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2008 College Table Tennis National Championships

April 11-13 in Rochester, Minnesota

WEBSITE: <http://www.nctta.org/champs/2008/index.html>

****NEWS RELEASE****

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2008

LOCAL BOYS GO UNDEFEATED IN DAY ONE OF CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Golden Gophers had a strong showing; going undefeated in the first day of the 2008 College Table Tennis National Championships. The 5th-ranked men's team from the University of Minnesota defeated Rutgers and Northeastern University in preliminary group play behind strong performances by Anders Truelson, Ming Curran and Anh Ngo. Minnesota will continue their quest for a team National Championship on Saturday April 12th at the UCR Regional Sports Center in Rochester, Minnesota.

Texas Wesleyan University played like the favorite in both the Men's/Coed and Women's events, looking dominant by winning without dropping a match. Other undefeated schools include 2nd ranked Princeton and the 3rd ranked Puerto Rico, 7th ranked Virginia Tech and 16th ranked Michigan. The University of Puerto Rico, despite this being their rookie season, had a very solid outing and is expected to be competitive deep into the Championships.

Last year's third place finisher, Columbia, kept their title hopes alive, going the distance against a tenacious Washington team, after dropping a close 3-2 match to 6th-seeded Stanford earlier in the day. Columbia won the deciding doubles match against Washington in straight games to secure the victory and now needs a win against Virginia Tech to advance to the top-12 Championship bracket. It certainly won't be easy; Virginia Tech looked convincing in upending Stanford 4-0.

In the women's team draw, Stanford and Texas Wesleyan both went undefeated in Friday's competition, as expected of the top 2 seeds. Could a rematch of the 2007 Women's Team Final be in store for these two?

Perhaps, but there's still plenty more table tennis left to be played as the Championships continue with more team competition at 9:00 AM on Saturday April 12th. Men's and women's singles will resume in the afternoon with elimination rounds, semifinals and finals.

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