



2005 BIG 12 SWIMMING & DIVING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Feb. 23-26, 2005 • Student Recreation Center Natatorium • College Station, Texas

GENERAL INFORMATION

RESULTS: Visit the Texas A&M Web site, www.aggieathletics.com, or www.big12sports.com, for results.

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TICKETS: There will be no advance ticket sales to the general public. Doors will open and tickets will be available one hour prior to the start of each session. An all-session pass (seven sessions) will be \$20 for adults and \$8 for students. Individual session tickets will be sold to adults for \$5 and students for \$2.

PARKING: Daily paid parking is available in the West Campus Parking Garage located north of the Recreation Center.



For the ninth consecutive year, FSN will telecast the Big 12 Conference Swimming & Diving Championships on a tape-delay basis nationally. Check local listings for broadcast times.

BIG 12 NOTES

Texas A&M hosts the 2005 Big 12 Swimming & Diving Championships at the Student Recreation Center Natatorium Wed.-Sat., Feb. 23-26, on its campus in College Station, Texas. This venue has sponsored four league championships in the conference's nine-year tenure prior to this year's event (combined men and women - 1997, 2000 and 2002; men only - 1998). The Student Rec Center Natatorium also has served as a site for national events, most recently the 2004 NCAA Division I Women's Swimming & Diving Championships.

The Big 12 Conference Championships field consists of the six institutions that sponsor women's programs: Iowa State, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Texas and Texas A&M, along with the three schools that have men's teams: Missouri, Texas and Texas A&M.

The Longhorn men and women's squads are the defending Big 12 champions — the men have won all eight conference titles, while the women have earned six straight league crowns (1999-2004). The Nebraska women took home top honors in 1997-98.

STUDENT RECREATION CENTER NATATORIUM

CAPACITY: 1,100
OPENED: October 1995
COST: \$36.4 million (cost of the entire Rec Center)
POOL SPECS: 50-meter, eight-lane competition pool; graduated depths of seven to nine feet
DIVE WELL SPECS: 17-foot deep; contains one, three, five, seven-and-one-half and 10-meter diving platforms; also doubles as eight-lane, 25-meter pool
CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY:
NCAAs (Men): 2001
NCAAs (Women): 2004
FINA World Cup: 1998
US Open: 1998
Big 12: 1997, 1998, 2000, 2002
Southwest Conference: 1996

2004 BIG 12 CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS & HONORS

1. Texas - 1,072
2. Texas A&M - 933
3. Missouri - 604

Women

1. Texas - 964
2. Texas A&M - 762.5
3. Kansas - 503
4. Nebraska - 420
5. Iowa State - 377
6. Missouri - 374.5

Men

Outstanding Swimmer of the Meet:
Ian Crocker, Sr., Texas
Outstanding Diver of the Meet:
Mark Shattuck, So., Texas
Outstanding Newcomer of the Meet:
Garrett Weber-Gale, Fr., Texas
Swim Coach of the Meet:
Eddie Reese, Texas
Dive Coach of the Meet:
Matt Scoggin, Texas

Women

Outstanding Swimmer of the Meet:
Sarah Wanezek, Jr., Texas
Outstanding Diver of the Meet:
Alida DiPlacido, So., Texas A&M
Outstanding Newcomer of the Meet:
Rebecca Sturdy, Fr., Texas A&M
Co-Swim Coaches of the Meet:
Pablo Morales, Nebraska
Steve Bultman, Texas A&M
Dive Coach of the Meet:
Kevin Wright, Texas A&M



BIG 12 MEN'S DUAL RECORDS

	Overall	Pct.
Missouri:	6-2	.750
Texas:	5-3	.625
Texas A&M:	4-3-1	.571

* There are no official Big 12 standings in swimming and diving, so conference records are not kept.

2004-05 BIG 12 MALE SWIMMERS AND DIVERS OF THE MONTH

Swimmers

- October: Matthew McGinnis, Fr., Texas
- November: Andrew Sullivant, Jr., Texas A&M
- December: Daniel DiToro, Sr. Texas
- January: Matthew McGinnis, Fr., Texas

Divers

- October: Eric Sehn, Fr., Texas A&M
- November: Eric Sehn, Fr., Texas A&M
- December: Matt Bisordi, So., Texas
- January: Eric Sehn, Fr., Texas A&M

COLLEGE SWIMMING COACHES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA TOP 25 DUAL MEET MEN'S POLL

(As of Feb. 8, 2005)

Rank	Team	Overall Votes
1	Auburn (7)	199
2	Stanford (1)	193
3	Florida	184
4	California	176
5	Michigan	167
6	Minnesota	161
7	TEXAS	152
8	Arizona	142
9	Southern Cal	137
10	Virginia	124
11	Georgia	122
12	Kentucky	114
13	Indiana	105
14	Northwestern	96
15	Purdue	88
16	TEXAS A&M	79
17	Tennessee	57
18	Wisconsin	55
19	Hawai'i	54
20	North Carolina	42
21	BYU	37
22	Notre Dame	35
23	Harvard	30
24	Ohio State	23
25	Alabama	8

MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW

(Listed in order of 2004 Big 12 Championship finish)



Texas aims to claim its ninth straight Big 12 Conference Championship and its 26th consecutive league title at the Texas A&M Natatorium. Despite the loss of world-record holders Ian Crocker, Brendan Hansen and Aaron Peirsol, the Longhorns return a host of upperclassmen who have made stellar contributions of their own in recent championship history. Rainer Kendrick, the 2002 Big 12 Newcomer of the Meet, is a three-time conference champion in the 200-yard butterfly as well as the 800-yard freestyle relay who looks to contend for his third title in the 200-yard individual medley as well. Meanwhile, John Nabors aims to make it three Big 12 titles in-a-row in the 1,650-yard freestyle. These All-Americans and the performance of a number of talented freshman will play an integral role in UT's defense of its conference crown.

At the 2004 Big 12 Conference Championships, Texas posted 1,072 points, topping Texas A&M (922) and Missouri (604). Texas claimed 17 of 21 overall titles en route to its 25th-straight conference championship. Garrett Weber-Gale was honored as the Big 12 Newcomer of the Year after earning a first-place finish in the 400-yard freestyle relay, runner-up finishes in the 200-yard freestyle relay and the 200-yard freestyle as well as a fourth-place performance in the 50-yard freestyle.

Other returning champions from the 2004 championship roster include David Kahn (200-yard individual medley), Wade Kelley (400-yard individual medley), Tyler O'Halloran (400-yard freestyle relay) and Garrett Weber-Gale (400-yard freestyle relay). Seniors Andrew Davidson (200-yard medley relay) and Daniel DiToro (200-yard medley relay) won titles in 2003 while DiToro (200-yard medley relay), and Nathan O'Brien (200-yard backstroke) posted wins in 2002.



The Aggie men set a record for points scored at the Big 12 Championships a season ago by racking up a total of 933. A&M has steadily increased its point total at the conference meet in each of the last four seasons. A&M has also finished second in each of the last four conference meets as well.

The Aggies hope to defend a pair of conference relay crowns won in 2004. A&M set a Big 12 meet record in the 200 freestyle a season ago by clocking a time of 1:17.72. The Aggies, who return three swimmers off that relay (Ozzie Gardner, Dan Blanchard and Andrew Sullivant), will be looking for their third straight win in that event at the Big 12 meet. A&M's Calvin Zielsdorf, Alfredo Jacobo, Scott Newmann and Blanchard captured first place honors in the 200 medley relay a season ago (1:29.05).

Freshman Eric Sehn enters the meet having won seven straight competitions. He has also won Big 12 Diver of the Month honors in October, November and January. Sehn was the Diver of the Meet at the Dallas Morning News Swimming & Diving Classic and has finished either first or second all season long with but one exception (third). Junior Andrew Sullivant enters the meet as the top-ranked 50 freestyler in the conference and earned a win in the 100 freestyle against the University of Texas three weeks ago in Austin. Sullivant was honored as the league's Swimmer of the Month in November.



After finishing the 2003-04 campaign 1-7, the Missouri men's swimming and diving team rebounded with a 6-2 record this season - its best since the 1999-00 season, when they also went 6-2.

The Tigers are led in the pool by seniors Matt North and Chris McCrary, and by junior Evan Watters on the board. North recorded Top 5 finishes in the 100 and 200 breaststroke at last year's Big 12 Championships, and McCrary is a three-time NCAA qualifier and competed at the 2000 United States Olympic Trials. Watters, who turned in Top 5 finishes on all three boards at 2004 conference championships, set a new school record in the three-meter dive (385.87) in a win over Southern Illinois earlier this season.



WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW

(Listed in order of 2004 Big 12 Championship finish)



The UT women are seeking their seventh conference championship in succession and are coming off an impressive season which saw the Longhorns post an 8-1 dual-meet record. Senior Sarah Wanezek, the 2003 and 2004 Big 12 Conference Swimmer of the Year, as well as a young, talented group of breaststroke and backstroke swimmers, will be essential to the success of Texas in defending its championship.

UT won its sixth-straight Big 12 Conference crown in its home pool last season (964 points) and edging runner-up Texas A&M (762.50) for the fifth time in the last six seasons. For the second time in as many seasons, Wanezek captured league titles in six events to pace the Longhorns, while Elizabeth Tinnon won four events in her first conference meet. All said, Texas earned the top finish in 13 of 21 events and Wanezek earned Big 12 Swimmer of the Meet for the second-straight season.

Additional returning champions from the 2004 Big 12 meet include Stephanie Anderson (500-yard freestyle, 1,650-yard freestyle), Connie Brown (200-yard medley relay, 400-yard medley relay), Jaclyn Faulkner (200-yard freestyle relay, 400-yard freestyle relay), Kaela Humphries (200-yard individual medley), Nicole Pohorenc (platform dive), Katie Robinson (200-yard freestyle relay), and Kristin Siminski (200-yard freestyle, 200-yard freestyle relay, 400-yard freestyle relay).



The Aggie women are hosting the Big 12 meet for the third time in the last six years. The Aggies look to their depth and their youth to try and carry them through losses of 2004 Big 12 Diver of the Year Alida DiPlacido and 2004 Newcomer of the Year Rebecca Sturdy to injuries. The Aggies have surpassed their previous season's point total at the Big 12 Championships in each of the last five seasons and hope to do so again in 2005.

A&M does return six All-Americans, a Big 12 champion and two Big 12 champion relay teams to this year's conference meet. Sophomore Jenna Wheeler was surprise winner a year ago in the 200-yard butterfly and has been even faster so far this season. Wheeler cracked the two-minute barrier for the first time ever in November and will looking to defend her title.

The Aggies won a pair of Big 12 relays a season ago, marking the first time in more than 20 years that they had earned a conference relay title of any kind. Junior Katy Lieb and senior Danielle Townsend both return off the winning 400 freestyle relay while Lieb, Townsend and senior Tiffany Moore return off the winning 800 free relay. A&M also returns senior Courtney Patterson and junior Erin Briskie who scored points for the Aggies at the 2004 NCAA Championships in the 100 backstroke and 100 breaststroke, respectively.

Townsend and Kara Morelli have broken A&M school records in the 200 and 400 IM this season as well. Townsend was named National Swimmer of the Month the week after the Big 12 Relays and also was the Big 12 Swimmer of the Month that month (October).

BIG 12 WOMEN'S DUAL RECORDS

	Overall	Pct.
Nebraska:	8-1	.888
Texas:	8-1	.888
Missouri:	7-2	.777
Texas A&M:	9-3	.750
Kansas:	8-5	.615
Iowa State:	3-3	.500

* There are no official Big 12 standings in swimming and diving, so conference records are not kept.

2004-05 BIG 12 FEMALE SWIMMERS AND DIVERS OF THE MONTH

Swimmers

October:	Danielle Townsend, Sr., Texas A&M
November:	Amy Gruber, Sr., Kansas
December:	Sarah Wanezek, Sr., Texas
January:	Elizabeth Tinnon, So., Texas

Divers

October:	Ali Bunting, So., Texas
November:	Amie Buoy, Jr., Nebraska
December:	Monica Maxwell, Sr., Texas
January:	Monica Maxwell, Sr., Texas

COLLEGE SWIMMING COACHES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA TOP 25 DUAL MEET WOMEN'S POLL

(As of Feb. 8, 2005)

Rank	Team	Overall Votes
1	Georgia (8)	200
2	Auburn	192
3	Florida	184
4	TEXAS	176
5	Stanford	167
6	Arizona	161
7	SMU	152
8	Wisconsin	142
9	California	134
10	TEXAS A&M	132
11	UCLA	119
12	Maryland	113
13	Virginia	104
14	Penn State	96
15	ASU	86
16	North Carolina	75
17	Michigan	73
18	Indiana	65
19	Hawai'i	53
20	Southern Cal	43
21	Washington	25
22	Tennessee	24
23	Minnesota	23
24	Northwestern	22
24	Purdue	22



WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW (cont'd)



The Kansas swimming and diving team is looking to improve on last season's third-place finish at the Big 12 Conference Championships. The Jayhawks finished the year with an 8-5 overall record in dual meets, including 1-4 in Big 12 duals.

KU finished third at the Nike Cup (Nov. 18-20) and tied for third at the Big 12 Relays (Oct. 15). Senior swimmer Amy Gruber was named the Collegeswimming.com's National Swimmer of the Week (Nov. 24) for her performance during the week of the Nike Cup. She recorded Kansas women swimming's first-ever A-Standard time at the Nike Cup when she won the 100 freestyle event (49.70 seconds). She was also named the November Big 12 Swimmer of the Month for the second time in her career.

Three Jayhawk divers, junior Casey Topol, sophomore Shelby Noonan and freshman Jenny Roberts, have each qualified to compete in the NCAA Zone D Regional Diving Meet, March 11-13.



The Iowa State swimming and diving team (3-3, 0-3) heads into postseason action having improved significantly over the past few weeks. The Cyclones, who posted a 3.18 team grade-point average in the fall, posted dominant wins over St. Olaf, Northern Iowa and Nebraska-Omaha and now set their sights on the conference championships in College Station this week.

Last year at the Big 12 Championships, the Cyclones finished fifth with 377 points. Six school records fell and nine swimmers recorded NCAA consideration times. Two Cyclone relays also swam provisional times.

Returning members for Iowa State include sophomore Lauren Breunig who recorded a NCAA consideration time in the 200 individual medley (2:03.08). Breunig, along with teammates Kim Schmugge, Sam Dyshaw and Brita Benson, was also a member of the 200 freestyle relay that recorded a provisional time (1:33.02). Cyclone diver Hillary Nichols also returns. One year ago, the junior set the ISU school record on the platform (363.30 points). The Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, native went on to break that record at the 2004 NCAA Zone Diving Championships (373.75).



Nebraska put together one of the most successful seasons in school history with an 8-1 dual mark in 2004-05, led by a strong group of sophomore distance swimmers and a solid diving corp.

Four Huskers set NCAA provisional qualifying marks during the season including sophomores Lauren Bailey and Kate Wheeler. Bailey, last year's 400-meter individual medley league champion, has set provisional-qualifying marks in the 1,650-free, 500-free, and 400 individual medley, while sophomore Kate Wheeler has added marks in the 500-free and 1,650-free. Bailey also set a Devaney Center Pool record in the 1,000-free (9:57.84) versus Truman State (Nov. 13). Sophomore Casey Schnack added to Nebraska's strong distance core with a provisional mark in the 1,650-free as well. Junior Amie Buoy won six diving competitions this year, and set NCAA-qualifying marks in both the one-meter and three-meter. Buoy was awarded Big 12 Diver of the Month (November) following a score of 500.45 on the three-meter at the Minnesota Invitational.



The Missouri women's swimming and diving team enters the championships having won six of their last seven dual meets and owning a 7-2 dual record.

The Tigers are anchored by a group of six senior swimmers that boasts six Top 10 finishes in last year's conference championships, led by two each from Mariona Costa and Amanda Morford. Junior Nicky Frazier and senior Anna Massey pace the Tiger divers. Mizzou enters the competition with momentum after spoiling Nebraska's perfect season in their last dual action of the year.