

Atlantic Sun Conference

2008 Volleyball Championship

SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 20

#3 Jacksonville 3, #6 Campbell 0

#5 ETSU, 3 #4 Mercer 2

Thursday, November 21

#2 Belmont 3, #3 Jacksonville 2

#1 Lipscomb 3, #5 ETSU 0

Saturday, November 22

#1 Lipscomb vs. #2 Belmont, 6:00pm

GENERAL NOTES

- The Atlantic Sun Volleyball Championship returns to Mercer University for the second consecutive year.
- Among the 2008 field, Belmont (2006), Jacksonville (2004) and Lipscomb (2007) have captured a Conference Championship.
- The host institution has won three of the seven championships held since the NCAA implemented the rally scoring format in 2001. Belmont is the most recent host champion, capturing the crown in 2006.
- The No. 1 seed has only reached the finals once in the past four season with top-seeded Florida Atlantic topping Belmont in 2005. The No. 1 seed has reached the finals three times since 2001, winning everytime.
- In the seven previous Championships to use the six-team format, only twice has a team won the Championship without the benefit of the opening-round bye, Jacksonville in 2004 and Lipscomb in 2007. Last season marked the first championship match between two schools that did not receive opening round byes.
- No champion has successfully defended its title since UCF won three straight from 2001-03.
- Lipscomb and Belmont meet with a conference championship on the line for just the second time in history. The men's basketball teams clashed for the A-Sun title in 2006 with the Bruins emerging victorious in overtime.
- Tonight's championship match features the last two A-Sun champions. Belmont swept past Jacksonville on its home court for the 2006 conference title, and Lipscomb swept past the same Dolphins here in Mercer's University center.

TEAM NOTES

No. 1 Lipscomb Lady Bisons

- This is the fourth straight appearance for the Lady Bisons in the Atlantic Sun Conference Tournament
- The Lady Bisons are the defending Atlantic Sun Conference Tournament Champions, beating Mercer in the quarterfinals, Belmont in the semifinals and Jacksonville in the championship match. The Lady Bisons were the fourth seed last season.
- Lipscomb setter Stefine "Jake" Pease was the Atlantic Sun Tournament MVP in 2007.
- The Lady Bisons closed out the regular season with five straight wins. They also won seven of their last eight.
- The Lady Bisons 20 wins this season tie the program record set last season. The 20 wins, however, set a new regular season victory mark.
- First-Team All-Atlantic Sun performers Alex Kelly and Jake Pease led the Lady Bisons to their sweep of No. 5 seed ETSU last night. Kelly tallied a match-high 14 kills, and Pease distributed a match-high 28 assists.

No. 2 Belmont Bruins

- Belmont appears in its fifth A-Sun Tournament tonight against Jacksonville.
- The Bruins defeated every A-Sun Team in the conference at least once this season.
- Belmont enters the tournament on a season-best nine-match winning streak.
- Belmont has notched at least 20 wins in each of the past five seasons. The Bruins are the only current member institution to post 20-plus wins in five straight seasons.
- The Bruins lead the conference in kills per set (13.22) and service aces (245) and aces per set (2.17).
- Five Bruins received postseason accolades this year with freshman setter Channing Salava leading the way with Freshman of the Year honors. Senior Cat Mundy notched a First-Team selection, while senior Emily Cahill and junior Jenny Gray captured second-team honors. Freshman Maggie Johnson joined Salava on the All-Freshman Team.
- Cat Mundy led the Bruins to their semifinal victory last night, racking up 18 kills against the Dolphins.