



Great Northwest Athletic Conference

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Men's Basketball: Seattle Pacific Earns Top Rank in GNAC Coaches Poll

2013-14 GNAC Coaches Poll	2012-13 Records	Pts
1. Seattle Pacific (9)	27-4 (16-2, 2 nd)	99
2. Alaska Anchorage (1)	18-9 (11-7, 3 rd)	86
3. Western Washington	31-3 (17-1, 1 st)	80
4. Central Washington	15-13 (8-10, 6 th)	70
5. Alaska Fairbanks	16-12 (10-8, 4 th)	62
6. Western Oregon	10-16 (5-13, 9 th)	44
7. Montana State Billings	16-14 (9-9, 5 th)	41
8. Northwest Nazarene	13-13 (7-11, 7 th)	30
9. Simon Fraser	6-20 (1-17, 10 th)	20
10. Saint Martin's	10-16 (6-12, 8 th)	18

(Note: First-place votes in parentheses. Points awarded on 10-9-8--7-6-5-4-3-2-1 basis.)

PORTLAND, Ore. – For the fourth time in the past five years, Seattle Pacific is the favorite in the GNAC Coaches pre-season men's basketball poll.

The Falcons, who won the conference post-season tournament a year ago after finishing second in the regular-season, received nine of 10 first-place votes in the coaches' annual pre-season poll.

Seattle Pacific outpointed Alaska Anchorage, which received one first place vote, 99-86 in the balloting. Both teams return three GNAC all-conference selections.

Western Washington, which has won the last two regular-season titles and wasn't the pre-season favorite either time, earned a No. 3 ranking in the poll.

Central Washington, Alaska Fairbanks and Western Oregon earned the No. 4, No. 5 and No. 6 nods in the poll.

Montana State Billings, Northwest Nazarene, Simon Fraser and Saint Martin's came in seventh, eighth, ninth and 10th, respectively.

Six of the conference's teams will once again advance to the conference tournament, which will be held at Saint Martin's University in Lacey for the third year in a row.

Seattle Pacific is the last conference team (in 2009-10) to earn a No. 1 poll ranking and then go on to win the conference regular-season title.

The Falcons hope to accomplish that feat again this year. Fifth-year head coach Ryan Looney, however, realizes his team has a difficult task ahead of it.

"We know it doesn't matter where you are at the beginning of the year," Looney said. "Finishing on top at the end is the ultimate goal."

The Falcons return a conference-best nine letter winners including guard David Downs, who earned first team all-league honors last year when he led the GNAC in assists (5.5) and also ranked 11th in scoring averaging 14.2 points per game.

Downs is one of three returning starters for the Falcons, including forward Patrick Simon and guard Riley Stockton.

Simon, who averaged 13.4 points and made 66 of 145 three-pointers, was a second team GNAC all-conference selection after transferring from Washington State.

Stockton was an honorable mention all-conference selection. He also led the league in rebounding (7.5) and was selected the *GNAC Defensive Player of the Year*.

At 6-4, he became the shortest player in conference history to lead the conference in rebounding.

SPU didn't stand pat either, adding two former Division I players – guard Matt Borton from the University of Idaho and forward Jake Ehlers from the University of Portland.

Alaska Anchorage returns two all-conference players from last year's team – first-team pick Kyle Fossman and second team selection Teancum Stafford.

Both players ranked in the Top 10 in scoring last season; Fossman at No. 7 (14.8 ppg) and Stafford at No. 10 (14.2).

UAA also returns Travis Thompson, who redshirted last year, after earning second team all-conference honors in 2011-12 when he averaged 11.8 points and made 70 of 147 three-pointers,

Western Washington and Central Washington are the only other teams with multiple returning all-stars.

Back for the Vikings are guard Richard Woodworth and center Austin Bragg.

Woodworth was a second team selection, while Bragg earned honorable mention honors.

CWU guard Mark McLaughlin, who led the GNAC in scoring (22.8), was a first team selection.

JB Pillard was an honorable mention pick two years at Northwest Nazarene before redshirting last year at CWU.

Other returning all-conference players include center Sergej Pucar of Alaska Fairbanks, forward Andy Avgi of Western Oregon, Montana State Billings guard Kalob Hatcher, Northwest Nazarene forward Kevin Rima and Simon Fraser guard Taylor Dunn.

Pucar was a second team selection a year ago, while Avgi, Hatcher, Rima and Dunn all earned honorable mention honors.

TEAM-BY-TEAM CAPSULES

SEATTLE PACIFIC FALCONS (Projected Rank: #1)

Head Coach: Ryan Looney, Eastern Oregon '98 (92-28, 4 years; Overall, 187-83, 9 years)

Assistants: Grant Leep, George Parker, Chris Filios

2012-13 Record: 27-4

Conference: 16-2, 2nd

Returning Letter Winners: 9

Returning Starter (3): David Downs (G, 6-2, Sr., 14.2 ppg, 3.4 rpg, 58-142 3-pointers, 5.5 apg, 1st team GNAC); Patrick Simon (F, 6-8, Sr., 13.4 ppg, 4.6 rpg, 66-145 3-pointers, 21 blocks, 2nd team GNAC); Riley Stockton (G, 6-4, Jr., 6.3 ppg, 7.5 rpg, 3.7 apg, 1.3 spg, 18 blocks, HM GNAC, GNAC Defensive Player of the Year)

Other Returnees: Cory Hutsen (C, 6-8, Jr., 9.2 ppg, 2.7 rpg); Shawn Reid (F, 6-4, Sr., 2.6 ppg, 1.3 rpg); Brendan Carroll (G, 6-4, So., 1.9 ppg, 2.1 rpg); Mitch Penner (F, 6-5, So., 1.6 ppg, 0.5 rpg); Ryan Todd (G, 6-2, Jr., 1.1 ppg, 1.3 rpg); Josh Jordan (F, 6-5, So., 0.5 ppg, 0.4 rpg)

Transfers: Matt Borton (G, 6-5, Jr., Yakima, WA – West Valley & U. Idaho); Jake Ehlers (F, 6-7, So., Corvallis – U. of Portland)

Team Outlook

Seattle Pacific has qualified for nine consecutive NCAA tournaments, the longest current streak of any team in Division II.

That streak looks safe as the Falcons, who have reached the West regional championship game in back-to-back seasons, are not only the pre-season favorite in the GNAC but have been selected as one of the top teams in the country by two different publications.

The *Sporting News* selected SPU as the No. 1 team in Division II in its pre-season rankings. *Division II Bulletin* ranked SPU No. 3 in its pre-season rankings.

SPU lost just two players who averaged better than 2 ½ points a game last season – starters Jobi Wall, who averaged a team-best 14.3 points, and center Andy Poling, who chipped in with 10.1 points per contest.

Guard David Downs (6-2, Sr., Kirkland, WA – Bellevue Christian) and forward Patrick Simon (6-8, Sr., Ephrata, WA) ranked 11th (14.2 ppg) and 12th (13.4) in the conference in scoring and guard Riley Stockton (6-4, Jr.,

Spokane, WA - Ferris), who averaged 6.3 points and 3.7 assists, led the GNAC in rebounding (7.5).

All three were all-conference selections.

Division I transfers Matt Borton (6-5, Jr., Yakima, WA – West Valley) and Jake Ehlers (6-7, So., Corvallis, OR) and six other returning letter winners give fifth-year head coach Ryan Looney a deep roster.

Borton has played in 47 games the past two seasons at the University of Idaho and has scored 102 points and hauled in 79 rebounds.

Ehlers played 22 games last season at Portland scoring 40 points and grabbing 22 rebounds.

Among the other returning players center Cory Hutsen (6-8, Jr., Sammamish, WA - Skyline) made the most significant contribution last year averaging 9.2 points and 2.7 rebounds.

Other returnees include forwards Shawn Reid (6-4, Sr., Post Falls, ID), Mitch Penner (6-5, So., Seattle, WA - Kennedy) and Josh Jordan (6-5, So., Mountlake Terrace, WA – Edmonds-Woodway) and guards Brendan Carroll (6-4, So., Brisbane, Australia) and Ryan Todd (6-2, Jr., Mill Creek, WA - Jackson).

ALASKA ANCHORAGE SEAWOLVES (Projected Rank: #2)

Head Coach: Rusty Osborne, Texas '88 (175-93, 9 years)

Assistants: Cameron Turner

Grad Assistant: Tim Mollerstrom

2012-13 Record: 18-9

Conference: 11-7,

Returning Letter Winners: 6

Returning Starters (4): Kyle Fossman (G, 6-0, Sr., 14.8 ppg, 3.6 rpg, 64-146 3-pointers, 2.6 apg, 1.2 spg, 1st team GNAC); Teancum Stafford (G, 6-5, Jr., 14.2 ppg, 4.5 rpg, 48-117 3-pointers, 2.2 apg, 15 blocks, 2nd team GNAC); Christian Leckband (F, 6-7, So., 6.4 ppg, 3.1 rpg); Colton Lauwers (G, 6-3, Sr., 6.2 ppg, 2.4 rpg, 3.4 apg)

Other Returnees: Travis Thompson (G, 6-1, Jr., 11.8 ppg, 2.4 rpg, 70-147 3-pointers, 3.9 apg, 1.2 spg as 2011-12 starter, 2nd team GNAC); Boomer Blossom (G, 6-2, Jr., 1.2 ppg, 0.8 rpg)

Transfers: Brian McGill (G, 6-2, So., Clackamas, OR, 4.2 ppg, 2.0 rpg, 1.8 apg at Western Oregon in 2011-12); Brad Mears (F/C, 6-9, Jr., South Jordan, Utah – Snow College)

Team Outlook

The return of guard Travis Thompson (6-1, Jr., Anchorage, AK – Dimond) this season after a redshirt year gives the Seawolves three of the top three-point shooters in the conference.

Two years ago, Thompson led the GNAC in three-point percentage making 70 of 147 (47.6 percent).

Last year Kyle Fossman (6-0, Sr., Haines, AK) ranked second in the conference in total three-pointers (2.6 per game) and fifth in three-point percentage (44.5).

Teancum Stafford (6-5, Jr., Auburn, WA – Snow College), meanwhile, ranked 11th in three-pointers made (1.8) and 13th in percentage (41.0).

All three have been all-league honorees. Fossman was a first team selection a year ago; Thompson and Stafford earned second team honors the last two seasons.

Two other starters also return for coach Rusty Osborne (175-93, 9 years) - forward Christian Leckband (6-7, So., Nome, AK) and guard Colton Lauwers (6-3, Sr., Anchorage, AK – Dimond).

Leckband averaged 6.4 points and 3.1 rebounds last year, while Lauwers chipped in with 6.2 points and 3.4 assists per game.

Also back from last year's team is guard Boomer Blossom (6-2, Jr., Soldotna, AK).

Among UAA's newcomers is guard Brian McGill (6-2, So., Clackamas, OR), who averaged 4.2 points for Western Oregon two years ago, and 6-9 Brad Mears (South Jordan, UT – Bingham), who previously played at Snow College in Utah.

WESTERN WASHINGTON VIKINGS (Projected Rank: #3)

Head Coach: Tony Dominguez, WWU '94 (31-3, 1 year)

Assistants: Greg Meier, Bob Hofstetter, Dave Dunham

2012-13 Record: 31-3

Conference: 17-1, 1st

Returning Letter Winners: 6

Returning Starters (2): Richard Woodworth (G, 6-3, Sr., 11.1 ppg, 3.1 rpg, 42-96 3-pointers, 3.4 apg, 1.4 spg, 2nd team GNAC); Austin Bragg (C, 6-9, Sr., 9.1 ppg, 7.3 rpg, 43 blocks, HM GNAC)

Other Returnees: Anye Turner (F, 6-7, Jr., 4.2 ppg, 2.7 rpg, 41 blocks); Alfred Davis (G, 6-0, Sr., 1.9 ppg); Dane Thorpe (G, 6-4, Sr., 1.9 ppg, 1.1 rpg); Robert Oliver (F, 6-4, Jr., 0.7 ppg, 0.7 rpg)

Transfers: Robert Harris (G, 5-10, Sr., Kent, WA – U. Idaho); Colby Mitchell (F, 6-7, Jr., Chugiak, AK - Mount Hood); Jordan Mosby-Barber (C, 6-9, Jr., Portland, OR - Clackamas CC); Mark Hopkins (G, 6-3, Jr., San Antonio, TX – Temple JC); Blake Bowen (C, 6-9, Jr., Vancouver, WA - Clark CC)

Team Outlook

The Vikings have had two fabulous years posting the only two 30-win seasons in GNAC history and winning 62 of 70 games.

After back-to-back Final 4 appearances including a national championship in 2012, Western Washington starts the season with just two returning starters.

Coach Tony Dominguez led WWU to a 31-3 record in his rookie season last winter, but has just six returning veterans led by guard Richard Woodworth (6-3, Sr., Bellevue, WA – Newport) and center Austin Bragg (6-9, Sr., Longview, WA – Mark Morris).

Woodworth was the team's No. 3 scorer last season averaging 11.1 points per game. He also ranked second in assists with 117 and led the team in steals with 47.

Bragg averaged 9.1 points and led the team in both rebounds (7.3) and blocks (43).

The two, however, are the only returnees among the Vikings' top seven scorers.

WWU does return four other players, but only Anye Turner (6-7, Jr., Olympia, WA – Black Hills) averaged more than two points a game and played as many as six minutes a contest.

Turner contributed 4.2 points, shooting 59.3 percent (48-81) and blocking 41 shots, just two off the team lead.

Also back are guards Alfred Davis (6-0, Sr., Tacoma, WA – Lincoln) and Dane Thorpe (6-4, Sr., Bellingham, WA – Sehome) and forward Robert Oliver (6-4, Jr., Federal Way, WA – Decatur).

Among WWU's newcomers is University of Idaho guard Robert Harris (5-10, Sr., Kent, WA – Rainier Beach) and four JC transfers including Jordan Mosby-Barber (6-9, Jr., Portland, OR – Parkrose) and Colby Mitchell (6-7, Jr., Chugiak, AK – Mount Hood).

Harris played in 24 games at Idaho, averaging 4.7 points and two rebounds.

Mosby-Barber averaged 11.6 points and 7.8 rebounds at Clackamas CC in earning NWAACC honorable mention honors.

Mitchell had solid numbers at Mount Hood, averaging 13.6 points per game.

Among WWU's freshman class are Nick Velasquez (6-2, Honolulu, HI), who was an all-state selection at Punahou, and two redshirts – Jeffrey Parker (6-6, Richmond, CA – Salesian) and Joey Schrieber (6-7, Renton, WA – Central Catholic).

CENTRAL WASHINGTON WILDCATS (Projected Rank: #4)

Head Coach: Greg Sparling, Central Washington '93 (310-197, 18 years)

Assistant: Drew Harris, Jared Johnson

2012-13 Record: 15-13

Conference: 8-10, 6th

Returning Letter Winners: 4

Returning Starters (2): Mark McLaughlin (G, 6-6, Sr., 22.8 ppg, 5.4 rpg, 28-109 3-pointers, 2.3 apg, 1.4 spg, 14 blocks, 1st team GNAC, GNAC Newcomer of the Year); Dom Williams (G, 5-10, Sr., 9.1 ppg, 1.9 rpg, 39-132 3-pointers, 1.2 spg)

Other Returnees: Kevin Davis (F, 6-9, Sr., 8.2 ppg, 5.1 rpg, 26 blocks); Joey Roppo (G, 6-2, So., 2.5 ppg, 0.9 rpg, 13-32 3-pointers)

Transfers: JB Pillard (F, 6-7, Sr., Kirkland, WA – Northwest Nazarene, HM GNAC in 2011-12); Jeff Budinich (C, 6-10, Sr., Maple Valley, WA – Kentlake & Montana State); Julian Vaughn (G, 6-4, Jr., Tacoma, WA – Curtis & Tacoma CC); Joshua Lord (G, 5-10, Jr., Tacoma, WA - Mount Tahoma & Tacoma CC); Dylan Radliff (G, 6-1, Jr., Richland, WA – Walla Walla CC).

Team Outlook

Central Washington has just four returning players, the lowest number of any team in the GNAC along with Montana State Billings.

The Wildcats, however, did add a former GNAC all-star from Northwest Nazarene, a three-year veteran from Montana State and a pair of defensive standouts from Tacoma Community College along with an all-league JC guard from Walla Walla CC.

Among the returnees is guard Mark McLaughlin (6-6, Sr., Bothell, WA - Inglemoor), who led the conference in scoring (22.8) in earning *GNAC Newcomer of the Year* and first team all-conference accolades.

Guard Dom Williams (5-10, Sr., Tacoma, WA - Curtis) was also a starter last season, averaging 9.1 points per game.

Returnees back off coach Greg Sparling's bench (310-197, 18 years) include Kevin Davis (6-9, Sr., Federal Way, WA - Todd Beamer) and Joey Roppo (6-2, So., Monroe).

Davis, who averaged 11.9 points and 7.3 rebounds and tied for the GNAC lead in blocks (62) two years ago, averaged 8.2 points and 5.1 rebounds after joining the team in January.

Roppo played 10 minutes per game and contributed 2 ½ points per game.

Available this winter after redshirting last season is JB Pillard (6-7, Jr., Kirkland, WA - Juanita), who was one of the top field goal shooters in the GNAC two years ago for Northwest Nazarene, ranking fourth (58.1).

He also averaged 15.2 points and 6.4 rebounds to rank 10th in both categories and earn honorable mention all-league honors.

From Montana State, the Wildcats added size with the addition of Jeff Budinich (6-10, Sr., Maple Valley, WA), who had 229 points and 116 rebounds in 77 games over three seasons.

Julian Vaughn (6-4, Jr., Tacoma, WA - Curtis) and Joshua Lord (5-10, Jr., Tacoma, WA - Mount Tahoma) earned NWAACC honors at Tacoma CC, while Dylan Radliff (6-1, Jr., Richland, WA) was a first team East Region pick at Walla Walla CC.

Vaughn averaged 11.3 points and 5.5 rebounds and was a first team West Region selection along with being voted the Defensive Player of the Year.

Lord averaged 13.3 points and 3.9 assists and joined his teammate on the West Region all-defensive team. Radliff netted 17.3 points and also averaged 4.9 assists for WWCC.

ALASKA FAIRBANKS NANOOKS (Projected Rank: #5)

Head Coach: Mick Durham, Montana State '79 (21-35, 2 years; Overall, 267-248, 18 years)

Assistants: Jon Clift

Graduate Assistant: Ondrej Palecek

2012-13 Record: 16-12

Conference: 10-8, 4th

Returning Letter Winners: 7

Returning Starters (2): Sergej Pucar (C, 6-11, Sr., 10.8 ppg, 6.6 rpg, 33-78 3-pointers, 1.0 spg, 23 blocks, 2nd team GNAC); Ronnie Baker (G, 6-3, Sr., 8.9 ppg, 3.9 rpg, 1.3 spg) **Note:** Pat Voeut (G, 5-11, Sr., 11.5 ppg, 3.1 rpg, 28-77 3-pointers, 5.4 apg, 1.6 spg, HM GNAC) is redshirting.

Other Returnees: Stefan Tica (F, 6-7, Sr., 8.6 ppg, 2.5 rpg, 44-133 3-pointers); Andrew Kelly (F, 6-7, Sr., 6.9 ppg, 6.9 rpg, 1.2 spg, 23 blocks); Dallen Bills (F, 6-5, Sr., 5.4 ppg, 2.3 rpg); Cody Pierson (G, 6-1, So., 1.2 ppg, 0.6 rpg); Anthony Reese (G, 5-11, Jr., 0.0 ppg, 0.6 rpg)

Transfers: Rashaad Allen (G, 6-1, Jr., Fairfield, CA - College of Marin); Joe Slocum (G, 6-3, Jr., San Francisco, CA - City College of San Francisco); Mike Stepovich (F, 6-7, Sr., Fairbanks, AK - Post); John Renfro (F, 6-7, So., Fairbanks, AK - Southern Utah)

Team Outlook

Alaska Fairbanks was the most improved team in the GNAC last year winning 10 of 18 conference games in Mick Durham's second season in Fairbanks after going 2-16 the previous season.

The Nanooks hope to continue that improvement this season as they return four of their top six scorers including two starters - center Sergej Pucar (6-11, Sr., Belgrade, Serbia) and guard Ronnie Baker (6-3, Sr., Vallejo, CA).

A third starter - honorable mention all-league guard Pat Voeut, who averaged 11 ½ points per game - will redshirt.

Pucar was a second team all-conference selection averaging 10.8 points and 6.6 rebounds. He also blocked 23 shots and was a threat from outside making 33 of 78 three-pointers.

Baker netted 8.9 points and 3.9 rebounds per game and also ranked 10th in the conference in steals averaging 1.3.

Stefan Tica, Andrew Kelly and Dallen Bills all came off the bench to make significant contributions a year ago.

Tica (6-7, Sr., Belgrade, Serbia) averaged 8.6 points and 2.5 rebounds. He was also the team's No. 2 three-pointer shooter making 44 of 133.

Kelly (6-7, Sr., Gilbert, AZ) had identical scoring and rebounding averages of 6.9. His 61 offensive boards led the team in that category.

Bills (6-5, Sr., Inkom, ID) contributed 5.4 points and 2.3 rebounds per contest.

Also back are Cody Pierson (6-1, So., Twin Bridges, MT) who averaged 7.3 minutes in 20 games and Anthony Reese (5-11, Jr., Everson, WA - Nooksack Valley) who played in five games.

Two four-year players are among four transfers for Durham (21-35, 2 years; Overall, 267-248, 18 years).

Mike Stepovich (6-7, Sr., Fairbanks, AK) averaged 3.6 points and 2.7 rebounds in 27 games two years ago at Division II post, while John Renfro (6-7, So., Fairbanks, AK) played in six games at Division I Southern Utah.

Rashaad Allen (6-1, Jr., Fairfield, CA) averaged 12.4 points and 3.1 rebounds and was an all-conference junior college selection at College of Marin.

Meanwhile, Joe Slocum (6-3, Jr., San Francisco, CA) led City College of San Francisco in assist/turnover ratio (2.8).

WESTERN OREGON WOLVES (Projected Rank: #6)

Head Coach: Brady Bergeson, Chapman '00 (28-26, 2 years)

Assistants: Benjamin Kaufman

2012-13 Record: 10-16

Conference: 5-13, 9th

Returning Letter Winners: 7

Returning Starters (4): Andy Avgi (F, 6-5, So., 16.2 ppg, 5.1 rpg, 13 blocks, HM GNAC, GNAC Freshman of the Year); Devon Alexander (G, 6-1, So., 10.1 ppg, 3.1 rpg, 24-66 3-pointers, 2.3 apg, 2.2 spg); Rodney Webster (G, 6-1, Sr., 9.9 ppg, 2.7 rpg, 13-43 3-pointers, 1.1 spg); Jordan Wiley (G, 6-6, So., 8.8 ppg, 2.9 rpg, 54-138 3-pointers)

Other Returnees: Jordan Schriber (F, 6-6, So., 4.0 ppg, 3.1 rpg); Drew Johnson (G, 5-10, Sr., 2.7 ppg, 1.6 rpg); Dezmond DuPree-Turner (G, 6-2, So., 0.4 ppg, 0.6 rpg)

Transfers: Mirza Sabic (G/F, 6-6, Sr., Surprise, AZ – Kennesaw State); Lewis Thomas (F, 6-7, Sr., Perth, Australia – UC Santa Barbara); Marwan Sarhan (F, 6-9, Jr., Alexandria, Egypt – University of Charleston); Adam Hastings (F, 6-6, Jr., Corvallis, OR – Linn-Benton); Eric Holbrook (G, 6-2, Jr., Priest River, ID – Spokane CC)

Team Outlook

Western Oregon had one of the youngest teams in the conference a year ago starting three freshmen – Andy Avgi (6-5, So., Woodburn, OR), Devon Alexander (6-1, So., Fontana, CA - Summit) and Jordan Wiley (6-6, So., McKenzie River, OR) - who are among seven returning letter winners.

Avgi ranked fourth in the conference in scoring (16.2) and field goal percentage (57.7) and also grabbed 5.1 rebounds per contest in earning *GNAC Freshman of the Year* and honorable mention all-conference honors.

Alexander chipped in with 10.1 points and 3.1 rebounds and led the GNAC in steals (2.2) including a GNAC conference game record tying eight against Northwest Nazarene.

Wiley contributed 8.8 points and was WOU's top three-pointer shooter, making 54 of 137.

Also back from last year's starting unit is guard Rodney Webster (6-1, Sr., Hanford, CA - West). Webster averaged 9.9 points and 2.7 rebounds.

Other returnees include Jordan Schriber (6-6, So., Tillamook, OR), Drew Johnson (5-10, Sr., Gresham, OR -

Barlow) and Dezmond DuPree-Turner (6-2, So., Spanaway, WA – Spanaway Lake).

Schriber started in four of his 23 appearances and averaging four points and 3.1 rebounds. Johnson made nine starts and contributed 2.7 points per contest. DuPree-Turner played in five games.

With all its youth, the Wolves slipped from fourth to ninth, finishing with a 5-13 conference record.

Third-year coach Brady Bergeson (28-26, 2 years), however, added three four-year transfers including two from Division I schools, and could contend for a playoff berth.

Mirza Sabic (6-6, Sr., Surprise, AZ) averaged 2.6 points in 52 games at Kennesaw State before redshirting last season at WOU.

Lewis Thomas (6-7, Sr., Perth, Australia) also played in 52 games at UC Santa Barbara the past two seasons scoring a total of 79 points.

Marwan Sarhan (6-9, Jr., Alexandria, Egypt) played 10 games at Division II University of Charleston.

The Wolves also added two NWAACC all-stars – Adam Hastings (6-6, Jr., Corvallis, OR – Linn-Benton) and Eric Holbrook (6-2, Jr., Priest River, ID – Spokane CC).

Hastings, who averaged 16.8 points and 9.3 rebounds, was a first team NWAACC South Region all-star at Linn-Benton, while Holbrook (10.3 ppg, 4.4 apg) was named to the East Region all-defensive team at Spokane CC.

MONTANA ST. BILLINGS YELLOWJACKETS (Projected Rank: #7)

Head Coach: Jamie Stevens, MSU Billings '99 (34-26, 2 years)

Assistant: Brad Schmit

Grad Assistant: Darren Nye

2012-13 Record: 16-14

Conference: 9-9, 5th

Returning Letter Winners: 4

Returning Starters (1): Kalob Hatcher (G, 5-11, Sr., 6.3 ppg, 2.9 rpg, 22-88 3-pointers, 4.7 apg, 1.3 spg, HM GNAC)

Other Returnees: Devon Wallace (G, 6-2, Sr., 4.7 ppg, 1.8 rpg, 17-55 3-pointers); Danny Desin (G, 6-3, So., 2.1 ppg, 0.5 rpg, 15-50 3-pointers); Tyler Nelson (F, 6-7, Jr., 0.3 ppg, 1.0 rpg)

Transfers: Connor Donaldson (F, 6-7, Jr., Edmonds, WA – Everett CC); Antoine Hosley (G, 6-0, Sr., Portland, OR – Utah Valley); Austin Hudson (F, 6-7, Jr., Salt Lake City, UT – Central Wyoming); Jonathan Mesghna (F, 6-6, Sr., Frankfurt, Germany – University of Maine); Jaden Welsh (G, 6-2, Jr., Ogden, UT – Dawson CC)

Team Outlook

Montana State Billings will be seeking its fourth consecutive post-season tournament berth this winter.

Coach Jamie Stevens (34-26, 2 years), who led MSUB to the post-season GNAC title in 2012, however, return just four players and one starter from last year's fifth-place team.

Both numbers match the fewest of any team in the GNAC.

The lone returning starter is honorable mention all-league guard Kalob Hatcher (5-11, Sr., San Diego, CA – Foothills Christian), who averaged 6.3 points and 4.7 assists, ranking third in the conference in the latter category.

Hatcher, however, is the lone returning player among MSUB's top eight scorers.

The other returnees include Devon Wallace (6-2, Sr., Portland, OR - Westview), Danny Desin (6-3, So., Billings, MT) and Tyler Nelson (6-7, Jr., Roosevelt, UT - Union). Wallace and Desin averaged 4.7 and 2.1 points, respectively, while Nelson saw action in just 16 games and 51 minutes.

Stevens did add two Division I players and a pair of JC athletes.

Antoine Hosley (6-0, Sr., Portland, OR) played in 28 games and averaged 6.1 points at Utah Valley, while Jonathan Mesghna (6-6, Sr., Frankfurt, Germany) played in 26 games and averaged 6.6 points and 3.2 rebounds at the University of Maine.

Connor Donaldson (6-7, Jr., Edmonds, WA – Edmonds-Woodway) was a first team NWAACC North Region all-star at Everett CC where he averaged 16.3 points and 7.5 rebounds.

Austin Hudson (6-7, Jr., Salt Lake City, UT) played at Central Wyoming where he averaged 5.7 points and 3.2 rebounds.

NORTHWEST NAZARENE CRUSADERS (Projected Rank: #8)

Head Coach: Dave Daniels, Colorado Christian '95 (25-27, 2 years; Overall, 105-122, 8 years)

Assistants: Rye Olson, Sr., Randy Carter

2012-13 Record: 13-13

Conference: 7-11, 7th

Returning Letter Winners: 5

Returning Starters (1): Kevin Rima (F, 6-6, Jr., 11.2 ppg, 7.5 rpg, 36 blocks, HM GNAC)

Other Returnees: Grayson Moore (G 6-6, Jr., 7.3 ppg, 4.9 rpg, 25-84 3-pointers, 21 blocks); Mario Donaldson (G, 6-3, Sr., 5.2 ppg, 3.8 rpg, 10-27 3-pointers); Matyas Hering (G, 6-3, Jr., 4.4 ppg, 1.8 rpg, 15-34 3-pointers); Shayne Perryman (F, 6-5, Sr., 2.6 ppg, 1.6 rpg)

Transfers: Bouna N'Diaye (F, 6-6, So., Bergen, Norway – Barry); Josh Amey (G, 5-11, Jr., Oakland, CA – Merritt); Joel Devastey (F, 6-8, Jr., Round Rock, TX – Temple, TX JC)

Team Outlook

Northwest Nazarene returns one full-time starter, matching MSUB for the fewest, among five lettermen.

Back to lead the Crusaders is forward Kevin Rima (6-6, Jr., Fairbanks, AK - Hutchinson), who averaged 11.2 points and 7.5 rebounds. Rima, an honorable mention selection, also blocked 36 shots.

His rebound total was the second highest in the GNAC, just a fraction fewer than leader Riley Stockton of Seattle Pacific.

Two other players did combine to make 20 starts for third-year coach Dave Daniels (25-27, 2 years; Overall, 105-122, 8 years).

Grayson Moore (6-6, Jr., Logan, UT - Skyview) started 11 games and averaged 7.3 points and 4.9 rebounds. Mario Donaldson (6-3, Sr., Rockton, IL - Hononegah) started nine games and netted 5.2 points and 3.8 rebounds per contest.

Matyas Hering (6-3, Jr., Prague, Czech Republic) and Shayne Perryman (6-5, Sr., Santa Cruz, CA – St. Francis) also saw significant playing time a year ago.

Hering played in 15 games and averaged 4.4 points, while Perryman chipped in with 2.6 points per game and had 41 rebounds in 25 contests.

Among the new players for the Crusaders is Bouna N'Diaye (6-6, So., Bergen, Norway), a transfer from Division II Barry where he played in 14 games, scoring 26 points.

Josh Amey (5-11, Jr., Oakland, CA) was an all-conference point guard at Merritt JC where he averaged 10 points and 9.2 assists, ranking second in the state.

Another JC transfer is Joel Devastey (6-8, Jr., Round Rock), who averaged nine points and 5.9 rebounds for Temple JC in Texas.

SIMON FRASER CLAN (Projected Rank: #9)

Head Coach: James Blake, Victoria '00 (17-59, 3 years)

Assistants: Chris Cline, Frank Konig, Matt McKay, Scott Hind

2012-13 Record: 6-20

Conference: 1-17, 10th

Returning Letter Winners: 8

Returning Starter (3): Taylor Dunn (G, 6-4, Sr., 12.3 ppg, 3.3 rpg, 28-77 3-pointers, HM GNAC); Elijah Matthews (G, 6-1, Sr., 11.7 ppg, 3.1 rpg, 53-122 3-pointers, 1.2 spg); Ibrahim Appiah (F, 6-6, Sr., 7.7 ppg, 6.1 rpg, 1.2 spg)

Other Returnees: David Gebru (F, 6-9, Sr., 17.3 ppg, 7.0 rpg, 13 blocks in 7 games); Matt Staudacher (G, 6-1, So., 4.1 ppg, 1.6 rpg, 2.2 apg); Dillon Hamilton (G, 6-0, Sr., 3.9 ppg, 0.9 rpg); Keegan Dunlop (F, 6-11, So., 2.9 ppg, 1.0 rpg); Chris Evans (G, 6-0, Sr., 1.0 ppg, 0.5 rpg)

Transfers: Sango Niang (G, 6-0, Jr., Paris, France – Chaffey JC); Justin Cole (G, 6-3, Jr., Los Angeles, CA – Chaffey JC); Darius Page (F/C, 6-8 Jr., Seattle, WA – Columbus State)

Team Outlook

Three starters, led by guard Taylor Dunn, return this winter for Simon Fraser coach James Blake (17-59, 3 years).

Dunn (6-4, Sr., Vancouver, WA – Mountain View) averaged 12.3 points and 3.3 rebounds last season in earning honorable mention all-league honors.

Also back from last year's starting lineup are guard Elijah Matthews (6-1, Sr., Washington DC) and forward Ibrahim Appiah (6-6, Sr., Montreal, QC).

Matthews was the Clan's top three-point shooter making 53 of 122 (43.4 percent) and averaged 11.7 points and 3.1 rebounds. He also had 28 steals.

Appiah averaged 7.7 points and also ranked second on the team in rebounds (6.1) and steals (31).

Another returnee is David Gebru (6-9, Sr., Seattle, WA – Rainier Beach), averaged 17.3 points and 7.0 rebounds and also had 13 blocks.

Gebru only played in seven early-season games including a contest against Western Washington in which he scored 34 points.

In all the Clan returns eight players from last year's team, the second most in the conference in back of Seattle Pacific.

The other veterans are Matt Staudacher (6-1, So., Kirkland, WA – Lake Washington), Dillon Hamilton (6-0, Sr., Vancouver, BC – St. George's), Keegan Dunlop (6-11, So., St. Catharine's, ON – Williston Prep) and Chris Evans (6-0, Sr., Port Moody, BC - Gleneagle).

Staudacher started in 10 of his 26 appearances and averaged 4.1 points. He also ranked second on the team in assists with 56.

Hamilton made two starts and averaged 3.9 points in 26 games. Dunlop started five of 21 games and averaged 2.9 points. Evans played 77 minutes in 18 games, scoring 18 points.

Three transfers should strengthen the Clan roster, including two – Sango Niang (6-0, Jr., Paris, France) and Justin Cole (6-3, Jr., Los Angeles, CA) – from Chaffey Junior College.

Niang averaged 13.7 points and Cole averaged 8.1 for Chaffey.

Darius Page (6-8, Jr., Seattle, WA) played in 20 games at Division II Columbus State, averaging 2.6 points per contest.

SAINT MARTIN'S SAINTS (Projected Rank: 10th)

Head Coach: Michael Ostlund, Weber State '91 (First year)

Assistant: Donta Richardson

2012-13 Record: 10-16

Conference: 6-12, 8th

Returning Letter Winners: 7

Returning Starters (3): Evan Coulter (G, 5-10, Sr., 9.8 ppg, 2.9 rpg, 35-103 3-pointers, 1.0 spg); Rei Jensen (F, 6-8, Sr., 8.7 ppg, 6.9 rpg, 26 blocks); Matt Dodson (C, 6-11, Sr., 6.8 ppg, 6.4 rpg, 28 blocks)

Other Returnees: Will Bond (G, 6-4, Jr., 6.9 ppg, 1.1 rpg, 27-69 3-pointers); Lucas Shannon (F, 6-8, So., 4.2 ppg, 3.4 rpg, 20 blocks); Brad Norman (F, 6-4, Sr., 0.3 ppg, 0.9 rpg); Kyle Karnofski (G, 6-0, Sr., 0.3 ppg, 0.1 rpg); Tyler Odowu (F, 6-5, Jr., Oakland, CA – Merritt JC)

Transfers: Ryan Rogers (F, 6-4, Sr., Auburn, WA – Lower Columbia); Riley Carel (G, 6-2, Jr., Enumclaw, WA – played 49 games in 2010-11 and 2011-12 seasons at Seattle Pacific)

Team Outlook

Starters Evan Coulter (5-10, Sr., Mount Vernon, WA – Burlington Edison), Rei Jensen (6-8, Sr., Portland, OR - Lincoln) and Matt Dodson (6-11, Sr., Eugene, OR - Willamette) are among seven returning letter winners for first-year Saint Coach Michael Ostlund.

Coulter averaged 9.8 points and 2.9 rebounds and made 35 of 103 three-point shots for the Saints.

Jensen, who averaged 8.7 points, led the Saints in rebounding (6.9) and ranked second to Dodson in blocks with 26.

Dodson, who had 28 blocks, averaged 6.8 points and 6.4 rebounds.

Also back are Will Bond (6-4, Jr., Troutdale, OR – Central Catholic), Lucas Shannon (6-8, So., Sammamish, WA - Skyline), Brad Norman (6-4, Sr., Eatonville, WA) and Kyle Karnofski (6-0, Sr., Castle Rock, WA).

Bond, who started seven games, averaged 6.9 points, while Shannon contributed 4.2 points and 3.4 rebounds.

Norman and Karnofski saw limited duty appearing in 16 and 14 games, respectively.

Tyler Idowu (6-5, Jr., Oakland, CA - Rodriguez) also played in two games scoring 16 points before taking a redshirt year.

He previously played at Merritt JC in California averaging 11 points and 8.8 rebounds per game.

Two other experienced players are Riley Carel (6-2, Jr., Enumclaw, WA) who played in 49 games in two seasons (2010-11 and 2011-12) at Seattle Pacific and Ryan Rogers (6-4, Sr., Auburn, WA), who was a first team NWAACC West Region all-star selection at Lower Columbia where he averaged 12.5 points and 7.1 rebounds.

Previous Poll and Regular-Season Conference Champions

Year	Poll	Regular-Season Conference Champion
2001-02	Western Washington	Western Washington, Humboldt State, Seattle Pacific
2002-03	Humboldt State	Humboldt State, Alaska Fairbanks
2003-04	Humboldt State	Humboldt State
2004-05	Alaska Fairbanks	Western Washington, Alaska Fairbanks
2005-06	Western Washington	Seattle Pacific
2006-07	Central Washington	Seattle Pacific, Seattle
2007-08	Alaska Anchorage	Alaska Anchorage
2008-09	Central Washington	Western Washington
2009-10	Seattle Pacific	Seattle Pacific
2010-11	Seattle Pacific	Central Washington
2011-12	Alaska Anchorage	Western Washington
2012-13	Seattle Pacific	Western Washington
2013-14	Seattle Pacific	???