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## Sailfish Set To Open 2012 Season Tonight

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WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.- The day is finally here as the Sailfish baseball team will open the 2012 season on Thursday, February 2nd at Roger Dean Stadium as they will battle Palm Beach County rival, Lynn University at 7:00 p.m.

Admission is free to all and fans are encouraged to enjoy an evening of college baseball at one of the finest facilities in the region.

This will mark the third straight season that PBA will begin the baseball season at Roger Dean Stadium which is home to Major League Baseball's Miami Marlins and the defending World Series champion, St. Louis Cardinals.

Dexter, Mo., native **Sawyer Smith** is a catcher for the Sailfish, and while he isn't expected to start today, he noted that the Sailfish are ready to be back in action.

"We feel pretty good; our team is very energetic and excited to get things rolling," Smith said. "It's been a buildup for the last few weeks and through the fall. Tonight we're going to set the tone for the rest of the season."

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The Sailfish return a large majority of their roster from a season ago when the team finished 27-26 under second-year head coach and MLB Hall-of-Famer Gary Carter. The Fish have since added another big league veteran to its coaching staff in former St. Louis Cardinal All-Star Kent Bottenfield as the program's Associate Head Coach.

Lynn University returns a solid core from its team of last year when they finished 26-23 including an 8-4 victory over PBA at Roger Dean Stadium last February. The Knights are under the direction of Rudy Garbalosa who is entering his 11th season as the head skipper at Lynn while leading the program to a NCAA Division II National Championship in 2009.

"It's going to be a tough game; they were a rival of ours last year," Smith noted. "We opened last season with them at Rodger Dean Stadium. They got the win last year, so we're out for revenge tonight."

Fans will have the opportunity to participate in on-field promotions, enjoy traditional ballpark concessions, and experience a big league atmosphere from anywhere in the ballpark. Families are encouraged to bring everyone out for an exciting evening of PBA Baseball.

***A live video feed as well as live statistics will be available for this game. Click here for the webcast of the game, and here to see real-time stats from the season-opener.***

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