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Coaches Pick Alaska Anchorage In Close GNAC Preseason Volleyball Poll

PORTLAND, Ore. – After second place finishes each of the last two seasons, Alaska Anchorage is picked to win the Great Northwest Athletic Conference according to the 2015 GNAC Preseason Volleyball Coaches Poll.

The Seawolves earned five of 11 possible first place votes, picking up 92 points in a vote that saw the first four teams separated by just eight points. Defending champion Northwest Nazarene is picked second with 85 points. Central Washington and Western Washington tied for third in the poll, each receiving 84 points.

Alaska Anchorage, who last won a GNAC title in 2009, has finished no worse than fourth in conference play since. Their 15-3 GNAC record included two losses to Northwest Nazarene, who won their first GNAC title after being picked to finish third. The two programs led a banner season for the GNAC that saw four of the league's 10 teams advance to the NCAA Division II West Regional.

2015 GNAC Preseason Volleyball Coaches Poll

Team (1st Place Votes)	2014 Record (GNAC)	Pts.
1. Alaska Anchorage (5)	21-6 (15-3, 2nd)	92
2. Northwest Nazarene (3)	24-3 (17-1, 1st)	85
T3. Central Washington (2)	19-8 (12-6, 4th)	84
T3. Western Washington (1)	21-7 (14-4, 3rd)	84
5. Simon Fraser	17-9 (11-7, 5th)	58
Seattle Pacific	12-14 (6-12, 7th)	52
7. Concordia	19-10 (First Year In GNAC)	49
Western Oregon	5-21 (3-15, Tie 8th)	37
9. Montana St. Billings	13-14 (8-10, 6th)	33
10. Saint Martin's	4-26 (1-17, 10th)	16
11. Alaska	3-23 (3-15, Tie 8th)	15

Votes awarded on a 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 basis. Coaches could not vote for their own teams.

Two GNAC squads enter the season ranked in AVCA Division II Coaches Top-25 Preseason Poll. Northwest Nazarene is ranked No. 20 after finishing 2014 ranked 16th. Western Washington, who was ranked as high as ninth earlier last year, enters the season ranked No. 24. Alaska Anchorage was among 22 other teams receiving votes (57 points).

The Seavolves finished 2014 ranked second in the GNAC and 33rd in Division II in opponent hitting percentage (.143). They also ranked second in the league in hitting percentage (.221) and assists (12.39 per set) and led the conference in service aces (1.49 per set). Alaska Anchorage returns a loaded lineup that includes a pair of All-Americans. Senior outside hitter **Katelynn Zanders** is a two-time First Team All-GNAC selection and was named Honorable Mention AVCA All-American last season. She finished 2014 ranked second in the league in aces (0.31 per set) and fourth in kills (3.44 per set).

Three-time First Team All-GNAC right side **Julia Mackey** joined Zanders as a 2014 AVCA Honorable Mention All-American. Her .260 hitting percentage ranked 10th in the GNAC. The Seawolves also return a pair of honorable mention all-conference performers in middle blocker **Erin Braun**, who finished fifth in the GNAC in hitting percentage (.294), and setter **Morgan Hooe**, who was fifth in the league in assists (9.16 per set) and aces (0.28 per set).

After finishing no better than third in the GNAC's first 13 years, Northwest Nazarene stormed to their first GNAC crown in 2014 by winning their final 11 regular season matches. The Crusaders led the nation in blocks per set (2.82) and finished ranked eighth in digs per set (2.82) and 15th in total blocks (279.5). They led the GNAC in all three categories and also led the league in assists per set (12.55), hitting percentage (.221) and opponent hitting percentage (.138).

While the loss of the dynamic duo of sisters **Michelle Terpstra** (GNAC Player of the Year) and **Andrea Terpstra** (First Team All-GNAC) will hurt, the Crusaders return eight letterwinners and five talented starters. Middle blocker **Madi Farrell** was named the GNAC Freshman of the Year after leading the

league in hitting percentage (.326) and ranking 40th in Division II in blocks per set (1.11). Outside hitter **Elayna Rice** was a First Team All-GNAC selection after ranking among the team leaders in aces (0.23 per set) and kills (2.82 per set). The Crusaders are further bolstered by senior right side **Taylor VanValey** (2.01 kills per set) and sophomore outside hitter **Kendra Bodine** (2.68 kills per set).

Western Washington and Central Washington tied for third in the preseason poll after placing third and fourth last year, respectively, and advancing to the NCAA West Regional Tournament. The Vikings were nationally ranked from start to finish last year, finishing No. 22, and statistically finished sixth in Division II in digs per set (19.64) and seventh in attacks per set (39.79). The team will have some big holes to fill to challenge for their sixth GNAC title with the graduation of Defensive Player of the Year **Samantha Hutchinson** and three-time first team middle blocker **Kayla Erickson**.

The Vikings return a dynamic offensive player in senior outside hitter **Rachel Roeder**. The First Team All-GNAC selection finished second for the team in both hitting percentage (.242) and kills per set (3.18). Senior hitter **Jennica McPherson** is poised for a comeback after earning First Team All-GNAC honors in 2013. She finished 2014 averaging 2.55 digs and 1.73 kills per set.

Central Washington was ranked as high as No. 11 early in 2014 after a trio of opening-weekend victories over nationally squads in UC San Diego, Cal State San Bernadino and Sonoma State and three wins in four matches at the GNAC/PacWest Crossover. The Wildcats were solid on both offense and defense, finishing third in the league in hitting percentage (.215) while ranking 14th in Division II in blocks per set (2.38).

AVCA Division II Coaches Top-25 Poll Preseason - Released Aug. 18, 2015

	_	2014		2014
Rk S	School (1st)	Record	Pts.	Rank
1. 1	Гатра (43)	34-1	1,194	1
2. (Concordia-St. Paul (4)	27-6	1,136	4
3. 8	SW Missouri State	26-10	1,086	2
4. N	Minnesota Duluth (1)	33-2	1,064	3
5. N	Nebraska-Kearney	27-4	968	5
6. V	Nayne State (Neb.)	27-7	919	6
7. (Grand Valley State	28-6	821	7
8. (Colorado School of Mines	25-4	798	10
9. V	Wheeling Jesuit	38-4	757	9
10. 0	Colorado Mesa	29-4	736	8
11. E	BYU-Hawaii	22-6	679	11
12. 8	Sonoma State	23-7	615	14
13. 0	Central Missouri	22-9	578	20
14. V	Nashburn	24-7	552	18
	Palm Beach Atlantic	30-4	496	15
16. V	Vingate	34-3	469	12
17. F	Florida Southern	25-6	408	17
18. F	erris State	24-6	380	19
19. (Cal State San Bernadino	21-7	345	23
20. I	Northwest Nazarene	24-3	307	16
21. <i>F</i>	Arkansas-Fort Smith	29-5	274	13
22. V	Nest Texas A&M	32-5	228	T-24
23. F	Rockhurst	28-5	135	NR
24. V	Western Washington	21-7	110	22
25. <i>A</i>	Armstrong State	30-3	85	T-24

Others Receiving Votes: Truman 64; Metro State 62; *Alaska Anchorage 57*; Angelo State 46; West Florida 38; Tarleton State 37; Dixie State-Utah 30; Point Loma 23; Central Oklahoma 19; Indianapolis 11; California Baptist 10; California (PA) 8; Cal State L.A. 4. Nine other teams mentioned on only one ballot for a total of 51 combined points.

The Wildcats return 10 letterwinners and significant experience, led by senior setter **Catie Fry**. The Honorable Mention AVCA All-American and First Team All-GNAC selection finished 2014 ranked 40th in Division II in assists per set (10.52) and 76th in total assists (1,041). She is the top returning GNAC player in both categories. Senior outside hitter **Linden Firethorne** earned First Team All-GNAC honors after finishing thied in the league in kills per set (3.66) while amassing a .222 hitting percentage. Central Washington also returns junior outside hitter **Jordan Deming** (.247 hitting percentage), junior outside hitter turned libero **Lindsey Milner** (2.31 digs per set) and senior middle blocker **Kaitlin Quirk**.

Simon Fraser finished fifth in the conference standings last year, completing their first winning season in five years of GNAC membership. The Clan improved six wins over last year, thanks in part to a defense that held opponents to a .162 hitting percentage. Simon Fraser returns four starters, led by libero **Alison McKay**. The junior was a member of the Candiaan National "B" Team while finishing fourth in the GNAC in digs per set (5.27). Junior outside hitter **Devon May** is Simon Fraser's top returning offensive player, finishing 2014 with a .118 hitting percentage and 2.34 kills per set. Senior **Danielle Curtis** will step into the starting libero role after splitting time last year. Simon Fraser will have to replace a big hole with the graduation of middle blocker **Madeline Hait**, who finished second in the GNAC in blocks (1.17 per set) and sixth in hitting percentage (.291).

Seattle Pacific is picked sixth in the poll after finishing seventh in 2014. The Falcons slipped in the standings after a fifth place finish in 2013, but could be posied to climb with the return of four starters. That should help repleace the experience of graduated middle blocker **Madi Cavell**, who led the Falcons with 3.70 kills and 0.25 aces per set. Senior **Ellie Britt** is the Falcons' top returning offensive player after averaging 2.06 kills and 0.31 blocks per set. She

will be joined by senior middle blocker Luisa McInnis (0.76 blocks per set), senior libero Breanna Wiekamp (1.98 digs per set) and sophomore outside hitter Hannah Lautenbach (1.28 kills per set).

Conference newcomer Concordia is picked seventh after years of success in the NAIA. The Cavaliers went 29-10 last season and lost in five sets to the College of Idaho in the Cascade Collegiate Conference Tournament championship match. The second place tournament finish secured the Cavaliers a spot in the NAIA National Tournamnet, where they lost in the opening round. Concordia returns 11 letterwinners and five starters for their first GNAC campaign, led by senior middle blocker **Brianna Hogan**. The Honorable Mention NAIA All-American amassed a .321 hitting percentage (second in the CCC) and averaged 2.51 kills per set.

Sophomore opposite **Lindsey Dorsey** was the CCC Freshman of the Year and a Honorable Mention NAIA All-American as she averaged 3.33 kills per set and finished with a .268 hitting percentage. The Cavaliers also return senior libero **Shantel Gritsch** (4.84 digs per set) and junior setter **Jenessa Taylor** (10.4 assists per setm .300 hitting percentage)

Western Oregon, picked to finish eighth, is still in building mode after tying for second in 2012. The Wolves proved a formidable foe at the net last year, finishing third in the GNAC and 29th at Division II with 2.31 blocks per set. The Wolves hope to grow with a young roster that features just one upperclassman returner in junior libero **Christie Colasurdo**. The regular starter at the position finished averaging 3.72 digs per set while managing 1.19 kills per set. Sophomore outside hitter **Alisha Bettinson** leads five sophomore returners after averaging 1.74 kills and 2.60 digs per set as a freshman. Sophomore defensive specialist **Jaryn Ramos** also saw significant playing time as a freshman, averaging 3.37 digs per set to lead the team.

Montana State Billings slips to ninth in the poll after finishing sixth last year. The Yellowjackets started and finished strong in 2014, winning five of their first six matches and three of their final five, all of which came on the road. The team looks to replace four starters, including First Team All-GNAC middle blocker **Chelsey Walter** and honorable mention outside hitter **Monica Grimsud**. Senior setter **Kyndal Williams** earned Honorable Mention All-GNAC honors and returns off a year where she finished third in the league in assists (10.54 per set). The Yellowjackets also welcome back junior outside hitters **Stormy Siemion** (2.17 kills per set) and **Ashlynn Ward** (2.24 kills per set) along with sophomore defensive specialist **Mataia Roderick** (2.48 digs per set).

Saint Martin's is picked to repeat in 10th place this season. The Saints struggled much of the season, earning their only GNAC win in a five-set affair at Western Oregon on Sept. 27. Saint Martin's will grow with 10 returning letterwinners and three returning starters. Senior middle blocker **Kyra Davidson** is the team's top returning offensive player after averaging 1.58 kills per set with a .180 hitting percentage as a junior. Sophomore defensive specialist **Hannah Neumann** averaged 1.88 digs per set in her freshman campaign.

Alaska is picked 11th as head coach **Brian Scott** begins his first season as head coach. The Nanooks enter the year with a lot of potential, returning 11 letterwinners and all six regular starters. Senior outside hitter **Sam Harthun** leads the way. The two-time First Team All-GNAC selection finished fifth in Division II last year with an average of 12.65 attacks per set and was 17th with an average of 4.09 kills per set. She enters the year 267 kills away from Alaska's all-time kills record and 365 from the GNAC career record. Alaska returns a pair of front-row performers in junior middle blocker **Lilah Hudson** (0.52 blocks per set) and sophomore **Riley Podowicz** (.258 hitting percentage, 0.72 blocks per set) along with starting senior setter **Miranda Grieser** (7.84 assists per set) and senior libero **Samantha Hesterman** (2.35 digs per set).

The 2015 GNAC volleyball commences on Thurs., Sept. 3, with Simon Fraser participating in the Hawaii Pacific Invite in Honolulu and Alaska Anchorage hosting Azusa Pacific at the UAA Spring Hill Suites Invitational. Conference play begins on Mon., Sept. 14, when Central Washington hosts Northwest Nazarene.

GNAC Volleyball Team Capsules Follow On Next Page



GNAC Volleyball Teams At A Glance

ALASKA

Head Coach: Brian Scott (Weber State, 2007, 1st Season)

Assistant Coach: Robert Berrett

2014 Overall Record: 3-23 **GNAC Record (Finish):** 3-15 (tie 8th)

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 10/2 Starters Returning/Lost: 6/0

Top Returners: Sam Harthun (OH, Sr., First Team All-GNAC in 2013 & 2014, 4.09 kills per set, 2.78 digs per set), Riley Podowicz (MB, So., .258 hitting percentage, 1.51 kills per set, 0.27 aces per set, 0.72 blocks per set), Miranda Grieser (S, Sr., .168 hitting percentage, 7.84 assists per set, 0.24 aces per set, 1.46 digs per set), Lilah Hudson (MB, Jr., .119 hitting percentage, 0.52 blocks per set), Samantha Hesterman (L, Sr., 2.35 digs per set).

Key Losses: Tessa Butterfield (L).

Top Newcomers: Amberly Jeane (OH, 5-9, Fr., Pearland, Texas – Glenda Dawson).

ALASKA ANCHORAGE

Head Coach: Chris Green (Nebraska, 1991, 132-66, 8th Season)

Assistant Coaches: Sheldon Carvalho, Calli Scott

2014 Overall Record: 21-6 GNAC Record (Finish): 15-3 (2nd)

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 6/5 Starters Returning/Lost: 4/2 + libero

Top Returners: Katelynn Zanders (OH, Sr., First All All-GNAC in 2013 & 2014, Honorable Mention AVCA All-American in 2014, .202 hitting percentage, 2.52 digs per set, 0.31 aces per set), Julia Mackey (RS, Sr., First Team All-GNAC in 2012, 2013 & 2014, AVCA Honorable Mention All-American in 2014, .260 hitting percentage, 2.93 kills per set, 2.12 digs per set, 0.58 blocks per set), Erin Braun (MB, Jr., Honorable Mention All-GNAC in 2014, .294 hitting percentage, 1.76 kills per set, 0.93 blocks per set), Morgan Hooe (S, Jr., Honorable Mention All-GNAC in 2014, .194 hitting percentage, 9.16 assists per set, 2.32 digs per set, 0.28 aces per set).

Key Losses: Kayla McGlathery (MB), Quinn Baker (L).

Top Newcomers: Leah Swiss (OH, 6-0, Fr., Anchorage, Alaska - Dimond), Kyla Militante-Amper (L/S, 5-3, Fr., Hillsboro, Ore. - Century), Chrisalyn Johnson (OH, 5-8, Fr., Anchorage, Alaska - Dimond), Mikayla Sweet (OH, 5-11, Jr., Anchorage, Alaska - Central Arizona Coll.).

CENTRAL WASHINGTON

Head Coach: Mario Andaya (Central Washington, 1993, 281-212, 20th Season)

Assistant Coaches: Chloe Solum, Erika Waldner

2014 Overall Record: 19-8 **GNAC Record (Finish):** 12-6 (4th)

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 10/4 Starters Returning/Lost: 5/1

Top Returners: Linden Firethorne (OH, Sr., First Team All-GNAC, .222 hitting percentage, 3.66 kills per set, 0.51 blocks per set), Jordan Deming (OH, Jr., .247 hitting percentage, 1.90 kills per set, 2.74 digs per set, 0.57 blocks per set), Lindsey Milner (L, Jr., 0.24 aces per set, 2.31 digs per set as an outside hitter), Kaitlin Quirk (MB, Sr., 0.24 aces per set, 2.31 digs per set), Catie Fry (S, Sr., First Team All-GNAC & AVCA Division II Honorable Mention All-American, 10.52 assists per set, 2.08 digs per set, 0.75 blocks per set).

Key Losses: Kaley Light (L).

Top Newcomers: Maggie McTaggart (OH, 5-9, Fr., Burlington, Wash. – Burlington Edison), Kelleu McClung (S, 5-8, Fr., La Conner, Wash. – La Conner).

GNAC Volleyball Teams At A Glance

CONCORDIA

Head Coach: Melanie Hambelton (Portland State, 1982, 109-56, 7th Season)

Assistant Coach: David Glass

2014 Overall Record: 29-10 GNAC Record (Finish): First Year In GNAC, Finished 14-4 (4th) in NAIA Cascade Collegiate Conference

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 11/6 Starters Returning/Lost: 5/2

Top Returners: Shantel Gritsch (L, Sr., .136 hitting percentage, 0.24 aces per set, 4.84 digs per set), Jenessa Taylor (S, Jr., .300 hitting percentage, 10.4 assists per set, 2.06 digs per set, 0.78 blocks per set), Brianna Hogan (MB, Sr., First Team All-CCC, Honorable Mention NAIA All-American, .312 hitting percentage, 2.51 kills per set, 1.30 blocks per set), Lindsey Dorsey (OPP, So., First Team All-CCC, CCC Freshman of the Year, Honorable Mention All-American, .268 hitting percentage, 3.33 kills per set, 1.38 digs per set, 0.57 blocks per set).

Key Losses: Leslie Hanks (DS), Nicole Barth (MB).

Top Newcomers: Faith Bowman (L, 5-7, Fr., Folsom, Calif. – Folsom), Colby Barnette (MB, 6-0, So., Puyallup, Wash. – Olympic CC), Tori Johnson (MB, 5-10, Fr., Estacada, Ore. – Estacada), Britt Beyer (MB, 6-0, Fr., Tucson, Ariz. – Catalina Foothills), Vicky Gajda (DS, 5-11, Fr., Portland, Ore. – Central Catholic).

MONTANA STATE BILLINGS

Head Coach: Lisa Axel (Minnesota, 2002, 31-49, 4th Season)

Assistant Coach: Lianne Vicchio

2014 Overall Record: 13-14 **GNAC Record (Finish):** 8-10 (6th)

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 5/6 Starters Returning/Lost: 4/5

Top Returners: Mataia Roderick (DS, So., 2.48 digs per set, 0.15 aces per set), Kyndal Williams (S, Sr., Honorable Mention All-GNAC, .379 hitting percentage), 10.54 assists per set, 0.15 aces per set, 0.39 blocks per set), Stormy Siemion (OH, Jr., 2.17 kills per set, 2.27 digs per set), Ashlynn Ward (OH, Jr., .210 hitting percentage, 2.24 kills per set), Kimmy Kirk (DS, Jr., 2.56 digs per set).

Key Losses: Chelsey Walter (MH), Monica Grimsrud (OH).

Top Newcomers: Taylor Sherman (OH/DS, 5-8, Fr., Parker, Colo. – Chapparal), Taylor Albertson (MB, 6-0, Fr., St. Helens, Ore. – St. Helens), Mason Steel (D/DS, 5-8, Jr., South Jordan, Utah – Utah State Univ. Eastern), Miranda McConnell (MB, 6-1, Fr., Sandy, Utah – Jordan), Abbie Mikelson (OH, 5-11, Jr., Battle Mountain, Nev. – Feather River CC), Audri Marrs (MB, 5-11, Sr., Parker, Colo. – Metro State Univ., Colorado).

NORTHWEST NAZARENE

Head Coach: Doug English (Cal State Northridge, 42-9, 3rd Season)
Assistant Coaches: Tony Blasick, Jeanette Jenkins, Taylor Murphey
2014 Overall Record: 24-3
GNAC Record (Finish): 17-1 (1st)

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 8/7 Starters Returning/Lost: 5/4

Top Returners: Madi Farrell (MB, So., First Team All-GNAC & GNAC Freshman of the Year, .326 hitting percentage, 2.04 kills per set, 1.11 blocks per set), Elayna Rice (OH, Sr., First Team All-GNAC, .181 hitting percentage, 2.82 kills per set, 0.23 aces per set, 3.34 digs per set), Taylor VanValey (RS, Sr., .178 hitting percentage, 2.01 kills per set, 0.89 blocks per set), Kendra Bodine (OH, So., .208 hitting percentage, 2.68 kills per set), Linnea Phillips (L, Sr., 2.38 digs per set).

Key Losses: Michelle Terpstra (S), Andrea Terpstra (MB), Taylor Roberts (L).

Top Newcomers: Mari Thomas (OH, 5-10, Jr., Chico, Calif. – Feather River JC), Shayli Siegfried (L, 5-6, Fr., Highlands Ranch, Colo. – Highlands Ranch), Natalie Knauf (MB, 6-1, Fr., San Clemente, Calif. – San Clemente).

SAINT MARTIN'S

Head Coach: Kara Peterson (Oregon, 1986, 11-49, 3rd Season)

Assistant Coaches: Alyssa Wold, Brenna Peterson

2014 Overall Record: 4-26 **GNAC Record (Finish):** 1-17 (10th)

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 10/2 Starters Returning/Lost: 3/3

Top Returners: Kyra Davidson (MB, Sr., .180 hitting percentage, 1.58 kills per set, 1.12 blocks per set), Hannah Neumann (OH/DS, So., 1.88 digs per set, 124 total digs).

Key Losses: Kristyn Ross (OH), Brenna Peterson (S).

Top Newcomers: Rachel Gondrezick (OH, 5-10, Fr., Salt Lake City, Utah – Judge Memorial), Vegas Casey (MB, Fr., 6-1, Sumner, Wash. – Bonney Lake), Cassandra Fenton (S, 5-7, Jr., Helendale, Calif. – Salt Lake CC), Cassidy Apo (RS/DS, 5-6, Fr., Honolulu, Hawaii – Kamehameha).

GNAC Volleyball Teams At A Glance

SEATTLE PACIFIC

Head Coach: Chris Johnson (Westmont, 2002, 174-98, 11th Season) **Assistant Coaches:** Lindsey Wodrich, Kin Yun, Carolyn Farny

2014 Overall Record: 12-14 **GNAC Record (Finish):** 6-12 (7th)

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 7/5 Starters Returning/Lost: 4/3 + libero

Top Returners: Luisa McInnis (MB, Sr., 0.76 blocks per set), Hannah Lautenbach (OH, So., 1.28 kills per set, 1.34 digs per set, 0.67 blocks per set), Lexi Biondi (medical redshirt in 2014), Ellie Britt (OH, Sr., 2.06 kills per set, 1.48 digs per set), Breanna Wiekamp (L, Sr., 1.98 digs per set, 0.19 aces per set)

Key Losses: Madi Cavell (OH/MB), Sara Bondi (S), Jessica Miller (OH), Brianna Leenders (OH).

Top Newcomers: Symone Tran (S, 5-7, Fr., Portland, Ore. – Jesuit), Dani Johnson (OH, 5-11, Fr., Bellingham, Wash. – Sehome), Molly Langdon (S, 5-7, Fr., Irvine, Calif. – Northwood), Shaun Crespi (MB, 6-2, Fr., Camarillo, Calif. – Westlake).

SIMON FRASER

Head Coach: Gina Schmidt (Oregon State, 2003, 28-22, 3rd Season)

Assistant Coach: Rob Gowe

2014 Overall Record: 17-9 GNAC Record (Finish): 11-7 (5th)

Letterwinners Returning: 8 Starters Returning/Lost: 3 + libero/3

Top Returners: Devon May (OH, Jr., .118 hitting percentage, 2.34 kills per set, 0.18 aces per set, 2.86 digs per set, 0.23 blocks per set), Alison McKay (DS/L, Jr., Canadian National B Team member, 0.21 aces per set, 5.27 digs per set), Danielle Curtis (S, Sr., 4.24 assist per set, 0.20 aces per set, 1.60 digs per set), Christina Howlett (OH, So., .161 hitting percentage, 0.39 blocks per set).

Key Losses: Brooklynn Gould-Bradbury (OH), Kelsey Robinson (OH), Madeline Hait (MB).

Top Newcomers: Emma Jennings (S, 5-11, Jr., Port Moody, B.C. – Univ. of Toronto), Tessa May (MB, 6-3, Fr., Robet's Creek, B.C, - Elphinstone Secondary).

WESTERN OREGON

Head Coach: Brad Saindon (Arizona State, 1976, 94-95, 8th Season; 25th Season Overall, 396-310)

Assistant Coaches: Elizabeth Balding, Megan Shifflett

2014 Overall Record: 5-21 **GNAC Record (Finish):** 3-15 (tie 8th)

Letterwinners Returning: 5/4 Starters Returning/Lost: 4/3

Top Returners: Alisha Bettinson (OH, So., 1.74 kills per set, 0.41 aces per set, 2.60 digs per set), Sydney Blankenship (MB, So., 0.96 kills per set, 0.53 blocks per set), Christie Colasurdo (L, Jr., 3.72 digs per set, 1.19 kills per set), Jaryn Ramos (DS, So., 3.73 digs per set).

Key Losses: Hannah Deede (OH), Sam Moore (OH), Jordin Ramos (S), Cherene O'Hara (MB).

Top Newcomers: Leila Holt (S, 5-8, Fr., Manoa, Hawaii – Kamehameha), Paige Kelsey (OPP, 5-9, Corvallis, Ore. – Linn-Benton CC), Maddie Mechiz (S, 5-10, Fr., Petaluma, Calif. – Petaluma).

WESTERN WASHINGTON

Head Coach: Diane Flick (Washington, 1993, 317-85, 16th Season)

Assistant Coaches: James Suh, Samantha Hutchinson (graduate assistant), Nate Langstraat (volunteer)

2014 Overall Record: 21-7 GNAC Record (Finish): 14-4 (3rd)

Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 6/6 Starters Returning/Lost: 2/4

Top Returners: Rachel Roeder (OH, Sr., First Team All-GNAC, .242 hitting percentage, 3.18 kills per set, 0.44 blocks per set), Jennica McPherson (OPP, Sr., First Team All-GNAC in 2013, .176 hitting percentage, 1.73 kills per set, 0.30 aces per set, 2.55 digs per set).

Key Losses: Samantha Hutchinson (L), Kayla Erickson (MB).

Top Newcomers: Jenna Widman (MB, 6-0, Jr., Nine Mile Falls, Wash. – CC of Spokane).

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