



# MARCH

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## GOLF AND TENNIS

### WCC PLAYERS OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH SELECTED

#### **Men's Golfer of the Month - Michael Putnam, Pepperdine University**

Senior Michael Putnam registered two top 5 finishes in three tournaments during the month of March. The Tacoma, Washington product tied for individual medalist honors at the Oregon Duck Invitational after rounds of 70-66-72 for an 8-under score of 208. Putnam then had a second place performance at the National Invitational Tournament. Putnam shot rounds of 67-72-66 for an 11-under 205. The score of 205 ties for sixth lowest for a 54-hole score in Pepperdine history. In eight rounds, Putnam recorded a 69.75 stroke average and had seven rounds of par or better. Putnam was also named one of 10 semifinalists for the 2005 Ben Hogan Award, which is presented annually to the top men's player. Putnam won WCC Golfer of the Month honors for his efforts during the month of February.

#### **Women's Golfer of the Month - Eileen Vargas, Pepperdine University**

Sophomore Eileen Vargas posted a second place finish at the UNLV Spring Invitational in her lone tournament of the month. The Ibaque, Colombia native carded rounds of 74-75-72 for a 5-over total of 221 to finish one shot out of first place. Pepperdine took home second place at the UNLV Invitational. Vargas also won WCC honors for the month of February.

#### **Women's Tennis Singles Player of the Month - Emma Murphy, University of San Diego**

San Diego junior Emma Murphy was a force for the Toreros in the month of March. Despite facing many ranked opponents, the native of Cork, Ireland posted a record of 8-2, playing at the No. 1 singles position. Murphy defeated four ranked opponents during the month, registering wins over Michaela Moldovan of Florida State (No. 19), Margarita Karnhaukhova of Sacramento State (No. 28), Ekaterina Burdelli of Washington State (No. 52), and Lauren Fitzgerald (No. 86) of Hawaii. All of her wins in the month came in straight sets. Her only two losses were to Julie Coin of Clemson, ranked No. 2, and a three-set loss to No. 9 ranked Dea Sumantri of Washington.

#### **Women's Tennis Doubles Team of the Month - Emma Murphy/Lauren Perl, University of San Diego**

Emma Murphy and Lauren Perl teamed up to post a 9-1 doubles record during the month of March, while playing at the No. 2 doubles spot for the Toreros. Murphy and Perl's only setback during the month was to Ashley Kroh and Jeanne Schwartz of No. 70 Marshall University. Kroh is a returning All-American who reached the NCAA Doubles Finals in 2004.

#### **Men's Tennis Singles Player of the Month - Pedro Rico, Pepperdine University**

Pepperdine junior All-American Pedro Rico notched five consecutive wins to close out the month of March and posted an overall 5-1 singles record, playing in the Waves' strong number two spot. Rico played a key role in the team's undefeated 7-0 month, which catapulted the Waves to No. 7 in the ITA rankings, their highest of the season. Highlighting Rico's big month was a three-set win over Illinois' No. 24 Kevin Anderson. Rico won 0-6, 7-6, 7-6 to help Pepperdine to a 5-2 upset of the No. 2 Illini. Earlier in the month, the Alicante, Spain native defeated No. 59 Lennart Maack of California.

#### **Men's Tennis Doubles Team of the Month - Robbie Blair/Thomas Liversage, University of San Diego**

Behind the doubles play of senior Robbie Blair and Thomas Liversage, San Diego enjoyed perhaps its best month in school history, posting an impressive 12-1 record. The Toreros lone setback was to No. 33 Virginia Commonwealth, a pre-season top-10 team. The duo posted a spectacular 11-1 record, mainly at the No. 3 position, helping the Toreros capture the doubles point in nine of their 11 matches.