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Pepperdine Sweeps WCC Golf Championships

Pepperdine's Caroline Llano And Saint Mary's Joe Lanza Capture Individualist Medalist Honors;

COPPEROPOLIS, Calif. - For the fourth consecutive year, the Pepperdine University men's and women's golf teams claimed the West Coast Conference Golf Championships. The Wave women led from the opening round to capture their fourth consecutive West Coast Conference championship at Saddle Creek Golf Course in Copperopolis, CA. The Pepperdine men, who have now won seven straight WCC titles, used a spectacular second round score of 275 to post a three-round total of 846, the lowest three-round total in WCC history.

In addition to the Waves' capturing the women's team title, Pepperdine claimed the top five spots as junior Carolina Llano took home individual medalist honors, shooting a three-over par 219. Pepperdine's Marina Choi, who finished second, was named the WCC Freshman of the Year, while Pepperdine Head Coach Laurie Gibbs was named the WCC Coach of the Year.

On the men's side, Saint Mary's Joe Lanza became the first Gaels' golfer to take home individual medalist honors, shooting an eight-under par 208 to guide SMC to a second place finish. Loyola Marymount's Jason D'Amore was named the WCC Freshman of the Year. For the second time in WCC history, three coaches shared the Coach of the Year honors, as Pepperdine's John Geiberger, Saint Mary's Scott Hardy and San Diego's Tim Mickelson were all recognized by their peers. The only other time this occurred was in 2002.

Rounding out the women's standings was the University of San Francisco (922) taking second, Santa Clara University (977) claiming third, the University of Portland (984) taking fourth, and Gonzaga University (1000) coming in fifth. On the men's side Santa Clara (891) captured third, followed by Portland (917), San Francisco (920), San Diego (921), Gonzaga (929) and Loyola Marymount (942).

Earning all-conference on the women's side was Pepperdine's Leanne Bowditch, Choi, Rachel Kyono, Llano, and Eileen Vargas, USF's Mariko Shimozaki, and Santa Clara's Samantha Trask. Earning all-conference on the men's side was Loyola Marymount's Jason D'Amore, Pepperdine's Alex Coe, Brian O'Flaherty, Michael Putnam and Colin Wilcox, and Saint Mary's Chad Cocco, Liam Kendregan, and Joe Lanza.

WOMEN'S AWARDS

Player of the Year: Carolina Llano, Pepperdine
Freshman of the Year: Marina Choi, Pepperdine
Coach of the Year: Laurie Gibbs, Pepperdine

MEN'S AWARDS

Player of the Year: Joe Lanza, Saint Mary's
Freshman of the Year: Jason D'Amore, LMU
Tri-Coach of the Year: John Geiberger, Pepperdine;
Scott Hardy, Saint Mary's; Tim Mickelson, San Diego

2005 Women's All-Conference Team

Leanne Bowditch, Pepperdine
Marina Choi, Pepperdine
Rachel Kyono, Pepperdine
Carolina Llano, Pepperdine
Mariko Shimozaki, San Francisco
Samantha Trask, Santa Clara
Eileen Vargas, Pepperdine

Honorable Mention

Nikki Jacoby, USF; Jessica Potter, USF; Mary Kate Morgan, GON

2005 Men's All-Conference Team

Chad Cocco, Saint Mary's
Alex Coe, Pepperdine
Jason D'Amore, Loyola Marymount
Liam Kendregan, Saint Mary's
Joe Lanza, Saint Mary's
Brian O'Flaherty, Pepperdine
Michael Putnam, Pepperdine
Colin Wilcox, Pepperdine

Honorable Mention

Taylor Hobin, USF; Mike McCabe, POR; Michael McRae, SMC