

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

ATHLETICS

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ARKANSAS TECH GOLDEN SUNS RANKED NINTH IN LATEST NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S BASKETBALL REGIONAL RANKINGS

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana – The NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Committee has released its final regular season Division II women's basketball regional rankings for the 2008-09 season. The rankings list the Top 10 teams in the each of the NCAA's D-II regions.

Tech, who is 19-8 overall, finished 9-5 in the GSC West Division and is 15-7 in the South Region, is ranked ninth in this week's South Region rankings after being ranked seventh last week. Tech, who split its two games last week, opened with a 71-66 overtime home win over Arkansas-Monticello and then closed the regular season with a 67-61 loss last Saturday at Christian Brothers. Tech is one six Gulf South Conference schools in the final regular season regional poll of the season.

At the end of the season, the top eight teams from each region will receive bids to the 64-team NCAA D-II Tournament. To be considered for selection into the national tournament, each team must play at least 18 games against teams within its region or against Division II schools in contiguous states. The regional rankings will be released every Wednesday through March 4. The top team in each region will have an opportunity to host the first two rounds of the 64-team National Championship Tournament. Only games played against NCAA D-II institutions are considered by the committee.

In addition to Tech, other GSC teams ranked in this week's sixth South Region poll are Delta State (21-6 D-II, 21-4 South Region) at No. 1, West Georgia (19-5 D-II, 19-5 South Region) is ranked fifth, Ouachita Baptist (17-7 D-II, 17-7 South Region) is ranked sixth, Arkansas-Monticello (17-7 D-II, 15-7 South Region) is ranked seventh, while Valdosta State (18-7 D-II, 18-7 South Region) is ranked 10th this week.

Fort Valley State (23-4 D-II, 23-4 South Region), who is from the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, is ranked second this week, while Tampa (21-5 D-II, 19-5 South Region) is ranked third and Rollins (23-4 D-II, 21-4 South Region) is ranked fourth this week.

The Golden Suns will return to action on Thursday, March 5, when they open the 2009 GSC Tournament against Valdosta State. Tip-off for Thursday's second of four quarterfinals game is set for 2:45 p.m. at the DeSoto County Civic Center in Southaven, Miss.

-- Tech Athletics --