

2013 Baseball Report #6 (Apr. 25, 2013)

	Conference			All		
	w	L	W	L	ΗA	Ν
Western Oregon	18	6	25	17	11-5 14-12	0-0
Central Washington	17	7	26	16	13-4 11-11	1-1
Montana State Billings	14	13	18	24	6-5 11-15	1-4
Northwest Nazarene	11	17	20	25	11-9 9-16	0-0
Saint Martin's	3	20	5	35	4-15 1-20	0-0
(Note: MSUB has played one neutral site tie game).						

LAST WEEK: Friday – MSU Billings 11-2 at Northwest Nazarene 13-7; Lewis-Clark State 9 at Western Oregon 6. Saturday – Central Washington 7-9 at Saint Martin's 6-2; MSU Billings 8-16 at Northwest Nazarene 2-0; Lewis-Clark State 13-2 at Western Oregon 12-4. Sunday – Central Washington 4-10 at Saint Martin's 5-3 (1st game, 10 innings); Lewis-Clark State 1 at Western Oregon 2.

THIS WEEK: Friday – Central Washington at MSU Billings (2), 1 p.m. **Saturday** – Central Washington at MSU Billings (2), 1 p.m.; Saint Martin's at Western Oregon (2), 1 p.m. **Sunday** – Saint Martin's at Western Oregon (2), 1 p.m.

NEXT WEEK: 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), noon; Northwest Nazarene at Saint Martin's, noon.

GNAC Championships (May 9-10 at site of regular-season champion): Thursday - #3 seed vs. #1 seed, 10 a.m.; #3 seed vs. #2 seed, 1 p.m.; #2 seed vs. #1 seed, 4 p.m. Friday – Game 4 at noon; Game 5 at 3 p.m. (If all three teams finish round-robin play with 1-1 record, #1 seed receives bye into Game 5).

POLLS: NCBWA West Region – 10. Central Washington. NCAA West Regional – 1. Cal State Monterey Bay (30-12); 2. Chico State (32-8); 3. Sonoma State (27-15); 4. Grand Canyon (32-11); 5. Dixie State (27-13); 6. UC San Diego (22-21); 7. Hawaii Pacific (27-15); 8. Cal State L.A. (26-16).

HITTING STREAKS (10 or more; Apr. 14): 23 – *Austin Rue, MSUB. 14 – Kramer Ferrell, CWU; *Chandler Tracy, SMU. 11 – Colby Robison, MSUB. 10 –Alex Bielaski, SMU; Brody Miller, MSUB; Fernando Robles, NNU; *Bryce Todd, MSUB. *Current

GNAC All-Time 20-Game Hitting Streaks

- 32 Grant Glover, WOU (30 in 2010, 2 in 2011)
- 26 Joey Price, WOU (2002)
- 25 Scott Wilson, CWU (2004)
- 23 *Austin Rue, MSUB (2013)
- 21 Jonathan Schlender, MSUB (2008)
- 20 Dylan Bruck, WOU (2008)
- 20 Mario Sanelli, SMU (2012)

NATIONAL STATISTICS (Through Apr. 21): Team (Top 30): Batting – 28. Central Washington .323. Triples - 20. MSU Billings 15; 28. Western Oregon 14. Sacrifice Bunts – 6. Central Washington 60. Sacrifice Flies – 22. Northwest Nazarene 25. Strikeouts Per 9 Innings – 22. Western Oregon 8.0. Double Plays Per Game – 18. Central Washington 0.90. Double Plays – 15. Central Washington 38. Individuals (Top 30): Triples Per Game – 18. Drew Fosnes, MSUB, 0.14. Triples – 13. Drew

Great Northwest Athletic Conference

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Fosnes, MSUB, 5. Home Runs Per Game – 5. Chandler Tracy, SMU, 0.30; 7. Kyle Sani, CWU, 0.29. Home Runs – 4. Kyle Sani, CWU, and Chandler Tracy, SMU, 4. Slugging – 19. Chandler Tracy, SMU, .669; 23. Kyle Sani, CWU, .656. Hit By Pitch – 16. Charlie Gorzo, NNU, 16. Sacrifice Bunts – 19. Marc Garza, CWU, 11. Sacrifice Flies – 10. Charlie Gorzo, NNU, and Blake Miller, WOU, 6. Saves – 2. Kody Stone, WOU, 11. Complete Games – 20. Zach Nuno, WOU, 5.

GNAC RED LION PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Player -Austin Rue, Montana State Billings (OF, 5-9, 168, Sr., Clancy, MT - Miles CC) and Blake Miller, Western Oregon (SS, 6-2, 195, Sr., Salem, OR - South Salem) ... Rue had nine hits in 15 at bats and produced a team high 13 runs (scoring eight and driving in five) in extending his hitting streak to 23 games, the fourth longest in GNAC history. Rue also walked five times from his leadoff slot in the lineup, posting a .714 on-base percentage, and did not strike out as MSUB split a four-game series with Northwest Nazarene. Two of his hits were doubles. Miller, who was also selected the NCBWA West Region Player of the Week, had 11 hits in 15 at bats as the Wolves split a fourgame series with NAIA power Lewis-Clark State. Miller scored six runs and drove in nine. He had seven singles, two doubles, one triple and one home run. Pitcher -Samuel Paterson, Montana State Billings (5-9, 165, Sr., McMinnville, OR - Linn-Benton) tossed a three-hit shutout in a 16-0 win as MSUB reduced its magic number for securing a post-season playoff berth to one.

HONORABLE MENTION: Logan Parker led Northwest Nazarene with seven hits in 16 at bats, doubling three times ... AJ Burke allowed five hits in six innings pitching Western Oregon to a 2-1 win over Lewis-Clark State as the Wolves split their four-game series with the Warriors ... Kyle Sani had seven hits in 17 at bats and had Central Washington's only two home runs of the series as the Wildcats won three of four games at Saint Martin's. Sani also had a team-high six RBI.

HITTING STREAKS: While Rue extended his streak to 23, MSUB's Bryce Todd ran his streak to 10 going eight of 16. Just ahead of Rue on the GNAC all-time hitting list is Central Washington assistant coach Scott Wilson who hit in 25 consecutive games during the 2004 season ... Saint Martin's Chandler Tracy extended his hitting streak to 14 games, going six of 13.

.411: That is what MSUB hit as a team in its series at Nampa. In addition to Rue and Todd, .400 hitters in the series for the Yellowjackets included Justin Harcharik (7 of 11), Colby Robison (9 of 17), Drew Fosnes (9 of 17), Brody Miller (5 of 12) and Orrin Pyrah (6 of 15). Robison and Miller each had six RBI ... Logan Parker led Northwest

Nazarene with seven hits in 16 at bats, doubling three times.

PITCHING: While hitting dominated the MSUB-NNU series, the Crusaders did get a nine strikeout, one run performance in 5 1/3 innings by Nick Bland in Friday's 7-2 win after they rallied from a 11-2 deficit in the seventh to win the opener 13-11. In addition to Paterson's shutout, MSUB got an eight-inning, two run performance by Brady Muller in Saturday's 8-2 victory.

MSUB MAGIC NUMER AT ONE: Montana State Billings needs one win in its four-game series this weekend with Central Washington (or one loss by Northwest Nazarene in its four-game series May 3-4 at Saint Martin's) to clinch a berth in the GNAC playoffs. Western Oregon and Central Washington have already clinched berths in the three-team double-elimination tournament.

DOUBLE UP: Alex Bielaski had four doubles and one home run among his seven hits in Saint Martin's series with Central Washington. Bielaski's slugging average in the series (.778) was twice his batting average (.389) as he went seven for 18. His home run gave the Saints' a 5-4 win in 10 innings in Sunday's first game ... Joel Johnson led Central Washington with a .636 average (7 of 11). Scott Stone batted .400 (6 of 15) drove in five runs. CWU walked 20 times, 12 more than the Saints.

WOLVES HIT .326: Western Oregon hit .326 in its home series with Lewis-Clark State. In addition to Blake Miller's .733 average, Tim Rausch batted .462 (6 of 13) and Scott David had a .364 average (6 of 13). Rausch had two triples. WOU scored 18 runs in its two losses and had just six runs in its two wins.

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.

NCBWA WEST REGIONAL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK: Player – Kyle Sani, CWU (Mar. 6), Brody Miller, MSUB (Apr. 10); Blake Miller, WOU (Apr. 24). Pitcher – Spenser Watkins (Apr. 17).

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., Issaquah, 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.

Week of Apr. 1-7: 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.

Week of Apr. 8-14: Player - Marc Garza, Central Washington (3B, 6-0, 205, Sr., Othello, WA) and Scott David, Western Oregon (C, Sr., Pleasanton, CA) Garza had 13 hits in 28 at bats, scored seven runs and drove in six leading the Wildcats to six wins in eight games. He also handled 17 chances at the hot corner (3 putouts, 14 assists) without committing an error and participated in three double plays. David batted .533 (8 of 15) in a four-game series sweep of Northwest Nazarene. He caught all four games and didn't allow a stolen base as the Wolf pitching staff carved out a microscopic 1.12 earned run average allowing just five runs in 32 innings. Pitcher - Spenser Watkins, Western Oregon (6-1, 185, Jr., Scottsdale, AZ) blanked Northwest Nazarene 6-0 on five hits, while fanning a GNAC season-high 12 batters. Spencer leads the GNAC in both earned run average (3.07) and wins (6). Watkins was also selected as the National Collegiate Baseball Writers (NCBWA) Pitcher of the Week.

Week of Apr. 15-21: Player – Austin Rue, Montana State Billings (OF, 5-9, 168, Sr., Clancy, MT - Miles CC) and Blake Miller, Western Oregon (SS, 6-2, 195, Sr., Salem, OR - South Salem) ... Rue had nine hits in 15 at bats and produced a team high 13 runs (scoring eight and driving in five) in extending his hitting streak to 23 games, the fourth longest in GNAC history. Rue also walked five times from his leadoff slot in the lineup, posting a .714 on-base percentage, and did not strike out as MSUB split a fourgame series with Northwest Nazarene. Two of his hits were doubles. Miller, who was also selected the NCBWA West Region Player of the Week, had 11 hits in 15 at bats as the Wolves split a four-game series with NAIA power Lewis-Clark State. Miller scored six runs and drove in nine. He had seven singles, two doubles, one triple and one home run. Pitcher - Samuel Paterson, Montana State Billings (5-9, 165, Sr., McMinnville, OR - Linn-Benton) tossed a three-hit shutout in a 16-0 win as MSUB reduced its magic number for securing a post-season playoff berth to one.