

# VILLANOVA

## ATHLETICS COMPLIANCE NEWSLETTER

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### Big East Announces 5 New Schools

ESPN.com

NEW YORK -- The Big East announced five new members Wednesday, including Boise State. The conference said in a release Wednesday that commissioner John Marinatto would be joined on a teleconference to address conference membership by the university leaders from Boise State, San Diego State, Houston, SMU and Central Florida. The league said in a statement that those five schools are joining the conference in 2013.

South Florida president Judy Genshaft, the chairwoman of the Big East executive committee, also will be on the 5 p.m. ET call with reporters. The additions also give the league members in all four continental U.S. time zones. But despite that, the Big East is not expected to consider a name change, because of the brand equity it has already established, sources told ESPN's Joe Schad. The ultimate goal for the Big East is to get to 12 teams with an East-West divisional structure. Until that happens, the Big East will not have divisions. The Big East, depleted by the planned departures of Syracuse, Pittsburgh and West Virginia, is trying to rebuild as a 12-team football conference with a western division.

Boise State and San Diego State, which currently play in the Mountain West Conference, will join the Big East only for football. Houston, SMU and UCF will be leaving Conference USA and joining the Big East in all sports. Boise State and San Diego State will place the rest of their athletic programs in the Western Athletic Conference and Big West, respectively, multiple sources confirmed to ESPN.com's Andy Katz. The Big East also has been pursuing Air Force and Navy as football-only members, but those schools have yet to commit. Navy, a football independent, has not yet joined as a football-only member, but is expected to do so once some "loose ends" are ironed out, a source told Katz.

But the entry of Air Force and Navy could be delayed until 2014 or 2015 due to scheduling logistics, sources told Schad. The Big East has only five football members committed to the conference beyond this season: Connecticut, Cincinnati, Louisville, Rutgers and South Florida. It also has seven schools that do not play major college football, and Notre Dame, which competes in the Big East in every sport but football. Marinatto has pledged to hold Pittsburgh, Syracuse and West Virginia in the conference until 2014, in accordance with the Big East bylaws. West Virginia wants to join the Big 12 in 2012 and has sued the Big East to get an early release. The Big East filed a countersuit to keep West Virginia in the conference.

Pittsburgh and Syracuse intend to join the Atlantic Coast Conference as soon as possible, but are not challenging the Big East's bylaws. Syracuse athletic director Daryl Gross said he expected the Big East might ask his school and Pitt to leave early now. "They'd need us to move out of the way," said Gross, who was taking part in IMG's Intercollegiate Athletics Forum in Manhattan on Wednesday.



## Big East Announces 5 New Schools

The Big East was born in 1979 as a northeast basketball conference and in 1991 added football with the additions of Miami, Virginia Tech and others.

Maintaining a strong football league has been difficult. Miami, Virginia Tech and Boston College left the Big East for the ACC in 2004 and '05, and the league seemed to be on the verge of extinction.

Instead, the league expanded, bringing in Louisville, Cincinnati, South Florida, DePaul and Marquette. The additions revitalized the football league for a few years and Big East basketball, with 16 members, has been better than ever.

The newest additions are all about football and television markets. Boise State has been one of the most successful programs in the country over the last decade playing mostly in the Western Athletic Conference before joining the MWC this season. The Broncos are 72-6 over the last five seasons with two BCS victories.

Houston has been to a bowl game six of the last seven seasons, and is in the 10th-largest television market in the country, according to Nielsen. San Diego State, UCF and SMU have all been on the upswing on the field in recent years. Just as importantly, Dallas, where SMU is located, is the fifth-largest TV market. Orlando, where UCF is located, is in the 19th-largest, and San Diego is the 28th-largest.

The Big East is hoping that the combination of success on the field and potential viewers will help the league land a new television deal that can keep it relatively competitive with the other power conferences, which have all signed long-term TV contracts worth more than \$1 billion.

The five new members are banking on the move to the Big East bringing increased TV revenue, along with better access to the Bowl Championship Series and its multimillion dollar payouts.

### DECEMBER RECRUITING CALENDARS

<b>Baseball</b> Dec 1—Dec 31 Quiet	<b>Women's Lacrosse</b> Dec 1—Dec 31 Quiet	<b>Men's Lacrosse</b> Dec 1—Dec 23 Quiet Dec 24-Dec 31 Dead	<b>Women's Basketball</b> Dec 1-Dec 23 Evaluation Dec 24—Dec 26 Dead Dec 27—Dec 31 Evaluation
<b>Men's Basketball</b> Dec 1-Dec 23 Evaluation Dec 24—Dec 26 Dead Dec 27—Dec 31 Evaluation	<b>Field Hockey</b> Dec 1—Dec 31 Contact	<b>Softball</b> Dec 1—Dec 3 Dead Dec 4—Dec 31 Quiet	<b>Women's Soccer</b> Dec 1—Dec 31 Contact
<b>Men's Soccer</b> Dec 1—Dec 31 Contact	<b>Football</b> Dec 1-Dec 17 Contact Dec 18 Quiet Dec 19—Dec 31 Dead	<b>Crew, Golf, Tennis, Swimming &amp; Diving, Water Polo</b> Dec 1—Dec 31 Contact	<b>Cross Country &amp; Track</b> Dec 1—Dec 11 Contact Dec 12—Dec 15 Dead Dec 16—Dec 31 Quiet
	<b>Volleyball</b> Dec 1—Dec 4 Contact Dec 5—Dec 13 Quiet Dec 14—Dec 31 Dead		

# RULES TRIVIA

**Q:** Misstha Cut is a golf student-athlete at Bay State College. Misstha will be spending her winter break at home and has decided to take a course during a mini-term at a local college to get ahead in her major. Which of the following is true with regard to certification of eligibility? (this course would be accepted with a passing grade at Bay State College)

- A. This course can be used to fulfill the 18/27 hour requirement
- B. This course can be used to fulfill the 6 hour requirement
- C. This course cannot be used to fulfill either requirement
- D. This course can be used to fulfill both requirements

**A:** The answer is A. **NCAA Staff Interpretation- 12/20/06- Credits Earned From Another Institution During an Interim Term (I)**- states that credits taken at another institution during the regular academic year in an interim term (e.g., J-term, mini-term) may be used to satisfy the 18/27-hour requirement, provided the credits are acceptable for degree-credit at the certifying institution. Please note, however, these credits cannot be used to satisfy the six-hour requirement.

**Q:** The Ocean State University women's basketball team will be hosting a WNIT game at their on-campus facility this weekend. During this weekend, the team will be hosting 3 prospective student-athletes on official visits. Is it permissible to provide these prospects with complimentary admissions to the WNIT game?

**A:** Yes. **NCAA Staff Interpretation- 7/2/03- Complimentary Admissions to Pre-season Events (I)**- states that a member institution may provide complimentary admissions to a prospect to attend preseason (as distinguished from postseason) home athletics events. [References: NCAA Proposal Nos. 2003-1 and 2003-2, Bylaws 13.7.5.1 (entertainment/tickets on official visit - general restrictions), 13.7.5.2.2 (NCAA championships or other postseason events), 13.8.2.1 (entertainment/tickets on unofficial visit - general restrictions), 13.8.2.2 (home games outside regular facility) and 13.8.2.4

## NLI SIGNING DATES 2011-2012

BASKETBALL & ALL OTHER SPORTS NOT LISTED  
 (EARLY PERIOD): NOV 9-NOV 16  
BASKETBALL  
 (REGULAR PERIOD): APR 11-MAY 16  
ALL OTHER SPORTS NOT LISTED  
 (REGULAR PERIOD): APR 11-AUG 1

FIELD HOCKEY, SOCCER, T&F, XC:  
 FEB 1-AUG 1  
FOOTBALL  
 (MIDYEAR JC TRANSFER): DEC 21-JAN 15  
FOOTBALL  
 (REGULAR PERIOD): FEB 1-APR 1

## PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASON REMINDERS- SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL

COUNTABLE ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES (CARA)	LIMITATIONS		PERSONNEL THAT CAN BE PRESENT	FINAL EXAMINATIONS	ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS
	WEEKLY HOUR	# OF STUDENT-ATHLETES			
Weight Training	Up to 8 hours/ week	No limit from <u>September 15 to April 15</u> ; <u>Prior to September 15 and after April 15</u> , no more than 4 student-athletes from the same team may be involved in skill-related instruction with their coaches at any one time	Strength & Conditioning Coaches, Countable Coaches, Sport Specific Staff Members (Observe Only)	One week prior to the beginning of the final examination period for the applicable term through the conclusion of each student-athlete's final exams	Skill-Related instruction shall not be publicized and shall not be conducted in view of a general public audience
Conditioning					
Skill-Related Workouts	Up to 2 hours/ week				

## Public reprimand and suspension issued to Lehigh University football student-athlete

NCAA.org

A Lehigh University football student-athlete has been publicly reprimanded and suspended from the team's next game for misconduct during the 2011 NCAA Division I Football Championship.

The Division I Football Championship Committee said football student-athlete Ryan Spadola was being reprimanded and held out of Lehigh's quarterfinal contest, against North Dakota State University this Saturday (Dec. 10), for using an inappropriate and repugnant racial reference to describe Towson University student-athletes on his Twitter page in the days leading up to their FCS preliminary round match-up.

The committee noted the steps Lehigh has already taken with this incident, including the public statement Head Coach Andy Coen made on the institution's website addressing the issue, the public apology Spadola made on his Twitter page and the plans Lehigh and Spadola have made to involve him in participating and leading educational discussions on the topic of racially insensitive comments in the Lehigh University campus community.

"The football committee was very disappointed with the unsportsmanlike action taken by the student-athlete," said Jim O'Day, chair of the Division I Football Championship Committee and director of athletics at the University of Montana. "This was a very unfortunate incident, but racially insensitive characterizations are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. The offensive language of this nature by Mr. Spadola, whether intentional or not, was unsportsmanlike and discredited the championship overall."



### ASK Before You ACT!

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