



Great Northwest Athletic Conference

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Men's Golf: Fall Season Wrap Up (Nov. 1, 2013)

PORTLAND, Ore. – An individual tournament champion from Northwest Nazarene, a hole-in-one from a Western Washington freshman, and two teams with a sub-300 team average highlighted an eventful fall 2013 men's golf season.

Nick Hardy of Northwest Nazarene set a school-record tying round of 68 en route to winning the Sonoma State Invitational on Oct. 15. Hardy's effort helped him attain a 72.0 average for the fall, slating the senior as the top individual in the GNAC by almost one full stroke.

As a team, NNU was one of two GNAC schools to average less than 300 per round, checking in at 299.6 over nine rounds played this fall. Joining Hardy in the top-10 was Michael Delie, whose average of 73.8 over four rounds was the third-best mark in the GNAC.

Brad Harrelson was one of four golfers from Montana State Billings in the top-10 in scoring average this fall, as no other school had more individuals amongst conference leaders. Joining Harrelson in the top-10 were Austin Westphal (74.3 average in 10 rounds), Gage Huft (74.6 in 10) and Marcus Drange (75.4 in 10).

Harrelson averaged a 72.9 over 10 rounds, helping the Yellowjackets to a team low-round average of 298.0 through eight rounds so far in 2013. Harrelson's round of 66 at the Western Washington Invitational in September was the lowest single round of any GNAC golfer this fall and the fourth-best single round in MSUB history.

Simon Fraser finished the fall with an average of 301.6, thanks in large part to a trio of golfers who averaged less than 75 over the Clan's eight rounds this fall. Kevin Vigna (74.4 in five rounds), Michael Belle (74.7 in six) and Bret Thompson (74.9 in eight) are all in the top-10 in the GNAC.

Thompson was the highest Clan individual finisher at a single event, as his two-under par 142 at the InterWest Classic in Chico, Calif., led him to a third-place overall finish. Thompson and Belle each earned Red Lion Golfer of the Week honors once this fall.

With a perennial nationally ranked reputation, Western Washington entered the fall with high expectations after a third place finish at the NCAA Finals last season. The Vikings were solid overall, averaging 302.2 over 10 rounds, but placed just one individual in the top-10.

Mark Strickland shot a 75.5 over 10 rounds for WWU, finishing as high as tied for 12th at the InterWest Classic with a two-round total of 147 (72-75).

WWU's underclassmen made considerable noise this fall, as sophomore Jack Kelly finished tied for fourth at the Western Washington Invitational Sept. 23-24, and freshman Chris Hatch nailed a hole-in-one during his final round at the CSU Monterey Bay Invite to push him to a 12th-place finish at 219 (75-77-67).

Hatch's low round of 67 tied Strickland for the team-low this fall, and Kelly's mark of 68 gave WWU three golfers with sub-70 rounds.

Rounding out the field this fall was Saint Martin's, which averaged 305.8 over nine rounds. The Saints' leading scorer amongst qualifiers was Ben Fosnick, who averaged 75.8 over 12 rounds with a low of 69 this fall.

Ryan Baumgart's sixth-place finish at the Dennis Rose Invitational was the highest by a Saint this fall, while Ryan Pickthorn came in at seventh in the Western Washington Invitational in September.

The spring 2014 men's golf season gets underway March 3, when Western Washington heads to Austin, Tex., for the St. Edwards

Invitational, and Saint Martin's travels to Hayward, Calif., for the CSU East Bay Invite.

COMPLETE FALL 2013 RESULTS

NUU vs. College of Idaho Dual Match (Sept. 11, 2013 at Ridgecrest GC, Nampa, ID): Team Scores – 1.

Northwest Nazarene, 291. **Individuals** – 1. Nick Hardy, NNU, 69; 2. Michael Delie, NNU, 70; 4. Davis Halle, NNU, 72; T-6. Ian Briske, NNU, 76; T-6. Brock Sargent, NNU, 76; T-9. Thomas Hanacek, NNU, 78; T-12. Connor Magnuson, NNU, 79; T-12. Justin McAfee, NNU, 79.

Yellowjacket Invitational (Sept. 12-13, 2013 at Pryor Creek GC, Billings, MT): Team Scores – 1.

North Idaho CC, 560 (293-267); 2. MSU Billings, 568 (291-277). **Individuals** – 1. Chris Cremer, NICC 135 (71-64); 3. Brad Harrelson, MSUB 139 (71-68); T-5. Marcus Drange, MSUB 142 (74-68); T-8. Austin Westphal, MSUB 144 (73-71); T-14. Houston Bradbury, MSUB 147 (73-74); T-20. Gage Huft, MSUB 149 (79-70).

Husky Invite (Sept.16-17, 2013 at Gold Mountain Cascade Course, Bremerton, WA): Individuals – 1.

Thomas Lim, Oregon 201 (68-67-66); T-8. Ben Fosnick, SMU 217 (73-69-75); T-13. Ryan Baumgart, SMU 218 (74-72-72); T-13. Austin Spicer, SMU 218 (71-75-72); T-17. Kevin Cullen, SMU 219 (73-75-71); T-25. Patrick Whealdon, SMU 223 (78-74-71); T-34. Jared Rasmussen, SMU 226 (75-77-74); T-39. Ryan Pickthorn, SMU 228 (73-76-79); 45. Jack Davis, SMU 234 (78-79-77).

Western Washington Invitational (Sept. 23-24, 2013 at Bellingham Golf & CC, Bellingham, WA): Team Scores – 1.

University of British Columbia 867 (298-290-279); T-3. Simon Fraser 878 (299-288-291); 6. MSU Billings 891 (303-286-302); 7. Saint Martin's 892 (302-289-301); T-8. Northwest Nazarene 893 (295-303-295); T-8. Western Washington 893 (304-296-293). **Individuals (Top 30)** – 1. Kenny You, Dixie State 206 (72-65-69) 3. Brad Harrelson, MSUB 212 (72-66-74) T-4. Jack Kelly, WWU 214 (76-70-68) T-7. Michael Belle, SFU 217 (76-71-70) T-7. Ryan Pickthorn, SMU 217 (76-69-72) T-10. Bret Thompson, SFU 218 (72-71-75) T-13. Kevin Vigna, SFU 220 (75-71-74) T-17. Thomas Hanacek, NNU (75-74-73) T-19. Austin Spicer, SMU 223 (75-69-79) T-19. Austin Westphal, MSUB 223 (74-73-76) 23. Nick Hardy, NNU 224 (76-75-73) 24. Michael Delie, NNU 225 (74-78-73) T-25. Ben Fosnick, SMU 226 (75-77-74) T-25 Brock Sargent, NNU 226 (74-76-76) T-29. Brennan Emory, WWU 227 (75-76-76) T-29. Lucas Gatto, SFU 227 (76-79-72) T-29. Gage Huft, MSUB 227 (79-72-76).

Rocky Mountain Invitational (Sept. 29-30, 2013 at Peter Yegen Golf Course, Billings, MT): Team Scores

– 1. Westminster College 863 (291-280-292); 2. MSU Billings 868 (294-278-296). **Individuals (Top 30)** – 1. Daniel Thompsett, Rocky Mountain 208 (72-67-69) 2. Brad Harrelson, MSUB 212 (72-67-73) 5. Gage Huft, MSUB 215 (73-70-72) 9. Jacob Letman, MSUB 217 (73-71-73) T-11. Austin Westphal, MSUB 219 (74-73-72) T-26. Tanner Berg, MSUB 226 (77-70-79).

Golfweek Invitational (Sept. 30 – Oct. 1, 2013 at Crosswater Club, Sunriver, OR): Team Scores – 1.

Cal State Monterey Bay 893 (302-288-303); T-8. Simon Fraser 941 (330-297-314); 12. Western Washington 950 (319-315-316); 14. Saint Martin's 959 (328-313-318). **Individuals (Top 50)** – 1. Brandon Hortt, CSU Monterey Bay 217 (76-68-73) T-14. Michael Belle, SFU 231 (78-73-80) T-31. Mark Strickland, WWU 235 (75-79-81) T-34. Kyle Schrader, WWU 236 (83-80-73) T-37. TJ McColl, SFU 237 (88-73-76) T-44. Lucas Gatto, SFU 239 (86-74-79) T-44. Ryan Pickthorn, SMU 239 (81-79-79) T-44. Bret Thompson, SFU 239 (79-78-82) T-48. Kevin Cullen, SMU 240 (78-80-82) T-48. Ben Fosnick, SMU 240 (87-75-78) 50. David Fonua, WWU 241 (87-73-81).

InterWest Wildcat Classic (Oct. 7-8, 2013 at Sevellano Links, Corning, CA): Team Scores – 1.

Chico State 571 (288-283) 4. Simon Fraser 594 (307-287) 5. Western Washington 597 (293-304) T-8. Northwest Nazarene 607 (306-301) 13. Montana State Billings 625 (310-315). **Individuals (Top 30)** – 1. Ricky Owaki, Chico State 137 (71-66) T-3. Bret Thompson, SFU 142 (73-69) T-7. Nick Hardy, NNU 144 (75-69) T-12. Kyle Schrader, WWU 147 (70-77) T-12. Mark Strickland, WWU 147 (72-75) T-20. Connor Magnuson, NNU 149 (73-76) T-26. Mike Belle, SFU 150 (79-71) T-30. Chris Hatch, WWU 151 (74-77).

Sonoma State Invitational (Oct. 14-15, 2013 at Santa Rosa Golf & Country Club, Santa Rosa, CA): Team Scores – 1.

Sonoma State 866 (284-287-295) 6. Northwest Nazarene 905 (307-296-302). **Individuals (Top 30)** – 1. Nick Hardy, NNU 211 (74-69-68) T-23. Justin McAfee, NNU 226 (77-72-77).

CSU Monterey Bay Invitational (Oct. 21-22, 2013 at Black Horse Golf Course, Seaside, CA) Team Scores –

1. Barry 582 (293-289) 5. Western Washington 582 (293-289) **Individuals (Top 30)** – 1. Mario Beltran, Barry 211 (68-70-73) 12. Chris Hatch, WWU 219 (75-77-67) T-28. Mark Strickland, WWU 226 (74-67-85) T-30. Kyle Schrader, WWU 227 (75-74-78).

Dennis Rose Invitational (Oct. 27-29, 2013 at Waikoloa Kings' Course, Waikoloa, HI): Team Scores

– 1. Hawaii-Hilo 860 (280-283-297) 5. Saint Martin's 901 (296-297-308). **Individuals (Top 30)** – 1. Chris Shimomura, Hawaii-Hilo 209 (67-70-72).

LEADERS

GNAC Top-10 (Min. 4 Rnds.) – 1. Nick Hardy, NNU 72.0 (9 rnds., 648 strokes) 2. Brad Harrelson, MSUB 72.9 (10, 729) 3. Michael Delie, NNU 73.8 (4, 295) 4. Austin Westphal, MSUB 74.3 (10, 743) 5. Kevin Vigna, SFU 74.4 (5, 372) 6. Gage Huft, MSUB 74.6 (10, 746) 7. Michael Belle, SFU 74.7 (6, 448) 8. Bret Thompson, SFU 74.9 (8, 599) 9. Marcus Drange, MSUB 75.4 (10, 754) 10. Mark Strickland, WWU 75.5 (10, 755).

FALL RED LION GOLFERS OF THE WEEK

Sept. 9-15 - Nick Hardy, NNU (5-10, G.S., Edmonds, WA – Kings) shot a 69 to match a career low and also set a new personal best with a 3-under en route to medalist honors in a dual match with the College of Idaho last Wednesday. Hardy helped the Crusaders to a 291 team score, nine strokes better than COI in the first round of the season.

Sept. 23-30 – Brad Harrelson, MSUB (Sr., Snoqualmie, WA – Mount Si) shot a four-under par 212 en route to placing third at the Western Washington Invitational in Bellingham, Wash. on Tuesday. The senior's performance helped the Yellowjackets to a sixth-place finish in the 11-team field, as his 66 in the second round was the fourth-best in MSUB program history.

Honorable Mention – Jack Kelly, WWU; Thomas Hanacek, NNU.

Oct. 1-6 – Mike Belle, SFU (Sr., Burnaby, BC – St. Thomas More) shot a three-round total of 231, including a low round of 73 at the Golfweek Invitational to finish in a tie for 14th. Belle was the highest-finishing GNAC golfer, and led SFU to a tie for eighth place in the tournament.

Oct. 7-13 - Bret Thompson, SFU (So., Winnipeg, MB – St. Paul's) logged a two-under par 142 at the Chico State InterWest Classic, tying for third place as he was just five strokes off the pace of the tournament champion. His effort propelled SFU to a top five finish, as the Clan came in as the top GNAC team at fourth place overall.

Honorable Mention – Kyle Schrader, WWU; Mark Strickland, WWU.

Oct. 14-20 – Nick Hardy, NNU (Sr., Edmonds, WA – King's) shot a school-record tying 68 in the final round to win the Sonoma State Men's Golf Invitational with a 54-hole score of five-under par 211. Hardy, who leads the GNAC in scoring with a 72.0 average, won the tournament by four shots, becoming the first Crusader to win a major tournament since NNU joined the NCAA.

Oct. 21-27 – Chris Hatch, WWU (Fr., Mukilteo, WA – Kamiak) shot a career-high 67 and finished with a 54-hole score of three-over-par 219 to place 12th in the Cal State Monterey Bay Men's Golf Invitational at the Black Horse Golf Club in Seaside, Calif. Hatch finished off the tournament aching the 194-yard 18th hole with a seven-iron. It was his first career hole-in-one as he finished the fall season with a 76.6 scoring average.

Oct. 28 – Nov. 3 – Ryan Baumgart, SMU (Fr., Walla Walla, WA – DeSales Catholic) finished tied for sixth at the Dennis Rose Invitational this week, shooting a 220 (72-76-72) to pace the Saints. Baumgart's effort helped SMU to a fifth-place finish amongst the 10-team field, and his two rounds of 72 matched his career low.