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**SCAC ANNOUNCES 2004-05
ALL-SCAC MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM**

MEMPHIS, Tenn. - In exclusive voting by the head coaches of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC), junior guard Aaron Bowser of Southwestern University was selected as SCAC Men's Basketball Player-of-the-Year, while Southwestern head coach Bill Raleigh was named the league's Coach-of-the-Year. The coaches also voted on Newcomer and Defensive Players-of-the-Year, and first-year guard Matt Nestheide of Centre College and senior center Sean Devins of Trinity University were the respective recipients.

In a tightly contested vote, Bowser edged Oglethorpe's Russ Churchwell by four points in the Player-of-the-Year balloting. Bowser finished the regular season ranked fifth in the league in scoring (15.6 ppg). In addition, he is 15th in the conference in field goal percentage (48.3%), seventh in free throw percentage (81.1%), third in three-point field goal percentage (49.5%), fifth in three-point field goals made per game (2.16) and third in steals (1.60 spg). Entering the SCAC Tournament, Bowser, a two-time First Team All-SCAC selection, needed just 38 points to reach 1,000 for his career. He would become the 48th player in conference history to reach the milestone. Bowser is the first Southwestern basketball player – male or female – to be honored as SCAC Player-of-the-Year.

Raleigh, in his sixth season with Southwestern, has led the Pirates to a 19-6 overall mark, an 11-3 conference record, and the No. 1 seed in this year's SCAC Tournament. This is the second time in three years that Raleigh has been honored as the league's Coach-of-the-Year (2002-03). Southwestern has produced a 54-25 overall mark the last three seasons – the program's best three-year run since joining the SCAC – including a third-place regular season finish in 2002-03 and a fourth-place finish last season.

Centre's Nestheide becomes the second consecutive Colonel to receive the Newcomer-of-the-Year honor after teammate Reggie Magnusson was recognized last season. Nestheide finished second among all first-year players in scoring at 12.0 points per game (17th overall in the SCAC) and leads all guards in field goal percentage – shooting 54.4% from the floor (fourth in the SCAC) through the regular season. Nestheide, the only first-year player to garner a Player-of-the-Week award this season (Week 11) also leads the league in three-point field goal percentage (52.9%) and is fourth in three-pointers made per game at 2.82.

Devins was the coaches' choice for Defensive Player-of-the-Year for the third consecutive season. Once again, Devins leads the league in blocks, posting 70 rejections thus far this season, and has led the league three consecutive seasons. Devins, who was also named First Team All-SCAC in this year's balloting, has two of the top four single-season block totals in SCAC history and last week blocked the 300th shot of his career. His current total of 302 is 72 more than second place in the career SCAC record book. Devins was also a force offensively for Trinity averaging a team-high 12.5 points (12th in the SCAC) while shooting 55.4% from the field (third in the SCAC). The junior also averages 6.2 rebounds per game (sixth in the SCAC) and is ninth in the league in free-throw percentage (79.5%).

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In addition to Bowser and Devins, Russ Churchwell of Oglethorpe, Peter Murray of Trinity and Robert Cates of Southwestern round out the remainder of the All-SCAC First Team,

Churchwell, the league's all-time leading scorer and rebounder and two-time Jostens National Player-of-the-Year finalist, led the SCAC in scoring for the second consecutive year (19.0 ppg) and is second in the league in rebounding (8.8 rpg). He is also 11th in the league in field goal percentage (49.6%), 15th in free throw percentage (72.5%) and seventh in blocked shots (0.72 per game). Murray averages 11.9 points per game (18th in the SCAC), and is also ranked in the top 10 in the conference in rebounds (6.2 per game – ninth), field goal percentage (60.8% – second) and blocks (0.76 – sixth). Cates averages 12.9 points per game (ninth in the SCAC) and leads the league in field goal percentage – shooting at a 63.7% clip. He also averages 5.8 rebounds (11th in the SCAC) and 0.92 blocked shots per game (fourth in the SCAC).

2004-05 SCAC PLAYER-OF-THE-YEAR

Aaron Bowser Southwestern 6-3 Jr. Guard Arlington, Texas

2004-05 SCAC NEWCOMER-OF-THE-YEAR

Matt Nestheide Centre 6-0 Fy. Guard Edgewood, Ky.

2004-05 SCAC DEFENSIVE PLAYER-OF-THE-YEAR

Sean Devins Trinity 6-10 Sr. Center Sugar Land, Texas

2004-05 SCAC COACH-OF-THE-YEAR

Bill Raleigh Southwestern 19-6 Overall / 11-3 SCAC /
SCAC Regular Season Co-Champions

2004-05 ALL-SCAC FIRST TEAM

Aaron Bowser	82 (3)	Southwestern	6-3	Jr.	Guard	Arlington, Texas
Russ Churchwell	78 (6)	Oglethorpe	6-4	Sr.	Forward	Loganville, Ga.
Peter Murray	73	Trinity	6-8	Sr.	Forward	Arlington, Texas
Sean Devins	57 (1)	Trinity	6-10	Sr.	Center	Sugar Land, Texas
Robert Cates	39	Southwestern	6-7	Jr.	Forward	Houston, Texas

2004-05 ALL-SCAC SECOND TEAM

Jason Smith	30	Sewanee	6-5	Sr.	Forward	Shelbyville, Tenn.
Jason Ludwig	28	Rose-Hulman	6-2	Sr.	Guard	Effingham, Ill.
Rami Almefty	27	Rhodes	6-0	Jr.	Guard	Little Rock, Ark.
Jason Morris	17	Trinity	6-0	Sr.	Guard	Duncanville, Texas
Matt Nestheide	17	Centre	6-0	Fy.	Guard	Edgewood, Ky.

HONORABLE MENTION (players receiving votes)

Centre – Reggie Magnussen (Jr.), Coy Zerhusen (Jr.); **DePauw** – Stephen Schott (Fy.), Alex Stewart (Jr.); **Millsaps** – Tyler Warren (Jr.); **Oglethorpe** – Eric Dickinson (So.); **Rose-Hulman** – Philip Griffith (Sr.), Munchie Muskeyvalley (Sr.); **Sewanee** – Chris Eddy (So.); **Southwestern** – Jamonn Little (Jr.); **Trinity** – Chad Stroberg (Sr.)

First-place votes in parentheses. Voting totals based on coaches' votes with 10 points awarded for first-place votes, nine points for second-place votes, eight points for third-place votes, etc., down to one point for a 10th-place vote. All players not elected to the First or Second Team, but who received at least one vote, were named Honorable Mention. Coaches could not vote for their own players.