

Hazinski can start packing for Moscow

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Mark Hazinski

Texas Wesleyan table tennis player Mark Hazinski won the men's National Team Trials, qualifying to represent the United States at the World Championships. The Texas Wesleyan table tennis program hosted the USA Table Tennis National Trials and the Leone Texas Wesleyan Open back-to-back March 4 to 7.

Hazinski beat Yu Shao in the final of the National Trials on March 5 to qualify for the World Championships. Shao won the first of five games 11-7, but Hazinski went on to win the match after beating Shao 11-9, 11-7, 11-6 and 11-6.

The top three winners of the national trials qualified for nationals. Shao, who won second place, was followed by Peter Li.

Along with Ariel Hsing, winner of the women's na-

tional team trials, Hazinski will represent the U.S. at the World Championships May 23-30 in Moscow, Russia.

The competition between Shao and Hazinski was high as Shao beat Hazinski in the semifinals of the Leone Open. Hazinski also won first place in group one of the men's round robin while, Shao finished first in group two of the men's round robin.

Other players from the Texas Wesleyan table tennis team also played well throughout the Leone Open.

"We had good results from many of our players, such as Chance Friend and Sarah Hazinski," Head Coach Jasna Rather said.

Chance Friend won the under 2400 event after defeating a competitor from Korea in the semifinals to move to the of the Leone Open.

"The tournaments were great preparation for college nationals," Rather said. "Our players haven't gotten to play at this high level since December, and I hope it helps our team to be exposed to better players."

The Leone Texas Wesleyan Open totaled \$9,000 in cash prizes, drawing top competitors from New York, China and Peru.

"The tournaments were different because we had a lot of new players come out and many from different states,"

said Texas Wesleyan player Ines Perhoc. "The high cash prizes attracted many strong competitors, and, overall, it was a fun experience."

The first place winner of the Leone Open, Shao Yu, won \$3,000 and the second place winner, Huijing Wang, won \$1,500.

"The tournaments were very well-organized, and all the players seemed to be satisfied," Rather said. "They were excited to have the opportunity to compete with the best players in the U.S."

Rather also said hosting the tournaments was very successful.

"Participants were happy with how the Wesleyan ta-

ble tennis program ensured everything ran smoothly throughout the tournaments," Rather said.

According to Rather, the known success of Texas Wesleyan hosting tournaments is beneficial when they apply to host the 2012 Olympic Trials.

"I hope it helps our team to be exposed to better players."

Jasna Rather
head coach

Upcoming Sports:		
	Game	Time/Place
Friday	Baseball vs. University of the Southwest Softball vs. Central Baptist College	2 p.m. LaGrave Field 5 p.m. Sycamore Park
Saturday	Baseball vs. University of the Southwest	1 p.m. LaGrave Field
Sunday	Golf at UST Mamiya Texas Intercollegiate Table Tennis Baseball vs. York College Softball vs. Huston-Tillotson University	Hawks Creek GC, Ft. Worth 12:30 p.m. LaGrave Field 2 p.m. Austin
Monday	Golf at UST Mamiya Texas Intercollegiate	Hawks Creek GC, Ft. Worth
Tuesday	Softball vs. Our Lady of the Lake University Baseball	1 p.m. San Antonio
Wednesday	Baseball vs. University of Arkansas at Monticello	3 p.m. Pine Bluff, AR

Wesleyan Week in Sports

- **Rams Softball** (9-6, 3-1 RRAC) split a pair of games at University of the Southwest March 5. The Lady Rams then swept a double header from Texas College March 7.
- **The Rams Baseball team** (8-5) took an 11-6 victory at McMurry University March 3.
- **The Women's Basketball team** (20-10) defeated University of the Southwest 81-63 in the conference quarterfinals March 4 before falling in overtime 74-70 to Southwestern Assemblies of God University in the semifinal matchup March 5. Senior Ashley Davis and sophomore Eliana Mijangos were selected to the all-tournament team.
- **The Women's Soccer Head Coach** Josh Gibbs signed forward Karissa Olson from Keller High School March 8.

No. 1-seed Rams fall in conference semifinals



Courtesy of athletic department

Jeremy Smith (above) made the all-tournament team, along with Jamel White.

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The Texas Wesleyan men's basketball team lost in the semifinals of the Red River Athletic Conference basketball tournament, 78-64 to Bacone College.

"We knew Bacone was a good team and had been playing very well," said Head Coach Terry Waldrop. "We expected to compete at a high level that afternoon."

The Rams were the No. 1 seed in the tournament and knocked out hosting team Southwestern Assemblies of God University in the quarterfinals with a 76-72 victory.

Fifth-seeded Bacone College won the RRAC tournament after defeating Texas College, 86-85 in the final.

After the championship game, two Rams were announced to the RRAC men's basketball all-tournament team.

Jeremy Smith, junior guard, was named all tournament, scoring 29 points in the tournament. Senior forward

Jamel White was also named all tournament, scoring 28 points, with eight rebounds and six assists.

"I am proud to be a member of the all-tournament team, but now it's about our team taking advantage of every opportunity to get better for nationals," White said.

The Rams will have less than two weeks to bounce back from the loss. "Hopefully we can use the loss as a learning experience and it will help us refocus as we prepare for the biggest stage of all," Waldrop said.

Although the Rams didn't win the conference tournament, they won the regular season championship and earned an automatic bid to the 73rd Annual Buffalo Funds-NAIA national tournament in Kansas City, March 17-23.

Bacone College won the conference tournament and is also headed to the national tournament with the Rams.

In conference play, the Rams split wins with Bacone. At home, the Rams beat Bacone 78-71, but lost in Wax-

hachie 70-67.

"We have to have the mindset that our regular season is over now, and if we lose, we are out," White said. "We have to play each game like it's our last."

According to Waldrop, the team's top competitor in the national tournament needs to be itself.

"The men will have to work hard to do well in Kansas," Waldrop said. "We are a team. If we can quickly grasp that we need to work together, then our time in the tournament can be very interesting and fulfilling."

The NAIA national tournament is a 32-team single elimination tournament. The bracket announcement will be live at 4 p.m. March 10 on College Fanz TV.

"We want to compete at a high level in the national tournament and represent Wesleyan the way our previous teams have, with class and tremendous effort," Waldrop said.

The Weekly Sports Quote

"To play Holland, you have to play the Dutch."

Ruud Gullit

former professional soccer player



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