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Contact: Kaho Akau, Media Relations Assistant
 503-305-8756 • kakau@gnacsports.com

Western Washington Tops Women’s Soccer Preseason Poll

PORTLAND, Ore. – After reclaiming the regular season title in 2018, Western Washington enters the season atop the 2019 Great Northwest Athletic Conference Preseason Women’s Soccer Coaches Poll.

The Vikings received all nine first-place votes for a total of 81 points. The Vikings also enter the season ranked No. 11 in the United Soccer Coaches NCAA Division II Women’s Preseason Poll.

Seattle Pacific, which tied for third last season, is second with 66 points and just edging out Concordia (65 pts.), the winner of last year’s GNAC Championships. Concordia also enters its 2019 campaign ranked No. 22 nationally.

Trying to find its way back to the GNAC Championships, Simon Fraser finds itself in fourth place with 47 pts. Following closely behind is Central Washington (46 pts.), which lost six starters from last season. Rounding out the poll is Northwest Nazarene (36 pts.), Western Oregon (28 pts.), Montana State Billings (21 pts.) and Saint Martin’s (15 pts.).

Western Washington went 18-3-2 (10-1-1 GNAC) in 2018. Head coach **Travis Connell’s** Vikings won their sixth conference title in seven years. Although Western Washington lost to Concordia in the GNAC Championships, the Vikings bounced back to defeat the Cavaliers in the NCAA West Region Semifinals. The Vikings would then fall to UC San Diego in the NCAA West Region Final.

Western Washington returns 19 letterwinners and nine starters from last season. Transfer goalkeeper **Natalie Dierickx** recorded 73 saves, eight shutouts and a 0.53 GAA in 2018. Dierickx earned First Team All-GNAC and GNAC Newcomer of the Year honors as a sophomore.

Eight Vikings earned All-GNAC honors in 2018, including five first-team selections, one second-team selection and two honorable mention selections. Six of those players return this season. Returning is **Grace Eversaul**. The junior midfielder scored four goals last season and received First Team All-GNAC and Second Team All-West Region honors.

The Vikings also await the return of **Karli White**, who was injured in 2018. White was the 2017 GNAC Newcomer of the Year and GNAC Championships MVP.

Seattle Pacific will enter its 2019 campaign without Julia DeVere, a 2018 Second Team D2CCA All-American and last year’s GNAC Defensive Player of the Year. Returning, however, are **Sophia Chilczuk** and **Megan Moore**. Chilczuk, a junior forward, scored eight goals and added three assists during her First Team All-GNAC season. Moore scored three goals and distributed six assists in 2018. The senior earned Second Team All-GNAC last season.

The Falcons also return sophomore goalkeeper **Riley Travis**. Travis recorded 75 saves, five shutouts and a 1.08 GAA, and earned Second Team All-GNAC honors in 2018.

Despite winning the 2018 GNAC Championships, Concordia enters the 2019 season at third in the preseason poll. The Cavaliers return 17 letterwinners and five starters. Head coach **Grant Landy** will need to find replacements for six lost starters, including midfielders Gabrielle Ewing and Kasey Ames. Both were named First Team All-GNAC in 2018.

2019 GNAC Preseason Women’s Soccer Coaches Poll

Team (1st Place Votes)	2018 Record (GNAC)	Pts.
1. Western Washington (9)	18-3-2 (10-1-1, 31 pts., 1st)	81
2. Seattle Pacific	12-6-2 (8-3-1, 25 pts., tie 3rd)	66
3. Concordia	15-2-3 (9-1-2, 29 pts., 2nd)	65
4. Simon Fraser	10-6-1 (8-3-1, 25 pts., tie 3rd)	47
5. Central Washington	5-8-4 (5-5-2, 17 pts., 5th)	46
6. Northwest Nazarene	8-8-1 (4-8-0, 12 pts., 6th)	36
7. Western Oregon	5-9-3 (3-7-2 11 pts., 7th)	28
8. Montana State Billings	4-12-1 (1-11-0, 3 pts., 9th)	21
9. Saint Martin’s	5-12-1 (1-10-1, 4 pts., 8th)	15

Points awarded on 9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 basis.

Returning for the Cavaliers is **Kyra Radcliffe**, a Second Team All-GNAC selection. Radcliffe scored seven goals and distributed eight assists last season. Also returning is senior forward **Quinn Williams**, an Honorable Mention All-GNAC selection in 2018 who scored four goals as a junior.

Fresh off an appearance in last year's GNAC Championships, Simon Fraser returns six starters. Making it back to the GNAC Championships will be no easy task without Jenna-Lee Baxter, the 2018 GNAC Player of the Year.

Emma Pringle was a standout player for the Clan in 2018. Pringle scored 11 goals last season on her way to being named to the First Team All-GNAC and First Team All-West Region teams.

The Clan allowed the third fewest goals in conference play last season and will be looking to rally around a strong returning defensive core while integrating nine incoming freshmen into the program.

Central Washington finished in last place in 2017 but made the climb to fifth place in 2018. **Michael Farrand's** Wildcats find themselves right in the middle of the pack.

Of the five returning starters for the Wildcats, defender **Alyssa Barden** is the lone senior. The emergence of key underclassmen like **Makinzie Packwood** and **Sydney Lowe** could help the Wildcats climb the conference standings yet again.

Northwest Nazarene finished tied for third place in 2017, but after going 4-8-0 in conference play last season, the Nighthawks find themselves picked sixth in the preseason poll.

Eight starters return for the Nighthawks in 2019. Junior forward **Rikki Myers** scored six goals in 2018 and earned Second Team All-GNAC honors. She will lead the charge on offense.

Kacey Bingham enters her first season as head coach at Western Oregon. With all but one starter returning for the Wolves' 2019 campaign, Bingham will try to turn things around for a team that finished in seventh place last season.

Second Team All-GNAC defender **Jacky Beristain** will anchor the Western Oregon defense along with goalkeeper **Alex Qualls**, who recorded 72 saves, five wins and five shutouts in 2018.

Montana State Billings finished with a 4-12-1 (1-11-0 GNAC) record in 2018 and was voted eighth in the preseason poll. The Yellowjackets do, however, return nine starters. **Claire Tevaseu** and **Amanda Hemmen** will lead a group of six seniors that return from last year's starting lineup.

Wrapping up the preseason poll is Saint Martin's. The Saints won just one conference match last season, but returning is a core that includes senior defender **Rose Robbins** and junior midfielder **Kiersten Madsen**.

Six GNAC teams will begin their regular seasons on Sept. 5 against non-conference foes. Conference play is scheduled to kick off on Sept. 26.

Team Capsules Follow On Next Page



2019 GNAC Women's Soccer Teams At A Glance

CENTRAL WASHINGTON

Head Coach: Michael Farrand (Point Loma, 1984, 123-183-36, 19th Season)

Assistants: Tarin Garrison, Madison Kroger

2018 Overall Record: 5-8-4

Conference: 5-5-2, 17 Pts. (5th)

Letterwinners Returning: 17

Starters Returning/Lost: 5/6

Returning Starters: Emily Thomson (GK, Jr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 1.29 GAA, 51 saves, 4 Shutouts), Emily Russell (D, Jr., 2 Goals, 1 Assist, 2 Game-Winning Goals, 5 Points), Jordan Engman (M, Jr., 1 Assist), Alyssa Barden (D, Sr.), Madison Bradley (F, Jr., 4 Goals, 1 Assist, 9 Points).

Other Key Returners: Olivia Sloan (M, So., 1 Assist), Paige Devine (M, So., 1 Goal), Sydney Lowe (M, So., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 1 Goal, 3 Assists, 5 Points), Makinzie Packwood (F, So., All-GNAC Second Team, 4 Goals, 8 Points).

Key Losses: KK Wallace (M), Kennedy Anson (M), Lexsi Manning (M), Olivia Olason (D), Bailey Martoncik (F).

Key Freshmen: Liz Canton (GK, 5-8, Vancouver, Wash. – Columbia River), Sam Jorgenson (D, 6-0, Olympia, Wash. – Tumwater), Lexie Klautd (F/M, 5-8, Lynnwood, Wash. – Archbishop Murphy), Maci Parke (D, 5-10, Des Moines, Wash. – Mount Rainier), Peyton Vogel (F, 5-10, Murrieta, Calif. – Murrieta Mesa).

CONCORDIA

Head Coach: Grant Landy (Cal Poly, 1989, 380-75-35, 23rd Season)

Assistants: Jon Kiestler, Rob Warnell, Kat Tarr

2018 Overall Record: 15-2-3

Conference: 9-1-2, 29 Pts. (2nd)

Letterwinners Returning: 17

Starters Returning/Lost: 5/6

Returning Starters: Kyra Radcliffe (F, Sr., All-GNAC Second Team, 7 Goals, 8 Assists, 22 Points), Quinn Williams (F, Sr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 4 Goals, 8 Assists, 16 Points), Megan Myers (D, R-Sr., 1 Goal, 1 Assist), Hailey Asato (GK, So., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 0.39 GAA, 30 Saves, 6 Shutouts), Aspen Jeter (GK, Sr.).

Other Key Returners: Brenda Uribe (M, Jr., 4 Goals, 1 Assist, 9 Points), Alaina Edgerly (F, Sr., 1 Goal, 1 Assist), Rebecca Harris (D, Sr., 1 Assist).

Key Losses: Gabrielle Ewing (M, All-GNAC First Team, United Soccer Coaches All-West Region Third Team), Kasey Ames (M, All-GNAC First Team), Sydney Van Steenberg (F, All-GNAC Honorable Mention), McKenna Stocker (D, All-GNAC Second Team), Karlie Hurley (D, All-GNAC Honorable Mention).

Key Freshmen: Isabelle Davis (GK, 5-7, Tacoma, Wash. – Bellarmine Prep), Sarah Kaupiko (D, 5-4, Honolulu, Hawaii – Kamehameha), Haley Leavens (M, 5-4, Portland, Ore. – Sunset), Kailyn LaBrosse (D/F, 5-7, Spokane Valley, Wash. – Central Valley).

Key Transfers: Bethany Weller (M, So., 5-7, Hamilton, New Zealand – Saint Kentigern).

MONTANA STATE BILLINGS

Head Coach: Stephen Cavallo (Frostburg State, 2012, 7-24-3, 3rd Season)

Assistant: Scott Forster

2018 Overall Record: 4-12-1

Conference: 1-11-0, 3 Pts. (9th)

Letterwinners Returning: 14

Starters Returning/Lost: 9/3

Returning Starters: Amanda Hemmen (D, Sr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, CoSIDA Academic All-America First Team, 1 Goal, 1 Assist), Claire Tevaseu (M, Sr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 2 Goals, 4 Assists, 8 Points), Kalin Sandow (D, Sr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention), Alexa Iacolucci (M, Sr., 2 Goals, 1 Assist, 5 Points), Courteney Shovlin (D, Sr.), Erin Reynolds (D, Sr.), Hallie Vervair (M, Jr.), Erinn Harder (GK, Jr., 38 Saves), Haylee Gunter (M, So., 1 Goal), Julia Keller (F, So., 3 Goals, 1 Assist, 7 Points).

Other Key Returners: Lexie Bloyder (F, So., 1 Goal), Josie Corbin (M, So., 1 Assist), Lindsey Meyer (F, So.), Abby Hamilton (GK, So.).

Key Losses: Jordan Devoto (F), Cassidy O'Dell (F), Lili Delgadillo (GK).

Key Freshmen: Kyla Boliek (D, 5-5, Georgetown, Texas – Liberty Hill), Mikayla Campbell (D/M, 5-8, Apple Valley, Calif. – Oak Hills), Kendall Lossner (M, 5-6, Mesa, Ariz. – Mountain View), Kiley Sandow (M, 5-8, Murrieta, Calif. – Vista Murrieta), Ally Gockley (M, 5-9, Mead, Wash. – Mt. Spokane).

Key Transfers: Haley German (F, Jr., 5-5, Peoria, Ariz. – Paradise Valley CC), Summer Miles (M, Jr., 5-2, Springville, Utah – Salt Lake CC).

2019 GNAC WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAMS AT A GLANCE

NORTHWEST NAZARENE

Head Coach: Mary Trigg (Fresno State, 2008, 34-62-8, 7th Season)

Assistants: John Hawks, Brittany Houghton

2018 Overall Record: 8-8-1

Conference: 4-8-0, 12 Pts. (6th)

Letterwinners Returning: 17

Starters Returning/Lost: 8/3

Returning Starters: Corrinah Schaefer (D, Sr.), Jade Zimmer (D, Jr.), Chandler Kauffman (D, So.), Tennyson Young (M, Sr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 1 Goal, 1 Assist), Magda Wronski (M, So., 2 Assists), Maddy Parton (M, Sr., 5 Goals, 1 Assist, 11 Points), Brooke Felzien (F, Sr., 3 Goals, 1 Assist, 7 Points), Rikki Myers (F, Jr., All-GNAC Second Team, 6 Goals, 2 Assists, 14 Points).

Key Losses: Olivia Carter (D), Madi Taylor (M).

Key Freshmen: Carolyn Moravec (F, 5-5, Spokane, Wash. – Lewis & Clark), Denali Knowles (M, 5-3, Moses Lake, Wash. – Moses Lake), Hailey Hockett (D, 5-7, Nampa, Idaho – Columbia), Heather Hunt (M, 5-4, Bremerton, Wash. – Central Kitsap), Jasmine Ramos (M, 5-5, Kuna, Idaho – Kuna).

Key Transfers: McKenzie Beull (M, Jr., 5-7, Arlington, Wash. – Highline CC), Alexis Montoya (GK, So., 5-6, West Jordan, Utah – Northern State Univ.).

SAINT MARTIN'S

Head Coach: Heather Cato, (Arkansas, 1999, 7-26-2, 3rd season, 8th Season Overall, 35-87-7)

Assistant: Paige Pontarolo

2018 Overall Record: 5-12-1

Conference: 1-10-1, 4 Pts. (8th)

Letterwinners Returning: 19

Starters Returning/Lost: 7/4

Returning Starters: Rose Robbins (D, Sr., 1 Goal, 1 Assist), Kiersten Madsen (M, Jr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 5 Goals, 3 Assists, 13 Points), Daeh Lindquist (D, Jr.), Shea McKnight (M, Sr., 4 Goals, 2 Assists, 10 Points), Olivia Bianco (D, Jr., 2 Assists), LeAnn Phanakhone (M, Sr., 1 Assist), Jessica Moskowitz (M, Jr., 1 Goal, 1 Assist).

Other Key Returners: Natalie Brown (F, Sr., 2 Goals), Sara Christensen (GK, Sr.), Jolene Kvinsland (F/M, Sr., 1 Assist), Maia Larsen (M/D, 1 Goal).

Key Losses: Ali Koehler (GK), Kylee Sarchett (F/M), Gloria Petri (M), Selesha Harrah (D).

Key Freshmen: Maddie Wolff (F, 5-8, Longview, Wash. – R.A. Long), Taylor Goodpaster (M, 5-4, Fife, Wash. – Fife), Maddie Haggard (F, 5-6, Sacramento, Calif. – Rio Americano).

Key Transfers: Lexi Caceres (M, Jr., 5-8, Mira Loma, Calif. – San Bernardino Valley Coll.).

SEATTLE PACIFIC

Head Coach: Arby Busey (Villanova, 1993, 37-23-8, 5th Season)

Assistants: Kevin Sakuda, Amanda Alexson, Doug Herrick

2018 Overall Record: 12-6-2

Conference: 8-3-1, 25 Pts. (Tie 3rd)

Letterwinners Returning: 15

Starters Returning/Lost: 6/5

Returning Starters: Sophia Chilczuk (F, Jr., All-GNAC First Team, D2CCA All-West Region Second Team, 8 Goals, 3 Assists, 19 Points), Megan Moore (M, Sr., All-GNAC Second Team, D2CCA All-West Region Third Team, 3 Goals, 6 Assists, 12 Points), Claire Neder (M, Jr., 3 Goals, 3 Assists, 9 Points), Megan Nielsen (D, Sr., 1 Assist), Asia Cayetano (D, Sr.), Riley Travis (GK, So., All-GNAC Second Team, 75 Saves, 5 Shutouts, 1.08 GAA).

Other Key Returners: Makena Rietz (M, So., 2 Goals, 2 Assists, 6 Points), Sierra Smith (F, Jr., 1 Goal, 2 Assists), Abbie Anderson (F, So., 1 Goal, 1 Assist), Ava Giovanola (D, So., 1 Assist).

Key Losses: Julia DeVere (D, GNAC Defensive Player of the Year, All-GNAC First Team, D2CCA All-West Region First Team, D2CCA All-America Second Team, CoSIDA Academic All-America First Team), Kasey Reeve (F, All-GNAC Honorable Mention), Sydnee Smith (M), Makayla Sonsteli (M, All-GNAC Honorable Mention), Kaytlin Willis (D, Sr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention).

Key Freshmen: Marissa Bankey (D, 5-5, Spokane, Wash. – Central Valley), AJ DePinto (F, 5-6, Portland, Ore. – Grant), Chloe Gelhaus (M, 5-8, Spokane, Wash. – East Valley), Kaitlynn Knocke (GK, 5-7, Marysville, Wash. – Marysville Getchell), Toni Miranda (M, 5-7, Bothell, Wash. – Bothell).

Key Transfers: Samea Aljundi (M, So., 5-3, Kent, Wash. – Montana St. Billings).

2019 GNAC WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAMS AT A GLANCE

SIMON FRASER

Head Coach: Annie Hamel (Maine, 2004, 35-44-4, 6th Season)

Assistant: Anna Picarelli

2018 Overall Record: 10-6-1

Conference: 8-3-1, 25 Pts. (Tie 3rd)

Letterwinners Returning: 10

Starters Returning/Lost: 6/5

Returning Starters: Emma Pringle (F, Sr., All-GNAC First Team, United Soccer Coaches All-West Region First Team, D2CCA All-West Region First Team, 11 Goals, 2 Assists, 24 Points), Carli Grosso (D, Sr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 1 Goal, 1 Assist), Teagan Mackay (F, So., 1 Goal, 5 Assists, 7 Points), Emma Lobo (D, Jr., 2 Assists), Hollis Roeske (M/D, Jr., 1 Assist), Nicole Anderson (GK, So., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 58 Saves, 5 Shutouts).

Other Key Returners: Kayla Goncalves (D, So., 1 Goal, 4 Assists), Danae Robillard (M, So., 1 Goal, 2 Assists), Gabrielle Brissette (D, So., 2 Goals).

Key Losses: Jenna-Lee Baxter (M, GNAC Player of the Year, All-GNAC First Team, D2CCA All-America Second Team, United Soccer Coaches All-West Region First Team, D2CCA All-West Region First Team), Katelyn Erhardson (F/M, All-GNAC Second Team), Christina Dickson (F/M, All-GNAC Honorable Mention), Allyson Dickson (D, All-GNAC Honorable Mention), Sam Donald (M).

Key Freshmen: Kiara Buono (M, 5-6, Coquitlam, B.C. – Centennial), Giuliana Zaurrini (F/M, 5-5, Burnaby, B.C. – Alpha), Jenieva Musico (D, 5-7, Surrey, B.C. – Fleetwood Park), Amanda Scott (M/D, 5-7, Burnaby, B.C. – Cariboo Hill).

WESTERN OREGON

Head Coach: Kacey Bingham (Arizona State, 2006, 1st Season)

Assistant: Michelle Voiland

2018 Overall Record: 5-9-3

Conference: 3-7-2, 11 Pts. (7th)

Letterwinners Returning: 15

Starters Returning/Lost: 9/1

Returning Starters: Alex Qualls (GK, Sr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 72 Saves, 5 Wins, 5 Shutouts, 1.63 GAA), Alyssa Tomasini (F, Jr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 2 Goals, 3 Assists, Seven Points), Kaili Brundage (M, Sr., 1 Goal, 3 Assists, 5 Points), Selene Konyn (M, Sr.), Kaitlin Poe (D, Sr., 1 Assist), Jacky Beristain (D, Sr., All-GNAC Second Team), Malia Napoleon (D, Jr.).

Other Key Returners: Nikki Hoey (D, Jr., 10 Starts, 1 Assist).

Key Losses: Chelsea Hartnett (M).

Key Freshmen: Hannah Rispler (F, 6-0, Gresham, Ore. – Barlow).

Key Transfers: Dani VanOrd (F, 5-4, Jr., Anchorage, Alaska – Lane CC).

WESTERN WASHINGTON

Head Coach: Travis Connell (Seattle Pacific, 1996, 238-69-28, 17th season)

Assistants: Claire Morgan, Jamie Arthurs, Johann Lahud-Zahner

2018 Overall Record: 18-3-2

Conference: 10-1-1, 31 Pts. (1st)

Letterwinners Returning: 19

Starters Returning/Lost: 9/3

Returning Starters: Jordyn Bartelson (M, Sr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 1 Goal, 3 Assists, 5 Points), Natalie Dierickx (GK, Jr., All-GNAC First Team, GNAC Newcomer of the Year, United Soccer Coaches All-West Region First Team, United Soccer Coaches All-America Second Team, 73 Saves, 8 Shutouts, 0.53 GAA), Talia Daigle (F, Jr., 1 Goal), Grace Eversaul (M, Jr., All-GNAC First Team, United Soccer Coaches All-West Region Second Team, 4 Goals, 1 Assist, 9 Points), Lindsey Fujiwara (D, Sr., 1 Goal, 1 Assist), Liv Larson (F/M, Sr., 9 Assists, 9 Points), Annaliese Laurila (D, Sr.), Emily Nelson (D, Sr., All-GNAC First Team, United Soccer Coaches All-West Region Second Team, D2CCA All-West Region Second Team, 2 Goals, 2 Assists, 6 Points).

Other Key Returners: Karli White (F, R-Sr., Injured in 2018, 2017: GNAC Newcomer of the Year, GNAC Championships MVP, 10 Goals, 8 Assists, 28 Points), Sophie Butterfield (F, Jr.), Peyton Chick (D, Sr., All-GNAC Honorable Mention, 1 Goal, 6 Assists, 8 Points), Dayana Diaz (F, So., GNAC Freshman of the Year, All-GNAC Second Team, 7 Goals, 1 Assist, 15 Points).

Key Losses: Taylor Hallquist (D, All-GNAC First Team, D2CCA All-America Third Team), Gabriela Pelogi (F, All-GNAC First Team, United Soccer Coaches All-America Second Team), Mariah Roggow (M).

Key Freshmen: Makenzie Burks (D, 5-6, Tacoma, Wash. – Stadium), Libby Hielkema (M, 5-7, Lynden, Wash. – Lynden Christian), Estera Levinte (D, 5-7, Bothell, Wash. – Bothell), Payton Neal (M, 5-7, Seattle, Wash. – Bishop Blanchet), Katie Watt (D, 5-7, Seattle, Wash. – Bishop Blanchet).

Key Transfers: Jenna Killman (F, Jr., 5-6, Olympia, Wash. – Univ. of New Mexico).