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wviac news release

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CONCORD UNIVERSITY, WVIAC TO HOST NCAA DIVISION II GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP AT GLADE SPRINGS

(DANIELS, W.VA)---Glade Springs Resort's Cobb Course will serve as the site for the 2006 NCAA Division II Men's Golf Championship. The May 16-19 event, hosted by Concord University and the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, will become the first NCAA national championship event to be held in Southern West Virginia.

The 7,121 yard, par-72 layout designed by George Cobb is consistently ranked as one of the top courses in the Mid-Atlantic region. The Cobb Course features over 200 feet of elevation change, 54 sand bunkers, and eight lakes. It will also play host to the 2006 West Virginia Open next summer.

"Glade Springs Hotel and Conference Resort is honored to welcome the 2006 NCAA Division II Men's Golf Championship to Southern West Virginia," stated director of golf Mike James. "We are confident that the Cobb Course will be a true test for these elite college players, demanding the very best of their golf skills, and it will provide a great forum to decide national champions."

Concord University athletic director Greg Quick is excited about his institution's participation. "We are proud to join the conference in hosting the national golf championship. It is a great opportunity to showcase the beauty of Southern West Virginia and the quality of the facilities at Glade Springs. I'm sure it will be a great venue for players, coaches, and spectators."

The 2006 NCAA Division II Men's Golf Championship will bring 105 student-athletes to the area for the 72-hole tournament. 20 teams and five individuals will earn their way to Glade Springs next May through five NCAA superregional qualifying events.

The University of South Carolina-Aiken is the two-time defending national team champion. The Pacers edged Armstrong Atlantic State University by five shots to claim this season's crown.

USCA also grabbed the individual title as Dane Burkhardt's five-under par 279 nipped Hawaii-Hilo's Nick Mason by a stroke. Burkhardt, a senior in 2006, will seek to become only the fourth two-time individual medalist in NCAA Division II history.

"We're pleased to host a national championship event in West Virginia," said WVIAC Associate Commissioner Will Prewitt. "The Cobb Course and Glade Springs will provide a fantastic championship experience for the competing student-athletes"

Playing host to an NCAA championship is a rarity for the Mountain State. The only previous national championships held in West Virginia were the 1992-96 Division I-AA Football Championships hosted by Marshall and the 2003 Division II Wrestling Championship hosted by West Liberty State.