

## Inaugural Collegiate Equitation Challenge Takes Place Tonight

**The Winter Equestrian Festival in Wellington, Fla. hosts the Varsity Equestrian event.**

*Edited Press Release*

February 26, 2010

Varsity Equestrian is pleased to announce the inaugural Collegiate Equitation Challenge to be held at the FTI Winter Equestrian Festival in Wellington, FL on Friday, February 26, 2010 at 7 p.m. in the International Arena.

The tournament will be run in the Varsity Equestrian head to head format. Equitation and Sale horses will be on loan from local professionals. Sixteen riders, 14 from NCAA schools and two from Florida schools, were invited to compete with selections based upon individual national rankings from the Fall 2009 season. The event will consist of eight head to head brackets with single elimination leading to an exciting head to head final. The course will be set at 3'6" with the riders competing on unfamiliar horses. Riders will have four minutes to school, two on the flat and two over fences with a maximum of four warm up jumps. The 16 riders will compete on eight horses with the highest score of each match up proceeding to the next round. Tournament will be single elimination.

This tournament will lead to some exciting match ups. Last year, the University of Georgia had both the leading Individual Over Fences Rider and won the Overall Varsity Equestrian National Championships. However, Maggie McAlary who will be competing on behalf of Auburn again, was determined by the judges to be the Most Valuable Rider of the Competition in April of 2009. Many riders, some new to their teams and some seasoned veterans, will be making their way to south Florida for this exciting tournament, each looking for a chance to be crowned as the first WEF Collegiate Invitational Equitation Challenge Champion.

### Participating Schools

Auburn University  
Baylor University  
Delaware State University  
Florida State University  
Kansas State University  
New Mexico State University  
Oklahoma State University  
Sacred Heart University  
South Dakota State University  
Southern Methodist University  
Texas A&M University  
Texas Christian University  
University of Georgia  
University of Miami  
University of South Carolina  
University of Tennessee Martin

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