

CLEVELAND STATE VIKINGS ATHLETICS

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For Immediate Release

The Viking Report. . .

A Look At What Is Happening In Cleveland State Athletics

Baseball Plays At Horizon League Championship. . .

Record-Setting Year Comes To An End With Possibility For One More NCAA Appearance

What will be remembered as the most successful year in Cleveland State Athletics will come to a close this week when the Viking baseball team takes part in the annual Horizon League Championship in Niles, Ohio.

With Viking teams winning four league postseason titles, a regular season crown, two second place finishes along with making NCAA appearances in volleyball, women's basketball, men's golf, men's tennis, men's swimming and wrestling, Cleveland State has enjoyed unprecedented success this year.

What would make the year even better would be a tournament title for baseball, who enters the tourney as the No. 4 seed. CSU will face Milwaukee on Wednesday (May 21) beginning at 11:00 a.m. at Eastwood Field in Niles. A victory would send the Vikings to a quarter-final game vs. either top-seeded UIC or No. 2 Wright State on Wednesday afternoon (May 22).

Baseball Heads To Horizon League Championship. . .

Vikings Earn Fourth Seed, Will Face Milwaukee In Opening Round

The Cleveland State baseball team (21-29, 10-13 HL) begins postseason play when the Vikings begin the Horizon League Championship with a first round game on Wednesday (May 21) beginning at 11:00 a.m. against Milwaukee. The league championship is slated to take place from Wednesday through Saturday (May 21-24) at Eastwood Field in Niles, Ohio with Youngstown State serving as the host school.

"We've been struggling over the last couple of weeks and haven't really been the same ballclub since our series with UIC got rained out," head coach Kevin Kocks said. "We are not swinging the bats well and that is leading to a lack of runs. We are going to work on our approaches early this week as we prepare to make a run at the league tournament."

The Vikings clinched fourth place in the regular season standing by winning one of three games at Butler over the weekend. CSU won the series opener on Friday (May 16) as Josh Hungerman fired a complete game, four-hitter with eight strikeouts. CSU was swept in Saturday's (May 17) doubleheader, losing 5-1 and 8-5.

Earlier in the week, the Vikings dropped a pair of nonleague games at home, falling to Duquesne on Tuesday (May 13) and to Pittsburgh in a rain shortened, five inning game on Wednesday (May 14).

Kyle Bischof was CSU's top offensive player last week, going 8-for-18 (.444) with two runs, one double and one RBI in the five games. He went 4-for-5 with a run and an RBI in the series finale against Butler and also recorded three hits against Duquesne.

The Schedule Ahead For The Vikings

May 21	Wednesday	Baseball vs. Milwaukee (HL Championship)	Youngstown, OH	11:00 a.m.
May 22	Thursday	Baseball at Horizon League Championship	Youngstown, OH	TBA
May 23	Friday	Baseball at Horizon League Championship	Youngstown, OH	TBA
May 24	Saturday	Baseball at Horizon League Championship	Youngstown, OH	TBA

Men's Golf Finishes 23rd At NCAA Central Regional. . .

Slow Start Hurts Viking Chances Of Advancing

The Cleveland State men's golf team finished 23rd out of 27 teams at the 54-hole NCAA Central Regional Championship contested Thursday through Saturday (May 15-17) at the par 71, 7,420-yard Scarlet Course in Columbus, Ohio.

"This was a great experience for our program and a nice way to end the season," head coach Steve Weir said. "We didn't get off to a great start on Thursday, but really stayed focus and played well the last two days. Four of our top five golfers will be back next season and we will grow from this experience."

CSU, which was making its second appearance at regionals in the last two seasons, opened the championship by shooting a 313, but came back with a 299 in round two and a 314 in Saturday's final round to finish with a three-round total of 926.

Junior Jake Scott was CSU's top finisher, carding rounds of 79-73-74 (226) to tie for 41st place, while Kent Monas tied for 89th place with rounds of 80-74-78 (232).

Viking High Fives

Josh Hungerman: The junior southpaw threw his first complete game of the season in Friday's 3-1 win over Butler to earn Horizon League Pitcher of the Week honors.

Amanda Macenko: The softball sophomore capped off a record-setting season by being named to the All-Great Lakes Region second team by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association.

Mel Snyder: Volleyball's senior setter, a two-time all-league choice, closed her CSU career by being tabbed as the Viking nominee for NCAA Woman of the Year.

Last Week's Results

May 13	Baseball hosts Duquesne	Pipe Yard Stadium	L, 4-7
May 14	Baseball hosts Pittsburgh	Pipe Yard Stadium	L, 2-4
May 15-17	Men's Golf at NCAA Central Region	Columbus, OH	23rd of 27
May 16	Baseball at Butler	Indianapolis, IN	W, 3-1
May 17	Baseball at Butler	Indianapolis, IN	L, 5-8
	Baseball at Butler	Indianapolis, IN	L, 1-5