

## **Bears Men's Soccer Pick Finish Fifth In SAC Coaches Poll**

Written by Staff Reports

Tuesday, 14 August 2012 14:30

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The Lenoir-Rhyne University Men's Soccer Team was voted fifth in the 2012 South Atlantic Conference Coaches Preseason Poll, league officials announced this morning. Tusculum, which received two first-place votes in the poll, was picked to win the regular season championship. The

Pioneers placed four places on the all-league preseason teams while Mars Hill was picked to finish second after receiving four first-place votes. The Lions are ranked No. 17 in the NSCAA NCAA Division II National Preseason Top 25 Poll.

Lenoir-Rhyne is coming off a 9-9-3 campaign in 2011 including a 3-4-2 mark in conference play, good for a sixth-place tie. However, the Bears did rally in last year's Food Lion SAC Tournament and advanced to the championship match against top-seeded Anderson before falling by a 1-0 score in overtime.

Several returnees for Lenoir-Rhyne this fall include junior goalkeeper Stefan Dill (Southampton, BERMUDA) and senior defender Chris Johnson (Liverpool, ENGLAND).

Dill finished with a 1.18 goals-against average, four shutouts and 83 total saves while Johnson led the squad with seven assists during the 2011 season.

Lenoir-Rhyne opens the 2012 season on Thursday, August 30, against King at home beginning at 7:30 p.m., at the Moretz Sports - Athletic Complex.

## **2012 South Atlantic Conference**

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### Men's Soccer Preseason Coaches Poll

1. Tusculum (2) 69
2. Mars Hill (4) 68
3. Anderson (3) 67
4. Lincoln Memorial (1) 62
- 5. Lenoir-Rhyne 44**
6. Carson-Newman 40
- 7t. Catawba 37
- 7t. Wingate 37
9. Newberry 16
10. Brevard 10

### 2012 All-South Atlantic Conference Men's Soccer Preseason Teams

#### FIRST TEAM

##### Forward

Mario Pinto, Lincoln Memorial  
Stephen Bivens, Mars Hill  
Felipe Ferraro, Mars Hill  
Carson Smith, Catawba

##### Midfielder

Shu Ogawa, Anderson  
Chris Nash, Lincoln Memorial

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Corey Faughnan, Catawba  
Alex Mullen, Mars Hill

### **Defender**

Callum Home, Lincoln Memorial  
Matias Rubio, Tusculum  
Domhnall Minogue, Catawba  
Fredrik Muren, Tusculum

### **Goalkeeper\***

Lukas Hesse, Anderson  
Zac Scott, Mars Hill

**\* Two-way tie for first-team goalkeeper; no second team distinction.**

## **SECOND TEAM**

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### **Forward**

Leonardo Germiniani, Lincoln Memorial  
Tapiwa Munetsi, Anderson  
Emmanuel Aboaye, Carson-Newman  
Kofi Kufuor, Newberry

### **Midfielder**

Roberto Pimentel, Tusculum  
Stephen McNeill, Tusculum  
Taylor Jolley, Carson-Newman  
Adrian Ochoa, Newberry

### **Defender**

Evan Preston-Kelly, Carson-Newman  
Zak Moss, Anderson  
Greg Munn, Mars Hill  
Cody Langley, Mars Hill