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Cal Sets American Record in 400-Medley Relay at NCAA Championships

Bears swim 3:30.18 to set new U.S. Open, school, pool record

March 8, 2007

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. - Second-ranked California swam a 3:30.18 to set a new American, U.S. Open, NCAA and pool record and win the 400-yard medley relay on Thursday night at the NCAA Women's Swimming and Diving Championships at the Minnesota Aquatics Center. The foursome of sophomore **Lauren Rogers**, sophomore **Jessica Hardy**, sophomore **Dana Vollmer** and junior **Emily Silver** swam the relay for the Golden Bears, who stand in fourth place with 98 points after one night of finals.

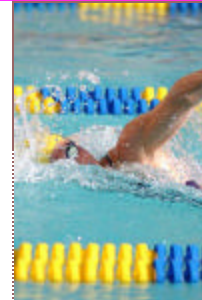
Cal had another record-breaking performance from Silver, who set a school record with a lifetime-best time of 21.99 to take fourth place in the 50-freestyle final. Silver's time beat the old record of 22.01 set by former Bears star **Natalie Coughlin** in 2003.

Vollmer won the 50-free consolation final and took ninth place overall with a time of 22.09. Georgia's Kara Lynn Joyce won the event in a pool-record 21.71.

In the 500 free, Cal freshman **Blake Hayter** repeated her sixth-place prelim finish when she swam a 4:42.41 to take sixth in the final. Senior teammate **Erin Reilly** won the consolation final when she swam the fourth-fastest overall time in the 500 free, with a 4:41.92.

Auburn's Adrienne Binder won the 500 free in 4:36.96.

The Cal quartet of Hardy, senior **Sherry Tsai**, senior **Annie Babicz** and Reilly swam a 1:30.34 to take 11th in the 200-free relay. Arizona won the race in an NCAA -, American-, U.S. Open- and pool-record 1:27.23.



Cal junior Emily Silver was a part of two record swims on Thursday night at the NCAA Championships.

Tomorrow's prelim events begin at 11 a.m. CT.

NCAA Championships Top 10 Team Standings (through 6 events)

School	Points
1. Arizona	168
2. Auburn	155
3. Stanford	123.5
4. California	98
5. Georgia	86
6. Texas A&M	82.5
7. Florida	61
8. Michigan	57
9. Texas	54
9. Kentucky	54

California Results - Thursday Finals

200-Yard Freestyle Relay

11. Cal (**Jessica Hardy**, **Sherry Tsai**, **Annie Babicz**, **Erin Reilly**) 1:30.34.

500-Yard Freestyle

6. **Blake Hayter** 4:42.41. 9. **Erin Reilly** 4:41.92.

50-Yard Freestyle

4. **Emily Silver** 21.99*. 9. **Dana Vollmer** 22.09.

400-Yard Medley Relay

1. Cal (**Lauren Rogers**, **Jessica Hardy**, **Dana Vollmer**, **Emily Silver**) 3:30.18**%p.

* Cal school record ^ American record % U.S. Open record p Minnesota Aquatics Center pool record

