



SPORTS NEWS

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For immediate release

Saint Mary's College Golfers to return to NCAA Championships

The NCAA announced their bids for the 2004 Division-III National Golf Championships today and the Belles are returning for a second consecutive year. The #7 seed Belles now travel to Green Lake, Wisconsin for the tournament that will be held on May 11-14 at The Golf Course of Lawsonia, the same site as the 2003 championship.

Head Coach Mark Hamilton will take his Saint Mary's squad led by 2003 National Champion junior Stefanie Simmerman and attempt to improve upon their fourth place finish from last season. This year, Simmerman could well find challenges from her own teammates as Julia Adams has played extremely well all spring, leading the Belles the past two tournaments with individual medalist honors. Senior Liz Hanlon also could challenge as she shot the lowest round of her college career for second place behind Adams at their last tournament at Tri-State University. Even junior Chrissy Dunham could find herself vying for the lead after shooting the low round of the entire NCAA field last year on the fourth and final day in Green Lake.

Also traveling to Wisconsin will be 2003 Champion Methodist College (N.C.), Mount Holyoke College (Mass.), DePauw University (Ind.), Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Gustavus Adolphus College (Minn.), Simpson College (Iowa), the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (Texas), and Hardin-Simmons University (Texas).

Saint Mary's College spring sports have been on a roll of sorts that golf hopes to continue. On April 24 the tennis team won the 2004 MIAA Tennis Tournament which allowed them to bring home the 2004 MIAA Team Title. And just this past Saturday, the softball program knocked off top seed and nationally 3rd ranked Alma College in the championship game to win the 2004 MIAA Softball Tournament.

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