

Northeast Conference

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For Immediate Release
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Sacred Heart Leads After First Round Of NEC Men's Golf Championship Salah, Mercatoris Hold One-Stroke Lead

Daytona Beach, FL - Sacred Heart posted a promising start to the 2011 Northeast Conference Men's Golf Championship, ending day one with a 295. The Pioneers' team score was just seven strokes over the par-72, 6,937-yard International Course at ChampionsGate Golf Club. It also bested the tournament-low from last year (300) by five strokes. Robert Morris finished round one two strokes behind the Sacred Heart squad in second with a nine-over 297. Slightly off the leaders' pace was Mount St. Mary's and Monmouth in a tie for third, carding tallies of 305. Identical marks were also turned in by Long Island, defending champion Saint Francis (PA) and Central Connecticut State as trio squeezed in the fifth slot, just a stroke above third (306). Wagner and Fairleigh Dickinson almost shared the same spot, but the Seahawks claimed a one-stroke advantage (314) over the Knights (315) to notch eighth, putting FDU in ninth. St. Francis (NY) concluded the field of 10 with a 339 after day one. Bryant competed as individuals and did not record a team score, as they are still in the reclassifying process and ineligible for the NCAA's automatic bid into regional play.

Leading Sacred Heart's campaign for a third championship title in four years is sophomore **Joshua Salah (Gloucester, MA/Gloucester)**. Salah, who took home fifth last season, fired frames of 34-37 to book a one-under 71 and a piece of first place. Also in the top slot is Robert Morris' **C.G. Mercatoris (Brookville, PA/Brookville)**, who carded the opposite of Salah with a 37-34. The Colonial senior nabbed second place in 2010. Capping the top-three after the first 18 holes was Long Island's **Rocky Co (Richmond Hill, Ontario/St. Robert)**. Co, who knocked in an even-par 72, came down the back nine hitting a 35 to balance his first-nine total of 37.

Five golfers are bunched in the fourth-place position at one-over par. Shooting a 73 was Mount St. Mary's **Devin O'Grady (Lancaster, PA/Manheim Township)**, Sacred Heart's **Leo Garcia (Guaynabo, Puerto Rico/Colegio Marista)**, Robert Morris' **Brock Pompeani (Aliquippa, PA/Hopewell)**, Monmouth's **Greg Etimos (East Islip, NY/East Islip)** and Saint Francis' (PA) **Michael Magalski (Spring Grove, PA/Spring Grove)**.

Shoring up ninth place was **Kyle Hoffman (Pawtucket, RI/Bishop Feehan)** and **Ray Hyre (Bowie, MD/Bowie)**. The duo boasted matching scores of 74, only three strokes off first place. Bryant's Hoffmann shot a 38-36, including an eagle at hole-18, while Mount St. Mary's Hyre fired a 40-34.

The second round of the 2011 NEC Men's Golf Championship is scheduled for Saturday, April 30, beginning with a shotgun start at 7:30 a.m. The final round is slated for Sunday, May 1.

(2011 NEC Men's Golf Championship Release - Day 1; 1-of-2)

Central Connecticut State University • Fairleigh Dickinson University
Long Island University • Monmouth University • Mount St. Mary's University •
Robert Morris University • Sacred Heart University • St. Francis (NY) College
Saint Francis (PA) University • Wagner College

Individual Standings

- T1 Josh Salah Sacred Heart 71 -1
- T1 C.G. Mercatoris Robert Morris University 71 -1
- 3 Rocky Co Long Island U-Brklyn 72 E
- T4 Devin O'Grady Mount St. Mary's 73 +1
- T4 Leo Garcia Sacred Heart 73 +1
- T4 Brock Pompeani Robert Morris University 73 +1
- T4 Greg Etimos Monmouth University 73 +1
- T4 Michael Magalski St. Francis-Pennsylv. 73 +1
- T9 Kyle Hoffman * Bryant University 74 +2
- T9 Ray Hyre Mount St. Mary's 74 +2
- T11 Justin Hughes Central Conn. St. 75 +3
- T11 Steve Nakajima Wagner College 75 +3
- T11 Joey Amelia St. Francis-Pennsylv. 75 +3
- T11 Adam User St. Francis Coll-NY 75 +3
- T11 Donny Lewis Robert Morris University 75 +3
- T11 Ian Thimble Monmouth University 75 +3
- T11 David Renski Sacred Heart 75 +3
- T18 Mike Pyne * Bryant University 76 +4
- T18 Kevin Josephson Central Conn. St. 76 +4
- T18 Daniel Morgan Central Conn. St. 76 +4
- T18 Robert Cerabone Fairleigh Dickinson 76 +4
- T18 Jamie Young Long Island U-Brklyn 76 +4
- T18 Joseph Serrantino Sacred Heart 76 +4
- T24 Alex Daley * Bryant University 77 +5
- T24 Jason Hopkins Wagner College 77 +5
- T24 Brent Besch * Bryant University 77 +5
- T24 Dan Michalek Mount St. Mary's 77 +5
- T24 Thomas Gliozzo Monmouth University 77 +5
- T24 Segeun Choi Long Island U-Brklyn 77 +5
- T30 Jun Hardart Sacred Heart 78 +6
- T30 Brandon Pompeani Robert Morris University 78 +6
- T32 Brandon French Fairleigh Dickinson 79 +7
- T32 Eduardo Escobar Fairleigh Dickinson 79 +7
- T32 Eric Hawerchuk Central Conn. St. 79 +7
- T32 Jeremy Foran St. Francis-Pennsylv. 79 +7
- T32 Vincent Adams St. Francis-Pennsylv. 79 +7
- T37 Tommy Arison Wagner College 80 +8
- T37 Corey Carrick Monmouth University 80 +8
- T39 Greg Najarian * Bryant University 81 +9
- T39 Greg Parzyck Fairleigh Dickinson 81 +9
- T39 Tonny Aizpun Mount St. Mary's 81 +9
- T39 Lloyd Martinson Long Island U-Brklyn 81 +9
- T43 Kevin Ellison Mount St. Mary's 82 +10
- T43 Jan Saroch Wagner College 82 +10
- T43 Keith Downey Fairleigh Dickinson 82 +10
- T43 Ryan Coccagna St. Francis-Pennsylv. 82 +10
- 47 Josh Waters Long Island U-Brklyn 83 +11
- T48 Dan Fanion Central Conn. St. 84 +12
- T48 Daniel McCreesh Monmouth University 84 +12
- 50 Max Cahn Robert Morris University 86 +14
- T51 Eric Mathias Wagner College 87 +15
- T51 Bradley rowland St. Francis Coll-NY 87 +15
- T51 David Smith St. Francis Coll-NY 87 +15
- 54 Zachary Chyz St. Francis Coll-NY 90 +18
- 55 Steve Stuto St. Francis Coll-NY 93 +21

Team Standings

1. Sacred Heart 295 +72
2. Robert Morris University 297 +9T3
T-3. Mount St. Mary's 305 +17T3
T-3. Monmouth University 305 +17T5
5. St. Francis-Pennsylv. 306 +18T5
6. Long Island U-Brklyn 306 +18T5
7. Central Conn. St. 306 +188
8. Wagner College 314 +269
9. Fairleigh Dickinson 315 +2710
10. St. Francis Coll-NY 339 +51