

Chapman University Profile

Chapman University is the largest, most comprehensive independent university in Orange County, Calif. It is comprised of six schools, including a school of law, which opened in 1995, and two colleges in an academic structure that offers both professional studies and liberal arts education. Chapman is ranked in the U.S. News and World Report's top tier of western region colleges and universities. The student population is about 3,800.

Chapman University is known for its liberal arts core, distinguished faculty, innovative programs and personalized attention to students. The university strives to develop in students the ability to think clearly, communicate effectively, explore issues from contrasting points of view, value human and cultural diversity, and make informed ethical judgments in an increasingly complex world.

Since 1991, enrollment at Chapman has grown by more than 40 percent, and the average SAT score of new freshman has increased by more than 140 points. The school maintains a full-time faculty to undergraduate ration of 1:17 at the Orange campus, while the school's network of 25 Academic Centers throughout the Western U.S. caters to the needs of part-time undergraduate, graduate and adult students.

Chapman University is guided by its mission statement: "To provide personalized education of distinction that leads to inquiring, ethical and productive lives as global citizens."

Head Coach Tom Tereschuk, Chapman University

In seven seasons, Tereschuk has secured his place in the storied history of Chapman baseball. In that short time he has already climbed to third on the Panthers' all-time wins list at 249-77 and his .764 winning percentage is among the best in all of Division III.

Tereschuk came storming onto the Division III scene in 2003 when, as a rookie head coach, he guided Chapman to its first national championship in 35 years. Since then, Tereschuk's 'pitching and defense' philosophy has gotten the Panthers to the Division III finals in five consecutive seasons (2005-09), giving Chapman six regional championships in seven years. He has earned West Region Coach of the Year five times, as well as ABCA Division III National Coach of the Year in 2003. He has coached 10 All-Americans and 23 All-West Region players and has seen six of his players drafted by Major League organizations.

Before earning the top spot at Chapman, Tereschuk served as head coach at nearby Villa Park High School, winning two CIF Southern Section championships. He was honored as CIF-SS Coach of the Year in 2000 and 2002, and led the team to the CIF playoffs in all four of his years.

Tereschuk played baseball at Long Beach City College and attended the University of San Diego on a baseball scholarship from 1978-82. He received bachelor's degrees in history and political science from Cal State Long Beach in 1984 and 1987, respectively. He then earned a master's degree in education from Whittier College in 1993.

Chapman University Baseball Notes

Five in a Row – The Panthers are returning to Appleton for the fifth consecutive time, after winning the West Region title every season since 2005. Chapman is the first program since Wisconsin-Oshkosh (1990-96) to advance to the NCAA Division III Championships at least five years in a row. Oshkosh and Marietta hold the record with seven consecutive finals appearances.

Taking a Detour – Chapman's route to the Division III Championships has been quite different this season than in past years. The Panthers' 15 losses are already the most for any Chapman team since 1997 and are also the most the team has had entering the Division III finals, ever.

Roller Coaster Season – On that same note, in 2009 Chapman never had a win streak longer than six games this season and suffered its longest losing streak (four games) since 2000. The Panthers went through one stretch where it won 14 of 16, but that was followed by a stretch of losing 7 of 9. Heading into the championships, Chapman has won 9 of 11.

Un-Ranked Panthers – Chapman fell out of the D3Baseball.com Top-25 poll on April 12 for the first time ever. It was really the first time the Panthers had not been ranked in the top-25 (ABCA poll) since the end of the 2002 season. Chapman is one of two teams (Farmingdale State) at this weekend's championships that is unranked. The Panthers clinched their fifth consecutive regional with wins over No. 11 (Texas-Tyler), No. 15 (Cal Lutheran), No. 1 (Pomona-Pitzer) and No. 16 (George Fox), in that order.

High-No. 5 – Chapman had not been an underdog often in its recent run of postseasons. In fact, the Panthers lowest seed in any postseason tournament prior was No. 4 in 2004. Fittingly, Chapman was eliminated on the third day in the six-team bracket that year. This year, the Panthers rallied behind the underdog label, taking the regional title as the No. 5 seed in the tournament, winning their first three games and defeating George Fox in the championship game.

Climbing the Charts – The Panthers' 7-4 win over George Fox in the regional championship game was win No. 249 in head coach **Tom Tereschuk's** (pronounced tear-ESS-chuck) collegiate career (all seven years at Chapman). He surpassed long-time head coach Paul Deese (1964-70, 82-83) on Chapman's all-time wins list with that victory. The Panthers' next victory will be his 250th at the helm and he is currently just nine wins shy of Rex Peters' (1994-02) school record of 258.

Tereschuk in the playoffs – Tereschuk is off to a fast start in his first seven years of collegiate coaching. He enters this weekend with a 249-77 record (.764) and already six regional titles and a national championship under his belt. He is also 36-16 (.692) in postseason play.

Panthers in Appleton – Fox Cities has been a home away from home for Chapman over the past several years, which has participated in the finals there seven times: 2000-01, 2003, 2005-08. The Panthers are 12-13 in seven previous appearances at Fox Cities Stadium, including third place finishes in 2000 and 2006, and a national championship in 2003.

Slick Fielders – Armed with a two-time Gold Glover at first base in senior **Patrick Ohail**, the Chapman University baseball team is ranked No. 3 in the nation in team fielding percentage (as of May 10) with a .972 mark. In fact, the Panthers' first opponent at finals is the Division III leader in fielding, St. Thomas with a .976 mark and just 39 errors in 48 games.

Chapman's Iron Man – Speaking of Ohail, the Panthers' senior first baseman has quite the streak going. Ohail has started and played in 185 consecutive games for Chapman – that's every game the past four seasons. Along the way, he's compiled some impressive statistics: .337 average, 53 doubles (2nd in CU history), 18 HRs (tied for 5th), 153 RBI (2nd), a .995 fielding percentage (tied for 1st) and two Gold Gloves.

Ohail at Fox Cities Stadium – In three previous appearances and 10 career games at the championships at Fox Cities Stadium, Ohail is batting .325 (13-for-40) with six extra-base hits and eight RBI.

Regionals MVP – Sophomore 2B **Tyler Hadzinsky** was named the Most Outstanding Player of the West Regional playoffs last weekend. Hadzinsky batted .579 (11-for-19) in five games with two doubles, seven runs and played errorless defense.

Two-Sport Star – Speaking of Hadzinsky, he is also Chapman's starting goalkeeper on the Panthers' soccer team in the fall. He's a pretty good one at that, recording the lowest goals-against average of any Chapman player since 1983 with a 0.62 mark and was named Division III Independents Goalkeeper of the Year.

10-20 Club – This year, sophomore OF **John Semel** became the first Chapman player in its Division III history (since 1994) to hit 10 home runs and steal 20 bases in the same season. He is only the third Panther to be in the 10-10 club:

<u>Player</u>	<u>HR</u>	<u>SB</u>		
Pat Stevens, 2000	12	12		
Mike Vass, 2008	14	18		
John Semel, 2009	11	21		

.400 Tandem – Opposing pitchers won't find much relief looking up and down the Chapman lineup for an easy out. However, one tandem could make school history with their batting averages. The Panthers have never had two players bat over .400 in the same season, but Semel (.415) and senior 3B **Tristan Phillips** (.433) could accomplish the feat in 2009.

More on Phillips – Phillips has put up quite impressive numbers in his senior year. His .433 average would be the second-highest single season mark in school history if he maintains close to that this weekend. He also has 27 extra-base hits, including eight dingers and 63 RBI. For his career, Phillips is batting .397 in 408 career at-bats. That number is also second in Chapman history.

Strikeout Record – Senior RHP **Wayde Kitchens** had not pitched since late March with an injury that kept the two-time All-America selection sidelined. At the time, the big righty was just two strikeouts shy of the Chapman career record. He got those two strikeouts in the Panthers' postseason opener, when he returned and pitched two innings against Texas-Tyler. Unfortunately, Kitchens had to come out of the game and has not pitched since. He has 294 career strikeouts and currently shares the record with Scott Akamine '05.

Making the Grade – Besides earning Most Outstanding Player at last weekend's regional tournament, Hadzinsky has been solid in the classroom in his two-year career. The sophomore was named last week to the ESPN the Magazine Academic All-District VIII team with a 3.9 GPA in communications. Hadzinsky was also named to the Academic All-District VIII soccer team last fall.

Coast-to-Coast Rivalry – It's rare for teams at the national championships to have seen much of each other, but Chapman has seen plenty of Northeast Region champion Kean (N.J.) over the past three years. The two teams split four games and the Cougars sent Chapman to the loser's bracket at the 2007 championships. Kean, of course, went on to win the national championship. The Panthers then went on to win four in a row against the Cougars (including a win at last year's championships), until Kean defeated Chapman 6-5 to earn a season split this year.

Midwest League/Appleton ties – Chapman pitching coach **Dave Edwards** frequented Appleton in 1985 as a member of the Madison Muskies of the Midwest League. The Muskies, an Oakland A's affiliate, visited the White Sox affiliate in Appleton on several occasions to play the Foxes at the old ballpark near the Lawrence University campus. Edwards met his wife Kristi, a Wisconsin native, while playing ball in the Midwest League.