

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Montana State Billings' Jalen Tot Named NCAA D2/CCA West Region Player of the Year

TURLOCK, Calif. – The 2023-24 Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Player of the Year, Jalen Tot was named the 2023-24 NCAA DII/Conference Commissioner's Association (CCA) West Region Player of the Year as voted on by the region's sports information directors.

Tot, who was a First Team All-GNAC honoree, led the Yellowjacket's to an appearance in the 2023-24 NCAA Division II West Regional where they will play Chico State in the quarterfinals today at noon (PT) in Los Angeles, Calif. The West Regional will be hosted by the number one seed Cal State Los Angeles and will be played at the Cal State LA University Gym. He averaged 15.4 points and 3.8 rebounds per game while dishing out 97 assists and recording 44 steals this season. Tot shot 47% from the field including 44.8% from three-point land. He played a pivotal role in the Yellowjackets capturing the GNAC regular season title.

Joining Tot on the First Team was the California Collegiate Athletic Association Player of the Year, Jeremy Dent Smith (Cal State Dominguez Hills). Dent Smith led the Toros to the CCAA Regular Season Title and a bid to the NCAA Division II West Region. The Toros will face Central Washington in the quarterfinals this evening at 7:30pm (PT). The First Team All-CCAA honoree averaged 17.3 points and 3.9 rebounds per game. He dished out 79 assists, recorded 42 steals and shot 46.8% from the field.

The 2023-24 PacWest Conference Player of the Year Latrell Williams joined Tot and Dent Smith on the First Team. He was also named to the First Team All-PacWest as well as the PacWest Defender of the Year. He averaged 12.6 points and 9.1 rebounds per game while blocking 20 shots, recording 56 steals, and dishing out 31 assists.

For the second time in his career, Seattle Pacific's Shaw Anderson was named to the First Team. Anderson is the only repeat honoree on this year's team. The 2023-24 All-GNAC First Team honoree averaged 21.3 and 4.8 rebounds per game to go with his 80 assists. He shot 50% from the field and 89.9% from the line while connecting on 58 of his attempts from beyond the arc.

The final member of the First Team was Western Washington's Kai Johnson who was a First Team All-GNAC honoree. Johnson averaged 21.6 points, 4.7 rebounds, 3.5 assists, 1.5 steals and 0.9 blocked shots per game for the Vikings this season.

Two players from the CCAA and two players from the PacWest and one from the GNAC were named to the Second Team. Representing the CCAA were Cal State Los Angeles' Eche Okeke and Cal State San Bernardino's Robby Robinson. From the PacWest are Academy of Art's Jamal Fuller and Point Loma's Zack Paulson. Saint Martin's Kyle Greeley represented the GNAC on the Second Team.

Sports Information Directors from NCAA Division II West Region schools and conferences selected the two All-Region teams. The process concludes with All-American selections announced in later this month. This is the third year the Division II Conference Commissioner's Association has sponsored the NCAA Division II Men's Basketball All-Region and All-American teams.

The Division II CCA 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.

2023-24 Division II Conference Commissioner's Association NCAA Division II Men's Basketball All-West Region Team

First Team

Name	Pos.	Class	School
Jalen Tot	G	Jr	Montana State Billings
Jeremy Dent Smith	G	So.	Cal State Dominguez Hills
Latrell Williams	F	Sr.	Academy of Art
Shaw Anderson	F	Sr.	Seattle Pacific
Kai Johnson	G	Jr.	Western Washington

Second Team

Name	Pos.	Class	School
Eche Okeke	F	Gr.	Cal State Los Angeles
Jamal Fuller	F	Jr.	Academy of Art
Robby Robinson	F	R-Sr.	Cal State San Bernardino
Zack Paulson	G	Jr.	Point Loma Nazarene
Kyle Greeley	G	Sr.	Saint Martin's

West Region Player of the Year: Jalen Tot (Montana State Billings)