



December 4, 2013  
Lexington, Ky.

**AVCA Announces Division II All-Region Teams and Region Coaches of the Year**

**Atlantic Region**

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Year</b>
Tabitha Bias	Fairmont State University	S	JR
Molly Delaney	California University (PA)	OH	SR
Jill Edwards***	Shippensburg University	OH	SR
Marissa Erminio	University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown	OH	FR
Hannah Heeter**	Clarion University	OPP	SR
Bethany Kendera	University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown	MB	SR
Haley Kindall	Wheeling Jesuit University	MB	FR
Kayce Krucki	Wheeling Jesuit University	OH	FR
Laurel Miller	California University (PA)	OH	JR
Jenna Pew****	Wheeling Jesuit University	MB/S	SR
Makenzie Ripley	Wheeling Jesuit University	L	JR
Laura Subject**	Clarion University	S	JR
Brianna Swann	Fairmont State University	OH	SR
Amber Wilson	Fairmont State University	MB	SR

**Region Freshman of the Year:** Haley Kindall, Wheeling Jesuit, MB

**Honorable Mention:** Corrine Gahagen (Seton Hill, MB, Jr.), Maura Nolan (Shippensburg, S, Fr.), Emma Schleucher (Wheeling Jesuit, OH, Fr.), Tiffany Smathers (Fairmont State, L, Jr.), Emiy Stewart (Clarion, OH, Sr.), Megan Wendel (Gannon, S, Jr.)

**Central Region**

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Year</b>
Julia Bates***	University of Central Missouri	S	SR
Kelsey Chambers	Northern State University	RS	SO
Marissa Cox	Washburn University	RS	JR
Alyssa Frauendorfer	Wayne State University	MB	FR
Taylor Goodness	University of Central Missouri	OH	SR
Holly Hafemeyer**	Augustana College	MB	SR
Ashley Hinsch**	University of Minnesota Duluth	S	SO
Kayla Koenecke**	Concordia University, St. Paul	RS	SR
Amanda Konetchy****	Concordia University, St. Paul	S	SR
Kate Lange***	University of Minnesota Duluth	OH	SR
Julie Rainey	University of Minnesota Duluth	L	JR
Annie Reilly	University of Central Missouri	L	SO
Heather Schiller	Concordia University, St. Paul	MB	SO
Monica Turner	University of Minnesota Duluth	MB	SO

**Region Freshman of the Year:** Alyssa Frauendorfer, Wayne State, MB

**Honorable Mention:** Mollie Arnold (Harding, OH, Sr.), Emily McDonough (Concordia-St. Paul, OH, So.), Abbey Thissen (SW Minnesota State, RS, So.), Haley Thompson (Central Missouri, MB, Fr.), Abby Whitman (Washburn, S, Sr.), Courtney Ysker (Augustana, OH, Jr.)

### East Region

Name	School	Position	Year
Kaulana Ane	University of New Haven	S	JR
Shelby Cable***	NYIT	OH	SR
Amber Cannady***	University of New Haven	MB	SR
Kaitlyn DeStefano**	Adelphi University	MB	JR
Savannah Dominguez	Bentley University	MB	SO
Savannah Donarski**	NYIT	OH	SR
Marija Jovanovic	NYIT	S	SR
Kea-Marie Olaso	University of New Haven	L	SO
Larissa Oliveira***	University of Bridgeport	MB	JR
Delia Phillips	Stonehill College	OH	SO
Sarah Rosa	University of Bridgeport	OH	SO
Biljana Savic***	University of Bridgeport	S	JR
Stephanie Sheehan	Merrimack College	OH	JR
Ying Shen**	University of Bridgeport	OH	JR

**Region Freshman of the Year:** Maryelle Devic, College of St. Rose, MB

**Honorable Mention:** Kelly Brown (NYIT, MB, Sr.), Katie Bryson (Adelphi, S, Sr.), Katie Daniels (St. Rose, L, Jr.), Alex Gagliano (St. Rose, MB, Sr.), Kristen Lee (New Haven, OH, So.), Lauren Miller (Franklin Pierce, L, Sr.)

### Midwest Region

Name	School	Position	Year
Abby Aiken	Grand Valley State University	OH	JR
Brittany Anglemeyer	University of Indianapolis	MB	SR
Meghan Binkerd**	University of Indianapolis	S	JR
Allie Brak	Truman State University	OH	JR
Chelsea Burkle	University of Missouri-St. Louis	OH	SR
Ali Cudworth	Ashland University	OH	FR
Kaleigh Lound	Grand Valley State University	MB	SO
Jaclyn Ohlmann	Bellarmino University	L	JR
Juliia Pakhomenko**	Northwood University	OH	SR
Ali Patterson	Truman State University	MB	SO
Morgan Rietzke	Rockhurst University	OH	FR
Danielle Taflinger**	The University of Findlay	MB	SR
Kimberly Vertin	Lewis University	OH	RS-JR
Kaitlyn Wolters	Grand Valley State University	S	JR

**Region Freshman of the Year:** Morgan Rietzke, Rockhurst, OH

**Honorable Mention:** Alexis Davito (Lewis, RS, So.), Abby Heise (Truman St., RS, So.), Angi Kent (Ferris St., MB, Sr.), Whitney Kostal (Rockhurst, S, So.), Katie Loescher (Rockhurst, MB, So.), Abbey Winter (Southern Indiana, MB, So.)

## South Region

Name	School	Position	Year
Becca Acevedo**	Palm Beach Atlantic University	S	JR
Christina Alessi	Palm Beach Atlantic University	OPP	SR
Jenny Bellairs	University of West Florida	MB	SR
Lindsay Biggs***	Eckerd College	OH	SR
Meagan Burke**	University of Tampa	MB	JR
Alexis Gillis	Christian Brothers University	OH	SO
Melissa Holt	University of West Georgia	L	SR
Lindsay Homme**	University of West Florida	MB	SR
Camille Indest**	Rollins College	MB	SR
Marissa Lisenbee	University of Tampa	OPP	SO
Jaclyn Mailoto	Saint Leo University	S	SR
Holly Reschke**	University of Tampa	OH	SR
Faith Rohn	Palm Beach Atlantic University	OH	SO
Berkley Whaley	University of Tampa	OH	SO

**Region Freshman of the Year:** Brinsley Cooper, Christian Brothers, MB

Honorable Mention: **Melissa Buckingham (Palm Beach Atlantic, L, Jr.), Lauren Campbell (Saint Leo, OH, Jr.), Jenna Kirkwood (Valdosta St., OH, Jr.), Kendall Marotti (Florida Southern, S, So.), Katarina Milojevic (Eckerd, MB, Jr.), Jessica Wagner (Tampa, MB, So.)**

## Southeast Region

Name	School	Position	Year
Tarryn Angermeier	Lander University	MH	SO
Manyi Ati**	University of Montevallo	MH	SR
Alison Cooke	Wingate University	S	RS-JR
Caitlyn Dean***	Tusculum College	L	SR
Summer Kremer	King University	OH	JR
Anna Hilton**	Wingate University	RS	SR
Kristen Holmes	Armstrong Atlantic State University	MH	SR
Abby Meyers	Flagler College	MH	SR
Megan Pando	Armstrong Atlantic State University	S	SR
Lexi Potter**	Wingate University	MH	JR
Jessica Santaniello**	Armstrong Atlantic State University	OH	SR
Stephanie Sfara	Armstrong Atlantic State University	OH	JR
Emilee Taylor***	Flagler College	OH	SR
Kayla Walton	Lincoln Memorial University	OH	SR

**Region Freshman of the Year:** Emily Wylie, Armstrong Atlantic, RS

**Honorable Mention:** Kaleigh Harvey (Montevallo, L, Sr.), Casey Mense (Lincoln Memorial, L, So.), Kailey Smith (Francis Marion, S, Sr.), Payton Tipton (King, L, Jr.), Carly White (Mount Olive, MH, Sr.), Emily Wylie (Armstrong Atlantic, RS, Fr.)

### South Central Region

Name	School	Position	Year
Alysa Heath	Metropolitan State University	OH	SR
Lauren Bevan	West Texas A&M University	OH	JR
Amy Davault	Texas A&M University-Commerce	OH	JR
Halie Harton	West Texas A&M University	OH	SR
Cameron Hartson	Dallas Baptist University	L	SR
Melissa Hess	Colorado Mesa University	MB	JR
Madison Huth**	Angelo State University	MB	SR
Laura Iwuchukwu	West Texas A&M University	MB	RS-SR
Danielle Johnson-Hazlewood	Colorado School of Mines	S	SO
Maggi Jo Keffury	Angelo State University	S	JR
Katie Klein	Regis University	RS	SO
Jordan Neal	Texas A&M University-Commerce	S	SR
Melanie Wannamaker**	Colorado School of Mines	MB	SR
Alanna Winfield	Colorado School of Mines	RS	FR

**Region Freshman of the Year:** Alanna Winfield, Colorado School of Mines, RS

**Honorable Mention:** Sunni Rae Baird (Colorado Mesa, L, Sr.), Lauren Britten (West Texas A&M, L, Fr.) Lexi Davis (West Texas A&M, MB, So.), Angelina Pulu (Western New Mexico, OH, Sr.), Lauren Quijano (Metro State, RS, Jr.), Shelby Wilt (Angelo State, L, Jr.)

### West Region

Name	School	Position	Year
Danielle Dahle	UC San Diego	OH	SO
Kayla Erickson	Western Washington University	MB	JR
Kelsey Hull**	Sonoma State University	OPP	JR
Samantha Hutchinson**	Western Washington University	L	JR
Iona Lofrano	California State University, LA	OH	SO
Tori May	Cal State San Bernardino	MB	JR
Sara McCutchan	UC San Diego	MB	JR
Brenna McIntosh	Cal State San Bernardino	MB	SO
Hayley Ross	Sonoma State University	S	SR
Heidi Sierks	UC San Diego	S	SO
Caylie Seitz	Sonoma State University	OH	SO
Andrea Terpstra	Northwest Nazarene University	MB	RS-JR
Torey Thompson	Chico State	S	FR
Katelynn Zanders	University of Alaska Anchorage	OH	SO

**Region Freshman of the Year:** Torey Thompson, Chico State, S

**Honorable Mention:** Caitlin Brenton (UC San Diego, OPP, Jr.), Catie Fry (Central Washington, S, So.), Madelyn Densberger (Sonoma State, OPP, So.), Sam Harthun (Alaska Fairbanks, OH, So.), Malika O'Brien (California Baptist, MB, So.), Lindsay Quigley (Chico State, MB, Jr.)

\* Denotes total number of years selected to AVCA Division II All-Region Team

## **2013 AVCA Division II Region Coaches of the Year**

The following coaches have been selected by their region as the 2013 AVCA Division II Regional Coach of the Year. Each of the honorees will represent their region on the 2013 AVCA National Coach of the Year ballot. The awards will be officially presented at the 2013 Jostens Coaches Honors Luncheon in Seattle Wash. on Thursday, Dec. 19, at the 2013 American Volleyball Coaches Association Annual Convention.

### **AVCA Division II Atlantic Region Coach of the Year**

*Christy Benner, Wheeling Jesuit University*

**2013 Record:** 34-5, 16-0 Mountain East Conference

Now in her 12<sup>th</sup> season running the Cardinals volleyball team, few have been more successful in the Atlantic Region than Benner. She has led her No. 25 ranked squad to a perfect 16-0 record in the newly formed Mountain East Conference and the No. 1 seed in the Atlantic Region of the NCAA Division II Tournament. This marks WJU's sixth straight NCAA Tournament appearance and is just the second time in school history to host. The MEC Coach of the Year also coached five players to receive All-MEC honors including conference player of the year Jenna Pew. This is Benner's second AVCA Region Coach of the Year award after winning it in 2011.

### **AVCA Division II Central Region Coach of the Year**

*Flip Piontek, University of Central Missouri*

**2013 Record:** 32-1, 15-1 Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association

Joining Tampa's Chris Catanach as the only other 2013 AVCA Division II Region Coach of the Year to have one loss entering the NCAA Tournament, Jennies Head Coach Flip Piontek has his team ready for a tournament run. They opened the 2013 campaign winning their first 22 matches, not losing until October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Since then they haven't looked back, winners of their last 10 ending with the MIAA Tournament Championship. Piontek coached three players to the AVCA All-Region Team and seven total on the All-MIAA Team including Player of the Year Julia Bates. This is the second time the MIAA Coach of the Year has earned AVCA Region Coach of the Year honors, also winning in 2011.

### **AVCA Division II East Region Coach of the Year**

*Leo Uzcategui, University of Bridgeport*

**2013 Record:** 21-2, 15-1 East Coast Conference

It's been another outstanding season for Bridgeport led by fifth-year head coach Leo Uzcategui. This year marks the sixth consecutive NCAA appearance after advancing to the NCAA East Regional Final a year ago. The Purple Knights took home their second consecutive East Coast Conference Championship and are currently riding a 15-match winning streak. Bridgeport enters the tournament ranked first in the conference in kills per set (12.94), hitting percentage (.268), assists per set (11.82) and points per set (16.8). This is Uzcategui's third AVCA Region Coach of the Year award after winning in 2009 and 2011.

### **AVCA Division II Midwest Region Coach of the Year**

*Cass Dixon, Ashland University*

**2013 Record:** 25-7, 15-3 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

In just her third season as the head coach of Ashland University, Cass Dixon has turned around a 15-13 team in 2011 to now their second consecutive appearance in the NCAA Tournament. They will have the fourth seed in the eight-team Midwest Regional Tournament. Dixon certainly has one of the younger teams in the tournament, starting three freshmen and a sophomore. Ashland finishes the regular season ranking first in the GLIAC in points per set averaging 17.3 and tied for first in kills per set with 13.28. Dixon is now a first-time AVCA Region Coach of the Year.

### **AVCA Division II South Region Coach of the Year**

*Chris Catanach, University of Tampa*

**2013 Record:** 29-1, 16-0 Sunshine State Conference

When it comes to volleyball coaches at any level in this country, you'd be hard-pressed to find a better one than Tampa's Chris Catanach. Now in his 30<sup>th</sup> year at the helm of the Spartans, he boasts a career 935-165 record and UT is the current No. 1 team in the nation according to the latest AVCA Division II Coaches Top-25 Poll. They will play host to the eight-team NCAA Division II Volleyball South Regional this week looking for its fifth consecutive

regional championship. Tampa has dominated the Sunshine State Conference, completing the last two regular seasons without a loss spanning 36 matches. This marks Catanach's unprecedented 13<sup>th</sup> AVCA Region Coach of the Year honor, winning in 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010.

**AVCA Division II Southeast Region Coach of the Year**

*Shelton Collier, Wingate University*

**2013 Record:** 29-2, 22-0 South Atlantic Conference

After another outstanding season for the Bulldogs that saw them go a perfect 22-0 in the SAC, head coach Shelton Collier has his ninth-ranked squad as the No. 1 seed in the NCAA Southeast Region. They earned the seed after winning their eighth consecutive regular season SAC and Tournament Championship. They begin the NCAA Tournament as one of the hottest teams in the nation, coming in as winners of 26 consecutive matches. Their last loss came on September 8<sup>th</sup> when they fell to then-No. 1 Concordia-St. Paul. Collier is now a four-time AVCA Southeast Region Coach of the Year after also winning in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

**AVCA Division II South Central Region Coach of the Year**

*Jason Skoch, West Texas A&M*

**2013 Record:** 31-3, 16-0 Lone Star Conference

Since joining West Texas A&M in 2009, head coach Jason Skoch has done nothing but win. In 2013, his squad claimed their eighth consecutive Lone Star Conference Title after defeating No. 20 Angelo State. The No. 6 Lady Buffs were selected to host the program's ninth South Central Regional Tournament and will be the top seed. West Texas A&M led the conference in team hitting percentage (.243), blocks per set (2.90) and third in assists (12.98) and kills per set (13.64). Skoch is now a first-time AVCA Region Coach of the Year.

**AVCA Division II West Region Coach of the Year**

*Kim Cherniss, Cal State University San Bernardino*

**2013 Record:** 25-5, 21-1 California Collegiate Athletic Association

There isn't a lot Kim Cherniss hasn't done at Cal State San Bernardino in her more than 20 years, winning the AVCA National Coach of the Year in 2008 and is now a six-time AVCA West Region and CCAA Coach of the Year. She continued her success in 2013 after a 25-5 overall record and a CCAA Conference Championship after defeating Cal State L.A. in four sets. The Coyotes were selected as host of the NCAA West Regionals for the seventh time in eight years and will be the region's top seed. Four different players were selected on an All-CCAA squad and Cherniss was selected as co-Coach of the Year alongside Sonoma State's Bear Grassl.

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