



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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University of West Florida's Veresia Yon Headlines 2021 Division II Conference Commissioners Association Women's Volleyball All-America Team

GREENVILLE, S.C. – University of West Florida redshirt sophomore middle blocker Veresia Yon headlines Wednesday's release of the 2021 Division II Conference Commissioners Associations (D2 CCA) Women's Volleyball All-America Team as the Ron Lenz Player of the Year.



A native of Tallahassee, Florida, Yon was also named American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) and D2 CCA South Region Player of the Year and First Team All-Region by both. She was

also named AVCA First Team All-America. She is the first Argonaut to be named D2 CCA Player of the Year. Her accolades in 2021 also include Gulf South Conference Player of the Year.

She helped lead UWF to a 35-2 record and top seed in the NCAA Division II Women's Volleyball Championship South Region. Yon currently ranks No. 1 in the nation in hitting percentage (.462), 10th in blocks per set (1.28), sixth in total blocks (157) and 41st in points per set (4.22).

The Ron Lenz National Player of the Year award was named for long-time South Dakota State sports information director Ron Lenz in 2008. Lenz was instrumental in the foundation of the D2 CCA All-America program, which honors outstanding student-athletes across eight NCAA Division II sports.

West Florida and Washburn led all NCAA Division II teams with three All-America selections, while CSU San Bernardino, Hillsdale and St. Cloud State each had two selections.

A total of 21 student-athletes from 13 institutions are represented on the three All-America Teams in 2021.

Sports Information Directors from NCAA Division II schools and conferences sponsoring women's volleyball selected the D2CCA All-America Team. The process begins at the regional level with all First Team All-Region picks advancing to the national ballot. This marks the 15th year that teams have been selected since the All-America program began in 2006.

The Division II Conference Commissioners Association encourages and promotes Division II athletics and high standards of sportsmanship as important elements of higher education. The CCA is a key communications link among the conferences as they discuss views, policies and regulations that impact Division II intercollegiate athletics and works closely with the NCAA as a communications channel to NCAA Division II member colleges and universities.

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**2021 Division II Conference Commissioners Association (D2 CCA) Women's Volleyball
All-America Team**

FIRST TEAM

| Pos. | Name | School | Yr. | Hometown |
|-------------|-------------------|----------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| OH | Alexis Cardoza | CSU San Bernardino | Sr. | Chino Hills, Calif. |
| OH | Erin Krupar | Ashland University | Sr. | East Sparta, Ohio |
| OH | Rylee Hladky | MSU Denver | So. | Gillette, Wyo. |
| MH | Veresia Yon | University of West Florida | R-So. | Tallahassee, Fla. |
| MH | Audrey Fisher | Central Missouri | R-Sr. | Lenexa, Kan. |
| L/DS | Faith Rottinghaus | Washburn | Sr. | Berryton, Kan. |
| S | Maddy Torve | St. Cloud State | R-Sr. | Loretto, Minn. |

Ron Lenz Player of the Year: Veresia Yon, University of West Florida

SECOND TEAM

| Pos. | Name | School | Yr. | Hometown |
|-------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| OH | Charlotte Richards | University of Missouri-St. Louis | Sr. | Cedar Rapids, Iowa |
| OH | Jenna Dufresne | West Virginia State University | Sr. | Bedford, Ind. |
| OH | Genna Berg | Washburn | Sr. | Blue Springs, Mo. |
| MH | Megan Flom | Winona State University | Gr. | Kenyon, Minn. |
| MH | Allyssa Can Wienen | Hillsdale College | Sr. | Grand Rapids, Mich. |
| L/DS | Jamie Poppen | Lewis University | Sr. | Ballwin, Mo. |
| S | Taylor Vaneekeren | University of West Florida | Jr. | Naperville, Ill. |

THIRD TEAM

| Pos. | Name | School | Yr. | Hometown |
|------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------|------------------------|
| OH | Kenzie Foley | St. Cloud State | So. | Sergeant Bluff, Iowa |
| OH | Payton Kirchoefer | NW Missouri State | R-Fr. | Omaha, Neb. |
| OH | Madi Cooler | University of West Florida | R-Jr. | Hilton Head, S.C. |
| MH | Alison Maxwell | Washburn | Sr. | Jefferson City, Mo. |
| MH | Jalyn Hayes | CSU San Bernardino | R-Jr. | San Bernardino, Calif. |
| L/DS | Kari Mercer | USC Aiken | So. | Hilliard, Ohio |
| S | Lindsey Mertz | Hillsdale College | Sr. | Frankenmuth, Mich. |

HONORABLE MENTION ALL-AMERICAN: Journey Blevins, Findlay (Outside Hitter); Gabby Gunterman, Western Washington University (Outside Hitter); Katie McKiel, University of Tampa (Outside Hitter); Olivia Fairchild, Western Washington University (Middle Hitter); Madison Clayton, West Liberty University (Middle Hitter); Ashton Marshall, University of West Florida (Libero); Bre Maloney, Winona State University (Setter)