

## MARKETING NEWSLETTER

### Dates to Remember in May:

- **May 4-6:** NCBA DII District Playoffs. DI SoPac and S. Atlantic Regionals
- **May 9:** NCFA Phone Day
- **May 11-13:** NCBA DI Regional Tournaments
- **May 15:** Suite 301
- **May 18-22:** NCBA DII World Series
- **May 23:** NCSA Phone Day
- **May 25-31:** NCBA DI World Series

### DID YOU KNOW...

**2012 MARKS THE FOURTH STRAIGHT YEAR THAT THE NCSA NATIONAL CHAMPION CAME FROM THE SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION (2009: FLORIDA STATE; 2010: FLORIDA; 2011: FLORIDA STATE). HOWEVER, THE 3-YEAR STREAK OF THE NATIONAL CHAMPION BEING AN AT-LARGE BID CAME TO AN END THIS YEAR.**

### FLORIDA WINS 2012 NCSA WORLD SERIES

In what has already been deemed an "instant classic," the University of Florida Gators defeated the University of Illinois Fighting Illini 8-7 in 8 innings to claim the 2012 NCSA National Title. "In the three years that the NCSA World Series has been down here in Columbus, Georgia, that was the best game I've seen," said David Boyd, Event Manager for the Columbus Sports Council.

The Gators were down to their last strike, down by two runs with two outs and two strikes on the batter in the bottom of the seventh inning. The next pitch resulted in a comebacker to the pitcher, but an errant throw to first base allowed both runs to score to tie the game and force extra innings. In the top



The University of Florida Gators Club Softball Team celebrates after winning their second National Championship in the last three years by defeating Illinois 8-7 in the National Championship game in Columbus, Georgia.



half of the eighth, Illinois scored one run to go up 7-6. Florida quickly answered to tie the game in the bottom of the eighth, and promptly proceeded to load the bases without recording an out. With no room for error, Illinois turned in two defensive gems, fielding difficult ground balls at short-stop and third base and getting the force-out at the plate, preventing the winning run from scoring.

With two outs, Brittany Evans stepped up to the plate and delivered a line-drive single up the middle to score the winning run and bring the title back to Gainesville. This marked the Gators second national championship in the past three years.

For her efforts on the mound, not only in the championship game but throughout the tournament, Florida's Kelly Langer was named

### CollClubSports Player To Watch



**Name:** Erin Murphy  
**School:** University of Illinois  
**Events:** 200, 400 and long jump  
**Scholastic Year:** Sophomore  
**Major:** Integrative Biology  
**Nickname:** None  
**Favorites:**  
**Movie:** Garden State  
**Food:** Ice Cream  
**Band:** Backyard Tire Fire  
**Collegiate Track Memory:** Illinois Club Relays

#### Provide background of your career so far in college:

My freshman year I competed in only two club meets. One was Illinois club relays and one was NCTFA nationals. This year I competed in multiple D3 and D1 meets in the 200, 400 and long jump along with competing in NCTFA nationals.

Talk about your experience at the NCTFA National Championships and how it feels to be a National Champion:

Erin Murphy is a sophomore on the Illinois Club Track & Field Team. Erin won a record eight medals in leading the Illini to a national title at the NCTFA National Championship Meet in Richmond, Kentucky last month. Next year, as a junior, she will serve as a captain on the women's team.

Competing at NCTFA Nationals this year was a blast and seeing how much both our male and female teams have grown in a year time makes me so proud. Being a national champion along with many of my teammates in their events was a great way of finishing out a great season for us.

You just began competing in track & field about a year ago. What made you get involved?

I did gymnastics for 15 years growing up, but I decided to retire when I came to college so that I could focus on new opportunities. It was really hard for me at first though, because it had been such a big part of my life and I missed the competition. One of my best friends told me I should try track because he thought I would enjoy it. It took him two months to convince me, but going to that first practice was one of the best decisions I have ever made.

Has your background in gymnastics benefited you as a runner in any way?

My gymnastics history definitely benefited me as a runner and a jumper. Gymnastics requires a lot of speed and explosion work so even though I came into the sport late, it

gave me a good background to build off of. It also taught me a lot about competition and dedication in general, that have helped me succeed in track.

You will be a captain on the women's team next year. Talk about your goals and expectations for the future of the program?

I have two primary goals for the upcoming year as U of I's women's captain. My first goal pertains to our team specifically. I would like to continue building a strong competitive women's team. This includes recruiting more women involved in every event especially field events, and focusing on team bonding so we can build a community people want to be part of.

My second goal is to work to build the women's track and field community nationally. Right now the women's competition at nationals is not as plentiful as the men's. I plan on working with other schools to increase recruiting success so many schools can have the large women's community we are already able to provide at the university of Illinois.

## ILLINOIS CLAIMS MEN'S AND WOMEN'S NATIONAL TITLES

The stage was set for a great weekend of racing as track clubs from across the country filed into Tom Samuels Track at Eastern Kentucky University on Saturday morning for the 2012 National Club Track and Field Association National Championships. At meet's end, no one left disappointed, with great competition all across the board, including a fantastic battle between the Universities of Illinois and Delaware that came down to the final leg of the 1600 meter relay. Congratulations to the Illinois Track Club on winning both men's and women's team titles at the first ever NCTFA National Championship Meet!

On Saturday, the meet kicked off with the women's 100 meter final, won by Illinois' Erin Murphy. This set the trend for a weekend of winning for the Illini women. Saturday also saw event wins by Illinois' Mike Frigo and Brendan McDonnell in the 1500 and 10,000 respectively, along with Robert Gorecki and Collin Zeffer going 1-2 in the men's steeple for Delaware. In the sprints, Wisconsin had several good performances as Max Krueger and Alex Lockwood each took home a bronze medal in the 100 and 200 respectively. Also, in the throws, Delaware went an overwhelming 1 through 4 in the shot put, blowing away their competition in that event. After the first day of competition, the Illinois women were already running away with the meet, outscoring the rest of the meet 287-109, while the Illini men were clinging to an 8 point lead over Delaware, 178-170.

With competition resuming on Sunday, the atmosphere was tense as the two titans on the men's side, Illinois and Delaware, continued their chase for the title. Illinois struck first, going 1-2 in the 100 behind Matt Halberthal and Fuad Akinbiyi, but Delaware struck back, sweeping the discus with John Farelli, Tim Byrne and Jim Schwendter leading the charge there and winning the 5000 meters behind the efforts of Andy Weaver. Meanwhile, in the jumps, Evan Carpenter of the University of Michigan impressively took both the long and high jumps and placed second in the 110 hurdles.

In the end, it came down to the 1600 meter relay to determine who would go home a national titlist and who merely a contender. Illinois was up 4 points with only this last event remaining, meaning Delaware would need to win the event and Illinois finish third merely to tie for the title. Delaware took care of the victory, but Illinois' Mike Brothers held off Bowling Green State's anchor leg to secure second place and the team title for the Illini, 265-

263. Final scores on the men's side were Illinois with 265, Delaware with 263 and Wisconsin third with 91, Michigan fourth with 67, Bowling Green State with 45, and Ohio State with 15. On the women's side, Illinois ran away with the meet, scoring 398 points, with Wisconsin a distant second with 63 points, Michigan third with 44, Bowling Green fourth with 39, and Ohio State with 17.

Congratulations to everyone who came out and competed in Richmond, Kentucky for NCTFA Nationals. It was a great two days of competition on both the men's and women's sides and we only hope to improve this meet in the following years!



### NCBA DI Week 23 Top 20 :

1. East Carolina University (15)
2. University of Georgia
3. UC San Diego
4. University of Florida (2)
5. NC State University
6. Texas Tech University
7. Colorado State University
8. University of Arizona
9. University of Massachusetts (1)
10. Appalachian State University
11. Penn State University
12. University of Antelope Valley
13. Utah State University
14. University of Pittsburgh
15. Texas State University
16. University of Illinois
17. University of Missouri
18. Ohio State University
19. Clemson University
20. Indiana University



### NCBA DII Week 22 Top 15 :

1. Penn State University (DII) (9)
2. Hofstra University (2)
3. University of Wyoming
4. Kennesaw State University (1)
5. Xavier University
6. Northeastern University
7. SUNY Oneonta
8. Longwood University
- T-9. SUNY Binghamton
- T-9. University of Wisconsin (DII)
11. Western State College of Colorado
12. College of William and Mary
13. University of Maryland (DII)
14. SIU - Edwardsville
15. Rice University



### NCSA Final Top 15 :

1. University of Florida (11)
2. University of Illinois
3. Florida State
- T-4. Miami University (OH)
- T-4. St. Louis University
- T-4. Virginia Tech
7. University of Antelope Valley
8. Penn State University
9. Kennesaw State University
10. Air Force Academy
11. East Carolina University
12. James Madison University
13. University of Delaware
14. Naval Academy
15. University of Georgia