

Three Bears' Swimmers Earn All-Conference Honors

Written by Staff Reports
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Three members of the Lenoir-Rhyne Men's and Women's Swimming Teams earned 2012 All-Bluegrass Mountain Conference honors and became the first student-athletes in either program's history to garner all-league accolades. On the men's side, freshman Kyle Hites (Lenoir, N.C.) earned

all-conference honors in the 200-yard breaststroke. Hites holds the school-record in the event with a time of 2:06.81 and finished sixth at this year's Bluegrass Mountain Conference Championship meet.

Senior Lindsay Atkin (Hickory, N.C.) and freshman Chelsea Kyle (Knoxville, Tenn.) were named to the 2012 All-BGMC Team for the Lenoir-Rhyne women's squad.

Atkin received the honor in the 200-yard breaststroke after swimming a school-record 2:24.89 and placing fifth at the league meet two weeks ago.

Kyle became Lenoir-Rhyne's first-ever conference champion after winning the 200-yard butterfly (a program-record 2:04.71) at the 2012 Bluegrass Mountain Conference Championship meet.

Kyle also earned all-conference accolades in the 100-yard butterfly where she placed second at the league championship in 56.36 seconds, also an L-R mark.

Kyle now has a chance to compete at the 2012 NCAA Division II Swimming and Diving National Championships on March 14-17 in Mansfield, Texas. Kyle, a D-II "B" cut qualifier, currently ranks eighth in the nation in the 200-yard butterfly.

If Kyle qualifies, she will compete in the 100-yard and 200-yard butterfly and 200-yard individual medley events. The announcement will be made official next Wednesday.

Photo Courtesy: Chelsea Kyle, LRU Athletics