



## Great Northwest Athletic Conference

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### 2012 Football Report No. 2 (Sept. 2, 2012)

	W	L	PF	PA	W	L	PF	PA
Humboldt State	0	0	0	0	1	0	38	19
Simon Fraser	0	0	0	0	1	0	51	14
Western Oregon	0	0	0	0	0	1	20	48
Dixie State	0	0	0	0	0	1	9	17
Central Washington	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	35
Azusa Pacific	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	41

**LAST WEEK: Thursday** - Azusa Pacific 3 at UC Davis 41; Colorado Mesa 19 at Humboldt State 38; Simon Fraser 51 at Pacific 14. **Saturday** - Central Washington 7 at Texas A&M - Kingsville 35; Dixie State 9 at Adams State 17; Grand Valley 48 at Western Oregon 20.

**THIS SATURDAY:** Azusa Pacific at Humboldt State, 6 p.m.; Central Washington at Simon Fraser, 2 p.m.; Western Oregon at Dixie State, 6 p.m.

**POLLS: AFCA (Sept. 5)** - 17. Humboldt State. **D2Football.Com (Pre-Season)** - No GNAC team is ranked.

**NATIONAL STATISTICS: Team (Top 30):** Scoring Offense - 17. Simon Fraser 51.0. Scoring Defense - 28. Simon Fraser 14.0. Total Defense - 27. Rushing Offense - 16. Simon Fraser 250.0. Rushing Defense - 15. Simon Fraser 40.0; 24. Dixie State 55.0. Passing Offense - 29. Dixie State 296.0. Passing Defense - 14. Humboldt State 113.0. Pass Efficiency Defense - 14. Humboldt State 77.8 Kickoff Returns - 3. Simon Fraser 43.0. Punt Returns - 7. Simon Fraser 29.7; 21. Humboldt State 19.3. Turnover Margin - 15. Simon Fraser 2.00. **Individuals (Top 30):** Rushing - 12. Nick Ricciardulli, HSU, 149.0. Total Offense - 17. Cody VonAppen, WOU, 344.0; 27. Griff Robles, DSC, 311.0. Scoring - 25. Victor Spencer, HSU; Nick Ricciardulli, HSU; Lemar Durant, SFU, and Bo Palmer, SFU, 12.0. Receptions - 8. Zach Fox, DSC, and Tyrell Williams, WOU, 10.0. Field Goals - 9. Kelly Morgan, WOU, 2.0; 18. Matt Bruder, HSU; Tiernan Docherty, SFU; and Michael Meyers, DSC, 1.0. Punt Returns - 13. Victor Spencer, HSU, 19.3. Kick Returns - 6. Earl Anderson, SFU, 43.0. Tackles - 12. Jake Duncan, DSC, 13.0; 29. Jeremiah Maluia, HSU, 12.0. Sacks - 3. Alex Markarian, HSU, 3.00; 29. Matt Gorella, HSU, 1.50. Tackles For Loss - 16. Alex Markarian, HSU, 3.00. Interceptions - 11. Kevin Cooper, HSU; Nick Sharpe, HSU; and Janne Lehtinen, SFU, 1.0.

#### GNAC RED LION PLAYERS-OF-THE-WEEK

**Offense** - Nick Ricciardulli, Humboldt State (RB, 5-8, 190, Jr., Poway, CA) rushed for 159 yards on 24 carries, scoring on touchdown runs of one and 74 yards in the Lumberjacks' 38-13 win over Colorado Mesa. Ricciardulli also had three receptions and finished with 162 all-purpose yards. His 74-yard jaunt equals the fifth longest in conference history.

**Defense** - Alex Markarian, Humboldt State (DE, 6-4, 245, So., Chino Hills, CA) had nine tackles including six solos and three quarterback sacks for losses of 16.

**Special Teams** - Kelly Morgan, Western Oregon (K, 5-10, 170, Sr., Sherwood, OR) kicked a 53-yard field goal - the second-longest in GNAC history - and also connected from 30 yards and on both of his extra point attempts extending his streak to 58 in the Wolves' 48-20 loss to Grand Valley. He also averaged 65.6 yards on five kickoffs, two of which were touchbacks.

#### Honorable Mention

**Offense** - Cody VonAppen, Western Oregon (QB, 5-10, 200, Sr., Kailua, HI) had 344 yards in total offense, converting 28 of 44 passes for 272 yards and also rushing for 72 on 17 carries. . .Trey Wheeler, Simon Fraser (QB, 6-1, 190, So., Seattle, WA - Liberty) completed 17 of 21 passes for 128 and two touchdowns as the Clan cruised to a 51-14 road win at Pacific. . .Terrell Watson, Azusa Pacific (RB, 6-2, 235, So., Oxnard, CA) rushed for 144 yards against FCS UC Davis and also had two receptions for 38 yards during Azusa's lone scoring drive. Watson had 66 yards on the 62-yard drive (the rest of team had minus 4). His 182 yards represented over 80 percent of his team's total.

**Defense** - Adam Berger, Simon Fraser (DB, 6-0, 215, Sr., Surrey, BC - Lord Tweedsmuir) had three tackles and also blocked a punt leading to a touchdown. He was also credited with two pass breakups and made five of six PATs. . .Tyler Thornton, Azusa Pacific (FS, 5-8, 178, So., Bakersfield, CA - Centennial) registered a game-high 14 tackles, including nine solos. He also had a tackle for a loss an interception and had 32 yards on two kickoff returns.

**Special Teams** - Matt Bruder, Humboldt State (K, 5-8, 164, So., Chino Hills, Calif.) converted five extra points extending his string of successful PATs to 49. He also kicked a 43-yard field goal early in the fourth quarter.

**LONG FIELD GOALS:** Morgan's field goal was the 10<sup>th</sup> in GNAC history of 50 or more yards. NFL veteran Michael Koenen of Western Washington accounted for five of them, including a GNAC-record boot of 54 against Central Oklahoma in 2001. Morgan kicked a 50-yarder two years ago against Simon Fraser and is the only other player in GNAC history in addition to Koenen to have two or more on his resume.

**GNAC SWITCHES TO SUPER REGIONAL III:** The GNAC will compete in Super Regional III this fall after spending the past few years in Super Regional IV. Also part of the 44-team Super Regional III is the MIAA (Mid-America), the Great American Conference and the Northern Sun. The MIAA was also part of Super Regional IV last season. Six teams from each of the four regions qualify for the playoffs. “Earned access” berths are awarded to certain conferences which have a team ranked in the Top 10 in their region. With only five playoff-eligible members, the GNAC does not receive an earned access berth. Azusa Pacific is a provisional NCAA member and is not eligible for the playoffs.

## GAME RECAPS

**Humboldt State 38, Colorado Mesa 19:** Humboldt State got touchdowns from its defense and special teams along with a 74-yard touchdown by running back Nick Ricciardulli to cruise to a 19-point win over Colorado Mesa. Ricciardulli’s run, which equaled the fifth longest in GNAC history, came right after a missed field goal by Mesa early in the third quarter extending HSU’s 21-7 halftime lead to 28-7. Mesa didn’t get closer than 15 points the remainder of the way. Ricciardulli finished with 159 of Humboldt’s 192 yards on the ground. Meanwhile, quarterback Alex Rump was efficient in his first career start completing 16 of 23 passes for 168 yards and one touchdown and was not intercepted. Wide receiver Victor Spencer had seven receptions for 96 yards and also had 58 yards on three punt returns, including a 52-yarder for a touchdown in the second quarter. Spencer also scored the game’s opening touchdown on a 36-yard pass from Rump. The ‘Jacks defensive score was a 22-yard interception return late in the contest by Nick Sharpe, 35 seconds after Matt Bruder had kicked a 43-yard field goal. Bruder also kicked five extra points extending his streak to 49. That is the third longest in GNAC history, but just the second longest active streak behind Kelly Morgan of Western Oregon who has made 58 straight. In addition to Markarian (*See Player-of-the-Week*), Humboldt State was led defensively by DB Jeremiah Maluia with 12 tackles including a 13-yard tackle for loss, and LB Brian Sampson who had 10 tackles and also forced a fumble.

**Simon Fraser 51, Pacific 14:** Simon Fraser got a 84-yard punt return from Bobby Pospischil and rushed for 250 of its 378 yards of total offense in easily defeating Division III Pacific to open its 2012 season. It was an impressive win for the Clan, which defeated the same team by just eight points last year and scored 40 or more points for just the second time in its three seasons in the GNAC. SFU’s most productive offensive performance since joining the GNAC was 62 points in a three-overtime home win over Dixie State last season. Pospischil’s punt return is the fourth longest in GNAC history. He had 149 all-purpose yards, rushing for 28 on one carry and catching three passes for 37 yards. Ryan Blum had 67 yards on seven carries and Bo Palmer had 65 on 13 to pace the SFU ground game that produced four touchdowns, two by Palmer (both from two-yards out) and one each by Tarrance Crawford (13 yards) and Keynan Parker (4 yards). Crawford had 48 yards on

eight rushes and Parker netted 43 on nine totes. Quarterback Trey Wheeler completed 17 of 21 passes for 128 yards and two touchdowns and was not intercepted. Lemar Durant had both TDS (2 and 7 yards), catching five total for 28 yards. DB Kyle Miller had a team-best eight tackles for SFU while defensive lineman Andrew Marshall had six.

**UC Davis 41, Azusa Pacific 3:** UC Davis built a 27-3 lead and went on to defeat first-year GNAC member Azusa Pacific before 5,903 fans at Aggie Stadium. Azusa’s lone score came on a 31-yard field goal by freshman Jamie Cacciatori in the second quarter. The Cougars were limited to 218 yards, including 111 rushing and 107 passing. The Aggies netted 384 yards, 176 rushing and 208 passing. Running back Terrell Watson had 144 yards on 17 carries, but the rest of the team had a net of minus 33 yards rushing. Quarterback Nick Owens completed nine of 16 yards for 81 yards. Watson also caught two passes for 38 yards. Defensively, safety Tyler Thornton and linebacker Sean Barber each had 14 tackles. Thornton also has his team’s lone interception.

**Adams State 17, Dixie State 9:** Dixie State held Adams State to 255 yards in total offense, but turned the ball over four times on offense, including twice inside the 10-yard line in a narrow eight-point loss. Red Storm quarterback Griff Robles, completed 26 of 43 passes for 296 yards. He was intercepted four times including on a third-and-goal play from the four-yard line in the first quarter and on a third-and-goal play from the one inside the final minute. Dixie outgained Adams State 419-255 in total offense as it also rushed for 123 yards. Running back A.J. Johnson had 63 yards on eight carries, 33 of it on his team’s only touchdown in the second quarter. Dixie also scored early in the third quarter on a 22-yard field goal by Michael Meyers, after driving 71 yards in six plays. Zach Fox had 10 catches for 108 yards to lead the Red Storm receiving corps. Andre Aron (51 yards) and Brock Johnson (27 yards) each had four catches. Linebacker Jake Duncan led Dixie’s defense with 13 tackles, including two for losses of 11 yards.

**Texas A&M – Kingsville 35, Central Washington 7:** Central Washington outgained Texas A&M – Kingsville 352-309, but the Javelinas’ converted four turnovers into a total of 20 points before a crowd of 9,638. Three of the turnovers came in the third quarter when TAMUK scored touchdowns on its first two possessions of the period and added a field goal to extend a 12-7 halftime lead to 28-7. The second touchdown came after a fumble recovery and the field goal came after a 51-yard interception return to the CWU 11 by Steve Harris. Another interception then set up the only score of the fourth quarter – a 48-yard pass from TAMUK’s Nate Poppell to Jake Willingham. CWU’s lone score came with seven seconds left in the first half as Ryan Robertson drove the Wildcats 80 yards in seven plays, a drive that took just 73 seconds. Robertson hooked up with Robert Akeo-Orr twice for gains of 18 and 14 yards before finishing off the drive with passes of 23 and 15 yards to Tavoy Moore. Moore finished the contest with five catches for 74 yards. Robertson completed 21 of

37 passes for 253 yards. . Running back Demetrius Sumler netted 93 yards on 17 carries to lead Central's 109-yard ground game. . Defensively, CWU was led by linebacker Stan Langlow with 10 tackles, including 2 ½ for losses of 17 yards.

**Grand Valley State 48, Western Oregon 20:** Grand Valley used big plays and two fourth-quarter touchdowns on interceptions to pull away from Western Oregon before 1,556 fans at McArthur Stadium. . The Lakers took a 14-7 lead in the first quarter on a 90-yard punt return by Reggie Thomas and scored on 11 and 41-yard interceptions by Michael Hatcher and Matt Judon in the fourth-quarter as they outscored the Wolves 20-0 in the second half after leading just 28-20 at the break. . Western Oregon's final points came on a school-record 53-yard field goal by Kelly Morgan with 38 seconds left in the first half. . Grand Valley had a narrow 380-374 advantage in total offense, but had a 89 to minus two advantage in punt returns and a 55-0 advantage in interception return yards. . The Lakers outrushed the Wolves 221-102 getting 99 yards and two touchdowns from Chris Robinson, who also had 35 yards on three catches. . Quarterback Cody VonAppen was sacked for losses of 35 yards, but did finish with a net 72 yards on 17 carries in addition to completing 28 of 44 passes for 272 yards. He was intercepted three times. . Tyrell Williams caught 10 of his passes for 105 yards. . DB Bryce Peila led the Wolf defense with 11 tackles.

## SCORING SUMMARIES

### Aug. 30:

<b>Azusa Pacific</b>	0	3	0	0	--	3
<b>UC Davis</b>	10	17	7	7	--	41

UCD – Turay 2 run (Stuart kick)  
 UCD – Stuart 23 Field Goal  
 UCD – Sloat 37 pass from Wright (Stuart kick)  
 UCD – Stuart 37 Field Goal  
 APU – Cacciatore 31 Field Goal  
 UCS – Silveria 4 run (Stuart kick)  
 UCD – Turay 1 run (Stuart kick)  
 UCD – Williams 1 run (Stuart kick)

<b>Colorado Mesa</b>	7	0	6	6	-	19
<b>Humboldt State</b>	14	7	7	10	--	38

HSU – Spencer 36 pass from Rump (Bruder kick)  
 HSU – Ricciardulli 1 run (Bruder kick)  
 CSU – Cisco 3 run (Zemezoznak kick)  
 HSU – Spencer 51 punt return (Bruder kick)  
 HSU – Ricciardulli 64 run (Bruder kick)  
 CMU – Cimolino 41 run (kick failed)  
 HSU – Bruder 43 Field Goal  
 HSU – Sharpe 32 interception (Bruder kick)  
 CMU – Cimolino 30 pass from Cisco (pass failed)

<b>Simon Fraser</b>	14	20	14	3	--	51
<b>Pacific</b>	0	7	0	7	--	14

SFU – Palmer 2 run (Berger kick)  
 SFU – Durant 2 pass from Wheeler (Berger kick)  
 SFU – Durant 7 pass from Wheeler (Berger kick)  
 SFU – Pospischil 84 punt return (Berger kick)  
 SFU – Palmer 2 run (kick failed)  
 Pac – Fukumoto 38 pass from Campbell (Villareal-Gomez kick)  
 SFU – Parker 4 run (Berger kick)  
 SFU – Crawford 13 run (Docherty kick)

SFU – Docherty 27 Field Goal  
 Pac – McKinney 22 pass from Minaya (Villareal-Gomez kick)

### Sept. 1:

<b>Dixie State</b>	0	6	3	0	--	9
<b>Adams State</b>	0	10	7	0	--	17

Adams – Van Voris 34 Field Goal  
 DSC – Johnson 33 run (kick failed)  
 Adams – Carl 1 run (Van Voris kick)  
 DSC – Meyers 22 Field Goal  
 Adams – Edwards 44 pass from Davies (Van Voris kick)

<b>Central Washington</b>	0	7	0	0	--	7
<b>Texas A&amp;M – Kingsville</b>	3	9	16	7	--	35

TAMUK – Stoll 23 Field Goal  
 TAMUK – Stoll 29 Field Goal  
 TAMUK – Woodson 14 run (kick failed)  
 CWU – Moore 15 pass from Robertson (Burke kick)  
 TAMUK – Woodson 14 run (kick failed)  
 TAMUK – Armstrong 2 pass from Poppell (Stoll kick)  
 TAMUK – Stoll 38 Field Goal  
 TAMUK – Willingham 48 pass from Poppell (Stoll kick)

<b>Grand Valley State</b>	21	7	7	13	--	48
<b>Western Oregon</b>	7	13	0	0	--	20

WOU – Gonsalves 12 pass from VonAppen (Morgan kick)  
 GV – Green 21 run (laderosa kick)  
 GV – Williams 90 punt return (laderosa kick)  
 GV – Robinson 8 run (laderosa kick)  
 WOU – Haynes 3 run (Morgan kick)  
 WOU – Morgan 30 Field Goal  
 GV – Potts 5 pass from Parling (laderosa kick)  
 WOU – Morgan 53 Field Goal  
 GV – Robinson 5 run (laderosa kick)  
 GV – Hatcher 11 interception (kick failed)  
 GV – Judon 41 interception (laderosa kick)

## 2012 SCHEDULE

**AUGUST:** 30 - Azusa Pacific 3 at UC Davis 41; Colorado Mesa 19 at Humboldt State 38; Simon Fraser 51 at Pacific 14.

**SEPTEMBER:** 1 – Central Washington 7 at Texas A&M – Kingsville 35; ; Dixie State 9 at Adams State 17; Grand Valley 48 at Western Oregon 20. 8 – Azusa Pacific at Humboldt State, 6 p.m.; Central Washington at Simon Fraser, 2 p.m.; Western Oregon at Dixie State, 6 p.m. 15 – Dixie State at Azusa Pacific, 6 p.m.; Central Washington at Western Oregon, 1 p.m.; Simon Fraser at Humboldt State, 6 p.m. 22 – Azusa Pacific at Central Washington, 1 p.m.; Humboldt State at Dixie State, 6 p.m.; Simon Fraser at Western Oregon, 1 p.m. 29 – Western Oregon at Azusa Pacific, 6 p.m.; Humboldt State at Central Washington, 1 p.m.; Dixie State at Simon Fraser, 6 p.m.

**OCTOBER:** 6 – Azusa Pacific at Simon Fraser, 2 p.m.; Central Washington at Dixie State, 1 p.m.; Western Oregon at Humboldt State, 6 p.m. 13 – Humboldt State at Azusa Pacific, 6 p.m.; Simon Fraser at Central Washington, 1 p.m.; Dixie State at Western Oregon, 1 p.m. 20 – Central Washington at Azusa Pacific, 6:30 p.m.; Dixie State at Humboldt State, 6 p.m.; Western Oregon at Simon Fraser, 2 p.m. 27 – Azusa Pacific at Western Oregon, 1 p.m.; Central Washington at Humboldt State, 6 p.m.; Simon Fraser at Dixie State, 1 p.m.

**NOVEMBER:** 3 – Azusa Pacific at Dixie State, 1 p.m.; Western Oregon at Central Washington, 1 p.m.; Humboldt State at Simon Fraser, 2 p.m. 10 – Simon Fraser at Azusa Pacific, 6 p.m.; Dixie State at Central Washington, noon; Humboldt State at Western Oregon, 1 p.m.