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Contact: Nathan Webber

503-305-8756 / www.gnacsports.com

Simon Fraser Continues Dominance in GNAC, National Polls

<u>GNAC Coaches Poll</u>	<u>2013 Records</u>	<u>Pts.</u>
1. Simon Fraser (7)	18-3-2 (11-2-1, 1 st)	60
2. Seattle Pacific (1)	12-4-3 (10-1-3, 2 nd)	53
3. WWU	11-4-3 (9-2-3, 3 rd)	50
4. NNU	5-7-5 (5-6-3, 4 th)	42
5. MSU Billings	3-10-5 (3-7-4, 6 th)	32
6. Saint Martin's	5-11-2 (5-7-2, 5 th)	24
7. U of Mary	3-10-3 (3-8-3, 7 th)	19
8. SDSM	0-16-1 (0-13-1, 8 th)	8

PORTLAND, Ore. – For the fourth consecutive year, the Simon Fraser Clan have claimed the top spot in the GNAC pre-season coaches poll.

The No. 3 nationally ranked Clan has reached the NCAA semifinals the past two years and has only lost four out of 48 conference matches since its inaugural GNAC season in 2010.

Four-time Coach of the Year Alan Koch welcomes back eight starters including GNAC Newcomer of the Year Magnus Kristensen, Defender of the Year Alex Rowley and senior Jovan Blagojevic who was the second in the conference in goals scored last year.

Koch's team led the nation last year in total points (211) and goals (77), the latter a GNAC record. The team was also second in scoring offense (3.35/gm) and total assists (57).

Seattle Pacific, the only other team to receive a first-place vote, came in at No. 2 in the poll.

The Falcons finished with a 12-4-3 record last year and qualified for the NCAA tournament where they were dealt an early exit losing 1-0 to Chico State.

Returnees such as NSCAA first team all-region defender Bryson Pavel and first team GNAC goalkeeper Cody Lang look to knock off Simon Fraser for the GNAC crown.

Three points behind SPU is Western Washington, which ended last season with a commanding 3-0 victory over then No. 2 Simon Fraser.

Head coach Greg Brisbon fared well in his first season, compiling an 11-4-3 record, and looks to build upon that season with a strong defense.

The Vikings have three GNAC team honorees returning on the defensive side of the ball highlighted by senior goalkeeper Keegan Rogers who led the conference in save percentage and goals against average.

Finishing the top half of the poll is Northwest Nazarene with 42 points.

2013 was a record breaking year for Crusaders senior Freddy Razo. The Newcomer of the Year broke the GNAC records for most goals scored in a season (14) and most points scored in a season (30).

Second year coach Alex Balog and his Montana State Billings Yellowjackets finished tied for sixth place in the conference last year but arrive at No. 5 in the coaches poll.

The Yellowjackets have recruited numerous transfers and return three defensive starters for a team that has its sight set on a few upsets this season.

The Saints of Saint Martin's move up one spot from last year's poll to No. 6.

Coach Rob Walker and the Saints only lost one of their first five conference games last year and with the return of seven starters look to duplicate that record again.

In seventh place is the University of Mary who finished tied for sixth in the conference last year, but lost only two of its last eight conference games including a 2-2 tie with the nation's third ranked team, Simon Fraser.

The South Dakota School of Mines, finishing eighth in the poll, may be the youngest team in the conference with only five upper classman and one senior.

TEAM CAPSULES

SIMON FRASER Clan

Head Coach: Alan Koch, Simon Fraser '01 (105-16-5, 7 years; Overall, 127-32-5, 9 years)

Assistants: Clint Schnieder

2013 Record: 18-3-2

Conference: 11-2-1, 1st

Returnees: Lettermen – 15 Starters - 8

Returning Starters (Games-G-A-Pts): Jovan Blagojevic (M, 6-0, Sr., 23-11-5-27, 2nd Team GNAC); Ryan Dhillon (M, 5-10, R-Jr., 21-9-2-20, 2nd Team GNAC); Alexander Kleefeldt (D, 6-3, Sr., 17-5-2-12); Alex Rowley (M, 5-10, Jr., 22-2-7-11, 1st Team GNAC, Defensive-Player-of-the-Year); Magnus Kristensen (D, 6-3, So., 23-3-1-7, 1st Team GNAC, Freshman of the Year); Johannes Hallman (D, 6-3, Sr., 21-2-0-4, 2nd Team GNAC); Robert Hyams (D, 5-10, So., 20-0-3-3); Brandon Watson (GK, 6-1, So., 0.84 GAA, 6.2 Shutouts, HM GNAC)

Other Key Returnees (Games-G-A-Pts): Joseph Martin (M, 5-8, Sr., 13-1-3-5); Tarnvir Bhandal (M, 5-10, So., 17-1-2-4); Jason van Blerk (D, 6-2, Jr., 15-1-0-2); Gilbert Kyne (F, 5-10, R-So., 9-1-0-2); Mateo Espinosa (F, 5-11, R- So., 7-0-1-1); Anthony Van De Vendel (D, 6-0, So., 8-0-0-0)

Transfers: Nico Espinosa (M, 5-9, So., Calgary, AB – Douglas College); Ivan Hutsulyak (GK, 6-3, So., Edmonton, AB – Vancouver Island); Calvin Opperman (MF, 5-11, So., Auckland, New Zealand – Cincinnati); Shane Satar (D, 5-7, Jr., Pickering, ON – Buffalo); Callum Whittaker (D, 6-2, Sr., London, England –San Diego)

Outlook

Last year Simon Fraser picked up four top GNAC awards, placed 10 players on the first, second and honorable mention GNAC teams and won the regular season and conference tournament titles.

This might seem like an extraordinary and rare occurrence for a team, but it's just another remarkable season for the Clan who completed the season 18-3-2 and earned their second straight West Regional crown.

Simon Fraser had a well-rounded team as it was not only in the top five in the nation in assists, goals and

points, but also in the top 25 in shutout percentage and team goals against average.

For two years in a row the Clan has reached the semifinals of the NCAA tournament, last year losing in painful fashion as Carson-Newman scored in the 88th minute of a hard-fought contest.

Even though the team suffered a blow with the departure of the GNAC Player of the Year and Daktronics first team All-American midfielder Chris Bargholz, they do return a promising team in 2014.

First team GNAC and Newcomer of the Year Magnus Kristensen (D, 6-3, So., Stavanger, Norway) returns as well as fellow first team nominee and Defender of the Year Alex Rowley (M, 5-10, Jr., Maple Ridge, BC).

Also returning is senior Jovan Blagojevic (M, 6-0, Sr., Coquitlam, BC), who was third in the conference in total points (27) and second in goals (11) last year.

Ryan Dhillon (M, 5-10, R-Jr., North Delta, BC) and Johannes Hallman (D, 6-3, Sr., Lidkoping, Sweden) earned second team GNAC honors last year and will add to the loaded lineup.

Four time coach of the Year Alan Koch provided depth on the defensive side of the ball by adding three Division 1 transfers.

Shane Satar (D, 5-7, Jr., Pickering ON – Buffalo) was named the "Players" Player of the Year at the University of Buffalo last season and was also named an all-region player by Western New York Magazine.

Callum Whittaker (D, 6-2, Sr., London, England – San Diego) has played for Chelsea, Ipswich and Southend United and was captain of the U-18 and U-19 teams of Northern Ireland.

The third transfer, Calvin Opperman (M, 5-11, So., Auckland, New Zealand), is a midfielder from Cincinnati that started four games but played in 19 as a true freshman.

SEATTLE PACIFIC Falcons

Head Coach: Mark Collings, Seattle Pacific '99 (64-32-18, 6 years)

Assistants: Kevin Reiman, Dan Pingrey, Erik Skipper, James Ward

2013 Record: 12-4-3

Conference: 10-1-3, 2nd

Returnees: Lettermen – 14 Starters - 8

Returning Starters (Games-G-A-Pts): Danny Olivas (M, 6-1, Jr., 18-3-4-10, HM GNAC); Bryson Pavel (D, 6-0, Jr., 19-4-1-9, 1st Team GNAC); Sean Russell (M, 5-11, Sr., 18-4-1-9, HM GNAC); Matt Merchant (M, 5-11, Jr., 19-2-1-5); Davis Karaica (M, 6-1, So., 18-2-0-4, 1st Team GNAC); Ian Adams (F, 5-10, Jr., 17-1-1-3); Evan Robicheau (D, 6-0, Sr., 15-0-0-0); Cody Lang (GK, 6-4, So., 0.76 GAA, 8 Shutouts, 1st Team GNAC)

Other Key Returnees (Games-G-A-Pts): Stephen MacDonald (F, 6-2, So., 19-4-1-9, HM GNAC); Jordan Kollars (M, 5-10, So., 19-0-5-5); Garrett Jones (M, 5-9, Jr., 18-1-1-3); Jordan Thompson (F, 5-8, So., 14-1-0-2); Chaz Jenkins (M, 5-11, So., 18-0-1-1); Jeffrey Collings (D, 5-9, So., 14-0-0-0)

Transfers: Keenan dePinna (M, 5-11, So., Portland, OR – Oregon State)

Outlook

For the third year in a row, Seattle Pacific reached the NCAA tournament with a 2013 record of 12-4-3.

During the team's road to the playoffs the Falcons went on a 14-game unbeaten streak including upsetting then No. 1 ranked Simon Fraser 2-1 on a late goal in the 79th minute by Danny Olivas.

Olivas, (M, 6-1, Jr., Phoenix, AZ) an honorable mention GNAC player last season, headlines a group of Falcons that look to unseat Simon Fraser as conference champions.

The Falcons return eight starters, seven players that earned at least four points last year and a defense that was one of the best in the country.

Cody Lang (GK, 6-4, So., Spokane, WA) was a big reason why that defense was so good as he was 26th in the nation in save percentage (.819) as a freshman. At one point Lang had a scoreless streak of over 484 minutes, equivalent of over 5 games in a row.

In front of Lang is Bryson Pavel, (D, 6-0, Jr., Boise, ID) who earned first team all-west region honors last season after co-leading the Falcons in goals with 4, and their third team all-west region teammate Davis Karaica (D, 6-1, So., Snoqualmie, WA) who led SPU in minutes played.

The Falcons are not just tough defensively as they finished second in the league in shots, goals and points.

Stephen MacDonald (F, 6-2, So., Phoenix, AZ) and Sean Russell (M, 5-11, Sr., Seattle, WA) tied with the team lead with four goals apiece and were 1 and 2 respectively in shots taken.

WESTERN WASHINGTON Vikings

Head Coach: Greg Brisbon, Seattle Pacific '98 (11-4-3, 1 year)

Assistants: Brendan Quilici, Oscar Jimenez

2013 Record: 11-4-3

Conference: 9-2-3, 3rd

Returnees: Lettermen – 16 Starters - 9

Returning Starters (Games-G-A-Pts): Jeremy Wentzel (D, 5-5, Jr., 18-4-6-14, 2nd Team GNAC); Troy McCarty (D, 6-0, So., 18-4-1-9, 1st Team GNAC); Tye Hastings (M, 6-0, Sr., 18-3-2-8); Gabriele Zaccagnini (M, 5-8, Sr., 18-0-4-4, HM GNAC); Pat Cole (D, 5-8, Sr., 18-1-1-3); Leonard Kusina (F, 5-10, Jr., 18-1-0-2); Uche Ugwoaba (M, 5-7, Jr., 18-0-1-1, 2nd Team GNAC); Kurtis Pederson (D, 6-1, Jr., 17-0-0-0); Keegan Rogers (GK, 6-1, Sr., 0.67 GAA, 7 Shutouts, 2nd Team GNAC)

Other Key Returnees (Games-G-A-Pts): Matt Temple (M, 5-8, Jr., 16-2-1-5); Trevor Bartels (D, 6-2, Jr., 15-1-1-3); Chad Radulovich (F, 6-4, So., 10-0-1-1); Conner Biggs (F, 6-2, Sr., 15-0-0-0); Sawyer Preston (D, 6-1, Jr., 9-0-0-0);

Transfers: Dan Anderson (M, 5-11, Jr., Sandpoint, ID – Concordia); Tyler Visten (GK, 5-11, So., Mount Vernon, WA – Shoreline CC); Derek Zimmerman (M, 6-2, So., Pasco, WA – St. Mary's College)

Outlook

You could call Greg Brisbon's first season as coach of the Western Washington Vikings a successful one. The Vikings earned an 11-4-3 record, won six of their last seven matches and knocked off No. 2 Simon Fraser the last game of the season 3-0.

Six players were placed on first, second or honorable mention GNAC teams highlighted by the unanimous selection of graduated senior Andrew Weishaar.

Even with the departure of Weishaar, the Vikings will bring back a talented team looking to do some damage in the regular and post seasons.

Nine starters return including a record setting player in the net, Keegan Rogers (GK, 6-1, Sr., Portland, OR).

Rogers ranks in the top eleven in GNAC history in career goals against average, save percentage, saves, shutouts and goalie minutes played. Last year he ranked 13th in the nation in save percentage and goals against average.

Defender Troy McCarty (D, 6-0, So., Snohomish, WA) earned first team GNAC honors last year as well as second team Daktronics all-west region with four goals and nine points.

Rogers and McCarty headline a strong defense that's hopes to improve in coach Brisbon's second season.

Transfer Derek Zimmerman (M, 6-2, So., Pasco, WA) will also vie for playing time in midfield.

Western Washington will play on their own campus for the first time in 15 years as they christen Robert S. Harrington Field.

NORTHWEST NAZARENE Crusaders

Head Coach: Coe Michaelson, Albertson '02 (43-48-14, 6 years)

Assistants: Stephen Marshall, Dane Manley

2013 Record: 5-7-5

Conference: 5-6-3, 4th

Returnees: Lettermen – 9 Starters - 6

Returning Starters (Games-G-A-Pts): Freddy Razo (F, 5-10, Sr., 16-16-2-34, 1st Team GNAC); Luke Broz (D, 5-11, R-Jr., 17-0-6-6, HM GNAC); Juan Perez (D, 6-0, Sr., 16-1-1-3, 2nd Team GNAC); Daniel Day (D, 5-11, Sr., 15-0-0-0); Bryan Neba (M, 5-9, Jr., 14-0-0-0); Ryan Foo (GK, 6-1, So., 1.38 GAA, 4 Shutouts);

Other Key Returnees (Games-G-A-Pts): Layne Leisten (M, 6-0, So., 14-1-0-2); Austin Thomas (M, 5-11, R-So., 9-1-0-2)

Transfers: Erik Anderson (F, 5-8, Jr., Boise, ID – Wright State); Julio Castillo (M, 5-7, Jr., Wilmington, CA – Arizona Western College); Steven Garcia (F, 5-8,

R-So., Meridian, ID – Grand Canyon) Michael Mollay (F, 5-9, So., Boise, ID – Walla Walla CC); Nathan Murphy (D, 6-2, Jr., Centralia, WA – Northwest University) Jaime Verdin (MF, 5-8, Jr., San Diego, CA – Arizona Western College) Ian Ward (D, 6-0, R-Jr., Chehalis, WA – Pacific University)

Outlook

Northwest Nazarene finished in fourth place in the GNAC with an overall record of 5-7-5 including a 5-6-3 conference record.

Though the Crusaders only lost two of their first eight conference games and were able to earn two ties against the second-place Falcons, they stumbled down the stretch losing four of their last six games.

A bright spot for Northwest Nazarene though was transfer Freddy Razo (F, 5-10, Sr., Irvine, CA). Razo, in his first season after a record setting career at Irvine Valley College, set school and conference records with his play.

Razo scored 16 goals and earned 34 points which was tops in the conference and good enough for 12th and 19th in the nation. His goal and points totals also broke single season conference records.

Razo's shooting ability landed him on the all-west region first team and first team GNAC. He also was voted Newcomer of the Year in the GNAC.

Head coach Coe Michaelson hopes he struck gold again with another transfer in Erik Anderson (F, 5-8, Jr., Boise, ID) who played at Division I Wright State.

GNAC honorable mention defender Luke Broz (D, 5-11, R-Jr., Boise, ID) and second-team member Juan Perez (D, 6-0, Sr., Los Angeles, CA) will strengthen a defense that gave up 25 goals last season.

MONTANA STATE BILLINGS Yellowjackets

Head Coach: Alex Balog, Auburn '11 (3-10-5, 1 year)

Assistants: Conner Moe, Thomas Chameraud, Tyler Moriarty

2013 Record: 3-10-5

Conference: 3-7-4, 6th-T

Returnees: Lettermen – 11 Starters - 8

Returning Starters (Games-G-A-Pts): Thorge Jess (F, 6-2, So., 15-5-1-11); Kyle Emerick (M, 5-9, Sr., 18-2-3-7); Sam Butterworth (D, 5-11, Jr., 18-2-1-5); Jesper

Fries (M, 6-2, So., 18-2-1-5); Cameron Lee (D, 6-1, Jr., 19-0-1-1, HM GNAC); Thomas Saltwell (D, 6-3, So., 15-0-1-1); Matt Brink (D, 5-10, Sr., 14-0-0-0)

Other Key Returnees (Games-G-A-Pts): Grady Bryson (M, 6-1, Sr., 12-0-0-0); Garret Robinson (D, 5-10, Jr., 11-0-0-0); Nicholas Rasmussen (D, 6-0, R-So., 1-0-0-0); Daragh Kavanagh (M, 5-9, So. 0-0-0-0)

Transfers: Jared Fretheim (M, 5-8, Jr., Spokane, WA – Spokane Falls CC); Rhys Lambert (D, 6-1, So., Gold Coast Australia – Griffith); Zach Lempka (D, 5-8, Jr., Worland, WY – Northwest College); David Loeung (M, 5-9, Jr., Mill Creek, WA – Highline CC) Tom Lohmann (GK, 6-2, So., Berlin, Germany – Nyack College); Fernando Perez (M, 5-10, Jr., Greeley, CO – Laramie County CC); Colin Ralston (D, 6-2, So., Belfair, WA – Olympic College); Joe Scott (GK, 6-1, R-Fr., Edwall, WA – Concordia University-Portland); Julian Toenges (M, 5-10, So., Hessen, Germany – Southern Polytechnic State); Wyatt Witty (M, 5-9, Jr., Buffalo, WY – Laramie County CC); Robel Yemane (M, 6-1, Jr., Folsom, CA – Iowa Western Community College)

Outlook

Even though Montana State Billings didn't make it to the post season, the team may have logged more playing time than any other team in the conference.

Seven of the Yellowjackets 18 games went into overtime and six of those went into double overtime, which led the conference.

That's probably not how second year coach Alex Balog envisioned his team getting more playing time, but the Yellowjackets will hopefully benefit from the extra experience this season.

MSUB returns 10 lettermen and seven starters including four of its top five goal scorers from last season.

Thorge Jess (F, 6-2, So., Kiel, Germany) scored nearly a third of the Yellowjackets goals in 2013.

One of two team captains this year, Kyle Emerick (M, 5-9, Sr., Billings, MT), recorded two goals, three assists and seven points in 18 games played last season.

Also contributing two goals each were Sam Butterworth (D, 5-11, Jr., Aylesford, England) and Jesper Fries (M, 6-2, So., Horsens, Denmark).

Balog has high hopes for three international players signed in the offseason too.

Midfielders Rhys Lambert (M, 5-11, So., Gold Coast, Australia), Niklas Schregel (M, 6-4, Fr., Freialdenhoven, Germany) and Julian Toenges (M, 5-10, So., Hessen, Germany) look to contribute right away.

The other team captain, Cameron Lee (D, 6-1, Jr., Bloemfontein, South Africa), will seek to diminish the 32 goals opponents scored in 2013.

SAINT MARTIN'S Saints

Head Coach: Rob Walker, Saint Martin's '87 (40-82-5, 7 years)

Assistants: David Cross, Brandon Scott

2013 Record: 5-11-2

Conference: 5-7-2, 5th

Returnees: Lettermen – 10 Starters - 7

Returning Starters (Games-G-A-Pts): Rene Caro (M, 5-11, Jr., 18-3-2-8); Kaleb Strawn (D, 5-9, So., 18-0-4-4, HM GNAC); Max Harvey (M, 5-9, So., 17-1-2-4); Luke Chouinard (D, 6-2, Sr., 17-1-1-3, HM GNAC); Tody Tolo (D, 6-1, Sr., 18-1-0-2); Jake Zimmer (F, 6-2, So., 15-1-0-2); JJ Olson (GK, 5-11, Sr., 1.71 GAA, 1 Shutout); Javier Gomez (M, 5-8, So., 0-0-0-0)

Other Key Returnees (Games-G-A-Pts): Derrick Gonzales (M, 6-0, So., 18-0-1-1); Perry McNamar (D, 5-11, Sr., 10-0-0-0); Trevor Talen (F, 5-10, So., 8-0-0-0); Brian Tomaso (M, 5-10, So., 1-0-0-0)

Transfers: Brandon Meyer (MF, 5-7, R-Jr., Olympia, WA - Whitworth); Nick Rosato (GK, 5-10, Jr., Tacoma, WA - Highland CC); Miguel Michel (D, 6-1, Jr. Seattle, WA - Bellevue College); Vincent Nguyen (MF, 5-6, Jr. Seattle, WA - Highland CC); Scottie Inthoulay (MF, 5-6, Seattle, WA - Highland CC)

Outlook

Saint Martin's played its way to a 5-7-2 conference record and finished in fifth place last year.

The Saints didn't win a lot of matches, but when they did the flood gates opened. The start of conference play saw SMU go 3-1-1 before the team dropped three in a row. They had another 2-0-1 streak later in the season.

The Saints may have an uphill battle this year as they try to replace three of their top four goal scorers.

The team lost second team GNAC and leading scorers CJ Chu and Dylan Gaydosh as well as graduated talented forward Ivan Gonzalez.

Rene Caro (M, 5-11, Jr., Mt. Vernon, WA) will look to pick up some of the slack. Caro scored three goals and dished out two assists last season.

GNAC honorable mention Luke Chouinard (D, 6-2, Sr., Boise, ID), Tody Tolo (D, 6-1, Sr., Tukwila, WA) and JJ Olson (GK, 5-11, Sr., Lakeville, MN) will bring senior leadership to the defensive side of the ball.

Coach Walker recruited eight players from the state of Washington and brought in three transfers to bolster the team.

UNIVERSITY OF MARY Marauders

Head Coach: Dave Cook, Mary '05 (24-70-11, 6 years)

Assistants: Joel Jahnke, Dave Ripley, Jarryd Phillips

2013 Record: 3-10-3

Conference: 3-8-3, 6th-T

Returnees: Lettermen – 11 Starters - 7

Returning Starters (Games-G-A-Pts): Jordan Pearce (F, 6-0, So., 16-5-2-12); Aaron Mc Elwee (M, 5-8, Sr., 12-3-0-6); Jonathon Sellars (M, 6-1, Jr., 16-1-2-4, HM GNAC); Alex Boyes (D, 6-4, Jr., 14-2-0-4); Adam Potter (M, 5-9, Jr., 15-0-3-3); Liam Smallwood (D, 5-10, Jr., 15-1-1-3); Jack West (GK, 6-2, Sr., 1.96 GAA, 3 Shutouts)

Other Key Returnees (Games-G-A-Pts): Aaron Brennan (M, 5-10, So., 15-0-3-3); Logan Christensen (M, 5-11, Sr., 9-0-0-0); Ramsey Blahnik (M, 5-10, Jr., 6-0-0-0); Cooper Cox (M, 6-0, So., 2-0-0-0); Michael Frenzel (GK, 6-3, Sr., Injured 2013)

Transfers: None

Outlook

The University of Mary got off to a slow start in 2013, losing eight in a row. The Marauders look to start 2014 however the same way they finished last season, on an unbeaten streak.

During its 2-0-2 record the last four games of the season, the Marauders recorded two shutouts and scored eight goals.

Three weeks prior to this streak, the Marauders played the No. 3 team in the nation, Simon Fraser, to a 2-2 draw.

Even though they lost first team GNAC player Rory Pratt, the University of Mary returns seven starters including their leading goal scorer Jordan Pearce (F, 6-0, So., Doncaster, England). Pearce added five goals and two assists this past season.

Another returnee is Jonathon Sellars (M, 6-1, Jr., York, England) who earned honorable mention honors for the second year in a row after gaining 4 points on 1 goal and two assists last season.

Joining Sellars in the middle is Aaron McElwee (M, 5-8, Sr., Sion Mills, Northern Ireland) who has started 25 career games and scored seven times in a Marauder uniform.

2012 GNAC honorable mention Michael Frenzel (GK, 6-3, Sr., Bismarck, ND) returns after being injured in 2013. The goalkeeper will seek to become a force in the goal as he adds onto his 194 career saves.

Head coach Dave Cook is looking to add some foreign flavor to the GNAC as the Marauders have 15 international players on their team.

Seven of the 10 freshmen coming in are from Australia, Canada or Sweden and eight of the upper classman are from Europe.

SOUTH DAKOTA MINES Hardrockers

Head Coach: Joe Burger, Missouri '95 (2-27-1, 2 years)

Assistants: Jordan Kadlec

2013 Record: 0-16-1

Conference: 0-13-1, 8th

Returnees: Lettermen – 9 Starters - 5

Returning Starters (Games-G-A-Pts): Michael McGraw (F, 6-3, Jr., 17-4-0-8); Andreas Skau (M, 6-1, Jr., 16-0-3-3, 2nd Team GNAC); Blake Harris (D, 5-9, Sr., 16-0-1-1); David Cabrera (M, 5-9, So., 17-0-0-0); Brandon Lind (D, 5-11, So., 16-0-0-0)

Other Key Returnees (Games-G-A-Pts): Sam Letempt (M, 5-10, Jr., 17-1-0-2); Erik Fenske (D, 6-3, So., 14-0-0-0); Thomas Stasiak (D, 6-1, So., 12-0-0-0)

Transfers: None

Outlook

South Dakota Mines is in year two of a building process, last year being its first year of competition in Division II.

The team is still very young and inexperienced, having only one senior and five upper classman, but will look to get better this season.

Last year the Mines were third in the nation in saves per game with 7.18, but the Hardrockers will be relatively inexperienced in goal this year with Timothy Tribbett moving on.

Michael McGraw (F, 6-3, Jr., Vandalia, OH) will be back to improve upon his team high four goals and eight points last season.

Also back are midfielders Andreas Skau (M, 6-1, Jr., Bergen, Norway), who recorded half of the teams assists on his way to earning second team GNAC honors, and Sam LeTempt (M, 5-10, Jr., Sheridan, WY) who added 1 goal in 820 minutes last year.

The most experienced group heading into the season are the defenders.

Blake Harris (D, 5-9, Sr., Sydney, Australia), the lone senior, will lead this group. Harris started 15 games last season and recorded one assist.

Teaming up with Harris is Brandon Lind (D, 5-11, So., Eaton, CO) who started 15 of the 16 games he played in last year.