

Great Northwest Athletic Conference

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2014 Baseball Week 6 Report 6 (March 11, 2014)

2014 GNAC Baseball Standings (Thru March 11)

	Conf.			Overall				
	w	L	w	L	н	Α	Ν	St
Western Oregon	6	2	12	9	6-3	6-6	0-0	W1
Northwest Nazarene	5	3	9	12	6-2	3-10	0-0	L1
Central Washington	3	5	7	9	2-2	5-7	0-0	W1
Saint Martin's	1	3	3	12	0-0	2-11	1-1	L1
Montana State Billing	s 1	3	2	14	0-0	2-11	0-3	L1

Last Week: Monday – Concordia 6, Montana State Billings 5 Thursday – Dixie State 9, Saint Martin's 6 Friday – Central Washington 6, Northwest Nazarene 1; Western Oregon 9, Montana State Billings 1; Western Oregon 5, Montana State Billings 4; Northwest Nazarene 9, Central Washington3; Dixie State 6, Saint Martin's 3; Saint Martin's 14, Dixie State 3 Saturday – Dixie State 17, Saint Martin's 3; Northwest Nazarene 8, Central Washington 6; Montana State Billings 7, Western Oregon 4 (11 inn); Western Oregon 8, Montana State Billings 0; Central Washington 6, Northwest Nazarene 1.

This Week: Wednesday – Whitworth at Central Washington, 2 p.m. Friday – Montana State Billings at Saint Martin's, noon (D.H.); Northwest Nazarene at Western Oregon, 1 p.m. (D.H.) Saturday – Northwest Nazarene at Western Oregon, noon (D.H.); Montana State Billings at Saint Martin's, noon (D.H.).

2014 Standout Performances (Thru Games 3/9)

Complete Games: 1 - C. McGuire, NNU; S. Fewel, CWU; S. Watkins, WOU

7-Inn. Complete Games: 3 – A. Vaughn, NNU 1 - B. Williams, CWU; Noah Starr, NNU; C. McKitrick, WOU

7-Inn. Shutouts: 1 - C. McKitrick, WOU

15-Strikeout Games: 1 - B. Williams, CWU

10-Strikeout Games: 1 – A. Vaughn, NNU; J. Campeau, MSUB; D. Christina, MSUB; B. Williams, CWU; S. Watkins, WOU

3-RBI Games: 2 – A. Flatt, NNU; B. Miller, MSUB; A. Bielaski, SMU; C. Bradshaw, WOU 1 - D. McNabb, WOU; J. Potter, CWU; K. Bielec, CWU; M. Taylor, WOU; J. Richardson, NNU; S. Stone, CWU; C. Tracy, NNU; R. Johnson, NNU; T. Glasgow, NNU; A. Helmstadter, NNU; B. Birch, MSUB; S. Dodd, SMU; L. Besel, SMU

3-Run Games: 1 – K. Bielec, CWU; B. Birch, MSUB; T. Marsh, NNU; C. Tracy, NNU; N. Morelli, NNU; C. Bradshaw, WOU; G. Harpole, WOU; K. Hirashiki, SMU; S. Dodd, SMU; A. Helmstadter, NNU; W. Chavarria, WOU Multi-Steal Games: 1 – K. Hirashiki, SMU (2)

4-Hit Games: 2 – A. Bielaski, SMU 1 – T. Marsh, NNU; C. Bradshaw, WOU

AROUND THE GNAC

CWU: Making its home debut last week, Central Washington is coming off a split in a 4-game set with Northwest Nazarene. The Wildcats started the series strong with a 6-1 victory on Friday, as starter Brandon Williams posted a GNAC season-high 15 strikeouts and allowed no earned runs on six hits in eight innings of work.

The Wildcats struggled at the plate in Game 2 falling 9-3, before coming up on the short end of an 8-6 extra-inning result in the second game of Saturday's doubleheader.

CWU responded well in the series finale, as Kurtis Pitcher struck out six batters over 5 2/3 innings and Cory Welch drove in a pair of runs in the solid 6-1 victory.

The Wildcats, currently in third place in the GNAC standings at 3-5 in conference play, host a single game against Whitworth on Wednesday, before heading to Billings to face MSUB on March 22-23.

MSUB: The Yellowjackets got their 2014 GNAC schedule underway last week, taking one of four games from host Western Oregon in a rain-filled series in Monmouth.

MSUB's lone victory was of the extra-inning variety, as the 'Jackets came from behind with four runs in the eighth inning to take the lead. MSUB allowd the Wolves to tie the game in the bottom of the ninth, but eventually responded with three more runs in the top of the 11th to secure its first conference victory of the season.

Powering the comeback offensively were Brody Miller and Kevin Toon, who were each 3-for-6 on the game and combined to drive in three runs. Luke Reinschmidt's RBI single in the top of the 11th broke the stalemate, and Casey Merritt added a pair of insurance runs with a two-run base hit to right field to secure the win.

Bryon Baker earned honorable mention Pitcher of the Week as he pitched four innings and earned the win for MSUB. Baker allowed just one hit and no earned runs while striking out five WOU batters to keep the Yellowjackets in the game.

Brad Birch was 2-for-3 with three RBI in the Yellowjackets' narrow 5-4 loss in Game 2 on Friday, and MSUB was shut out 8-0 on Saturday in the series finale.

MSUB is back in action this weekend, facing Saint Martin's in a 4-game conference slate running Friday and Saturday in Lacey.

NNU: Northwest Nazarene had a strong showing in Ellensburg last week, taking two games from host Central

Washington to remain above .500 and in second place in conference action.

Tate Glasgow had a big weekend for the Crusaders, finishing with a line of 7-for-15 with four runs scored, two doubles and a triple. In the Crusaders' 8-6 win in Game 3 of the series, the center fielder went 3-for-5 with one run batted in and a run scored.

From the mound, Aaron Vaughn was instrumental as he notched his third 7-inning complete game of the season in NNU's 9-3 win over CWU on Friday. Vaughn allowed three runs and struck out seven batters against just one walk in the strong performance.

SMU: Facing Dixie State in nonconference action last weekend, Saint Martin's came away with one win in a 4-game set in St. George, Utah.

The Saints got off to a hot start and never looked back, as Luke Besel launched a grand slam in the first inning. From there it was all SMU as the Saints scored in the next three innings and rolled to a 14-3 win on Friday.

Spencer Dodd was 3-for-4 with three RBI and three runs scored, and Alex Bielaski was 4-for-5 with five RBI in the lopsided win.

The victory came after a pair of losses to the Red Storm on Thursday and earlier Friday, and DSU closed the series with a sound 17-3 win on Saturday in the finale.

Saint Martin's will make its 2014 home debut this weekend, as the Saints welcome Montana State Billings to town for a 4-game set beginning Friday.

WOU: Despite an extra-inning setback to Montana State Billings on Saturday, Western Oregon continued to play well as the Wolves took three of the four games from the Yellowjackets and have won six of their last seven overall.

Spenser Watkins was outstanding in the series opener, tossing a complete game with 12 strike outs and allowing just one earned run. The right-hander got plenty of support from the Wolves' lineup, as center fielder Chris Bradshaw led the way with a line of 3-for-4 with three runs scored and two RBI.

On the weekend, Bradshaw finished with a line of 10-for-17 with three doubles, five runs scored, eight RBI and no strikeouts.

In the final game of the series, Bradshaw went 4-for-4 with three doubles, three RBI and two runs scored in the 8-0 triumph. Clark McKitrick recorded the 7-inning shutout, allowing just two hits while striking out three.

Western Oregon is set to host Northwest Nazarene this weekend in more GNAC action, as the 4-game series kicks off on Friday with two-straight days of doubleheaders.

RED LION PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Player – Alex Bielaski, Saint Martin's (OF/1B, 6-0, Sr., Bellevue, WA - Bellevue) batted .688 (11-for-16) in a fourgame set against Dixie State, including four doubles and eight RBI. Bielaski totaled 15 bases and a slugging percentage of .938, and did not strikeout on the weekend. In SMU's lone victory of the week, Bielaski went 4-for-5 with two doubles and five RBI in a 14-3 result over DSU. The senior left fielder handled all 12 of his chances flawlessly, with 11 put outs and an assist.

Pitcher – Brandon Williams, Central Washington (RHP, 6-0, Jr., Auburn, WA – Mount Hood CC) tossed eight stellar innings and earned a victory to help Central Washington to a split with Northwest Nazarene last weekend. In the opening game of the series, Williams was untouchable with 15 strikeouts and no walks in CWU's 6-1 triumph over the Crusaders. The junior allowed just six hits and one unearned run in the dominant performance as he improved his season record to 3-1 and lowered his season ERA to 2.51.

Honorable Mention – Chris Bradshaw, Western Oregon (OF, 6-1, Sr., Medford, OR – Oral Roberts); Tate Glasgow, Northwest Nazarene (C/OF, 6-0, Jr., Portland, OR – Westview); Jaykob Sells, Central Washington (OF, 6-2, Sr., Mountlake Terrace, WA – Everett CC); Brody Miller, Montana State Billings (2B, 5-8, Jr., Missoula, MT – Sentinel); Aaron Vaughn, Northwest Nazarene (RHP, 5-11, Sr., Tucson, AZ – Pusch Ridge Christian Academy); Bryon Baker, Montana State Billings (RHP, 6-2, Fr., Butte, MT – Butte); Spenser Watkins, Western Oregon (RHP, 6-1, Sr., Scottsdale, AZ – Glendale CC).

PREVIOUS RED LION HONOREES

Week of March 3-9 – Player – Alex Bielaski, Saint Martin's (OF/1B, 6-0, Sr., Bellevue, WA - Bellevue) batted .688 (11for-16) in a four-game set against Dixie State, including four doubles and eight RBI. Bielaski totaled 15 bases and a slugging percentage of .938, and did not strikeout on the weekend. In SMU's lone victory of the week, Bielaski went 4-for-5 with two doubles and five RBI in a 14-3 result over DSU. The senior left fielder handled all 12 of his chances flawlessly, with 11 put outs and an assist.

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Week of Feb. 24 – March 2 - Player – Parker Miles, Western Oregon (2B, 5-9, Sr., Salem, OR – UC Santa Barbara) hit 9-for-19 with four runs scored, three doubles and seven RBI as WOU won 3-of-4 from Central Washington in the teams' GNAC-opening series. Batting in the third spot in the order, Miles collected at least one hit in each of WOU's games against the Wildcats, turning in a solid 3-for-4 performance with two runs scored and two RBI in the Wolves' narrow 5-3 win in Game 3 of the series. In the final game, Miles scored the game-winning run in the bottom of the eighth inning to push WOU to a dramatic 3-2 win and the series victory. Miles also handled 14 chances at second base without an error, turning in 11 assists and three put outs on the weekend.

Pitcher – Eric Huson, Western Oregon (RHP, 6-3, Jr., Forest Grove, OR – Mt. Hood CC) earned his second victory of the season with a stellar 8-inning start against Central Washington on Saturday. Huson scattered six hits and one walk over his eight frames, allowing one earned run and collecting six strikeouts. Huson retired 12-straight batters over a four-inning stretch, silencing the CWU bats from the second-through-fifth innings. The junior finished strong, striking out three of the final eight hitters he faced en route to the win.

Week of Feb. 17-23 - Player – Brad Birch, Montana State Billings (3B, 6-2, Sr., Eugene, OR – Treasure Valley CC) went 6-for-14 with two doubles, a home run, five runs scored, three RBI and 11 total bases last week in the Yellowjackets' series against Dixie State. In Game 2 on Saturday, Birch's seventh-inning solo home run proved to be the decisive factor in MSUB's first win of 2014, 5-4 over DSU. Birch also walked once and was hit by a pitch once, pushing his on-base percentage to .500 (8-for-16) on the week. The senior struck out just twice on the week while slugging .786, and he also handled all 18 chances at third base – three put outs and 15 assists – flawlessly.

Pitcher – Matt Eames, Montana State Billings (RHP, 6-4, Sr., Billings, MT – Columbia Basin College) tossed seven stellar innings for the Yellowjackets against Dixie State on Friday, logging a no-decision in the tough 2-1 loss to the Red Storm. Eames allowed one run and three hits with one walk and three strikeouts for MSUB. Eames did not allow a hit until the fourth inning, and the senior lowered his season ERA to 4.09 with the performance.

Week of Feb. 10-16 - Player: Kasey Bielec, Central Washington (INF, 5-11, Jr., Port Orchard, WA – North Mason) went 6-for-13 with two home runs, four RBI and 12 total bases as the Wildcats captured 3-of-4 games on the road from the Academy of Art last week. Bielee led the GNAC with five runs scored last week, and also drew two walks while striking out just twice in 16 plate appearances. The junior started all four games at third base, recording 13 assists and one put out in 15 total chances on the weekend.

Pitcher: Aaron Vaughn, Northwest Nazarene (RHP, 5-11, Sr., Tucson, AZ – Pusch Ridge Christian Academy) struck out 10 batters through seven innings in his lone start of the week, while allowing six hits and just one walk. Vaughn earned the win in the Crusaders' 7-3 triumph over CSU Dominguez Hills, which marked the team's first victory of the season and the first in the NCAA DII career of head coach Rocke Musgraves. Vaughn was credited with a complete game as the game was the second in a 9-inning/ 7-inning doubleheader, and only two of the three runs he allowed were earned.

Week of Feb. 3-9: Player: Daniel McNabb, Western Oregon (OF, 5-11, Sr., Pasadena, CA – Rancho Cucamonga) had seven hits in 13 at bats and produced a total of 10 runs, scoring three and driving in seven, as the Wolves won 3-of-4 games including two over nationally-ranked Cal State Monterey Bay.

Pitcher: Andrew Groves, Northwest Nazarene (5-11, Jr., Mukilteo, WA – Kamiak) pitched four scoreless innings in relief – 6-through-9 – in a 3-2, 11-inning loss at Hawaii Pacific on Saturday. Groves, who allowed just two hits, walked two and fanned four.

Week of Jan. 27 – Feb. 2: Player: Josh Potter, CWU (1B, 6-3, Sr., Des Moines, WA – Mt. Rainier/Pierce

College/Campbellsville) hit 5-for-8 on the weekend with a pair of doubles, two runs scored and two RBI as the Wildcats split a doubleheader with San Francisco State. Potter did not strike out and notched a slugging percentage of .875 with his offensive production. In addition, Potter played flawless defense at first base, logging 15 put outs and one assists with no errors in his team-high 16 chances.

Pitcher: Matt Minich, WOU (LHP, 5-11, Sr., Kennewick, WA – Kamiakin/Columbia Basin College/Hawaii Pacific) threw four scoreless innings against No. 18-ranked Cal State Monterey Bay on Saturday, earning the victory in the seveninning second half of the Wolves' doubleheader. Minich allowed just two hits while striking out three batters in the solid effort. His outing helped WOU recover from a 15-0 loss in the first game on Saturday, and pushed the Wolves to the 4-3 victory that helped his team earn a split on the first weekend of the 2014 season.

2013-14 GNAC TEAM OF THE WEEK: Sept. 2-8 -Simon Fraser (Football) Sept. 9-15 – Northwest Nazarene (Volleyball) Sept. 16-22 - MSU Billings (Men's XC) and Simon Fraser (Women's XC) Sept. 23-29 - Western Oregon (Football) Sept. 30 – Oct. 6 – Seattle Pacific (Men's Soccer) Oct. 7-13 - Central Washington (Women's Soccer) Oct. 14-20 - Western Oregon (Women's Soccer) Oct. 21-27 -Alaska Anchorage (Cross Country) Oct. 28 - Nov. 3 -Simon Fraser (Men's Soccer) Nov. 4-10 - Seattle Pacific (Women's Soccer) & Alaska Anchorage (Women's Cross Country) Nov. 11-17 – Western Washington (Volleyball) Nov. 18-24 - Simon Fraser (Men's Soccer) & Western Washington (Women's Soccer) Nov. 25 - Dec. 1 - Western Washington (Men's Basketball) Dec. 2-8 - Saint Martin's (Women's Basketball) Dec. 16-22 - Alaska Anchorage (Women's Basketball) Dec. 30 - Jan. 5 - Western Oregon (Men's Basketball) Jan. 6-12 – Central Washington (Men's Basketball) Jan. 13-19 – Seattle Pacific (Men's Basketball). Jan. 20-26 – Montana State Billings (Women's Basketball) Jan. 27 - Feb. 2 - Western Washington (Men's Basketball) Feb. 3-9 - Central Washington (Softball) Feb. 10-16 -Montana State Billings (Men's Basketball) Feb. 17-23 -Alaska Anchorage (Women's Track and Field) & Western Washington (Men's Track and Field) Feb. 24-March 2 -Alaska Fairbanks (Men's Basketball) March 3-9 - Western Washington (Women's Basketball).

CAREER TOP-10 WATCH - BATTING

Slugging Percentage (Min. 250 Abs)

- 1. .667 Zach Aakhus, NNU (2007-08)
- 2. .662 Troy Martin, CWU (2004-05)
- 3. .649 Kevin Corrigan, WOU (2006-07)
- 4. .639 Bo Folkinga, WOU (2011-12)
- 5. .635 Jamie Nilsen, CWU (2005-08)
- 6. .627 Kevin McCarthy, NNU (2004-05)
- 7. .624 Daniel Dillard. WOU (2010-11)
- 8. .612 Kyle Sani, CWU (2012-13)
- 9. .605 Chandler Tracy, SMU (2012-Present)
- 10. .593 Blake Miller, WOU (2012-13)

Home Runs

- 1. 29 Jamie Nilsen, CWU (2005-08)
- 2. 26 Daniel Dillard, WOU (2010-11)
- 3. 24 Chandler Tracy, SMU (2012-Present)
- 24 Matt Lowe, NNU (2000-03)
- 24 Kyle Sani, CWU (2012-13)
- 6. 23 Zach Aakhus, NNU (2007-08)
- 7. 22 Kevin McCarthy, NNU (2004-05)
- 8. 20 Shane Schoeneberg, SMU (2005, 2007-09) 20 Troy Martin, CWU (2004-05)
- 10. 19 Bryce Gardinier, WOU (2004-05)
 - 19 Joel Oliver, NNU (2008-10)

Sacrifice Hits

- 1. 22 Travis Chetock, WOU (2000-03)
- Marc Knight, WOU (2002-03) 2. 21
- Maki Smith, SMU (2004-07) 3. 19
 - 19 Bill Powell, WOU (2004-05)
 - Austin Rue, MSUB (2011-13) 19 18
- Tim Andra, NNU, (2002-05) 6. Bobby Twedt, SMU (2010-13) 18 Curtis Thibault, SMU (2004-07) 18
- 9. 17 A.J. Gosney, CWU (2007-09)
- 17 Cameron Louie, NNU (2010-11)
- Josh Solemsaas, WOU (2011-Present) 17. 14

CAREER TOP-10 WATCH – PITCHING

Earned Run Average (Minimum 100 IP)

- 1. 2.01 Grady Wood, WOU (2011-12)
- 2.18 Brian Fadling, WOU (2004-05) 2.
- Jacob Pettit, WOU (2009-10) 2.63 3.
- AJ Burke, WOU (2012-13) 4 2 65
- Mike Ward, WOU (2007-08; 2010-11) 2.85 5.
- 6. 2.90 Blake Keitzman, WOU (2009-10)
- Sean McDonald, NNU (2009-12) 3.04 7.
- 8. 3.08 Nick Waechter, WOU (2004-06)
- Tyler Levin, CWU (2007-08) 3.42 9
- 10. 3.46 Luke Holscher, WOU (2003-04)
- Spenser Watkins, WOU (2013-Present) 13. 3.63

Saves

- 24 Nick Patee, NNU (2003-06) 1.
- Kody Stone, WOU (2013-Present) 2. 17
- 3. 15 Adam Siler, SMU (2004-07) 15
- Kaleb Wilson, SMU (2008-12) 5. 12
- Sean McDonald, NNU (2009-12) Steve suetos. WOU (2002-04) 12
- Kirk Lind, WOU (2009-12) 7. 10
- Rob Stumph, CWU (2002-05) 8. 9
- Jared Nevens, WOU (2007-08) 9. 8
- Ian MacDougall, WOU (2011-12) 8
 - Brad Foss, NNU (2002) 8

Opp. Batting Avg. (Minimum 100 IP)

- Grady Wood, WOU (2011-12) 1. .199
- Kody Kennedy, MSUB (2010-11) 2. .230
- 3. .230 Nick Waechter, WOU (2004-06)
- Blake Keitzman, WOU (2009-10) 4. .232
- AJ Burke, WOU (2012-13) 5 .236
- Luke Holscher, WOU (2003-04) .240 6.
- .243 Sean McDonald, NNU (2009-12) 7.
- .245 Mike Cusick, WOU (2007-10) 8
- 9. .248 Archie Smith, MSUB (2009-11)
- 10. .249 Brian Fadling, WOU (2004-05)
- Spenser Watkins, WOU (2013-Present) 11. .249
- Brady Muller, MSUB (2012-Present) 19. .264

Strikeouts

- Nick Waechter, WOU (2004-06) 1. 269
- Roger Evenson, NNU (2003-05) 2. 246
- Steven Schutte, NNU (2002-04) 3. 231
- 4. 223 Mike Ward, WOU (2007-08: 2010-11)
- Mike Eisenhauer, WOU (2007-09) 5. 185
- 6. 179 Kirk Lind, WOU (2009-12)
- Neil Elder, NNU (2000-03) 7. 175
- Blake Keitzman, WOU (2009-10) 8. 168
- Grady Wood, WOU (2011-12) 9. 166
- Zeb Sneed, NNU (2010-12) 166
- Brady Muller, MSUB (2012-Present) 19. 124

Strikeouts Per 9 Innings (Minimum 100 IP)

- Gordon Chubb, CWU (2004-05) 1. 9.78
- 2. 9.37 Blake Keitzman, WOU (2009-10)
- 9.03 Spenser Watkins, WOU (2013-14) 3.
- Steven Schutte, NNU (2002-04) 4 8.82
- 5. 8.64 Nick Waechter, WOU (2004-06)
- 8.57 AJ Burke, WOU (2012-13) 6.
- 7. 8.54 Brandon Rohde, CWU (2011-12)
- Kody Kennedy, MSUB (2010-11) 8.38 8
- Roger Evenson, NNU (2003-05) 9. 8.35
- Zeb Sneed, NNU (2010-12) 10. 8.35
- 20. 7.52 Brady Muller, MSUB (2012-Present)

Fewest Walks Per 9 Innings (Minimum 100 IP)

- Tip Wonhoff, SMU (2004-07) 1. 1.10
- 2. 1.15 Mike Ward, WOU (2007-08, 2010-11)
- Tyler Levin, CWU (2007-08) 3. 1.32
- 1.40 Jacob Pettit, WOU (2009-10) 4
- Michael Mclver, SMU (2008-11) 5. 1.47
- Grady Wood, WOU (2011-12) 6. 1.56
- Casey Mitchell, SMU (2009-11) 7. 1.70
- James Douglas, SMU (2009-10) 1.82 8.
- 9. 1.88 Aaron Vaughn, NNU (2011-Present)
- 10. 1.90 AJ Burke, WOU (2012-13)

Fewest Hits Allowed Per 9 Innings (Minimum 100 IP)

- 1. 6.50 Grady Wood, WOU (2011-12)
- Nick Waechter, WOU (2004-06) 2 7 64
- Blake Keitzman, WOU (2009-10) 7.70 3.
- 4. 7.71 Kody Kennedy, MSUB (2010-11)
- 5. 7.89 AJ Burke, WOU (2012-13)
- 6. 8.09 Mike Cusick, WOU (2007-10)
- 7. 8.09 Luke Holscher, WOU (2003-04)
- Sean McDonald, NNU (2009-12) 8. 8.20
- 9. 8.30 Brian Fadling, WOU (2004-05)
- 10. 8.38 Archie Smith, MSUB (2009-11)
- 11. 8.46
- Spenser Watkins, WOU (2013-Present) Brady Muller, MSUB (2012-Present) 18. 9.04