julia Daneshfar, Heather Wilbur; Back Row: Christa Williams, Kristen Tucker, Head Coach Kenny Trapp, Taylor Griffin, Courtney Burris.

ence Tournament on April 20, after turning in rounds of 79 and 71 on her way to a six-over-par total of 150, her lowest score of the season. Wilbur's play throughout the season garnered her All-Heartland Conference First Team honors for the second year in a row.

Freshman Whitney Novak joined Wilbur on the All-Heartland Conference First Team, as she totaled three top 20 finishes in her first season as a Lady Patriot. Her best tournament came at the Pioneer Shootout on March 9, when her two-round total of 159 notched her a sixth place finish. She also recorded a 13th place finish at the Midwestern State Invitational and an 11th place finish at the Heartland Conference Tournament.

Junior Kristen Tucker also had another strong year for the Lady Patriots, as she earned a 20th place finish at the Pioneer Shootout. After rounds of 83 and 76 and finishing 15-over-par, Tucker concluded the season with a 16th place finish at the Heartland Conference Tournament.

PATRIOT MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS

The Men's and Women's Tennis teams finished the 2010 season with records of 10-15 and 17-9, respectively.

The Patriot Men's team picked up an opening round victory in the Heartland Conference Tournament over Newman University. The Patriots received singles victories from senior Josh King, junior Clint Baird, and sophomore Richard Abel. The doubles teams of Baird and freshman Phillip Allen, as well as King and senior Nick French, each contributed victories to advance to



Back Row: Head Coach Jennifer Curran, Justin Hanna, Josh King, Bronson Vaughan, Phillip Allen, Richard Abel, Clint Baird, Nick French, Student Assistant Coach Brittney Banks; Front Row: Laura Atkins, Megan Billings, Lisa Olian, Natalie Holmes, Lexi Yeado, Hannah Innes, Jeanelle Stines.



the semi-final match. Allen was voted as the Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year.

For the second time, the Lady Patriots were crowned NCCAA Champions after defeating King College, Indiana Wesleyan, Olivet Nazarene, and Palm Beach Atlantic in Mobile, Alabama. The women's team also received their first ever NCAA regional ranking during the 2010 season.

After starting out the season with nine straight victories, the Lady Patriots moved into the top ten regional rankings, being voted as the ninth best team in the South Central Region. The doubles team of junior Natalie Holmes and sophomore Hannah Innes also moved into the regional rankings, being voted as the ninth best duo combination in the region. Holmes and Innes ended the season with an impressive 20-6 record.

Picking up two doubles victories and a key singles victory in a win over Newman in the Heartland Conference Tournament, junior Lisa Olian was voted as an All-Heartland Conference At-Large selection, with Innes receiving the honor as well. Both athletes were recognized for their singles play in the NCCAA Tournament, being selected to the All-NCCAA First Team. Innes picked up another honor in the doubles category, as she and teammate Holmes were voted to the All-NCCAA First Team. Sophomore Laura Atkins was recognized as an All-NCCAA Second Team selection for her efforts.

Patriot Coach Jennifer Curran was voted as the NCCAA Coach of the Year for the second year in a row after guiding DBU to their second championship.

Seasons in Review