



GULF SOUTH CONFERENCE

2101 Providence Park / Suite 200 / Birmingham, AL 35242
Phone (205) 991-9880 / Fax (205) 437-0505
www.gulfsouthconference.org

Nathan N. Salant, Esq.—Commissioner

For immediate release
Contact: Michael Anderson

April 22, 2009

GSC ANNOUNCES 2009 MEN'S TENNIS ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

Birmingham, AL—The Gulf South Conference announced its 2009 Men's Tennis All-Conference Team today.

Seven schools were represented led by **Ouachita Baptist** and **Valdosta State** which posted four players apiece. **Harding** accounted for three members, while **Alabama-Huntsville** and **West Florida** added two standouts. **Delta State** and **West Alabama** completed the team with each placing one player.

DIVISION POWERS LEAD EAST PLAYER LAURELS

VSU provided the GSC East Division Player of the Year for the first time since 2005 when **Daniel Dueren** was selected as the top player. Dueren is the Blazers' 10th overall honoree and helped lead the East Division Champion to the 2009 league Title.

For the second year in a row, UWF provided the GSC East Division Freshman of the Year. **Kevin Ducros** takes home this year's accolade and is Argonauts' seventh freshman winner.

OBU SWEEPS WEST PLAYER HONORS

For the fourth consecutive season, **Ouachita Baptist** swept the GSC West Division individual awards. **Jan Plewinski** makes the jump from Freshman of the Year laurels a year ago, to claim this year's GSC West Division Player of the Year award. Plewinski's honor marks the sixth straight time a Tiger took home the award.

Jean Charles Diame was tabbed the GSC West Division Freshman of the Year. His honor marks the fifth consecutive Ouachita Baptist player to garner the honor and sixth overall winner.

OBU'S WARD IS COACH OF THE YEAR

Ouachita Baptist Head Coach Craig Ward garnered his first-ever GSC Coach of the Year award. Ward guided the Tigers to an undefeated regular season (17-0), the West Division Title and a berth in the GSC Title Match.

ALL-GSC TEAM

The 2009 All-GSC Team is headlined by seven returning standouts.

Valdosta State's Leos Jelinek is the 14th player in league history to be a four-time All-GSC First Team member (the Conference selected a First/Second Teams in 2006).

VSU's Joerg Ekkenga and **HU's Marco Ruiz** are three-time All-GSC members, while **Valdosta State's Florian Halb**, **HU's Olzhas Taniyev** and **OBU duo Plewinski** and **Till Heilshorn** return from 2008.

2009 All-GSC Men's Tennis Team on Next Page

2009 ALL-GSC MEN'S TENNIS TEAM**EAST DIVISION**

Player	School	Year	Hometown
Andre Ipince	UAH	JR	Lima, Peru
Andres Buse	UAH	JR	Lima, Peru
Daniel Dueren	VSU	SO	Cologne, Germany
!Florian Halb	VSU	SR	Wilhermsdorf, Germany
!\$Joerg Ekkenga	VSU	JR	Oldenburg, Germany
!\$%Leos Jelinek	VSU	SR	Prague, Czech Republic
Benny Delgado Rochas	UWA	FR	Tel Aviv, Israel
Kevin Ducros	UWF	FR	Aix-en-Provence, France
Andrey Pozhidaev	UWF	FR	Sochi, Russia

!—2008 All-GSC Team

\$—2007 All-GSC Team

%—2006 All-GSC First Team

GSC East Division Player of the Year—Daniel Dueren, Valdosta State**GSC East Division Freshman of the Year**—Kevin Ducros, West Florida**WEST DIVISION**

Player	School	Year	Hometown
Julien Beckensteiner	DSU	SR	Lyon, France
!Olzhas Taniyev	HU	JR	Almaty, Kazakhstan
!\$Marco Ruiz	HU	SR	Sao Paulo, Brazil
Henrique Ruiz	HU	FR	Sao Paulo, Brazil
!Jan Plewinski	OBU	SO	Bremen, Germany
!Till Heilshorn	OBU	SO	Bremen, Germany
Jean Charles Diame	OBU	FR	St. Jean des Mauvrets, France
Pierre Tafelski	OBU	FR	Lyon, France

!—2008 All-GSC Team

\$—2007 All-GSC Team

GSC West Division Player of the Year—Jan Plewinski, Ouachita Baptist**GSC West Division Freshman of the Year**—Jean Charles Diame, Ouachita Baptist**GSC Coach of the Year**—Craig Ward, Ouachita Baptist**Notes:** Because of the shortage of teams, Second Team honors were ended after the 2006 season.

#GSC#