

## Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Office

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Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference

### Coaches Select Earlham as HCAC Men's Tennis Favorite

**GREENWOOD, IN** – Earlham College's men's tennis team has been unanimously selected as the front runner to win the 2012 Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference championship. In a poll of the ten HCAC head coaches, the Quakers received a maximum total of 100 points and all ten first place votes.

Transylvania University placed second in the poll with 90 points, while Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology is picked to finish third in the conference standings this fall with 71 points. Hanover College (66 points), Anderson University (64), Franklin College (52), College of Mount St. Joseph (37), Manchester College (30), Defiance College (29), and Bluffton University (11) round out the poll.

The Quakers are coming off a 16-4 season and 7-1 conference record in claiming their first HCAC championship. Earlham won the HCAC Tournament and fell in the first round of the NCAA Tournament to Luther, ending its season. EC enters the 2012 conference season looking for a second consecutive title.

Coach Adam Van Zee returns three First-Team All-HCAC selections to the Earlham lineup this spring. Sophomore **Andrey Gavrilov (Yaroslavl, Russia/Universal)** and juniors **Henry Levin (Dallas, Tex./Highland Park)** and **Brad Maisey (Mt. Maunganui, New Zealand)** will look to pick up where they left off last season. Gavrilov posted a 6-1 league record in singles action and was 5-2 in doubles. Levin was 4-0 at No. 1 singles and earned a 5-2 mark at No. 1 doubles, while Maisey was a perfect 14-0 in league matches.

Transylvania will look to reclaim its spot at the top of the HCAC standings after seeing its eight year run as tourney champs come to a close. The Pioneers earned a share of the regular season title with a 7-1 record and finished the season 10-5 overall. Transy also returns three First-Team All-HCAC members from a year ago. Seniors **Will Palmer (Lexington, Ky./Henry Clay)**, **Keith Henderson (Lexington, Ky./Lafayette)**, and **Patrick Corbett (Lexington, Ky./St. Xavier)** will strive to overtake the Quakers this spring. Palmer led the Pioneers with a 4-2 mark at No. 1 singles and finished 7-1 at the top doubles position. Henderson was 6-2 in singles action and earned a 7-1 mark at No. 2 doubles, while Corbett stood 8-1 overall on the season.

Rose-Hulman also shared the regular season title with Earlham and Transylvania after earning a 7-1 league mark last spring. The Engineers finished the 2011 season 10-8 overall. Junior **Ben Paras (Tucson, Ariz./Nordhoff)** is the lone returning First-Team All-HCAC member from last year's squad. Paras was 3-4 at No. 1 singles for the Engineers last season and held a 4-4 record at No. 1 doubles.

The 2012 men's tennis season is set to begin on February 2.

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#### 2012 HCAC Preseason Poll

	Team	Points
1.	Earlham	100 (10)
2.	Transylvania	90
3.	Rose-Hulman	71
4.	Hanover	66
5.	Anderson	64
6.	Franklin	52
7.	Mount St. Joseph	37
8.	Manchester	30
9.	Defiance	29
10.	Bluffton	11



## Players to Watch

Anderson	Drew Lovern	Junior	Indianapolis, Ind./Covenant Christian
	Brock Bell	Senior	Muncie, Ind./Burris
	Kyle Templeton	Junior	New Palestine, Ind./H.S.
	Bryant Beard	Senior	Middletown, Ind./Shenandoah
Bluffton	Nate Stroud	Senior	Troy, Ohio/Christian
	A.J. Haley	Sophomore	Wilmington, Ohio/H.S.
Defiance	Cord Speelman	Freshman	Bryan, Ohio/H.S.
	Trevor Ault	Senior	Oregon, Ohio/Clay
	Craig Bills	Sophomore	Rockford, Ohio/Parkway
Earlham	Henry Levin	Junior	Dallas, Tex./Highland Park
	Brad Maisey	Junior	Mt. Maunganui, New Zealand/Tauranga Boys
	Andrey Gavrilov	Sophomore	Yaroslavl, Russia/Universal
	Anton Bartashevich	Freshman	Moscow, Russia/International
Franklin	Blake Wareham	Junior	Carmel, Ind./H.S.
	Justin Smith	Senior	Indianapolis, Ind./Lawrence Central
	Ryan Hammer	Freshman	Greenwood, Ind.
Hanover	Steven Gilliam	Junior	Fishers, Ind./H.S.
	Brandon Ramsey	Sophomore	Centerville, Ind./H.S.
	Sam Werne	Sophomore	Jasper, Ind./H.S.
	Matt Strandmark	Senior	Madison, Ind./H.S.
Manchester	Piero Ridoutt	Senior	Warsaw, Ind./H.S.
	Phil Truitt	Freshman	Huntington, Ind./North
	Ramiro Arguijo	Sophomore	Wakarusa, Ind./Northwood
The Mount	Colin Barrett	Junior	Cincinnati, Ohio/Mariemont
	Sandy Berry	Senior	Cincinnati, Ohio/Sycamore
	Clayton Steinriede	Junior	Cincinnati, Ohio/St. Xavier
	Kyle Smith	Senior	Cincinnati, Ohio/Elder
Rose-Hulman	Ben Paras	Junior	Tucson, Ariz./Nordhoff
	Devon Fritz	Junior	Lakeside, Calif./West Hills
	Randy Billingsley	Senior	Moline, Ill./Alleman
	Stephan Lemmer	Senior	Haymarket, Va./Stonewall Jackson
Transylvania	Will Palmer	Senior	Lexington, Ky./Henry Clay
	Keith Henderson	Senior	Lexington, Ky./Lafayette
	Patrick Corbett	Senior	Louisville, Ky./St. Xavier
	Patrick Richardson	Sophomore	Louisville, Ky./Trinity

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