

Bears Softball Ranked 11th In D-II Poll

Written by Staff Reports
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The Lenoir-Rhyne Softball Team has moved up three spots to No. 11 in this week's NFCA NCAA Division II Top 25 Poll. The NFCA is the National Fastpitch Coaches Association. In addition, the Bears remain in second place in the weekly NCAA Division II Southeast Regional

Poll. The top eight teams from each region earn a berth to the national tournament. The Southeast Region includes members of the following conferences - South Atlantic, Conference Carolinas and the Peach Belt - in addition to several independents. The regional qualifiers include the three conference tournament champions and five at-large bids. Lenoir-Rhyne (35-14) earned an automatic qualifying berth after winning the 2013 Food Lion South Atlantic Conference Tournament Championship on Sunday, April 21, in Salisbury, N.C. The league tournament title was the fourth straight and eighth all-time in school history dating back to the 2000 season for the Bears.

The 2013 NCAA Division II Softball National Tournament selection show will take place on Monday, May 6, at 10:30 a.m. Lenoir-Rhyne will be making its eight consecutive trip to the playoffs this year. The Southeast Regionals start on Friday, May 10.

The NFCA NCAA Division II Top 25 Poll is voted on by 16 D-II head coaches with two representing each of the eight NCAA regions. The current 2013 records are shown with first-place votes in parentheses.

NFCA NCAA Division II Softball Top 25 Poll May 1, 2013

1. Indianapolis (10) 48-4
2. Southeastern Oklahoma State (3) 44-7
3. Armstrong Atlantic State 36-7-1
4. Valdosta State (2) 37-9
5. Humboldt State (1) 44-12
6. Texas Woman's 43-12
7. California (Pa.) 32-2
8. West Texas A&M 41-10
9. Grand Valley State 36-4
10. Tampa 31-8
- 11. Lenoir-Rhyne 35-14**
12. Central Oklahoma 39-9
13. Colorado School of Mines 36-5-1
14. LIU Post 44-11
15. Fort Hays State 41-9
16. Columbus State 39-16
17. Grand Canyon 38-14
18. Alabama-Huntsville 35-13
19. Midwestern State 41-14

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20. Shippensburg 30-9
21. North Alabama 38-16
22. St. Martin's 36-13
23. Minnesota State Mankato 34-10
24. Saint Leo 40-14
25. Georgia College 36-15

NCAA Division II Southeast Regional Rankings May 1, 2013

1. Armstrong Atlantic State
- 2. Lenoir-Rhyne**
3. North Georgia
4. Columbus State
5. Mount Olive
6. Anderson
7. Georgia College
8. Wingate
9. Flagler
10. Catawba