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Vikings Picked By Coaches To Repeat As GNAC Men’s Basketball Champion

PORTLAND, Ore. – After winning both the conference’s regular season and tournament titles a year ago, Western Washington is picked to win it all again in the 2017-18 edition of the Great Northwest Athletic Conference’s Preseason Men’s Basketball Poll.

The Vikings, who finished with a 25-6 record and a 17-3 GNAC mark, received seven of 11 first-place votes from conference coaches for a total of 116 points. Western Oregon, the 2016 GNAC regular season and tournament champion, is picked second with 108 points. The Wolves picked up three first-place votes.

Central Washington, which finished tied for seventh last year, received the final first-place vote and is projected third with 91 points. Alaska Anchorage, despite the loss of 12 players from last year’s squad, is picked fourth with 90 points while Seattle Pacific is picked fifth with 85 points.

Saint Martin’s is selected sixth with 53 points followed by Alaska (48 pts.), Northwest Nazarene (42 pts.), Concordia (41 pts.), Montana State Billings (34 pts.) and Simon Fraser (18 pts.).

The Vikings, who barely made the GNAC Championships in 2016 as the No. 6 seed, was the most dominant offensive team in the league last season. Western Washington led the GNAC and finished 15th in Division II with 88.1 points per game. The Vikings led the conference in field goal percentage (.493), three-point percentage (.401) and free throw percentage (.783), ranking in the top-25 nationally in all three categories.

While the loss of GNAC Player of the Year and First Team All-American Taylor Stafford will be felt, the Vikings return four other starters and three of their top five scorers. Senior forward **Deandre Dickson**, sophomore forward **Daulton Hommes** and junior guard **Trey Drechsel** all earned GNAC Preseason All-Conference honors. Dickson is the Vikings’ top returning scorer having averaged 14.1 points and 6.6 rebounds per game and led the Vikings with a .620 field goal percentage. Hommes, named Honorable Mention All-GNAC as a freshman, led the GNAC in three-point shooting (.479) and averaged 12.5 points, 5.5 rebounds and 1.9 blocks per game. Drechsel also earned Honorable Mention All-GNAC honors after averaging 9.9 points and 5.1 rebounds per game.

Senior guard **Blake Fernandez** also returns at point guard after a junior campaign that saw him average 4.7 points per game. The Vikings welcome a pair of transfers from California’s Cerritos Community College. Junior **Tyler Payne** averaged 7.7 points per game last year and was a two-time First Team All-South Coast Conference selection. Junior guard **Micah Winn** was also a First Team All-South Coast Conference selection in 2015 and returns to the court after two years away from organized basketball. The Vikings also welcome junior guard/forward **Siaan Rojas** after a redshirt season.

Western Oregon struggled through the first two months of the season, going 6-7 through November and December before hitting their stride in conference play. The Wolves went 6-2 in the month of January en route to a third-place GNAC finish. They advanced to the finals of the GNAC Championships for the third consecutive season and finished with an 18-13 overall record.

2017-18 GNAC Preseason Men’s Basketball Poll

Team (1st Place Votes)	2015-16 Record (GNAC)	Pts.
1. Western Washington (7)	25-6 (17-3, 1st)	116
2. Western Oregon (3)	18-13 (13-7, 3rd)	108
3. Central Washington (1)	14-12 (9-11, tie 6th)	91
4. Alaska Anchorage	21-8 (15-5, 2nd)	90
5. Seattle Pacific	12-16 (8-12, 9th)	85
6. Saint Martin’s	17-13 (10-10, tie 4th)	53
7. Alaska	13-16 (8-12, 10th)	48
8. Northwest Nazarene	12-16 (9-11, tie 6th)	42
9. Concordia	14-14 (10-10, tie 4th)	41
10. Montana State Billings	14-15 (9-11, tie 6th)	34
11. Simon Fraser	4-24 (2-18, 11th)	18

Votes awarded on an 11-10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 basis.

Senior forward **Tanner Omlid**, the GNAC Preseason Player of the Year, leads nine returners back for a team that features 10 seniors and 13 total upperclassmen. The GNAC Defensive Player of the Year in 2016-17, Omlid led WOU with averages of 15.6 points and 7.6 rebounds per game and set GNAC single-season records with 97 steals and 3.21 steals per game. His steals per game was second-best among all Division II players. Omlid became the first GNAC player to finish with a triple-double in three seasons with 18 points, 15 rebounds and a GNAC single-game record 11 steals against Seattle Pacific on Feb. 4.

Senior guard **Ali Faruq-Bey**, a Preseason All-GNAC selection, was right behind Omlid with averages of 15 points and four rebounds per game. Senior forward **JJ Chirside** provides the Wolves a solid inside presence with five rebounds per game and 41 blocks while junior guard **Demetrius Trammell** scored 9.9 points per game last year. Western Oregon also adds a Division I transfer in senior guard **Dustin Triano** from Gonzaga and a pair of Division II transfers in senior guard **Malik Morgan** from Humboldt State and senior forward **Vince Boumann** from Point Loma. Morgan averaged 11.7 points per game for the Lumberjacks last year while Boumann averaged 13.9 points and nine rebounds per game for the Sea Lions.

After starting the season on a roll, Central Washington hit upon hard times over the final month of the season. The Wildcats started the conference season with a 7-2 record before losing eight of their final 11 to finish in a tie for seventh place despite the production of First Team All-GNAC guard Dom Hunter, who finished 12th in Division II in scoring.

Despite the struggles, conference coaches have confidence that Central Washington will rebound to a third-place finish behind a pair of Preseason All-GNAC selections in senior center **Fuquan Niles** and junior guard **Naim Ladd**. A force for the Wildcats at both ends of the floor, Niles earned Honorable Mention All-GNAC honors after finishing fifth in the GNAC with 8.3 rebounds per game and 2.8 blocks per game. In addition, Niles led the GNAC with a .637 field goal percentage (100-157). Ladd is the Wildcats' top returning scorer, averaging 13.5 points per game in his sophomore campaign.

Central also welcomes back senior guard **Marc Rodgers**, who averaged 5.3 points per game, and junior forward **Drake Rademacher**, who sat out the 2016-17 season due to injury. The Wildcats also add a Division I transfer in junior guard **Malik Montoya**, who played the last two seasons at Seattle University.

Pick to finish a close fourth behind Central Washington, Alaska Anchorage faces the challenge of rebuilding essentially from the ground up. The Seawolves had 12 players depart after the last season and the team's only returner, sophomore forward **Curtis Ryan**, played sparingly in 14 games.

Head coach **Rusty Osborne** is reloading with a combination of freshmen and transfers, led by a trio of senior transfers from Division I Pacific (Calif.). Two of those players, forward **Jacob Lampkin** and guard **DJ Ursery**, were named to the GNAC Preseason All-Conference Team. Lampkin was the Tigers' fifth-leading scorer last year, averaging 6.4 points per game in 24 contests before a broken foot cut his season short. He was a high school teammate of UAA All-American Suki Wiggs. Ursery was UOP's sixth-leading scorer, averaging six points, 2.3 rebounds and 1.4 assists per game. The duo is joined by guard **Maleke Haynes**, who averaged 2.5 points and 1.9 assists per game in Stockton and started five of his final six games for the Tigers.

The Seawolves also add junior guard **Malik Clements** from North Dakota State, junior guard **Josiah Wood** from Butte Junior College in California and freshman **Eric Jenkins**, a prep first team all-state selection in Alaska last year.

Picked fifth, Seattle Pacific saw its streak of 12 consecutive NCAA playoff appearances snapped after a ninth-place finish under first-year head coach **Grant Leep**. This season's edition of the Falcons returns a year wiser and more experienced with eight returners and three starters back.

Sophomore guard **Tony Miller** established himself as the Falcons' next big star. The GNAC Freshman of the Year, Miller finished fourth in the GNAC with 19 points per game and third with 9.7 rebounds per game. He also finished 19th in Division II with 7.2 defensive rebounds per game and had 15 double-doubles. Junior forward **Coleman Wooten** joined Miller on the GNAC Preseason All-Conference Team, earning Honorable Mention All-GNAC honors last year with averages of 17 points and eight rebounds per game. Sophomore guard **Gavin Long** is the Falcons' third returning starter and averaged 10.7 points and shot 77.3 percent from the free throw line.

Seattle Pacific adds a solid performer in junior transfer guard **Nikhil Lizotte**, who started all 29 games for Humboldt State last season, He averaged 13.8 points per game and led the Lumberjacks with 75 three-pointers made. The team also adds redshirt freshman transfer **Christian Russell** from Oregon State.

Saint Martin's, picked sixth, earned its first GNAC Championships berth since 2011 last year with a fourth-place finish and advanced to the tournament's semifinals. In his two seasons, head coach **Alex Pribble** has coached the Saints to back-to-back winning seasons (first winning season since 2009-10). There will be some rebuilding to do, though, with the loss of eight players and three starters that helped Pribble build the program.

Junior guard/forward **Jordan Kitchen** earned GNAC Preseason All-Conference honors. He started all but three games for the Saints last year, averaging 8.8 points and 5.3 rebounds per game. Junior guard **Rhett Baerlocher** started 21 games, averaging 7.7 points per game and was second on the team with 5.8 rebounds per game. A trio of transfers will buoy the Saints. Senior forward **Matt Dahlen** played in 30 games for Oregon State last year, starting 10. Junior transfer guard **EJ Boyce**, from San Jose State, averaged 3.9 points per game and shot 39 percent from three-point range. Junior forward **Jared Mathews** was a second team all-league selection in the NWAC for Blue Mountain CC, averaging 15.8 points and 10.7 rebounds per contest.

Much like their counterparts in Anchorage, Alaska finds itself replacing much of its lineup. The Nanooks, picked seventh after finishing 10th in 2016-17, return just five players from last season and one starter in forward **LaDonovan Wilder**. The senior started 15 of 28 games, averaging 8.1 points and 4.7 rebounds per game. Sophomore forward **Michael Kluting** also returns after averaging six points and shooting 48.4 percent from the floor in 28 games off the bench.

Also like the Seawolves, the Nanooks will rebuild around a corps of transfers. Sophomore **Jalon McCullough** returns to his hometown after averaging 11.9 points per game last season and earning NWAC North Region Freshman of the Year honors for Peninsula CC. Junior guard **Tre Eisenhut** played two seasons for Portland CC, averaging 7.9 points and three assists per game. Junior guard **Amenofis Mitchell** averaged 11 points and five rebounds per game and earned Honorable Mention All-Coast Conference South Region honors at Cabrillo JC while sophomore guard **Austin Bryant** averaged 20.4 points per game for MiraCosta College.

Northwest Nazarene, picked seventh, begins its first season under head coach **Paul Rush** after Scott Flemming left Nampa to work for NBA India. The Nighthawks finished in a three-way tie for sixth place in the GNAC and return seven players, but just two starters from last year. Senior forward **Maurice Jones**, a Second Team All-GNAC selection, leads the returners. The Preseason All-Conference selection was the only GNAC player to average a double-double last year, finishing with 16 points per game while ranking 15th in Division II with a GNAC-leading 10.4 rebounds per game. Sophomore guard **Jayden Bezzant** started 19 games as a freshman, averaging 9.3 points per game.

Among the returners bolstering the Nighthawks' roster is junior transfer guard **Khalil Thompson**, who set the school scoring record in two seasons at Tacoma CC. He averaged 21 points per game while leading the Tigers to the NWAC championship game. Junior guard **Owi Megwa** joins the program after two standout seasons at Mesa CC in Arizona.

Concordia finished tied for fourth with Saint Martin's last year and is picked to finish ninth in 2017-18. The Cavaliers made its first GNAC Championships performance and finished the season at 14-14 overall. The Cavaliers return eight players and three starters, but lose their top two scorers in Drew Martin and Latrell Wilson. Concordia will be led by senior forward **Christopher Edward**, who made a great impact in his junior transfer season. An Honorable Mention All-GNAC pick in 2017 and a Preseason All-Conference selection, Edward averaged 11.7 points and was fourth in the GNAC with 8.6 rebounds per game. Junior guard **Jarrett Gray** averaged 11 points per game and shot 85.5 percent from the free throw line.

Montana State Billings was also part of last year's three-way tie for sixth, but are picked 10th this season with the departure of a pair of key contributors. Guard Jace Anderson was lost to graduation while First Team All-GNAC forward Preston Beverly transferred to Point Loma. Senior forward **Kamal Tall** leads the two returners, having averaged 6.9 points and five rebounds per game as a junior while shooting 60.4 percent from the field. Junior guard **Sven Jueschede** averaged 5.4 points and 3.1 rebounds per game. The Yellowjackets added a number of transfers, including junior guard **Tyler Green** from Humboldt State and junior guard **Zack Rollins** from San Bernardino Valley CC.

Simon Fraser is picked 11th after finishing 4-24 a year ago, but return all five starters. The Clan is led by junior guard/forward **JJ Pankratz**, who was named to the Preseason All-Conference Team, averaged 12.4 points per game and shot 46 percent from three-point range. Senior guard **Kedar (Wright) Salam** was Honorable Mention All-GNAC last season after he led the Clan with 13.5 points and 2.4 assists per game. Also back is sophomore guard **Michael Provenzano**, senior guard/forward **Iziah Sherman-Newsome** and junior forward **Tyrell Lewin**.

The GNAC season begins on Fri., Nov. 10, with all 11 conference teams in action. The schedule includes home tournaments at Alaska Anchorage, Concordia, Western Oregon and Western Washington along with Northwest Nazarene's opener against Multnomah. Conference play begins on Tues., Nov. 28, with Alaska at Alaska Anchorage.



GNAC Men's Basketball Teams At A Glance

ALASKA

Head Coach: Mick Durham (Montana State 1979, 81-88, 7th Season; 22nd Season Overall, 327-301)

Assistant Coach: Bobby Howard

2016-17 Overall Record: 13-16

GNAC Record (Finish): 8-12 (10th)

Total Players Returning/Lost: 5/11

Starters Returning/Lost: 1/4

Returning Starters: LaDonovan Wilder (F, 6-7, Sr., Oakland, Calif., 8.1 ppg, 4.7 rpg, .452 FG Pct.).

Other Returning Players: Zach Hatch (G, 6-2, R-Fr., Snohomish, Wash.), Daniel Hornbuckle (G, 6-0, So., Fairbanks, Alaska, 2.3 ppg, .480 FG Pct. in 12 games), Michael Kluting (F, 6-7, So., Palmer, Alaska, 6.0 ppg, 3.2 rpg, .484 FG Pct., .727 FT Pct.), Derrit Scarver (G, 6-2, Jr., Tracy, Calif., 0.9 ppg in 12 games).

Key Losses: Brandon Davis (G, Second Team All-GNAC), Bangaly Kaba (F), Nahjee Matlock (G).

Top Freshmen: None

Top Transfers: Jalon McCullough (G, 5-9, So., Fairbanks, Alaska – Peninsula CC), Tre Eisenhut (G, 5-11, Jr., Vancouver, Wash. – Portland CC), Amenofis Mitchell (F, 6-4, Jr., Missouri City, Texas – Cabrillo Coll.), Austin Bryant (F, 6-6, So., Murrieta, Calif. – MiraCosta JC), Davis Kimble (G, 5-11., Jr., Hayward, Calif. – Canada Coll.).

ALASKA ANCHORAGE

Head Coach: Rusty Osborne (Texas, 1988, 250-138, 14th Season)

Assistant Coaches: Ryan Orton, Jesse Brown

2016-17 Overall Record: 21-8

GNAC Record (Finish): 15-5 (2nd, Advanced To GNAC Championships Semifinals)

Total Players Returning/Lost: 1/12

Starters Returning/Lost: 0/5

Returning Starters: None.

Other Returning Players: Curtis Ryan (F, 6-9, So., Warrnambool, Australia, 1.4 ppg, 1.0 rpg).

Key Losses: Suki Wiggs (G, First Team All-GNAC, First Team D2CCA All-West Region), Spencer Svejcar (G, Second Team All-GNAC), Diante Mitchell (G, Honorable Mention All-GNAC), Corey Hammell (F).

Top Freshmen: Brennan Rymer (G, 6-0, Sydney, Australia – Scots College), Alex Adams (F, 6-6, Anchorage, Alaska – South Anchorage), Eric Jenkins (F, 6-5, Anchorage, Alaska – Dimond), Kylan Osborne (G, 6-1, Anchorage, Alaska – Dimond).

Top Transfers: Jacob Lampkin (F, 6-9, Sr., Bellevue, Wash. – Univ. of the Pacific, Calif.), Maleke Haynes (G, 5-10, Sr., Los Angeles, Calif. – Univ. of the Pacific, Calif.), D.J. Ursery (G, 6-4, Sr., Los Angeles, Calif. – Univ. of the Pacific, Calif.) Malik Clements (G, 6-3, Jr., Madison, Wis. – North Dakota St.), Josiah Wood (G, 6-3, Jr., Reno, Nev. – Butte JC).

CENTRAL WASHINGTON

Head Coach: Greg Sparling (Central Washington, 1993, 371-240, 24th Season)

Associate Head Coach: Drew Harris

Assistant Coaches: Jared Johnson, Joey Roppo

2016-17 Overall Record: 14-12

GNAC Record (Finish): 9-11 (Tie 7th)

Total Players Returning/Lost: 9/4

Starters Returning/Lost: 3/2

Returning Starters: Fuquan Niles (C, 6-11, Sr., Seattle, Wash., Honorable Mention All-GNAC, 9.5 ppg, 8.3 rpg, 2.8 blocks per game, .637 FG Pct.), Naim Ladd (G, 5-7, Jr., Seattle, Wash., 13.5 ppg, 2.8 rpg, .757 FT Pct.), Jawan Stepney (G, 6-4, Sr., Kent, Wash., 12.9 ppg, 4.2 rpg, 23 steals, .486 FG Pct.).

Other Returning Players: Marc Rodgers (G, 6-2, Sr., Los Angeles, Calif., 5.3 ppg, 1.9 assists per game), Jerome Bryant (F, 6-7, Sr., Los Angeles, Calif. – 4.3 ppg, .566 FG Pct.), Drake Rademacher (F, 6-8, Jr., Enumclaw, Wash., Medical Redshirt In 2016-17, 6.0 ppg in 2015-16).

Key Losses: Dom Hunter (G, First Team All-GNAC).

Top Freshmen: Coleman Sparling (F, 6-6, Ellensburg, Wash. – Ellensburg), Cameron Williams (F, 6-6, Los Angeles, Calif. – Redondo Union), Khalil Shabazz (G, 5-10, Seattle, Wash. – Rainier Beach), Malolm Cola (F, 6-6, Federal Way, Wash. – Federal Way), Andreas Brown (G, 6-4, Spokane, Wash. – Shadle Park).

Top Transfers: Malik Montoya (G, 6-2, Jr., Federal Way, Wash. – Seattle Univ.).

GNAC Men's Basketball Teams At A Glance

CONCORDIA

Head Coach: Brad Barbarick (Columbia Christian, 1987, 350-361, 24th Season)

Assistant Coaches: Marquis Matthews, Davis Nuaimi

2016-17 Overall Record: 14-14

GNAC Record (Finish): 10-10 (Tie 4th, Advanced To GNAC Championships Quarters)

Total Players Returning/Lost: 8/6

Starters Returning/Lost: 3/2

Returning Starters: Christopher Edward (F, 6-7, Sr., Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., Honorable Mention All-GNAC, 11.7 ppg, 8.6 rpg, .580 FG Pct., 43 blocks), Jarrett Gray (G, 6-2, Jr., Beaverton, Ore., 11.0 ppg, 3.3 rpg, 1.7 assists per game, .855 FT Pct.), Taylor Harris (G, 6-4, Sr., Portland, Ore., 6.4 ppg, .461 3 Pt. Pct.).

Other Returning Players: Bryan Michaels (G, 6-3, Sr., Kalispell, Mont., 7.1 ppg, 3.3 rpg).

Key Losses: Drew Martin (F, Second Team All-GNAC), Latrell Wilson (G, Honorable Mention All-GNAC).

Top Freshmen: Hunter Sweet (G/F, 6-4, Beaverton, Ore. – Beaverton), D'Angelo Fields (F/C, 6-6, Moreno Valley, Calif. – Scale Prep Academy).

Top Transfers: Deandre Stallings (F, 6-7, Jr., Galt, Calif., Columbia Coll.).

MONTANA STATE BILLINGS

Head Coach: Jamie Stevens (Montana State Billings, 1999, 76-96, 7th Season)

Assistant Coaches: Brad Schmit, JC Isakson

2016-17 Overall Record: 14-15

GNAC Record (Finish): 9-11 (6th, Advanced To GNAC Championships Quarterfinals)

Total Players Returning/Lost: 5/5

Starters Returning/Lost: 2/3

Returning Starters: Sven Jeuschede (G, 6-3, Jr., Roesrath, Germany, 5.4 ppg, 3.1 rpg, 1.2 assists per game, .897 FT Pct.), Kamal Tall (F, 6-8, Sr., Leuven, Belgium, 6.9 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 25 blocks, .604 FG Pct.).

Other Returning Players: Hafeez Abdul (F, 6-7, So., London, England, Redshirt in 2016-17), Kendall Denham (G, 6-0, Sr., Malta, Mont., 8.2 ppg, 3.3 rpg, 2.9 assists per game), Zack Lessinger (F, 6-8, So., Reno, Nev., 4.3 ppg, 2.4 rpg), Jordan Perry (G, 6-4, Sr., Gilbert, Ariz., 2.2 ppg, 1.7 rpg).

Key Losses: Preston Beverly (F, First Team All-GNAC), Marc Matthews (G, Honorable Mention All-GNAC), Jace Anderson (G).

Top Freshmen: Zharon Richmond (F, 6-5, Billings, Mont. – Skyview), David Simental (G, 6-2, Pueblo, Colo. – Pueblo West), Kobe Terashima (G, 6-1, Boise, Idaho – Rocky Mountain).

Top Transfers: Tyler Green (G, 5-9, Jr., Redding, Calif. – Humboldt State Univ.), Zack Rollins (G, 6-5, Jr., Westchester, N.Y. – San Bernardino Valley CC), Daniel Shedden (G, 6-3, Jr., Puntarenas, Costa Rica – Dawson CC, Mont.).

NORTHWEST NAZARENE

Head Coach: Paul Rush (Boise State, 2006, 1st Season)

Assistant Coaches: Rodrick Rhodes, Jon Hawkins, Bobby Gantt, Joel Devastey

2016-17 Overall Record: 12-16

GNAC Record (Finish): 9-11 (Tie 6th)

Total Players Returning/Lost: 7/5

Starters Returning/Lost: 2/3

Returning Starters: Maurice Jones (F, 6-5, Sr., Riverside, Calif., Second Team All-GNAC, 16.0 ppg, 10.4 rpg, .366 3 Pt. Pct., 20 blocks), Jayden Bezzant (G, 6-2, So., Tauranga, New Zealand, 9.3 ppg, 2.4 rpg, .394 3 Pt. Pct., .412 FG Pct.).

Other Returning Players: Carlos Garcia (C, 6-11, So., Sevilla, Spain, 3.8 ppg, 2.7 rpg), Nikola Prvulj (G, 6-3, Jr., Belgrade, Serbia, 2.8 ppg, 1.0 rpg), Olamilekan Adetunji (F, 6-7, So., Lagos, Nigeria, 2.3 ppg, 2.8 rpg), Marko Lepprovic (G, 6-5, Sr., Kragujevac, Serbia, 2.3 ppg, 2.8 rpg), Dylan Brink (G, 6-2, Sr., Erie, Colo., 1.0 ppg).

Key Losses: Bouna N'Diaye (F, Honorable Mention All-GNAC), Kaileb Rodriguez (C, Honorable Mention All-GNAC), Pol Olivier (G).

Top Freshmen: Sam Roth (G, 6-3, Salem, Ore. – Silverton).

Top Transfers: Khalil Thompson (G, 5-10, Jr., Las Vegas, Nev. – Tacoma CC), Obi Megwa (G, 6-0, Jr., Phoenix, Ariz. – Mesa CC), Felix White (F, 6-9, So., Lagos, Nigeria – UC Santa Barbara).

GNAC Men's Basketball Teams At A Glance

SAINT MARTIN'S

Head Coach: Alex Pribble (California, 2007, 32-26, 3rd Season)

Assistant Coaches: Dave Granucci, Adam Ellis, Mike Hayward

2016-17 Overall Record: 17-13

GNAC Record (Finish): 10-10 (4th, Advanced To GNAC Championships Semifinals)

Total Players Returning/Lost: 6/8

Starters Returning/Lost: 2/3

Returning Starters: Rhett Baerlocher (G, 6-4, Jr., Missoula, Mont., 7.7 ppg, 5.8 rpg, .431 FG Pct.), Jordan Kitchen (G/F, 6-7, Jr., Seattle, Wash., 8.8 ppg, 5.3 rpg, .515 FG Pct.).

Other Returning Players: Michael Painter (G, 6-5, So., Seattle, Wash., 4.0 ppg, .583 FG Pct.), Robert Little (G/F, 6-3, Jr., Spokane Valley, Wash., 2.8 ppg, 2.1 rpg), Logan Adams (G, 6-3, So., Spokane, Wash., 2.6 ppg), Mikko Barnes (G, 5-10, Jr., Las Vegas, Nev.).

Key Losses: Tyler Copp (G, Second Team All-GNAC), Cole Preston (G, Second Team All-GNAC), Fred Jorg (C), Brandon Kenilvort (F).

Top Freshmen: Tavian Henderson (G/F, 6-5, Vallejo, Calif. – St. Patrick-St. Vincent), Caden Smith (G, 6-3, Pendleton, Ore. – Pendleton), BJ Standley (G, 5-9, Benecia, Calif. – St. Patrick-St. Vincent).

Top Transfers: Matt Dahlen (F, 6-7, Sr., Redmond, Ore. – Oregon State Univ.), Jared Mathews (F, 6-7, Jr., Bakersfield, Calif. – Blue Mountain CC), EJ Boyce (G, 6-1, Jr., Boise, Idaho – San Jose St. Univ.), Luke Chavez (G, 6-4, Jr., Woodacre, Calif. – South Puget Sound CC).

SEATTLE PACIFIC

Head Coach: Grant Leep (Washington, 2002, 12-16, 2nd Season)

Assistant Coaches: Keegan Bone, Matt Borton, George Parker

2016-17 Overall Record: 12-16

GNAC Record (Finish): 8-12 (9th)

Total Players Returning/Lost: 8/3

Starters Returning/Lost: 3/2

Returning Starters: Tony Miller (F, 6-6, So., Woodinville, Wash., GNAC Freshman of the Year, 19.0 ppg, 9.7 rpg, .467 FG Pct., 1.1 assists per game), Coleman Wooten (F, 6-5, Jr., Maple Valley, Wash., Honorable Mention All-GNAC, 17.0 ppg, 8.0 rpg, 2.8 assists per game), Gavin Long (G, 6-5, So., Wenatchee, Wash., 10.7 ppg, 3.5 rpg, 1.9 assists per game, .773 FT Pct.).

Other Returning Players: Sharif Khan (G, 6-1, So., Bellevue, Wash., 5.0 ppg, 2.0 rpg), Hunter Eisenhower (F, 6-5, Jr., Wasilla, Alaska, 3.8 ppg), Nathan Streufert (F, 6-8, Jr., Richland, Wash., 2.8 ppg, 4.8 rpg, 1.2 app), EJ Poulsen (C, 6-9, Sr., Reno, Nev.), Conner Van Dyken (G, 6-1, So., Bozeman, Mont.).

Key Losses: Joe Rasmussen (C, Honorable Mention All-GNAC), Olivier-Paul Betu (G).

Top Freshmen: Braden Olsen (G, 5-10, West Linn, Ore. – West Linn).

Key Transfers: Christian Russell (C, 6-11, Fr., Salem, Ore. – Oregon State Univ.), Nikhil Lizotte (G, 5-9, Jr., Yakima, Wash. – Humboldt State Univ.).

SIMON FRASER

Head Coach: Steve Hanson (Douglas, 2011, 4-24, 2nd Season)

Assistant Coaches: Sean Shook, Bret McDonald

2016-17 Overall Record: 4-24

GNAC Record (Finish): 2-18 (11th)

Total Players Returning/Lost: 10-5

Starters Returning/Lost: 5/0

Returning Starters: Michael Provenzano (G, 6-0, So., London, Ont., 12.9 ppg, 2.6 rpg, .410 FG Pct., .850 FT Pct.), Kedar (Wright) Salam (G/F, 6-3, Sr., Toronto, Ont., Honorable Mention All-GNAC, 13.5 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 2.4 assists per game), JJ Pankratz (G/F, 6-7, Sr., Abbotsford, B.C., 12.4 ppg, 4.3 rpg, .417 FG Pct., .460 3 Pt. Pct.), Izhiah Sherman-Newsome (G/F, 6-4, Sr., Anchorage, Alaska, 8.7 ppg, 5.0 rpg, .375 3 Pt. Pct., .789 FT Pct.), Tyrell Lewin (F, 6-8, Jr., Toronto, Ont., 5.6 ppg, 6.8 rpg, .616 FG Pct.).

Other Returning Players: Othniel Spence (G, 6-1, So., Markham, Ont., 5.8 ppg, 1.9 rpg, .406 FG Pct., .375 3 Pt. Pct., .776 FT Pct.), Graham Miller (G/F, 6-7, Sr., Abbotsford, B.C., 5.2 ppg, 2.6 rpg, .424 3 Pt. Pct., .765 FT Pct.).

Key Losses: Hidde Vos (G), Gibran Sewani (F).

Top Freshmen: Matthew O'Brien (C/F, 6-9, Clackamas, Ore. – Clackamas), Drew Bryson (G, 6-2, Arlington, Wash. – Arlington), Sam Bailey (F, 6-7, North Vancouver, B.C. – Vancouver Coll.), Keegan Konn (G, 5-10, Surrey, B.C. – Holy Cross Regional).

Top Transfers: Jordan Muir-Keung (G, 6-1, Jr., Seattle, Wash. – Bellevue Coll.).

GNAC Men's Basketball Teams At A Glance

WESTERN OREGON

Head Coach: Jim Shaw (Western Oregon, 1985, 49-17, 3rd Season)

Assistant Coaches: Zach Payne, Josh Reber, Jalen James

2016-17 Overall Record: 18-13

GNAC Record (Finish): 13-7 (3rd, Advanced To GNAC Championships Final)

Total Players Returning/Lost: 9-7

Starters Returning/Lost: 3/2

Returning Starters: Tanner Omlid (F, 6-3, Sr., Monmouth, Ore., First Team All-GNAC, GNAC Defensive Player of the Year, Second Team NABC All-West Region, 15.6 ppg, 7.6 rpg, 97 steals, 47 blocks), Ali Faruq-Bey (G, 6-2, Jr., Chicago, Ill., 15.0 ppg, 4.0 rpg, 54 steals), JJ Chirnside (F, 6-9, Jr., Grants Pass, Ore., 7.0 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 41 blocks).

Other Returning Players: Demetrius Trammell (G, 6-1, Jr., West Point, Ga., 9.9 ppg, 1.1 rpg).

Key Losses: Akil Reese (G), Evan Garrison (G), Malik Leaks (G), Yanick Kulich (F), Isaiah Edwards (G).

Top Freshmen: Darius Lubom (G, 6-1, Kent, Wash. - Kentwood), Rodney Hounshell (G, 6-3, Lake Oswego, Ore. - Lake Oswego).

Top Transfers: Malik Morgan (G, 6-0, Sr., Eugene, Ore. - Humboldt State Univ.), Vince Boumann (F, 6-9, Sr., McMinnville, Ore. - Point Loma Nazarene Univ.), Dustin Triano (G, 6-3, Sr., Vancouver, B.C. - Gonzaga Univ.), Brandell Evans (G, 6-2, Jr., Olympia, Wash. - Cochise CC).

WESTERN WASHINGTON

Head Coach: Tony Dominguez (Western Washington, 1994, 112-43, 6th Season)

Asst. Head Coach: David Dunham

Assistant Coaches: Bob Hofstetter, Atiavo Jude, Skyler Gillespie

2016-17 Overall Record: 25-6

GNAC Record (Finish): 17-3 (1st, GNAC Champions, Advanced To NCAA Regional)

Total Players Returning/Lost: 8/3

Starters Returning/Lost: 4/2

Returning Starters: Trey Drechsel (G, 6-6 Jr., Woodinville, Wash., 9.9 ppg, 5.1 rpg, .750 FT Pct.), Blake Fernandez (G, 6-1, Sr., Mountlake Terrace, Wash., 4.7 ppg, 2.5 rpg), Daulton Hommes (F, 6-7, So., Lynden, Wash., Honorable Mention All-GNAC, 12.5 ppg, 6.4 rpg, 2.0 assists per game, .479 3 Pt. Pct., .827 FT Pct.), Logan Schilder (C, 7-0, Jr., Bellingham, Wash., 5.5 ppg, 5.5 rpg, 1.9 blocked shots per game).

Other Returning Players: Deandre Dickson (F, 6-9, Sr., Woodinville, Wash., 14.1 ppg, 6.6 rpg, 1.0 blocks per game, .620 FG Pct.), Trevor Jasinsky (F, 6-7, So., Camas, Wash., 6.7 ppg, .456 3 Pt. Pct.), Brett Kingma (G, 6-1, Sr., Mill Creek, Wash., 4.3 ppg, .446 FG Pct., .415 3 Pt. Pct.), Brad Wallace (G, 5-11, Sr., Lacey, Wash., 1.6 ppg, 1.4 rpg).

Key Losses: Jeffrey Parker (F, First Team All-GNAC, Second Team NABC All-West Region), Taylor Stafford (G, GNAC Player of the Year, NABC First Team All-American), Evan Scholten (F).

Top Freshmen: Braden Ahlemeyer (F, 6-7, Sammamish, Wash. - Skyline), RJ Secrest (G, 6-2, Silverdale, Wash. - Central Kitsap).

Top Transfers: Tyler Payne (G, 6-1, Jr., Long Beach, Calif. - Cerritos JC), Micah Winn (G, 6-3, Jr., Los Angeles, Calif. - Cerritos JC), Leif Anderson (G, 6-1, Jr., Bellingham, Wash. - Whatcom CC), Elijah Cotton-Welch (G, 6-3, Jr., Tacoma, Wash. - Lower Columbia CC).