



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

PRESS RELEASE

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No. 17 Clan Fall to No. 7 Spartans; Bounce Back Over Broncos

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

By William Howard, *SFU Lacrosse Media Relations*
Simon Fraser University Men's Lacrosse

Event: Men's Lacrosse

BURNABY, BC (March 7, 2011) – After dropping their third straight out-of-conference match-up to a top ranked opponent with a 17-14 loss to the No. 7 Michigan State Spartans in a neutral site match-up on Friday, March 4, the No. 17 ranked Simon Fraser Clan returned home to face their first PNCLL Division I opponent of the season, defeating the Boise State Broncos 16-7 the following evening. Once again playing one of the MCLA's toughest schedules, the weekend split moves Fraser to 2-3 on the season with six opponents currently ranked in the CollegeLAX.us Prodigy Top 25 still remaining on the Clan's 2011 schedule.

NO. 17 SIMON FRASER VS. NO. 7 MICHIGAN STATE

Site: Kiggins Bowl, Vancouver, Washington

Score: Simon Fraser University 14, Michigan State University 17

Record: SFU (1-3, 0-0 PNCLL), MSU (1-1, 0-0 CCLA)

For the second consecutive game, a slow third quarter by the Clan would quickly nullify multiple first half leads of 1-0, 3-2 and 4-3, as Michigan State went on an 8-2 run out of the break to earn the 17-14 victory. Eight different goal scorers would contribute to the Clan's cause with sophomore Colton Dow (Coquitlam, BC / Heritage Woods Secondary) – 3g, 2a and junior Rick Bezuidenhout (Campbell River, BC / Timberline Secondary) – 3g, 1a continuing to lead the way for the young Clan in a game which saw seven underclassmen, including six freshmen, in Fraser's ten-man starting line-up. The neutral site contest was played 6-hours down the I-5 at Kiggins Bowl in Vancouver, Washington in front of approximately 300 fans on a rainy night just north of the Oregon border.



Simon Fraser opened the scoring for the first time in their past three games, with Dow getting the Clan out to an early 1-0 lead after the two teams traded possessions to start the contest. Michigan state jumped ahead on goals by Spencer Martin (Grosse Pointe Park, MI / University of Detroit Jesuit) and Michael Bailey (Ann Arbor, MI / Ann Arbor Pioneer) before Bezuidenhout buried his first of the game to make the score 2-2 at the end of the first quarter.

Sophomore Eric Ransom (Sherwood Park, AB / Bev Facey High School) would convert a Dow pass to give Fraser their second lead early in the contest until Connor Bush (Novi, MI / Detroit Catholic Central) registered his first of a game-high 6-points (3g, 3a) to reset the score at 3-3. Dow would make it 4-3 Clan before Dan Witt (Grand Rapids, MI / East Grand Rapids) cashed in on a two-man Spartan advantage and then again at even strength to give Michigan State a one-goal lead heading into the intermission.

A closely matched first half would quickly turn to all MSU in the third quarter as the Spartans out-matched Fraser in transition, putting the Clan on their heels and at the wrong end of an 8-2 third-quarter run. Seven different goals scorers (Bailey, Bush-2, Daiek, Green, J. Nemes, Poquette, Spiers) contributed to the Michigan State assault with Bezuidenhout and senior defender Luke Genereux (Port Coquitlam, BC / Terry Fox Secondary) scoring for SFU in an attempt to keep the game within reach.

Slowly re-gaining some momentum, Bezuidenhout would score his third of the game to start the fourth quarter with a score of 13-7 before another four-goal run by MSU (Bailey, Daiek, Poquette, P. Nemes) extended the Spartan lead to double digits with just over 10-minutes remaining. Determined not to roll over, a resilient Fraser squad would refuse to let Michigan State work in their bench, as a return to top form would see the Clan go on a 7-0 run to close out regulation, falling 3-goals short of a remarkable fourth quarter comeback.

A slow third quarter would arguably cost Simon Fraser their second straight game versus a Top 10 opponent after dropping a 16-8 decision to No. 4 Brigham Young the game previous, despite trailing only 8-6 at the half. Against Michigan State, Fraser held quarter score advantages of 3-2 and 8-4 in the first and fourth quarters respectively, while the Spartans won the middle two frames by scores of 3-1 and 8-2.



All three Michigan State goalies registered minutes in the win, with starter Smith Atwood (Ann Arbor, MI / Ann Arbor Pioneer) playing the bulk of the contest to make a game-high 12 saves with 7 goals against (.632 S%). Atwood came back into the game in the fourth quarter after being relieved late in the third frame, while sophomore Kyle Middleton (Nanaimo, BC / Woodlands Secondary) continued to go the distance for the Clan making 9 saves on 26 shots (.346 S%).

SIMON FRASER (1-3) 2-2-2-8/14

MICHIGAN STATE (2-0) 2-3-8-4/17

GOALS: SFU: Bezuidenhout-3, Dow-3, Craig-2, Koesdiby-2, Genereux, Mills, Ransom, Tessarolo. **MSU:** Bailey-3, Bush-3, Daiek-2, Poquette-2, Witt-2, Green, Martin, J. Nemes, P. Nemes, Spiers.

ASSISTS: SFU: Dow-2, Bezuidenhout, Koesdiby, Mills, Tessarolo. **MSU:** Bush-3, P. Nemes-3, Green-2.

NOTES

- Fraser continued to receive scoring by committee with eight different players, including five underclassman scoring goals and four players, three of which were underclassman, registering multi-point performances.
- SFU picked-up 39 ground balls. Short stick midfielder Tom Newton (Saskatoon, SK / Aden Bowman Collegiate) led the Clan with 10, while fellow freshman Max Weselowski (Maple Ridge, BC / Meadowridge School) had 8.
- Fraser won the majority of the draws with Weselowski carrying all of the workload to finish 22 of 34 (65%).

QUOTES

SFU Co-Head Coach Brent Hoskins

On Michigan State: "Michigan State is very athletic in transition. That's a part of the game that we like to pride ourselves in but they really out-paced us in the third quarter to open the game up. The Spartans shot very well tonight and it felt like anytime that we made a mistake the ball ended up in the back of our net which is obviously frustrating and really gave us some adversity in the second half. Thanks to Coach Hicks for making the trip to the Pacific Northwest and thanks to King's Way Lacrosse and Walax for hosting a great event."

SFU Co-Head Coach Jeff Cathrea

On Simon Fraser: "We were disappointed in another slow start coming out of the intermission but expect some inconsistency with such a young group early in our season. We got on each other a little bit in the third quarter but we are really proud of the group for coming back together and going on an impressive run to close out the game. Unfortunately we ran out of time for the comeback but once again gained some valuable experience against another tough opponent."

NO. 17 SIMON FRASER VS. BOISE STATE

Site: Mercer Stadium, New Westminster, BC

Score: Simon Fraser University 16, Boise State University 7

Record: SFU (2-3, 0-0 PNCLL), BSU (0-4, 0-0 CCLA)

Next SFU Game: Saturday, March 12, 2011, 7:00pm PST - vs. No. 3 Colorado State University – New Westminster, BC (Mercer Stadium)

With both teams travelling to play their second game in a span of 24 hours, the No. 17 Simon Fraser Clan raced out to an early 5-0 lead to defeat the Boise State Broncos 16-7 over 60-minutes. Four players registered three or more goals for SFU as sophomore Colton Dow (Coquitlam, BC / Heritage Woods Secondary) – 4g, 3a paced the Clan with a career-high 7 point outing. Freshman Calvin Craig (Coquitlam, BC / Gleneagle Secondary) – 5g, 1a and sophomore Eric Ransom (Sherwood Park, AB / Bev Facey High School) – 3g, 3a also added career highs with 6 points each on top of a 3 goal performance from junior Rick Bezuidenhout (Campbell River, BC / Timberline Secondary) who continued his impressive play in the win. The game was played under clear skies at Mercer Stadium in New Westminster, BC in front of approximately 150 fans in attendance.



Dow initiated the scoring early in the match-up before setting up Craig for his first of five goals over the opening two quarters. The Clan would take a commanding 4-0 lead before a 3:00 minute unreleasable illegal stick penalty at the mid-point of the first quarter put Boise State on the man advantage. Craig completed the hat trick shorthanded to move the score to 5-0 until Jon Mundy (Boise, ID / Timberline High School) and Dolin Culver (Nampa, ID / Sky View High School) scored on the man-up to put the Broncos on the board at 5-2. Dow assisted on Ransom's first of the game to extend the Fraser lead back to four and close the quarter with a score of 6-2 after 15 minutes.

Boise State would once again capitalize on the man-up to open the second quarter scoring, leading to another Clan run that saw SFU score three more times to close out the first half and head into the break with a 9-3 advantage. All three Bronco goals in the first half were scored on the man-up with Fraser counting a man-up goal of their own late in the second quarter to go along with one short handed tally.

For the third time in as many games, Simon Fraser would continue to start slow out of the intermission making way for a natural hat trick by Boise State midfielder Jake Christensen (Boise, ID / Timberline High School) who capped off a team-high four goals with a 3-0 run to begin the second half. Clan freshman Cory Koesdibyo (Nanaimo, BC / Dover Bay Secondary) would end the BSU streak off a pass from Craig on a SFU man-up to reset the score at 10-6 before a late goal by Gunnar Guth (Ridando Beach, CA / Ridando Union High School) moved the Broncos back to within three.



Unfortunately for the Broncos that would be as close as they would get as any third quarter drama was quickly erased by a 6-0 fourth quarter that saw the Clan run away with a 9-goal spread for the 16-7 win.

Both teams will now have six days off before squaring off against their next opponent on Saturday, March 12. In a rematch of the 2010 MCLA Quarterfinal, No. 17 Simon Fraser will host No. 3 Colorado State, as the Rams will be looking to avenge a 12-11 OT loss to the Clan at the end of last season. Boise State will travel to Eugene, Oregon to play the No. 24 ranked Ducks in the first PNCLL South Divisional match-up of the season.

SIMON FRASER (2-3) 6-3-1-6/16

BOISE STATE (0-4) 2-1-4-0/7

GOALS: SFU: Craig-5, Dow-4, Bezuidenhout-3, Ransom-3, Tessarolo. **BSU:** Christenson-4, Culver, Guth, Mundy.

ASSISTS: SFU: Dow-3, Ransom-3, Craig, Koesdibyo, Tessarolo. **BSU:** N/A

NOTES

- 16 goals is the most that Fraser has scored this season, with four players (Craig-5, Diw-4, Bezuidenhout-3 and Ransom-3) counting three or more goals for the win.
- Both teams capitalized on several man-up opportunities, each scoring four goals with the man advantage; while the Clan also added a goal on the man-down.
- SFU picked-up 29 ground balls. Bezuidenhout and freshman Tom Newton (Saskatoon, SK / Aden Bowman Collegiate) led the Clan with 4 a piece, while senior defender Nathan Clare (Ladner, BC / Vancouver College) chipped-in with 3.
- Fraser struggled at the face-off x for the first time this season as Boise State held a 12-9 advantage. Freshman face-off specialist Max Weselowski took all 21 draws for the Clan finishing at 43%.

QUOTES

SFU Co-Head Coach Brent Hoskins

On Boise State: "Boise State is a young team but you can already see them benefiting from putting together a much tougher schedule in 2011. We are firm believers that there is no better experience than playing the best competition available and the Broncos seemed to have subscribed to that this season which is a great sign for the continued growth of the PNCLL. BSU has a solid coaching staff and we expect them to be a much tougher opponent if we see them again later in the season."

SFU Co-Head Coach Jeff Cathrea

On Simon Fraser: "We are still looking for better consistency in being able to string together four strong quarters that will be critical to our success versus top opponents. None the less we got some key breakout performances tonight and saw lots of other positives that we will continue to build upon as we enter another tough stretch in our schedule."

For further information on Simon Fraser men's lacrosse please visit sfulacrosse.com or follow the Clan on Twitter at twitter.com/fraserlacrosse.

ABOUT SIMON FRASER MEN'S LACROSSE

Simon Fraser University men's lacrosse is entering its sixteenth season in 2011 and competes in the Men's Collegiate Lacrosse Association (MCLA). The Clan have captured a record eight PNCLL Conference Titles (1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2008 and 2009) and are tied for fifth all-time with ten MCLA National Championship tournament appearances, placing 2nd in 1999 and most recently playing in the 2010 MCLA Semi-Finals after reaching the Quarterfinals in 2008 and 2009. The Clan are proudly sponsored by Harrow Sports and Onyx Lacrosse / Riddell Helmets.

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