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Nazareth College Chosen to Host 2011 Molten Division III Men's Invitational Volleyball Championship

LEXINGTON, Ky. (August 10, 2010) — The American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) and USA Volleyball (USAV), in conjunction with Molten U.S.A., Inc., are pleased to announce that Nazareth College in Rochester, N.Y., has been selected as the host institution for the 2011 Molten Division III Men's Invitational Volleyball Championship to be played April 15-16, 2011. The tournament will be held at the Robert A. Kidera Gymnasium on Nazareth's campus.

As the host institution, Nazareth will receive an automatic berth to the four-team tournament. Nazareth will be making its second appearance in the event after finishing fourth in 2010. The field will also include the champion from the Eastern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association (EIVA) and the North East Collegiate Volleyball Association (NECVA). The fourth team will be an at-large selection from either the Midwest or West region.

"We're excited to host the Molten event and bring it back to the East Coast, and to be the host of what is potentially the last Molten Championship," said Cal Wickens, head coach of Nazareth. "We've only had the volleyball team for six years, and we're happy to be part of that movement and the next step for men's volleyball."

Now in its 15th year, the Molten Division III Men's Invitational Volleyball Championship has grown in scope and stature during its first 14 seasons. The championship was formed due to a need for a culminating event for NCAA Division III men's volleyball. While the NCAA sponsors a national collegiate championship for men's volleyball, programs from all three divisions compete for just four berths into the yearly tournament.

However, the NCAA Division III Championships Committee recently reviewed a proposed timeline for action leading to an inaugural NCAA Division III Men's Volleyball Championship. The legislative proposal is likely to be considered at the 2011 NCAA Convention, and, if approved, the first NCAA Division III Men's Volleyball Championship would be conducted in April 2012.

Springfield College won the 2010 Molten Division III Men's Invitational Volleyball Championship, its sixth tournament title, tying it with Juniata College for the most in the event's history. Either Springfield or Juniata has won all but two of the Molten Championships, dating back to the tournament's beginning in 1997. A total of 18 different colleges have participated in the previous 14 Molten events, all of which have been four-team events.

The Molten Division III Men's Invitational Volleyball Championship committee consists of Kathy DeBoer (AVCA executive director); Doug Beal (USA Volleyball chief executive officer); Ivan Marquez (EIVA Commissioner/EIVA representative); Bob Newcomb (UC Irvine/at-large representative); John Speraw (UC Irvine/AVCA board of directors men's representative); Jerry Maticotta (NECVA); Stuart Robinson (SUNY New Paltz athletics director/NECVA) and Dan Harris (Milwaukee School of Engineering athletics director/Midwest-West representative).

Molten U.S.A., Inc. is the "Official Volleyball of the Molten Division III Men's Invitational Volleyball Championship." Mizuno USA is the "Official Apparel & Shoe Sponsor of the Molten Division III Men's Invitational Volleyball Championship." Sports Imports is the "Official Net System Supplier of the Molten Division III Men's Invitational Volleyball Championship."

Past Molten Division III Men's Invitational Volleyball Championship Results

- 2010:** 1. Springfield; 2. UC Santa Cruz; 3. Carthage; 4. Nazareth
- 2009:** 1. Juniata; 2. Stevens; 3. UC Santa Cruz; 4. Ramapo
- 2008:** 1. Springfield; 2. Vassar; 3. UC Santa Cruz; 4. Juniata
- 2007:** 1. Juniata; 2. Carthage; 3. Springfield; 4. Stevens
- 2006:** 1. Juniata; 2. UC Santa Cruz; 3. Stevens; 4. Rivier
- 2005:** 1. Juniata; 2. Carthage; 3. Stevens; 4. Medaille
- 2004:** 1. Juniata; 2. Medaille; 3. UC Santa Cruz; 4. Eastern Mennonite
- 2003:** 1. Springfield; 2. Juniata; 3. La Verne; 4. Stevens
- 2002:** 1. Springfield; 2. La Verne; 3. NYU; 4. Lehman
- 2001:** 1. Springfield; 2. D'Youville; 3. Clarke; 4. Vassar
- 2000:** 1. UC San Diego; 2. NYU; 3. D'Youville; 4. Stevens
- 1999:** 1. La Verne; 2. D'Youville; 3. Clarke; 4. Juniata
- 1998:** 1. Juniata; 2. La Verne; 3. Springfield; 4. Eastern Mennonite
- 1997:** 1. Springfield; 2. New Jersey Institute of Technology; 3. Juniata; 4. UC San Diego