



# Texas Wesleyan University Table Tennis

NEWS RELEASE

November 7, 2005

**CONTACT: MIKE MEIER**

**Phone 817-840-9269**

**Email [tabletennis@txwes.edu](mailto:tabletennis@txwes.edu)**

## **TWO TOURNAMENTS, SEVERAL SUCCESSES FOR RAMS TABLE TENNIS**

The junior varsity competed in Austin, Texas the varsity battled in San Diego, CA, and both teams scored many highlights for the Texas Wesleyan University table tennis team.

At the Austin Fall Round Robin, sophomores Aldis Presley and Tim Aikey placed second in open doubles, while Michael Meier and David Livings garnered runner-up honors in under-3200 doubles. Both Rams teams won two previous matches before reaching their respective finals.

In singles, the Atlanta-native Presley was one of eight to qualify for Class A singles, the most advanced group. Vermont-bred Aikey placed fourth in Class B, while Ghana-born junior Peter Lindsay-van der Puije came in fourth in Class E.

As for the San Diego Open, the Rams qualified for three finals, as well as three separate semifinals. After trailing 6-9 in the seventh game, senior Eric Owens rallied to defeat Canada Olympic Team member Pradeeban Peter-Paul 12-10 in open singles. Head table tennis coach Christian Lillieroos said he was excited to see Owens prevail since Owens had not beaten Peter-Paul in his last two attempts.

“This was definitely Eric’s best win of the season. He executed a very good strategy, keeping Peter-Paul from attacking by using his powerful backhand,” Lillieroos said.

Though freshman Ludovic Gombos fell to Peter-Paul in the semifinals of open singles, he did triumph for the under-2500 singles title. Junior Courtney Roberts qualified for the semifinals of that same event and also came runner-up in under-2375 singles.

As for freshman Carlos Chiu and sophomore Dinko Kranjac, both Rams advanced to the quarterfinals of open singles. In the under 22-year-old event, Chiu placed second and Kranjac finished third, both falling to 14-year-old prodigy Jeff Lin Huang, the top American under age 16 and third-best under age 18.

The Rams next compete in the DFW Winter Round Robin, Sat. Nov. 19, in Irving, Texas. The following week, Texas Wesleyan’s top four players will compete at the three-day North American Team Championships in Baltimore, MD. Last year the 11<sup>th</sup>-seeded Rams placed third overall in the event. This year’s tournament boasts 140 tables, 200 teams, and 800 players.

“This is the most physically demanding table tennis tournament in the world. If we hope to match our success of last year, we will have to play well and stay injury free,” Lillieroos said.