

11-5-2005

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Recommended Citation

Cedarville University, "Cedarville University Dethrones Defending NCCAA National Champion Palm Beach Atlantic" (2005).
Volleyball News Releases. 102.
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NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

Cedarville University Dethrones Defending NCCAA National Champion Palm Beach Atlantic Yellow Jackets Move on to Championship Match

November 5, St. Paul, Minn. – The top-seeded Cedarville University Yellow Jackets took a large step forward towards securing the 2005 National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) volleyball national championship, knocking off the defending national champions in Palm Beach Atlantic University. The semi-final match featured three close games, but Cedarville owned the upper hand in each game with scores reading 30-27, 30-26, and 30-27. With the victory, the Yellow Jackets are now 39-2 overall on the year, while the Sailfish from Palm Beach Atlantic completed NCCAA tournament action owning a 28-10 record for the season.

Cedarville University featured a pair of players with 14 kills, including senior Erica Paugh (South Charleston, Ohio/Southeastern HS) and junior Julia Bradley (Valencia, Calif./Saugus HS). Sophomore middle hitter Sarah Zeltman (Orrville, Ohio/Kidron Central Christian HS) added 10 kills as well to aid in the Yellow Jacket offensive attack. Cedarville senior setter Kelsey Jones (Cedarville, Ohio/Cedarville HS) continued her impressive tournament run, distributing 43 assists in the match.

For Palm Beach Atlantic University, a youthful trio of players including freshman Brittany Erickson (Alpine, Calif.), sophomore Ali Mitchell (Royal Palm Beach, Fla.), and freshman Chrissy Gulden (Carlsbad, Calif.) each pounded down 10 kills. Sailfish junior setter Ashley Bonvento (West Palm Beach, Fla.) contributed 39 assists, averaging 13 assists per game, while junior defensive specialist Whitney Warren (Stuart, Fla.) recorded a match-high 34 digs.

Cedarville University will take a quick breather and then gear up to clash with Bethel College at 3:30 p.m. in the championship battle.

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