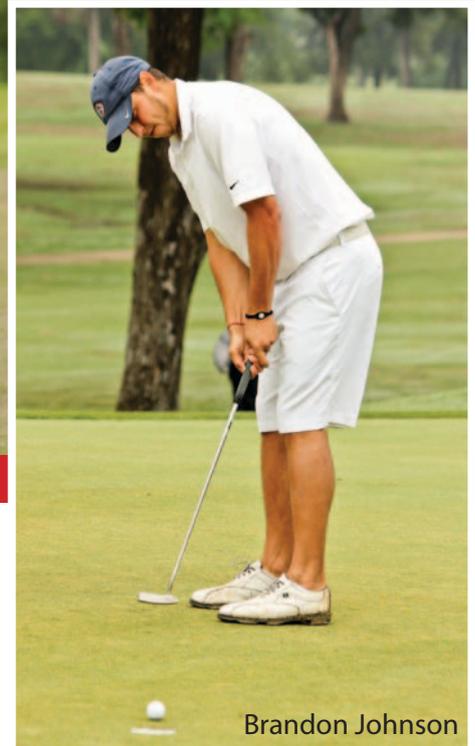


GOLF & TENNIS

Record Successful Spring



Mercedes Rios



Brandon Johnson

The Patriot Golf teams and the Patriot Tennis teams completed successful spring seasons again this year. For the Lady Patriot Golf team, the season ended in record-breaking fashion as sophomore standout Mercedes Rios became the first female golfer in DBU history to qualify for an NCAA Division II National Championship.

Rios advanced to the NCAA Women's National Championship by defeating the country's number one ranked NCAA Division II golfer in a sudden-death playoff at the NCAA Super Regional Golf Championship. Rios concluded her historic run at the National Championship with a 33rd place finish.

Rios finished the 2011-2012 regular season with five top-five finishes, including an individual victory at the Midwestern State Invitational, eight top-15 finishes, and a scoring average of 78.19 after 11 tournaments and 21 rounds of play.

"I am thrilled at Mercedes' 2011-2012 season as she has set the bar high for other members of the team," stated Head Golf Coach Kenny Trapp.

As a team, the Lady Patriots enjoyed one of two team victories at their own DBU Classic in October

2011, in which they fired rounds of 303 and 315, respectively. The team experienced their second victory of the season in their first appearance at the NCCAA National Championship at Hombre Golf Club in Panama City Beach, Florida, as they fired rounds of 325 and 317. The Lady Patriots concluded their 2011-2012 campaign with five top-five finishes, eight top-ten finishes, and a team scoring average of 320.41.

Coach Trapp and the Lady Patriots saw strong performances from freshman Erin Barrington, tabbing four top-ten individual finishes and recorded a 79.47 season scoring average. Barrington had her best finish of the season at the Bluebonnet Classic in March after firing rounds of 72 and 78 to finish tied for third place in the 70-player field.

"I am anxious and excited for next year as we will have our best recruiting class yet for the program," added Trapp.

Senior Brandon Johnson was the storyline for the 2011-2012 Patriot Men's Golf season as he concluded arguably one of the best individual seasons in DBU men's history. As the team captain, Johnson advanced individually to the NCAA Super

Regional Championship, where he fired rounds of 75, 71, and 71 to finish tied for 6th place—just one shot shy of qualifying for the NCAA National Championship.

Johnson was named to the Division II Ping All-Region Team for his stellar 2011-2012 campaign as he recorded a 74.08 scoring average and one individual victory at the 2012 DBU Classic (70-67-70). Johnson captured two additional top-five finishes at the National Christian Colleges Athletic Association National Championship (68-78-73) and the NDNU Argonaut Invite (71-71-75).

"I am very excited for Brandon and the season that he had," stated Trapp. "Brandon earned every bit of success he experienced this season as his work ethic is something to be commended," added Trapp.

As a team, the Patriots concluded their 2011-2012 season with a 299.96 scoring average, which included four top-five finishes and five top-ten finishes. In addition, the Patriots

finished in third place at the 2012 Heartland Conference Championship after rounds of 290, 293, and 310.

Additionally, freshman Jamie Youree had a stellar season for the Patriots as he tabbed two top-ten finishes and a season scoring average of 76.07 through 11 tournaments and 27 rounds.

Likewise, the Patriot Tennis Teams had good showings in 2012, both advancing to their respective postseasons. The men concluded the season competing in the Heartland Conference Tournament, falling to Arkansas-Fort Smith; while the Lady Patriots fought all the way to the championship match of the NCCAA National Tournament. Only a loss in their final match to Palm Beach Atlantic University broke a string of three straight NCCAA National Championships for the women, as they fell 5-2 to the Sailfish.

Junior Philip Allen was selected by Heartland Conference coaches as an All-Conference performer, and the Lady Patriots had four players on the post-season All-Conference list: freshman Katie Daugherty, sophomore Natalie Gennissen, senior Hannah Innes, and sophomore Leah Rutt.

Gennissen was also named Heartland Conference Player of

the Year, and Innes received the Heartland Conference Sportsmanship Award for consistently displaying the core values of ethics and integrity while promoting a positive environment for competition. Innes was also named Heartland Conference Senior of the Year in tennis, and the 2011-2012 DBU Female Athlete of the year.

2012 was the final season of coaching for tennis Head Coach Jennifer Curran. After the birth of her daughter, Quinn, Curran announced that she would not return for the 2012-2013 academic year and recommended the hiring of Sarah Gray as her replacement.

Gray was hired in June to lead the tennis programs after serving as an assistant coach at TCU last season. The former standout at Kentucky and Texas A&M will be joined by her husband, Kent, who will be a graduate assistant. Gray says, "Coach Curran has set a high standard for DBU Tennis, and I intend to continue in the direction she has taken the teams. My goal as a coach at DBU is to help every one of the student-athletes reach their full potential on the court and in the classroom and walk beside them as they grow with the Lord."



Hannah Innes

springreview

RIOS QUALIFIES FOR NCAA DII NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Lady Patriot sophomore Mercedes Rios became the first female golfer in DBU history to qualify for the NCAA Division II National Championship after defeating the number-one ranked NCAA DII golfer in a sudden-death playoff at the NCAA Super Regional Championship.

"What a wonderful ending to a great tournament for Mercedes," stated Head Coach Kenny Trapp. "She has worked so hard in her two years as a Lady Patriot, and she deserves this remarkable achievement."

JOHNSON TIES FOR 6TH AT NCAA SUPER REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Patriot senior and golf team captain, Brandon Johnson, advanced individually to the NCAA Super Regional Tournament. To end his career as a Patriot, Johnson tied for sixth in the tournament, just one shot shy of qualifying for the NCAA National Championship.

"I can't express how proud I am of Brandon for giving it all he had," stated Trapp. "It was fun to be here with Brandon and be a part of his great play. It has been an honor to coach Brandon these last four years. We are all going to miss him."

TENNIS ADVANCES TO 4th-STRAIGHT NCCAA NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

After claiming three-consecutive NCCAA National Championships, the Lady Patriots again advanced to the NCCAA National Tournament. During the first day of competition the Lady Patriots swept through the opening day, only losing three points in their doubles matches. Eventually, the team would fall in the final round to Palm Beach Atlantic.

