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Toros' defense earns second men's soccer title

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 National Collegiate Athletic Association

The NCAA News

Cal State Dominguez Hills turned its 14th shutout of the season into its second national men's soccer title December 7 as the Toros blanked Dowling, 3-0, in the final match of the Division II Men's Soccer Championship in Tampa.

The win was the Toros' 13th straight to end a 21-2-4 season. It also was the third shutout of a five-win tournament run in which they outscored their opponents, 15-3.

It was just 1-0 at the half, thanks to a Brian Alvarez goal, but Andrew Marinez and Hiram Rangel added scores in the second half to build an insurmountable lead. Toros goalkeeper Miguel Benitez took care of the rest.

The 3-0 score was fitting after players dedicated the season to former Toro Jaret "JT" Minami by wearing his jersey No. 3 on their left sleeves. Minami, who capped a four-year stint with first-team all-region and second-team all-conference honors during his senior season in 2005, died August 3 at the age of 25. Cal State Dominguez Hills made it to the quarterfinals that season before losing to eventual national champion Fort Lewis.

This year, the Toros dominated from the start of the championship contest, outshooting the Golden Lions, 12-2, in the first half and 21-7 for the game.

The title is the second for the Toros, who won their first in a 2-1 four-overtime thriller over Barry in 2000.

Both Cal State Dominguez Hills and Dowling advanced from semifinals settled in overtime. Cal State Dominguez Hills downed host Tampa, 3-2, while Dowling dispatched Northern Kentucky, 2-1. Scott Mariano converted the golden goal for the Toros.

Semifinals

Cal St. Dom. Hills 3, Tampa 2 (ot)

Cal St. Dom. Hills	1	1	1 - 3
Tampa 2	0	0 - 2	

First half: T—Ryan Maxwell (David Mitchell), 0:19; CSDH – Greg Piechota (Scott Mariano), 21:14; T – Warren Lister (Pascal Milien), 28:58.

Second half: CSDH – Jordan Rover (Chris Perkins), 45:41.

Overtime: CSDH – Mariano (Perkins), 94:23.

Shots: Cal St. Dom. Hills 27, Tampa 16. Goalkeeper saves: Cal St. Dom. Hills (Miguel Benitez) 6; Tampa (Ryan Thompson) 7. Corner kicks: Cal St. Dom. Hills 6, Tampa 0. Fouls: Cal St. Dom. Hills 22, Tampa 11.




Dowling 2, Northern Ky. 1 (ot)

Dowling	0	1	1 - 2
Northern Ky.	1	0	0 - 1

First half: NK—Seth Eckerlin (Dustin Downey), 3:51.

Second half: D – Lamine Traore (Vlad Milosavljevic), 80:33.

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From the President



National Collegiate Athletic Association

Overtime: D - Traore (El Hadji Mbow), 96:12.

Shots: Dowling 11, Northern Ky. 18. Goalkeeper saves: Dowling (Nemanja Veljovic) 6. Northern Ky. (Michael Lavric), 2. Corner kicks: Dowling 2, Northern Ky. 5. Fouls: Dowling 25, Northern Ky. 22.

Championship match

Cal St. Dom. Hills 3, Dowling 0

Dowling 0 0 - 0

Cal St. Dom. Hills 1 2 - 3

First half: CSDH: Brian Alvarez (unassisted), 16:25.

Second half: CSDH: Andrew Martinez (Diego Turoldo, Alvarez), 68:10; CSDH: Hiram Rangel (Mario Guerrero), 76:05.

Shots: Dowling 7, Cal St. Dom. Hills 21. Goalkeeper saves: Dowling (Nemanja Veljovic) 8, Cal St. Dom. Hills (Miguel Benitez 1, Justin Commins 0) 1. Corner kicks: Dowling 2, Cal St. Dom. Hills 4. Fouls: Dowling 19, Cal St. Dom. Hills 16.

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