

# GREAT NORTHWEST ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Contact: Bob Guptill (509-535-5291/Fax 535-5293/e-mail – bguptill@gnacsports.com)

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## Volleyball: Alvord, Saindon Voted Top Player, Coach in GNAC

SPOKANE, WA – Western Washington middle blocker Angie Alvord, who ranks in the GNAC Top 10 in five different statistical categories, has been selected the *Great Northwest Athletic Conference Volleyball Player-of-the-Year*.

Western Oregon coach Brad Saindon, who led the Wolves to their first conference title since 1999 when they won the PacWest Conference championship, was selected the *GNAC Coach-of-the-Year* in his first season at WOU.

Alvord, who finished the regular-season ranked first in service aces (0.54), second in total points (4.78) and hitting percentage (.320), fourth in kills (3.68) and seventh in blocks (0.89), edged outside hitter Stacey Bennett of Western Oregon in the balloting for Player-of-the-Year.

Alvord received four first-place votes and Bennett had three. The two standouts were also the only unanimous selections to the first team.

Saindon, a 1976 graduate of Arizona State, was a near unanimous selection for Coach-of-the-Year. Saindon, who led the Wolves to a 22-2 record in his first season at WOU received eight of nine first-place votes.

Also winning special awards were Alaska Anchorage setter Calli Scott and Seattle Pacific libero Anna Herold. Scott, who ranks second in the conference in assists (10.62), was voted the *GNAC Newcomer-of-the-Year* receiving eight of the nine votes. while Herold who ranks third in digs (6.03) was selected the *GNAC Freshman-of-the-Year* earning five of the nine first-place votes.

Northwest Nazarene middle blocker Cammy Dranginis was named to the first team for the third year in a row. She is just the sixth player in GNAC history to receive first team honors in three consecutive seasons. Central Washington middle blocker Rachael Schurman was the only other repeat selection from last year's first team.

### 2008 GNAC ALL-CONFERENCE VOLLEYBALL TEAM

**Player-of-the-Year** – Angie Alvord, Western Washington. **Newcomer-of-the-Year** – Calli Scott, Alaska Anchorage. **Freshman-of-the-Year** – Anna Herold, Seattle Pacific. **Coach-of-the-Year** – Brad Saindon, Western Oregon.

**First Team** - \*Stacey Bennett, WOU (OH, 6-3, Sr., Portland, OR); Rhea Cardwell, UAA (OH, 5-10, Sr., Prineville, OR); Devon Crotteau, MSUB (OH, 6-0, Jr., Casper, WY); \*Angie Alvord, WWU (MB, 6-0, Sr., Laurel, WA); ++Cammy Dranginis, NNU (MB, 6-0, Jr., Nampa, ID); +Rachael Schurman, CWU (MB, 6-0, Sr., Spokane, WA); Korlyn Bolster, UAF (MB, 6-1, Sr., Guerneville, CA); Brandie Vea, CWU (L, 5-3, So., Honolulu, HI).

**Second Team** - Kayla Mainer, WOU (OH, 5-8, Sr., Spokane, WA); Nikki Finley, SPU (OH, 5-9, Jr., Highlands Ranch, CO); Megan Amundson, WWU (OH, 5-11, So., Stanwood, WA); Lindsay Forseth, NNU (OH, 6-0, Jr., Nampa, ID); Tiana Roma, WWU (MB, 6-0, Sr., Edmonds, WA); Calli Scott, UAA (S, 5-9, Jr., Scottsdale, AZ); Allison Gotz, WWU (L, 5-3, So., Bothell, WA).

**Honorable Mention** - Megan Thigpen, UAF (OH, 5-10, Jr., Spokane, WA); Erin Norris, CWU (OH, 5-10, Jr., Spokane, WA); Lisa Martini, WOU (OH, 5-8, Sr., Spokane, WA); Amanda Boschma, NNU (RS, 5-10, Sr., Kuna, ID); Cortney Lundberg, UAA (MB, 6-0, So., Hardin, MT); Robin De Jong, SPU (MB, 5-10, Jr., Goleta, CA); Laura Sakala, WOU (MB, 5-10, Jr., Bremerton, OR); Alexa Sherman, UAF (S, 5-9, Jr., Calabasas, CA); Joelle Perez, SPU (S, 5-9, So., Vancouver, WA); Amy Herron, WOU (S, 5-5, Jr., Spokane, WA); Kari Rice, WWU (S, 5-10, Jr., Toppenish, WA); Anna Herold, SPU (L, 5-8, Fr., Bothell, WA);Theresia Dever, SMU (L, 5-7, Fr., Bremerton, WA).

\*Unanimous + - Repeater ++ - Two-time repeater