

Great Northwest Athletic Conference

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2013 Baseball Report #4 (Apr. 9, 2013)

| | Conference | | | All | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------|----|----|-----|------|-------|-----|
| | w | L | W | L | Н | Α | Ν |
| Central Washington | 14 | 6 | 20 | 14 | 10-3 | 9-10 | 1-1 |
| Western Oregon | 14 | 6 | 19 | 15 | 5-3 | 14-12 | 0-0 |
| Montana State Billings | 10 | 10 | 14 | 21 | 4-4 | 9-13 | 1-4 |
| Northwest Nazarene | 9 | 11 | 18 | 19 | 9-7 | 9-12 | 0-0 |
| Saint Martin's | 1 | 15 | 3 | 30 | 3-12 | 0-18 | 0-0 |
| (Note: MSUB has played one neutral site tie game). | | | | | | | |

LAST WEEK: Monday – CSU Dominguez Hills 7-2 at Northwest Nazarene 5-3; Saint Martin's 4-1 at Pacific Lutheran 5-12 (1st game, 12 inn.). Tuesday – CSU Dominguez Hills 4-2 at Northwest Nazarene 14-4. Saturday – Western Oregon 7-12 at MSU Billings 8-10. Sunday – Western Oregon 22-6 at MSU Billings 18-9.

THIS WEEK: Monday – Northwest Nazarene 1-3 at Central Washington 13-2. Tuesday – Northwest Nazarene 4-5 at Central Washington 6-8; Pacific Lutheran 6 at Saint Martin's 3. Friday – Northwest Nazarene at Western Oregon (2), 1 p.m. Saturday – Oregon Tech at Central Washington (2), noon; Saint Martin's at MSU Billings (2), 1 p.m.; Northwest Nazarene at Western Oregon (2), noon. Sunday – Oregon Tech at Central Washington (2), 11 a.m.; Saint Martin's at MSU Billings (2), 1 p.m.

NEXT WEEK: Friday (Apr. 19) – MSU Billings at Northwest Nazarene (2), 4 p.m.; Lewis-Clark State at Western Oregon, 2 p.m. Saturday (Apr. 20) – Central Washington at Saint Martin's (2), 1 p.m.; MSU Billings at Northwest Nazarene (2), noon; Lewis-Clark State at Western Oregon (2), 1 p.m. Sunday (Apr. 21) – Central Washington at Saint Martin's (2), noon; Lewis-Clark State at Western Oregon, noon.

WHAT'S LEFT: Tuesday (Apr. 23) – Dickinson State at Montana State Billings (2), 1 p.m. Friday (Apr. 26) – Central Washington at MSU Billings (2), 1 p.m. Saturday (Apr. 27) – Central Washington at MSU Billings (2), 1 p.m.; Saint Martin's at Western Oregon (2), 1 p.m. Sunday (Apr. 28) – Saint Martin's at Western Oregon (2), 1 p.m. Friday (May 3) – Western Oregon at Central Washington (2), 1 p.m.; Northwest Nazarene at Saint Martin's, 1 p.m. Saturday (May 4) – Western Oregon at Central Washington (2), noor; Northwest Nazarene at Saint Martin's, noon. Thursday-Friday (May 9-10) – GNAC tournament (at site of regularseason champion).

HITTING STREAKS (10 or more; Apr. 7): 16 – *Austin Rue, MSUB. 14 – Kramer Ferrell, CWU. 11 – Colby Robison, MSUB. 10 – Brody Miller, MSUB; Fernando Robles, NNU. *Current (9 - Drew Fosnes, MSUB.)

NATIONAL STATISTICS (Through Mar. 31): Team (Top 30): Triples – 23. MSU Billings 11. Sacrifice Bunts – 11. Central Washington 36. Double Plays Per Game – 9. Central Washington 1.00. Double Plays – 28. Central Washington 26. Individuals (Top 30): Triples Per Game – 30. Drew Fosnes, MSUB, 0.15. Triples – 10. Drew Fosnes, MSUB, 4. Home Runs Per Game – 9. Chandler Tracy, SMU, 0.29; 23. Kyle Sani, CWU, 0.24. Home Runs – 9. Chandler Tracy, SMU, 8; 27. Kyle Sani, CWU, 6.0. HBP Per Game – 19. Charlie Gorzo, NNU, 0.48. HBP – 14. Charlie Gorzo, NNU, 13. Toughest To Strike Out – 16. Jamie Mitchell, NNU, 25.3. Sacrifice Bunts – 27. Marc Garza, CWU, 7. Saves – 5. Kody Stone, WOU, 7.

GNAC RED LION PLAYER-OF-THE-WEEK

Player – Brody Miller, Montana State Billings (2B, 5-9, 175, So., Missoula, MT – Sentinel) had 13 hits in 20 at bats, scored eight runs and drove in 10 as the Yellowjackets split a four-game series with first-place Western Oregon. Miller, who struck out just once, hit two home runs. He also handled 24 chances at second base (11 putouts, 13 assists) without committing an error. **Pitcher** – Aaron Vaughan, Northwest Nazarene (5-10, 185, Jr., Tucson, AZ – Pusch Ridge Christian) tossed a six-hit complete game defeating Cal State Dominguez Hills 4-2. Vaughan, who threw just 86 pitches in his win, walked one and fanned six.

HONORABLE MENTION: Logan Parker batted .467 to lead Northwest Nazarene to three wins in a four-game series with Cal State Dominguez Hills. Parker had seven hits, including five doubles, in 15 at bats. He drove in three runs ... MSU Billings designated hitter Mack Unruh had three doubles, one triple and three home runs and drove in 12 runs in MSUB's series with Western Oregon. His slugging average for the series was 1.235 ... Western Oregon center fielder Tim Rausch hit a seventh-inning grand slam home run to beat MSUB 12-10 in Friday's second game. Rausch finished the series with a .438 average (7 of 16), two doubles, two home runs and eight RBI.

GOING DEEP: Saint Martin's Chandler Tracy, who leads the GNAC in home runs with 11, homered in three straight games and five of six contests (prior to Tuesday's home game with Pacific Lutheran). He had three hits in seven at bats, including a pair of solo shots, last Monday in a nonconference twinbill with Pacific Lutheran ...Greg Hata also homered twice in Northwest Nazarene's four-game series with Cal State Dominguez Hills ... WOU's Matt Nylen hit two home runs and also drove in 10 runs. He batted .500 (8 of 16) and had a .938 slugging average in the series.

AROUND THE GNAC: Each of Northwest Nazarene's four starting pitchers allowed two runs in their series with Dominguez. Jon Matos led the Crusaders in the series with seven RBIs. Matos had five hits, including two doubles and a home run, in 14 at bats ... MSU Billings hit for a .385 average and Western Oregon hit .373 in their series in Billings. The Wolves outscored the Yellowjackets 47-45. MSUB's Drew Fosnes batted .600 (9 of 15) and had two home runs and nine RBI. WOU's Blake Miller batted .438 and scored nine runs.

GNAC TEAM OF THE WEEK: Mar. 11-17 – Central Washington. **Mar. 25-31** – Northwest Nazarene. **Note:** One team is selected weekly for all sports. Baseball teams have won the award twice this spring.

PREVIOUS RED LION PLAYER-OF-THE-WEEK:

Week of Jan. 28-Feb. 3: Player – Fernando Robles, Northwest Nazarene (2B, 6-1, 180, Sr., Caldwell, ID) had eight hits in 16 at bats, including a double and a grand slam home run, as the Crusaders won three of four games with Holy Names. His slam came during a six-run fifth in Saturday's 9-5 win as NNU overcame a 1-0 deficit. He also picked up a win on the mound allowing just two hits and one earned run in 4 2/3 innings in Saturday's 6-4 victory. Pitcher – Spenser Watkins, Western Oregon (P, 6-1, Jr., Scottsdale, AZ – Horizon), a transfer from Glendale Community College in Arizona, pitched seven scoreless innings allowing six hits in his GNAC debut. Watkins walked two and struck out five in combining with Spencer Trautman for a 4-0 shutout of Cal State Stanislaus Saturday.

Week of Feb. 4-10: Kyle Sani, Central Washington (C, 6-1, 240, Sr., Kennewick, WA – Southridge) had eight hits and drove in a team-high seven runs as the Wildcats completed an eight-game road trip to California. Among his hits were a team-best three doubles. He also scored five runs to account for 40 percent (12 of 30) of CWU offensive production. Pitcher - Stuart Fewel, Central Washington (6-5, 225, Jr., Portland, OR – Wilson) allowed just 10 hits in two starts covering 12 2/3 innings, including six in a nine-inning, 5-2 complete-game win over Cal State Monterey Bay. Fewel finished the trip with a 3.55 earned run average.

Week of Feb. 11-17: Player - Kasey Bielec, Central Washington (2B, 5-11, 205, So., Port Orchard, WA - North Mason) batted .500 as the Wildcats reached the championship game of the Guardian Plumbing. Heating & Air Conditioning tournament at Lewiston. Bielec had seven hits in 14 at bats, including two doubles. He also scored a team-high six runs as the Wildcats split four games. Defensively, he was charged with just one error in 22 chances at second base. Pitcher - Skye Adam, Central Washington (6-0, 195, Jr., Vancouver, WA - Columbia River & Lower Columbia) pitched a two-hit, nine-inning complete game defeating Lewis-Clark State 2-1 handing the NAIA national power its first loss of the season. It was just the fourth time since 1999 LCSC has been held to two hits and the first time it has happened in Lewiston since 2001.

Week of Feb. 18-24: Player - Daniel McNabb, Western Oregon (OF, 5-9, 175, Jr., Rancho Cucamonga, CA) led the Wolves to a split of a four-game series at Lewis-Clark State. He had eight hits in 17 at bats and led WOU in both runs scored (7) and RBIs (7). Among his hits were two triples, including a bases loaded clearing triple to break a 5-5 tie in the final game of the series. He currently leads the GNAC with a .404 batting average. **Pitcher** - Gary Steindorf, Western Oregon (6-4, 220. So., Portland, OR – Liberty) pitched seven scoreless innings, allowing just five hits and fanned 10 in a 11-2 win in lowering his ERA to a GNAC-best 2.12.

Week of Feb. 25-Mar. 3: Player - Kyle Sani, Central Washington (C, 6-1, 240, Sr., Kennewick, WA) had five hits in 13 at bats and drove in seven runs as Wildcats opened their conference season winning three of four games at Northwest Nazarene. Sani had three RBI in 4-2 win in opening game of series, snapping a 1-1 tie with a two-run home run in the sixth inning. Pitcher - Joe Andriolo, Montana State Billings (6-0, 185, Jr., Helena, MT) pitched a three-hitter in a 5-1 win at Western Oregon. He walked four and fanned nine in the nine-inning contest.

Week of Mar. 4-10: Player - Colby Robison, MSU Billings (SS, 6-1, 190, Rexburg, ID) and Daniel McNabb, Western Oregon (OF, 5-9, 175, Jr., Rancho Cucamonga, CA) led their respective teams to 3-1 series road victories... Robison had six hits in 16 at bats and drove in six runs as the Yellowjackets won three of four game at Saint Martin's. He also singled to drive in the tying run and scored the go-ahead run as MSUB scored four runs in the ninth to win the opener of the series 5-2 ... McNabb had eight hits in 14 at bats, including a pair of doubles and a triple, as the Wolves won three of four games at Nampa. He also drove in five runs accounting for one-quarter of WOU's RBIs against the Crusaders. Pitchers - Brendan Jeffers, Saint Martin's (6-4, 220, Sr., Issaguah, WA) and Spenser Watkins, Western Oregon (6-1, 185, Jr., Scottsdale, AZ) pitched scoreless baseball in wins against MSUB and NNU. Jeffers blanked the Yellowjackets on three hits in a 4-0 win Friday. He didn't walk a batter and struck out five. Watkins allowed just one hit in six innings lowering his ERA to a league-best 1.72 in combining with two relievers for a 11-0 win Friday at Northwest Nazarene.

Week of Mar. 11-17: Player - Ethan Sterkel (OF, 6-2, Jr., Ellensburg, WA) had nine hits in 15 at bats, including a double and triple leading the Wildcats to a four-game sweep of Saint Martin's. He also scored a team-best five runs as the Wildcats outscored the Saints 27-9 hitting .364 in the series. Pitcher - Travis Vincent, MSU Billings (6-1, 235, Sr., McMinnville, WA - Linn-Benton) allowed just two hits and did not give up a run in two relief appearances covering 4 1/3 innings. In Friday's 13-11 win over Northwest Nazarene, he pitched the final two innings allowing one hit earning the victory when the Yellowjackets rallied from an 11-5 deficit. He then pitched two more scoreless innings, in Saturday's 4-2 loss, lowering his season ERA to 1.20. In 11 appearances, covering 15 innings, he has allowed just 11 hits and has a 2-0 record.

Week of Mar. 18-24: Player - Joe Castro, Central Washington (OF, 5-8, 160, Jr., Union City, CA) and Austin Rue, MSU Billings (OF, 5-9, 168, Sr., Clancy, MT) ... Castro and Rue led their respective teams in batting as they split a four-game series. Castro had six hits in 12 at bat, drove in three runs and stole three bases. He also had three sacrifices. Rue had seven hits in 17 at bats, scored four runs and drove in two. Pitcher – Kody Stone, Western

Oregon (5-11, 200, Jr., Tacoma, WA – Everett CC) and Willie Davies, Central Washington (6-0, 200, Jr., Shoreline, WA – Shoreline CC) ... Stone retired nine of the 10 hitters he faced in picking up three saves in 3-1, 5-3 and 7-5 victories at Saint Martin's. Stone already has seven saves on the season and a 1.64 ERA in 10 appearances. Davies pitched 5 2/3 innings of scoreless relief in Sunday's opener, allowing just two hits and striking out four as CWU rallied from a 6-2 deficit to beat MSUB 7-6. The Yellowjackets hit just .100 against him (2 for 20) as he lowered his season ERA to 1.23.

Week of Mar. 25-31: Blake Miller, Western Oregon (SS, 6-2, 195, Sr., Salem, OR – South Salem) had seven hits in 13 at bats as the Wolves split four games with Central Washington to hold on to first place in the GNAC. Miller scored four runs and drove in three. He also had a pair of doubles and two stolen bases, including one to set up the game's only run in Saturday's 1-0, 10 inning victory. **Pitcher** – Tyler Roberts, Central Washington (5-10, Sr., Kennewick, WA – Southridge & WWCC) blanked Western Oregon 3-0 on two hits becoming the first pitcher to shutout the Wolves in Monmouth since 2007. He walked three and fanned seven in his masterpiece.