



WAC WEBSITE

WAC standings, statistics, championships information, school links and more are available on the Internet at: www.wacsports.com

CD-ROM

A CD-ROM is available and contains images from each of the nine WAC schools. Included are portraits of student-athletes, coaches and administrators, as well as action pictures of the top student-athletes. School and WAC logos are also included. Please contact the WAC office to receive a copy of the CD-ROM.



Western Athletic Conference

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Western Athletic Conference

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CREDITS

The 2008 WAC Volleyball Media Guide is compiled and published by the WAC office with the assistance and cooperation of the conference's sports information directors and their staffs.

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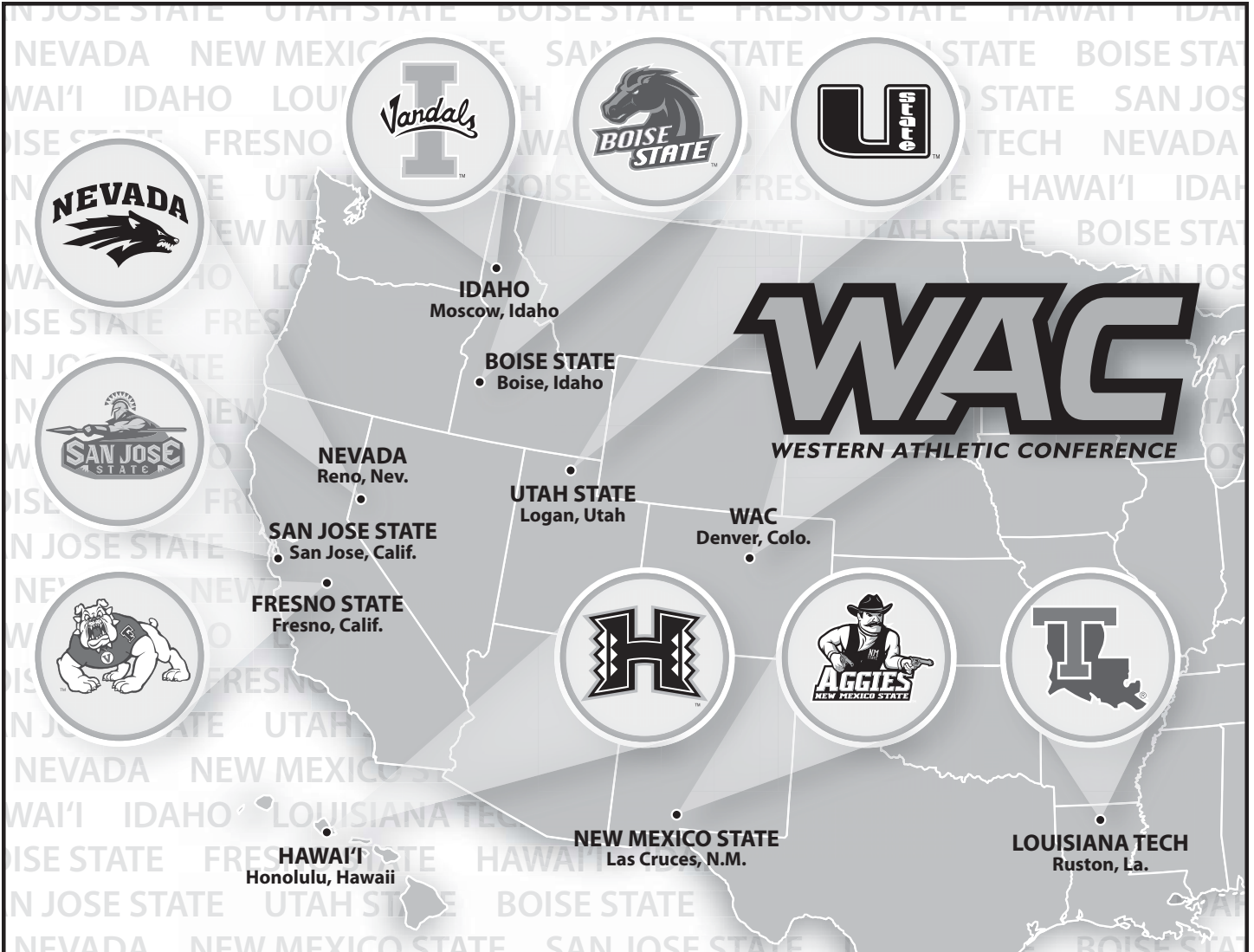
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Cottrell Printing-Centennial, Colo.



WAC SCHOOLS COMMIT TO IMPROVEMENT

- BOISE STATE**
- FRESNO STATE**
- HAWAII**
- IDAHO**
- LOUISIANA TECH**
- NEVADA**
- NEW MEXICO STATE**
- SAN JOSE STATE**
- UTAH STATE**



The nine members of the Western Athletic Conference are committed to growing their athletic programs from good to great and from great to exemplary. In no time since the WAC's founding in 1962, has the membership been so supportive of a league direction or idea.

On each campus, WAC schools are making great strides to improve both athletically and academically. Whether that means better facilities, better academic support, or more financial and personnel resources, all WAC schools are making new commitments to their athletic departments. What this means for prospective and current student-athletes is a concerted effort to make their college athletic experience more rewarding and fulfilling.

Play Up is not a slogan. It is a reminder and a promise to do the little things to get better each day. Whether that is working towards a personal goal, a team goal, or an institutional goal, Play Up is a league-wide commitment to get better. For some schools, the starting point of this improvement is higher than for other schools. Regardless of the starting point, each school is improving both academically and athletically.

As for the WAC staff, it is committed to cultivating success among its members, while also increasing exposure and revenue. Concurrently, it is also upgrading the college athletic experience for all of its student-athletes.



BOISE STATE

ACADEMIC: Boise State University, which recently celebrated its 75th anniversary (2007-08), is the largest institution of higher education in Idaho with over 19,500 students. The metropolitan research university features the 12th-ranked engineering program in the nation among public, comprehensive institutions, the state's largest nursing program and a growing biomedical research agenda among its 190 fields of study.

ATHLETIC: Boise State Athletics is in the midst of an Initiative For Athletic Excellence campaign, with facility upgrades being a major priority. Opened in February of 2006, the 95,000 square foot Caven-Williams Sports Complex contains a full 100 yard indoor practice facility as well as a training room, locker rooms and offices. In August of 2008 the Stueckle Sky Club will open at Bronco Stadium. The three story structure will house a new press box, more than 30 luxury suites, a full level of club seats and a loge level with over 40 four-seat boxes. Additionally, the new structure will include the multi-purpose Double R Ranch Club for meetings, gatherings, receptions and pre-game activities in a unique setting above the blue turf of Bronco Stadium.

MEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field, Wrestling

WOMEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Gymnastics, Soccer, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field, Volleyball, Skiing, Swimming & Diving, Softball



Location: Boise, Idaho
Nickname: Broncos
Joined WAC: 2001

FRESNO STATE

ACADEMIC: Fresno State has gained positive regional, national and international attention for its commitment to growth and progress as it transforms itself into one of the nation's premier regional public universities. The most visible evidence on campus of Fresno State's dynamic change is the renovation of the Henry Madden Library, already the academic cornerstone of the campus and the largest academic library between Sacramento and Los Angeles. Improvements will greatly expand the library's ability to serve students, scholars and the general public and make room for more special collections.

ATHLETIC: Fresno State won four Western Athletic Conference championships in 2007-08 and one individual WAC title. Women's Golf, Women's Tennis, Women's Basketball and Baseball each won conference titles, while Laura Luethke won the women's golf title. Fresno State won its seventh straight women's tennis title and reached the round of 16 in the NCAA Tournament for the third year in a row, while the doubles team of Melanie Gloria and Tinesta Rowe were the national runners-up. Baseball swept the WAC regular season and tournament titles for the third straight year and went on to win the National Championship after an amazing run through the NCAA Tournament. The softball team made its NCAA record 27th straight trip to the NCAA Tournament while women's golf and women's basketball made their first. The football team won the Roady's Humanitarian Bowl over Georgia Tech, winning four out of their last five bowl games.

MEN'S SPORTS: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field

WOMEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Equestrian, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field, Volleyball



Location: Fresno, Calif.
Nickname: Bulldogs
Joined WAC: 1992

HAWAI'I



Location: Honolulu, Hawaii
Nickname: Warriors/
Rainbows/Wahine
Joined WAC: 1979

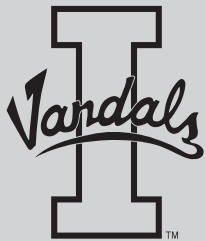
ACADEMIC: Graduate programs at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa were once again recognized among the nation's best, according to US News and World Report's "America's Best Graduate Schools 2009." The UH Law School placed 82nd on the list, the highest of any small law school in the country. The Law School is also the 14th most selective school with regard to the applications/admissions ratio, and its faculty/student ratio is among the top five in the country. The College of Education remains as one of the top 100 teacher preparation schools in the nation, ranking in the top 23 percent.

ATHLETIC: The UH Athletics Department finished the 2007-08 season with WAC Championships in four sports; women's soccer, women's volleyball, football, and men's tennis. In addition, diver Emma Friesen captured the NCAA title in the 1-meter springboard, becoming the program's second national champion in the sport. The Warrior football team completed a 12-0 regular season and earned the program's first trip to a BCS bowl game, against Georgia in the Allstate Sugar Bowl. All-American quarterback Colt Brennan finished third in the Heisman Trophy voting. A total of 11 UH sports competed in national postseason play.

MEN'S SPORTS: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Golf, Tennis, Volleyball

WOMEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field, Volleyball, Water Polo

IDAHO



Location: Moscow, Idaho
Nickname: Vandals
Joined WAC: 2005

ACADEMIC: Idaho students continue to earn a number of prestigious, national scholarships. In the spring of 2008, Cassie Byrne and Nathan Larson both received the National Security Education Program David L. Boren Scholarship that funds a year of Arabic language and culture studies in Jordan. Junior Lissa Firor was awarded a Morris K. Udall Scholarship - one of 80 students nationally chosen for the award. Bryan J. Wilson and Joshua R. Pohlman are Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship recipients. Since 1991, University of Idaho students have garnered 22 Goldwater scholarships, the most in the state. Chris Chandler ('08) received a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship that allows him to study nutritional anthropology in Zimbabwe. Anna Makowski ('08) is the recipient of a Fulbright Teaching Assistantship award and she will study and teach English in Columbia. In addition, 12 University of Idaho students were selected as NASA interns for summer 2008 and worked and studied at three NASA locations in the U.S.

ATHLETIC: Idaho launched a \$52 million fund-raising campaign to renovate the Kibbie Dome. When school resumes this fall, the athletic training room and equipment rooms will have been renovated. New team areas with meeting rooms and a 100-plus seat theater style classroom will be ready. Retired broadcast Bob Curtis is the co-recipient of the National Football Foundation/College Football Hall of Fame Chris Schenkel Award. He covered the Vandals for more than 50 years and broadcast 540 consecutive football games. ... Athletic director Dr. Rob Spear was appointed to the NCAA Division I Legislative Council.

MEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field

WOMEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field, Volleyball

LOUISIANA TECH



Location: Ruston, La.
Nickname: Bulldogs/Lady Techsters
Joined WAC: 2001

ACADEMIC: Louisiana Tech ranks No. 1 in the state of Louisiana and No. 1 in the Western Athletic Conference in graduation rate among student-athletes (2007 Federal Graduation Rate Report). Tech was ranked in the top 10 in the country by Small Times Magazine for commercializing nanotechnology inventions. Tech also boasts the world's first recipient of a bachelor's degree in nano-systems engineering as the university was the first to offer the bachelor of science degree.

ATHLETIC: Louisiana Tech's commitment to improve its athletic facilities is illustrated by a \$50 million project that is underway and includes new track facilities, new tennis courts, new bowling alleys and a new Olympic-sized swimming pool. The Louisiana Tech women's track and field team won its fourth-straight WAC Outdoor title in 2008 and its third WAC Indoor title in four years. The Lady Techster softball team captured the 2008 Western Athletic Conference Tournament title and participated to the NCAA Tournament where it advanced to the championship game of the College Station regional.

MEN'S SPORTS: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field

WOMEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Bowling, Cross Country, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field, Volleyball



NEVADA

ACADEMIC: One of the nation's top research universities, according to the Carnegie Foundation, the University of Nevada features 76 undergraduate degrees and more than 100 graduate degree programs. The University is in the midst of the largest construction project in school history, building the 167,000-square foot Joe Crowley Student Union, which opened in the fall of 2007, and the 295,000-square foot Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, a state-of-the-art new library which will open in the fall of 2008.

ATHLETIC: The Wolf Pack is in the midst of one of the most successful eras in school history. Nevada has won 17 WAC regular-season and tournament championships in its eight years as a member of the league. Graduation rates continue to climb, while 78 student-athletes graduated during the 2006-07 academic year. The athletics department recently opened the Marguerite Wattis Petersen Foundation Academic Center, the final project in the E.L. Cord Foundation Academic and Athletics Performance Complex, a 46,000-square foot facility designed provide Wolf Pack student-athletes with top-notch resources in all support areas.

MEN'S SPORTS: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Golf, Tennis, Skiing

WOMEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field, Skiing, Volleyball

MIXED: Rifle



Location: Reno, Nev.
Nickname: Wolf Pack
Joined WAC: 2000

NEW MEXICO STATE

ACADEMIC: For the fifth consecutive semester, the department's athletic teams, as a whole, posted a semester grade-point average of 3.0 and a cumulative grade-point above a 3.0. As was the case during the spring semester of 2007, student-athletes who earned a semester or cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or higher represented over 50 percent of the total student-athlete population at New Mexico State. A total of 196 student-athletes, representing all 16 varsity sports, earned a semester or cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or higher this fall. All athletic teams' GPAs combined posted a semester grade-point average above 3.0 for the 2007 fall semester. A total of 203 student-athletes earned a grade-point average of 3.0 or higher during the fall semester. Forty-four student-athletes posted a fall 2007 grade-point-average of 4.0. These student-athletes represented baseball, football, softball, cross country, women's swimming and diving, men's tennis, equestrian, women's tennis, track and field and volleyball.

ATHLETIC: The New Mexico State men's basketball team won a share of the 2007-08 regular season title. The Aggie men's golf team won their second WAC Championship in three years in 2007-08. The Aggie volleyball team advanced to the NCAA Volleyball Tournament for the fourth time in the last five seasons, finishing regular season and the conference tournament in second-place. The NMSU women's basketball team had one of their most successful seasons in recent year, finishing with a 23-9 on the year and making the conference championship game for the third straight year. Aggie Memorial Stadium underwent a major renovation project, which included a new meeting facility with a theater-style meeting room and two smaller meeting rooms, as well as the addition of a Jumbo Tran on the north end of the stadium.

MEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field, Wrestling

WOMEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Gymnastics, Soccer, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field, Volleyball, Skiing, Swimming & Diving



Location: Las Cruces, N.M.
Nickname: Aggies
Joined WAC: 2005





SAN JOSE STATE



Location: San Jose, Calif.
Nickname: Spartans
Joined WAC: 1996

ACADEMIC: The oldest and one of the largest universities in the 23-campus California State University (CSU) system, SJSU attracts students from throughout California, the United States and 100 countries. For the past six years, San Jose State has been ranked among the top ten masters-level public universities in the West according to U.S. News & World Report. San Jose State provides more engineering, science and business graduates to Silicon Valley companies than any other college or university in the United States. More than 200 SJSU graduates have founded, co-founded, served or serve as senior executives or officers of public and private companies reporting annual sales between \$40 million and \$26 billion.

ATHLETIC: San Jose State University has won more NCAA team championships and Spartan student-athletes have captured more NCAA individual titles than any current Western Athletic Conference member. Football's 2006 New Mexico Bowl win, the women's gymnastics team competing in three of the last six NCAA Regional Championships and the women's water polo team consistently ranking among the nation's top-10 programs are among the program's recent competitive highlights. In each of the last two years, increasingly more student-athletes earned academic all-WAC recognition than ever before. Overall, approximately three dozen former San Jose State student-athletes are listed on professional sports teams' rosters. Current top professionals include quarterback Jeff Garcia and kicker Joe Nedney; San Francisco Giants infielder Kevin Frandsen; golfers Arron Oberholser, Juli Inkster and Pat Hurst.

MEN'S SPORTS: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Soccer

WOMEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Gymnastics, Soccer, Softball, Swimming & Diving, Tennis, Volleyball, Water Polo

UTAH STATE



Location: Logan, Utah
Nickname: Aggies
Joined WAC: 2005

ACADEMIC: Utah State University celebrated its 120th birthday in March, 2008 at its annual Founders Day party. USU President Stan L. Albrecht announced at the celebration that the university had exceeded its \$200 million comprehensive campaign goal only one year after the announcement of the campaign's public phase. Utah entrepreneur and businessman Marc Bingham and his wife, Debbie, donated \$15 million to Utah State University's Uintah Basin campus to fund construction of an Entrepreneurship and Energy Research Center. The gift will be the largest private gift in USU's history. Jon M. Huntsman and his wife, Karen H. Huntsman, gave nearly \$26 million to support the School of Business. Approximately \$1 million will be used as scholarship support for USU students from Armenia. In recognition of the gift, the College of Business has changed its name to the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business. The Emma Eccles Jones Foundation made a \$25 million gift to USU's College of Education and Human Services. The College has been renamed the Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services and the gift will be used for construction of an additional education and research building and to fund a number of endowed professorships in early childhood education.

ATHLETIC: Utah State University won WAC Championships in men's cross country, men's indoor track and field, and men's basketball during the 2007-08 academic year, while the Aggie men finished second during the outdoor track season. USU's volleyball and women's cross country teams placed third in the WAC during their seasons, while women's soccer and both women's track programs finished the year fourth. Utah State also had plenty of success in the classroom as well, as its student-athletes traditionally rank among the best in the Western Athletic Conference with a 77 percent graduation rate and a cumulative 3.06 grade-point average. During the 2007-08 academic year, USU had 130 student-athletes earn academic all-WAC honors and 152 were recognized at its annual Joe E. and Elma Whitesides Luncheon for earning a 3.2 or better GPA.

MEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field

WOMEN'S SPORTS: Basketball, Cross Country, Gymnastics, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, Indoor/Outdoor Track & Field, Volleyball



- BOISE STATE
- FRESNO STATE
- HAWAII
- IDAHO
- LOUISIANA TECH
- NEVADA
- NEW MEXICO STATE
- SAN JOSE STATE
- UTAH STATE

**Good is good,
but it is not great.**

**Be Great.
Play Up.**



WESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

SINCE 1962

In its 47th year, the Western Athletic Conference continues to evolve and features some of the nation's best intercollegiate competition. One thing that remains unchanged is the persistent nature of the nine schools in the WAC to advance their programs to contend at the top levels of the NCAA.

The WAC provides its student-athletes the chance to travel to scenic destinations and gain exposure in some of the nation's most diverse markets. In addition, the WAC's student-athletes work to achieve the highest levels of success with the academic support of their respective institutions.

CONTINUED SUCCESS

The WAC has experienced tremendous success. Over the past six years, it has won 54.5 percent of its bowl games, the third best winning percentage of any conference in the nation. The WAC has sent a total of 22 teams to bowl games (12-10) in that period. Boise State has won 76 games since joining the conference, the most in the nation during that time span (2001-07). For the second year in a row, the WAC sent a team to a BCS bowl game as Hawai'i earned a Sugar Bowl bid this past season following Boise State's unforgettable victory in the 2007 Fiesta Bowl. In men's basketball, the WAC has sent at least two teams to the NCAA Tournament in 23 of the past 25 seasons. Every current school in the WAC has competed in the NCAA Tournament since 1990. In baseball, the WAC has boasted two national champions in the past five years including Fresno State's College World Series victory in 2008. In women's sports, Fresno State softball has competed in every NCAA Tournament ever held while Louisiana Tech basketball has played in all but two.

Current WAC alums have made their presence felt as well. David Carr (Fresno State) was the first player selected in the 2002 NFL Draft. Cheryl Ford (Louisiana Tech) was named the WNBA Rookie of the Year and helped the Detroit Shock win the league's championship in 2003. And in 2004, the United States' softball team won the Olympic gold medal with former Fresno State players Laura Berg and Lovie Jung.

In 2001, the WAC partnered with ESPN for coverage of football and basketball giving the conference national exposure from one of the most respected broadcast entities in the country. The WAC officially added WAC.tv in 2006 to give fans streaming internet access to many of its postseason championships including volleyball, soccer, swimming and diving, basketball, gymnastics, softball and baseball.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The WAC is the sixth oldest among the nation's 11 Division I-A conferences. Its history traces back to July 27, 1962, when the original six-team league of Arizona, Arizona State, Brigham Young, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming began competition.

The first championship was held in November 1962, when Arizona won the men's cross country title and New Mexico followed with the first WAC football title. Arizona finished second in the NCAA College World Series and, less than three years later, Arizona State claimed the league's first NCAA title when the Sun Devils won the College World Series trophy. Fresno State was the last WAC school to earn an NCAA team title when it won the College World Series in 2008.

Since the WAC's inception, several changes have occurred. UTEP and Colorado State became members in September 1967, while Arizona and Arizona State withdrew on June 30, 1978. The WAC then added San Diego State (1978), Hawai'i (1979) and Air Force (1980). Before 1990,

the WAC sponsored championships only in men's sports. However, a merger with the High Country Athletic Conference formed a single conference under one administrative structure, and the 1990-91 athletic year was the first in which both men and women competed under the WAC name. Fresno State was added in 1992, and then in 1996, the women's programs from Air Force and Hawai'i along with six new schools (UNLV, Rice, San Jose State, SMU, TCU and Tulsa) came into the WAC. Air Force, Brigham Young, Colorado State, UNLV, New Mexico, San Diego State, Utah and Wyoming withdrew on June 30, 1999. Nevada (2000), Boise State (2001) and Louisiana Tech (2001) were added while TCU withdrew following the 2000-01 season. The current membership was established on July 1, 2005, when Idaho, New Mexico State and Utah State joined the WAC after Rice, SMU, UTEP and Tulsa withdrew.

The WAC has had just five commissioners in its history. Paul Brechler was named the first leader of the conference and held the position from 1962-1968. He was followed by Wiles Hallock (1968-71), Stan Bates (1971-80), Dr. Joe Kearney (1980-94) and Karl Benson (1994-present).

WAC CHAMPIONS

Presently, the WAC crowns team and individual champions in 19 sports – eight men's and 11 women's. For the men, there are championships in baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, tennis, indoor track and field and outdoor track and field. Championships for women are held in basketball, cross country, golf, gymnastics, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, indoor track and field, outdoor track and field and volleyball.

The WAC office has been located in the Denver area since the conference's inception with the exception of a two-year stay in Phoenix from 1964-66.



WAC Founding Fathers

Kneeling L-R: New Mexico FR Guido Daub, WAC SID Don Smith, BYU FR Dean Milton Hartvigsen. **Sitting L-R:** Wyoming FR Dean H.T. Person, ASU AD Clyde Smith, Arizona FR Tom Hall. **Standing L-R:** ASU FR Al Thomas, Utah FR Dean L. David Hiner, Utah AD Bud Jack, Wyoming AD Red Jacoby, New Mexico AD Pete McDavid, WAC Commissioner Paul Brechler.



NCAA TEAM TITLES

24 NCAA team titles have been won by the nine members of the WAC

Baseball

2008 Fresno State

Women's Basketball

1982 Louisiana Tech

1988 Louisiana Tech

Boxing

1940 Idaho

1941 Idaho

1950 Idaho

1958 San Jose State

1959 San Jose State

1960 San Jose State

Men's Cross Country

1962 San Jose State

1963 San Jose State

Football

1973 Louisiana Tech (II)

1980 Boise State (I-AA)

Men's Golf

1948 San Jose State

Women's Golf

1987 San Jose State

1989 San Jose State

1992 San Jose State

Softball

1998 Fresno State

Tennis

1968 Fresno State (II)

Men's Outdoor Track and Field

1964 Fresno State (II)

1969 San Jose State

Women's Volleyball

1982 Hawai'i

1983 Hawai'i

1987 Hawai'i



Fresno State won the 2008 National Championship in baseball

NCAA INDIVIDUAL TITLES

132 NCAA individual titles have been won by the nine teams in the WAC

Boise State (7)

Skiing1

Men's Indoor Track and Field.....1

Men's Outdoor Track and Field3

Wrestling2

Fresno State (19)

Men's Indoor Track and Field.....3

Women's Indoor Track and Field.....2

Men's Outdoor Track and Field10

Wrestling4

Hawai'i (9)

Boxing3

Women's Swimming and Diving4

Men's Indoor Track and Field.....1

Women's Outdoor Track and Field1

Idaho (23)

Boxing16

Skiing3

Men's Outdoor Track and Field3

Women's Outdoor Track and Field1

Louisiana Tech (1)

Men's Outdoor Track and Field1

Nevada (17)

Boxing2

Rifle1

Skiing5

Women's Swimming and Diving3

Men's Indoor Track1

Men's Outdoor Track5

San Jose State (50)

Boxing17

Men's Fencing1

Women's Fencing1

Men's Golf2

Women's Golf1

Men's Tennis1

Men's Indoor Track and Field.....3

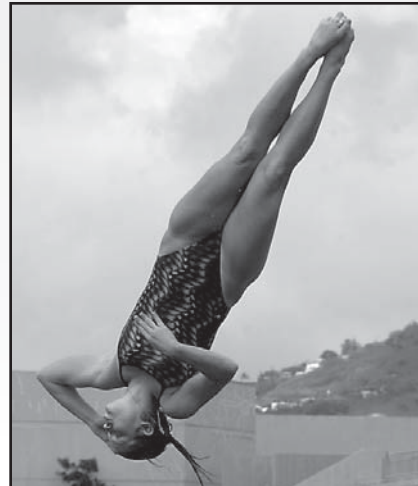
Men's Outdoor Track and Field24

Utah State (6)

Men's Golf1

Men's Indoor Track and Field.....2

Men's Outdoor Track and Field3



Hawai'i's Emma Friesen was the 2008 National Champion on the 1-meter springboard

PAST TEAM TITLES

33 NCAA team titles were won by former members of the WAC

Baseball

1965 Arizona State

1967 Arizona State

1969 Arizona State

1976 Arizona

1977 Arizona State

2003 Rice

Men's Cross Country

1969 UTEP

1975 UTEP

1976 UTEP

1978 UTEP

1979 UTEP

1980 UTEP

1981 UTEP

Women's Cross Country

1997 Brigham Young

Football

1984 Brigham Young

Men's Golf

1981 Brigham Young

1998 UNLV

Women's Gymnastics

1992 Utah

Men's Indoor Track and Field

1974 UTEP

1975 UTEP

1976 UTEP

1978 UTEP

1980 UTEP

1981 UTEP

1982 UTEP

Men's Outdoor Track and Field

1970 Brigham Young

1975 UTEP

1977 Arizona State

1978 UTEP

1979 UTEP

1980 UTEP

1981 UTEP

1982 UTEP

July 27, 1962-The original charter for the Western Athletic Conference is signed by the presidents of the charter member universities. Paul Brechler is named the WAC's first commissioner.

November 10, 1962-Arizona State wins the first WAC championship as it captures the cross country title.

December 19, 1964-Utah becomes the first school since the formation of the conference to participate in a bowl game as it defeats West Virginia, 32-6, in the Liberty Bowl.

March 20, 1966-Utah becomes the first school to reach the NCAA Final Four, and Brigham Young captures the championship of the National Invitation Tournament.

September 20, 1967-UTEP becomes the WAC's seventh member.

September 26, 1968-Colorado State becomes the WAC's eighth member.

September 1, 1969-Wiles Hallock replaces Paul Brechler as commissioner.

July 1, 1971-Stan Bates becomes the WAC's third commissioner as he replaces Wiles Hallock.

December 27, 1971-The first Fiesta Bowl, originated to match the WAC champion against an at-large team, is played in Tempe, Ariz. Arizona State defeats Florida State, 45-38.

December 27, 1976-The Presidents' Council receives official notification of the intention of Arizona and Arizona State to seek affiliation with the then-Pacific-8 Conference.

April 8, 1977-San Diego State University is extended an invitation of membership effective July 1, 1978.

May 2, 1977-The University of Hawai'i is extended a membership invitation dependent upon the institution's meeting of certain criteria set by the Council.

June 30, 1978-Arizona and Arizona State officially withdraw from the conference.

September 29, 1978-The University of Hawai'i officially is approved as a member effective July 1, 1979.

December 22, 1978-After a seven-year tie to the Fiesta Bowl, the WAC begins a new affiliation with the Holiday Bowl in San Diego.

August 29, 1979-The United States Air Force Academy is accepted as a member effective July 1, 1980.

May 1, 1980-Dr. Joe Kearney is named the fourth commissioner in conference history as he replaces Stan Bates.

May 1, 1983-The Presidents' Council approves the concept for a WAC Basketball Tournament beginning in 1984.

December 21, 1984-Brigham Young University earns the conference's first national football championship with a victory over Michigan in the Holiday Bowl to complete a 13-0 season.

July 16, 1987-The WAC and KUTV of Salt Lake City agree to the conference's first one-million-dollar package for the regional syndication of men's basketball games.

February 23, 1988-The WAC and the Holiday Bowl reach an agreement for the conference champion to host the game through the 1992 season.

May 9, 1990-The WAC and ESPN agree to the conference's first contract for the telecast of men's basketball games by a national network.

July 1, 1990-The WAC merges with the High Country Athletic Conference to form a single conference for men's and women's athletics.

December 1, 1991-BYU's Ty Detmer wins the Heisman Trophy, a first for a WAC athlete.

June 12, 1991-Fresno State is accepted as the WAC's 10th member effective July 1, 1992.

June 10, 1992-The WAC selects the Delta Center in Salt Lake City as the site for its men's and women's basketball tournaments. Commissioner Kearney announces his retirement effective July 1, 1994.

August 13, 1992-The WAC is included in the Western Bowl Alliance, which guarantees at least one conference team an appearance in the Aloha and Copper Bowls for the next two years.

April 20, 1994-Karl Benson is appointed the fifth commissioner in league history, replacing Dr. Joe Kearney.

April 21, 1994-The WAC Council of Presidents extends an invitation of membership to UNLV, Rice, San Jose State, SMU, TCU and Tulsa.

June 6, 1994-The University Arena in Albuquerque is chosen as the site of the 1995 and 1996 WAC men's and women's basketball tournaments.

June 14, 1994-The WAC signs a multi-year football contract with ESPN and ABC.

January, 1995-For the first time, three WAC football teams finish the season ranked among the nation's top 25 in both the USA Today/CNN Coaches' Poll and the Associated Press Top 25.

May 1, 1995-The Thomas and Mack Center in Las Vegas is selected as the site of the 1997 and 1998 WAC men's and women's basketball tournaments.

May 9, 1995-The WAC signs a multi-year contract with ESPN for the telecast of 22 men's and two women's basketball games annually, the largest such contract in WAC history and the first national telecast of WAC women's basketball. The WAC becomes the only conference in the country with an exclusive contract with ESPN for football and basketball.

June 5, 1995-The WAC Council of Presidents select Las Vegas' Sam Boyd Stadium as the site for the 1996 and 1997 WAC Football Championship Game.

December 11, 1995-The WAC's first web site is published.

February 19, 1996-The MGM Grand Garden arena is selected as the site of the inaugural WAC volleyball tournament, to be contested Nov. 26-30 in Las Vegas.

February 26, 1996-The WAC Council selects Pacific and Mountain as the names for the newly-created divisions to be instituted in 1996-97.

July 1, 1996-The WAC becomes the nation's largest NCAA Division I-A conference with 16 members competing in 11 men's and 10 women's championship sports.

November 26-30, 1996-The WAC hosts its first ever Volleyball Tournament at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. Brigham Young defeats Hawai'i, 3-2, in the championship match.

December 7, 1996-Brigham Young and Wyoming play in the inaugural WAC Football Championship game at Sam Boyd Stadium in Las Vegas. Brigham Young wins the game in overtime, 28-25, before a record-setting crowd of 41,238, the largest for a team sporting event in Nevada.

January 1, 1997-The WAC has its second team ever play in a New Year's Day bowl. Brigham Young defeats Kansas State in the Cotton Bowl, 19-15, and sets the record for most wins by a Division IA school with 14.

June 23, 1997-The WAC becomes a Bowl Alliance member beginning with the 1998 season.

November 24, 1997-Brigham Young wins the women's NCAA national championship in cross country. It's the first-ever women's national title in WAC history.

March 30, 1998-The Utah Runnin' Utes advance to the NCAA men's basketball title game. Utah leads most of the game, but bows out in the final five minutes to Kentucky.

May 25, 1998-Fresno State's softball team wins the national championship with a 1-0 victory over Arizona.

May 27-30, 1998-UNLV wins the men's NCAA golf title. It's the third national championship for a WAC team during the 1997-98 season.

November 28, 1998-Hawai'i and Brigham Young meet in the WAC Volleyball Tournament final and the Wahine win, 15-12, 21-19, 13-15, 16-18, 24-22. The 89 points scored by Hawai'i sets a new NCAA record.

June 7, 1999-Selland Arena in Fresno is chosen as the site for the 2000 men's and women's basketball tournaments. Tulsa's Reynolds Center is selected for the 2001 tournaments.



Paul Brechler
1962-69



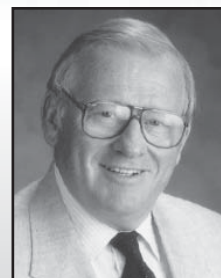
Wiles Hallock
1969-71



Original WAC Logo
1962



Stan Bates
1971-80



Joe Kearney
1980-94

FORMER WAC COMMISSIONERS

June 8, 1999-The WAC signs a two-year football and basketball television deal with Fox Sports Net.

June 10, 1999-The WAC Council of Presidents extends an invitation of membership to Nevada beginning July 1, 2000.

June 30, 1999-Air Force, Brigham Young, Colorado State, UNLV, New Mexico, San Diego State, Utah and Wyoming officially withdraw from the conference.

October 17, 1999-The WAC Council of Presidents invites Boise State and Louisiana Tech to join the league on July 1, 2001.

December 25, 1999-The Hawai'i football team breaks the NCAA record with an eight and a half game improvement in wins from the previous year with a 23-17 victory over Oregon State in the Oahu Bowl.

July 1, 2000-The University of Nevada becomes an official member of the WAC and increases the membership to nine schools.

December 31, 2000-Fresno State competes in the inaugural Silicon Valley Football Classic in San Jose.

March 29, 2001-The University of Tulsa wins the men's basketball NIT title with a 79-60 victory over Alabama.

June 5, 2001-Tulsa's Reynolds Center is chosen as the site for the 2002 men's and women's basketball tournaments.

June 20, 2001-The WAC signs a three-year deal with ESPN for telecasts of football and basketball.

July 1, 2001-Boise State University and Louisiana Tech University become official members of the WAC, while TCU withdraws. This increases the membership to 10 schools.

January 17, 2002-Tulsa is chosen as the host for the 2003 basketball tournaments.

August 7, 2002-The WAC initiates an innovative and creative two-year pilot project to create an academic alliance among its 10 member institutions.

Nov. 12, 2002-Fresno State's brand new Save Mart Center is chosen as the site for the 2004 WAC Basketball Tournament while Nevada is picked as host for the 2005 tournament.

December 31, 2002-Boise State and Fresno State both win their bowl games. The Broncos beat Iowa State 34-16 in the Humanitarian Bowl, while the Bulldogs defeated Georgia Tech, 30-21, in the Silicon Valley Football Classic.

February 22, 2003-The men's basketball teams from Fresno State, Hawai'i, Louisiana Tech and Tulsa compete in ESPN's inaugural Bracket Buster Saturday event.

June 23, 2003-Rice wins the NCAA title in baseball, the school's first team title in any sport.

October 23, 2003-The WAC Board of Directors extends invitations for membership to New Mexico State and Utah State, effective July 1, 2005.

June 4, 2004-The WAC Board of Directors extends an invitation for membership to the University of Idaho, effective July 1, 2005.

October 1, 2004-The University of Nevada is selected as the the host for the 2006 WAC Basketball Tournament.

November 2, 2004-Sacramento State is added as an affiliate member in baseball beginning with the 2006 season.

December 31, 2004-Boise State's 22-game winning streak comes to an end in the Liberty Bowl. The Broncos finish the season in the top 15 for the third consecutive year.

April 7, 2005-The WAC announces the addition of women's gymnastics beginning in 2005-06. Also reinstated postseason tournaments for both softball and baseball for 2006.

July 1, 2005-Idaho, New Mexico State and Utah State become official members of the WAC. Rice, SMU, UTEP and Tulsa withdraw giving the WAC a total of nine members.

July 27, 2005-The WAC unveils its new marketing campaign, "Play Up".

November 10, 2005-Fresno State defeats Boise State, 27-7, in football, ending the Broncos' WAC-record 31-game conference winning streak.

November 11, 2005-New Mexico State is named host for the 2007 and 2008 WAC basketball tournaments.

November 19, 2005-Fresno State leads top-ranked and two-time defending national champion USC, 42-41, midway through the fourth quarter, before dropping the game 50-42.

November 24, 2005-The WAC streams its first sporting event (the opening match of the volleyball tournament) via the internet using WAC.TV.

February 17-18, 2006-The WAC goes 3-1 in BracketBusters as Nevada, Louisiana Tech and Utah State earn men's basketball wins.

March 26, 2006-The WAC sponsors its first WAC Women's Gymnastics championship since 1993 in Logan, Utah.

April 3, 2006-Louisiana Tech men's basketball player Paul Millsap becomes the first in NCAA history to lead the nation in rebounding three years in a row.

January 1, 2007-Boise State becomes the first WAC team to play in a BCS bowl game and beats Oklahoma in the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, 43-42, in overtime.

February 16-17, 2007-Boise State, Nevada, New Mexico State and Utah State win men's basketball games to give the WAC a perfect 4-0 record in BracketBusters.

April 28-29, 2007-A total of 17 WAC football players were chosen in the NFL Draft, the most ever (per school) in the seven-round format.

January 1, 2008-Hawai'i becomes the second WAC team to play in a BCS bowl game in two years, taking on Georgia in the Allstate Sugar Bowl.

June 25, 2008-Fresno State wins the national championship in baseball. The Bulldogs beat Georgia in the best-of-three series, 6-1, in the deciding game.



KARL BENSON
Commissioner

When Karl Benson was named the fifth commissioner in the history of the Western Athletic Conference on April 20, 1994, he brought with him a wealth of experience and a personal history of success to the position.

Since that time, Benson not only has laid a strong foundation for the WAC's future, he also steered the conference through unsettled times during the late 1990s and again a few years later when the defection of member institutions threatened the WAC.

Through his leadership and vision, it didn't take long for the WAC to regain its place among the nation's top Division I conferences. Benson has spearheaded conference expansion with the additions of Nevada, Boise State and Louisiana Tech a few years ago and an additional round of expansion with the invitations of New Mexico State, Utah State and Idaho two years ago.

Nationally, Benson has earned the respect of his peers after serving on the NCAA

Management Council from 1999-2002, and a five-year term on the NCAA Men's Basketball Committee from 2002-06.

Benson hit the ground running when he was hired in 1994 and initiated several programs that improved the conference's national position in virtually every category. He was instrumental in developing multi-year agreements with the Holiday Bowl, Cotton Bowl, Copper Bowl, Las Vegas Bowl, Silicon Valley Football Classic, GMAC Bowl and currently, the Humanitarian Bowl, Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl and New Mexico Bowl.

In the summer of 2005, he implemented "Play Up" a new marketing campaign to improve the public and private perceptions of the WAC and its members through national, local and regional touch points. The conference officially added WAC.tv prior to the 2006-07 season, giving fans streaming video access to many of the sports offered by the WAC and nearly every home football, volleyball and basketball game.

In 1995-96, the WAC signed an exclusive multi-year agreement with ESPN for the unprecedented live telecast of its basketball and football. Included in that deal was a women's basketball contract, the first in conference history. Currently, a second agreement with ESPN and ABC has resulted in 63 football games being televised over the past four years.

Benson came to the WAC after four successful years as the commissioner of the Mid-American Conference. There, he implemented several innovative projects and was instrumental in the

formation of the Las Vegas Bowl.

Prior to taking the reins of the MAC, Benson served on the NCAA staff for more than four years where he was the director of NCAA championships when selected as MAC commissioner.

Benson joined the NCAA staff in January, 1986, as a compliance representative and was appointed assistant director of championships in June, 1987. He was promoted to director of championships in 1988. In that position, Benson actively supervised eight assistant directors in their administration of 68 NCAA championships.

A native of the state of Washington, Benson graduated from high school in Pullman in 1970, attended Spokane Falls Community College and then received a bachelor of science degree in physical education from Boise State University in 1975. He has also completed course work toward his master's degree in athletics administration at the University of Utah.

Benson played baseball at both Spokane Falls Community College and Boise State University before serving as the baseball coach at Fort Steilacoom Community College in Tacoma, Wash., for eight years and as the director of athletics at Fort Steilacoom from 1979-84. From 1984-86, he was an assistant baseball coach and an administrative assistant in the athletics department at Utah.

He received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Boise State in April of 2006.

Benson was born on December 1, 1951 and has one daughter, Jessie, 16.



JEFF HURD
Senior Associate
Commissioner

Jeff Hurd joined the WAC staff in 1985, and serves as senior associate commissioner. He oversees communications, television operation and the basketball tournament. He is also responsible for team sport scheduling and aids in the administration of men's team sports.

Previously, he was the Director of Public Relations for the Missouri Valley Conference for seven years and the Sports Information Director at Tulsa for three years.

Hurd is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism. He and his wife, Cheri, are the parents of four children (Shannon, Michael, Kristen and Kevin) and reside in Littleton.



DARLENE BAILEY
Associate Commissioner,
SWA

Darlene Bailey joined the WAC staff in October of 2006 and serves as associate commissioner and senior woman administrator. She manages the NCAA governance process for the WAC's nine member institutions and is involved with the implementation of the recently adopted conference strategic plan. She is also the primary liaison to the WAC's women's basketball coaches and volleyball coaches and plays an active role in the overall administration of the two sports including officiating, regular season scheduling, championships, marketing and promotions.

Previously, Bailey was the Associate Director of Athletics at Missouri State.

Bailey received a Master's degree in Sports Administration and a Doctorate degree in Higher Education Administration, both from Ohio University. She attended William Jewell College in Kansas City, Missouri and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1982.

Bailey has a three-year-old son, Luke.



ANTHONY ARCHBALD
Assistant Commissioner
for Compliance

Anthony Archbald joined the WAC staff in 2005 as Assistant Commissioner in charge of compliance services which includes interpretation of the NCAA and WAC legislation, NCAA and WAC governance, legislative and enforcement issues. Archbald also serves as the staff liaison to the WAC Faculty Athletics Representatives Group and to the WAC SAAC. Before joining the WAC, Archbald served as the Assistant Director for Compliance at the Mountain West Conference. He has a Bachelor's degree from Boston College and earned his J.D. degree in Sports Law from Tulane.



WAC STAFF



DAVE CHAFFIN

**Assistant Commissioner
for Communications and
Technology**

Dave Chaffin joined the WAC staff in 1995 and was promoted to Assistant Commissioner in 1999. His responsibilities include media relations, conference video exchange, replay and office IT tasks.

He previously was the Athletic Media Relations Assistant Director at Colorado State University from 1992-95.

Chaffin graduated from the University of Michigan in 1989 with a Bachelor's degree in Communications. He has completed his course work for a Master's degree in Technical Journalism at Colorado State University.

He and his wife, Michelle, are the parents of a son, Tyler, and a daughter, Jamie. They reside in Centennial.



ELIZABETH KAMPFE

Director, Championships

Elizabeth Kampfe joined the WAC staff in January of 2007 and is the WAC's Director of Championships. Kampfe came from the University of Kentucky where she was the assistant event manager in the athletics department. Kampfe earned her Bachelor of Arts in sports management and communications at the University of Michigan where she was a four-time all-Big Ten cross country runner and an academic All-American. She added a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Illinois.



VICKY FOSTER

**Director, Graphic Design
and Publications**

Vicky Foster came to the WAC in December, 2006, after working the last couple of years in the Visual Communications Department at R+L Carriers in Ohio. Previously, she spent several years in the Communications and Marketing Department at Ohio University where she also assisted in television production of sporting events. Foster is a graduate of Ohio University where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Communications and a Master of Arts in Telecommunications.



KARA IRVING

Director, Media Relations

Kara Irving joined the WAC in 2001 and serves as the Director of Media Relations. Her sport responsibilities include volleyball, men's basketball and softball. She also assists in media guide production and web site maintenance.

Irving came from the University of South Carolina where she was an assistant sports information director from 1998-2001.

Irving graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor's degree in English and resides in Parker.



MOLLIE LEHMAN

**Director, Business and
Operations**

Mollie Lehman came to the WAC in August, 2007 and handles the business operations for the conference. Lehman previously spent two years with the America East Conference where she served as the business manager and assisted with sport administration and championships. Prior to that, Lehman was an assistant softball coach at Binghamton University and became involved with event management. She is a 2000 graduate from Binghamton and earned her MBA at the University of Colorado at Denver in 2007.



Alan Suzuki

**Supervisor,
Volleyball Officials**

Alan Suzuki joined the WAC staff in the spring of 1999 and serves as the Supervisor of Volleyball Officials. Previously, he served as the Colorado Athletic Conference (CAC) Supervisor of Officials from 1991-95 and the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) Supervisor of Officials from 1996-98.



JASON ERICKSON

**Associate Director,
Media Relations**

Jason Erickson joined the WAC staff in September, 2007, and will handle media relations duties for the WAC in women's basketball, baseball, gymnastics and cross country. He previously spent four years at Idaho State University and has also worked in television and in the newspaper business. He is a 2002 graduate of Southern Utah University and earned his master's degree at Idaho State in 2006. He and his wife, Marisa, live in Parker, Colo.



KATHY SCHILD

Senior Executive Assistant

Kathy Schild joined the WAC staff in 1985, and serves as the Senior Executive Assistant to the Commissioner. Schild also serves as the office manager for the conference office.

A native of Cortez, Colo, she and her husband, Jake, reside in Morrison, Colo. They have two sons, Mark and Matt.

THE VOICE OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE

How does the WAC generate feedback from its most valuable product, its student-athletes? Through the Western Athletic Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (also known as the WAC SAAC) which was established in 1998.

Since its implementation, the WAC SAAC has been an essential component in the conference's governance structure as well as a strong voice for student-athletes' well-being at all levels (e.g., institutional, conference and national). It provides recommendations and positions on specific conference and NCAA proposed legislation, and it addresses national issues that may have an effect on the well-being of all student-athletes. In addition, its members provide recommendations for the eighteen WAC championships in order to enhance the student-athlete experience for all sports. Another objective which the committee constantly strives to obtain is to help strengthen and improve the communication and relationships among athletes, campus administrators and coaches.

On the national stage, the WAC SAAC selects one of its committee members to serve as its representative on the NCAA SAAC, which includes all of the Division I conferences.

The WAC SAAC is a proactive committee and is making a very positive impact within the WAC membership. Annually, each member institution appoints two student-athletes from its own campus SAAC to serve on the conference committee. To conduct business, the committee has two in-person meetings during the year and schedules monthly teleconference calls during the academic year.

As part of the WAC SAAC Spring meeting, the committee conducts a community service outreach project within the host member institution's local area. Past projects have included the following: sports camp and clinic for underprivileged children, visiting local Boys and Girls Clubs, visiting Children's Hospitals and homeless shelters and neighborhood house painting. Taking a leadership role in conducting community projects is part of the WAC SAAC's goals and objectives.

If you have any questions relative to the WAC SAAC or its activities, please contact Anthony Archbald in the conference office.

2008-09 WAC STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

 TBA	 TBA	 Katey Sellers <i>Equestrian</i>	 Moses Harris <i>Football</i>	 Julia Siljstrom <i>Soccer</i>	 Rocky Savaigaea <i>Football</i>
 Kelsey Manning <i>Soccer</i>	 Nick Conley <i>Football</i>	 Toria Miles <i>Bowling</i>	 Quin Harris <i>Football</i>	 Trisha Gibbons <i>Soccer</i>	 Daryll Hill <i>Football</i>
 Paulina Zuniga <i>Tennis</i>	 Max Machado <i>Golf</i>	 Brittany Boehm <i>Soccer</i>	 Justin Paysinger <i>Football</i>	 Nicki Felley <i>Gymnastics</i>	 Nnamdi Gwacham <i>Football</i>



2008-09 WAC CHAMPIONSHIPS

TEAM SPORT SUMMARIES

FOOTBALL

Schedule: Single round-robin against every team for a total of eight WAC games.

Playoff: None

WOMEN'S SOCCER

League: Eight teams (Boise State, Fresno State, Hawai'i, Idaho, Louisiana Tech, Nevada, San Jose State and Utah State)

Schedule: Single round-robin for a total of seven games.

Tournament: Top six finishers meet in Reno, Nevada.

VOLLEYBALL

Schedule: Double round-robin for a total of 16 WAC matches.

Tournament: All nine teams meet in Honolulu, Hawaii.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Schedule: Double round-robin for a total of 16 WAC games.

Tournament: All nine teams meet in Reno, Nevada.

SOFTBALL

League: Eight teams (Boise State, Fresno State, Hawai'i, Louisiana Tech, Nevada, New Mexico State, San Jose State and Utah State).

Schedule: 21 WAC games played as three games at one site, alternating home and away each year.

Tournament: All eight teams meet in Fresno, Calif. (double-elimination).

BASEBALL

League: Seven teams (Fresno State, Hawai'i, Louisiana Tech, Nevada, New Mexico State, San Jose State and affiliate Sacramento State).

Schedule: 32 WAC games played as four-game series home and home versus two opponents and a four-game series either home or away against the other four opponents.

Tournament: Top six finishers meet in Honolulu, Hawaii (double-elimination).

2008-09 CALENDAR

CROSS COUNTRY-M&W

November 1
Las Cruces, New Mexico
Host: New Mexico State

WOMEN'S SOCCER

November 6-7, 9
Reno, Nevada
Host: Nevada

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

November 20-21, 23
Honolulu, Hawaii
Host: Hawai'i

WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

February 25-28
San Antonio, Texas
Host: Palo Alto CC Natatorium

INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD-M&W

February 26-28
Boise, Idaho
Host: Boise State

BASKETBALL-M&W

March 10-14
Reno, Nevada
Host: Nevada

WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

March 21
Sacramento, California
Host: Sacramento State

WOMEN'S GOLF

April 20-22
Reno, Nevada
Host: Nevada

TENNIS-M&W

April 23-26
Honolulu, Hawaii
Host: Hawai'i

MEN'S GOLF

April 27-29
Henderson, Nevada
Host: Utah State

SOFTBALL

May 6-9
Fresno, California
Host: Fresno State

OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD-M&W

May 13-16
Logan, Utah
Host: Utah State

BASEBALL

May 21-24
Honolulu, Hawaii
Host: Hawai'i



2008 PERSONNEL CAPSULE

All nine schools should return at least three starters for the 2008 campaign. Hawai'i returns the most starters with six. The Rainbow Wahine, Boise State, Fresno State, New Mexico State and Utah State all return at least 10 letterwinners. The following is a breakdown of each team's letterwinners returning and lost and starters returning and lost.

Team	LR	LL	SR	SL
Boise State	10	7	5	1
Fresno State	11	5	5	2
Hawai'i	10	4	6	1
Idaho	8	3	3	3
Louisiana Tech	8	5	5	1
Nevada	8	5	4	3
New Mexico State	11	5	5	2
San Jose State	9	2	5	2
Utah State	10	3	5	2

2008 PRESEASON COACHES POLL

HAWAII FAVORED IN WAC PRESEASON POLL

The WAC coaches have selected Hawai'i as the team to beat during the 2008 conference season. The Rainbow Wahine received eight first-place votes, while New Mexico State received one vote. Coaches were not allowed to vote for their own team.

Rank	Team	Points
1.	Hawai'i (8)	64
2.	New Mexico State (1)	57
3.	San Jose State	42
3.	Idaho	42
5.	Utah State	40
6.	Nevada	34
7.	Boise State	20
8.	Fresno State	16
9.	Louisiana Tech	9

VOLLEYBALL FORMAT – For the fourth-straight year the WAC will not compete in divisions. This season's format will be a double-round robin. Each team will face the other eight at home and on the road. All nine teams will compete in the WAC Volleyball Tournament. This is the first time that the WAC Tournament will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii.

2008 WAC TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

November 20 (Quarterfinals)

- Match 1 - No. 8 vs. No. 9
- Match 2 - No. 4 vs. No. 5
- Match 3 - No. 3 vs. No. 6
- Match 4 - No. 2 vs. No. 7
- Match 5 - Winner Match 1 vs. No. 1

November 21 (Semifinals)

- Match 6 - Winner Match 3 vs. Winner Match 4
- Match 7 - Winner Match 2 vs. Winner Match 5

November 23 (Championship)

- Match 8 - Winner Match 6 vs. Winner Match 7

TOP STAT LEADERS – The following are the returning statistical leaders in the WAC from 2007.

In hitting efficiency, six of the top 10 hitters are back, led for the second year by New Mexico State's Amber Simpson (.345) and San Jose State's Colleen Burke (.373), who finished No. 2 and No. 3 in the WAC, respectively. The remaining leaders are Utah State's Danielle Taylor (.272- seventh), Hawai'i's Jamie Houston (.260 - eighth), Hawai'i's Amber Kaufman (.259 - ninth) and Boise State's Sadie Maughan (.256 - 10th).

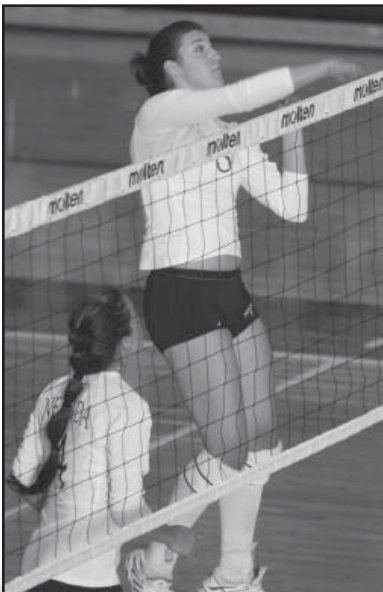
Five of the top 10 kill leaders are back for the 2008 season. The top returner is Hawai'i's Jamie Houston who has been first the last two seasons, averaging 5.51 kpg. Idaho's Haley Larsen was second averaging 5.39 kpg. Lindsey Yon of New Mexico State was seventh, averaging 3.95 kpg, while Hawai'i's Aneli Cubi-Otineru was ninth (3.69 kpg). The other returning leader was New Mexico State's Krista Altermatt (3.42 - 10th).

Seven of the top assist leaders from last season return for the 2008 campaign. Hawai'i's Stephanie Brandt is the top setter to return, finishing last season first in the WAC (12.75 apg). WAC Freshman of the Year, Chelsea Fowles, of Utah State was second in assists after averaging 12.45 apg, followed by Idaho's Kelsey James (11.71 apg - fourth) and San Jose State's Emily Burke (11.44 apg - fifth). The remaining leaders are Boise State's Mandy Klein (9.94 apg - seventh), New Mexico State's Alyssa Gintant (8.40 apg - eighth) and Kasey Van Grouw (6.38 apg - 10th).

Only six of the top 10 blockers return, including Nevada's Lindsay Baldwin who was first in the league, averaging 1.47 blocks per game. Idaho's Anna McKinney finished second (1.36 bpg), followed by Utah State's Rebecca Anderson (1.22 bpg - fifth). The remaining block returners are Idaho's Sarah Loney (1.16 - seventh), New Mexico State's Amber Simpson (1.14 - ninth) and Utah State's Danielle Taylor (1.12 - 10th).

Eighth of the top 10 servers also return, including four of the top five. Nevada's Lauren Kelly finished first in the WAC in service aces per game, averaging 0.41 sapg, followed by Hawai'i's Stephanie Brandt (0.35 - third). New Mexico State's Krystal Torres was tied for fourth, averaging 0.32 sapg along with Louisiana Tech's Brittney Nakamura, followed by Boise State's Lauren Hamm (0.30 - seventh), Fresno State's Lisa Gera (0.30 - t-eighth) and New Mexico State's Krista Altermatt (0.30 - t-eighth). The remaining top server is Utah State's Jessalyn Payne (0.29 - 10th).

All 10 of the dig leaders return for the 2008 season. For the second-straight season New Mexico State's Krystal Torres is the top returner (5.32 dpg - first), followed by Fresno State's Lisa Gera (5.10 dpg - second) and Nevada's Allison



Nevada's Lindsay Baldwin is the top returning blocker in the WAC. Baldwin was first in the league last season in blocks per game, averaging 1.47 bpg.



Hernandez (4.41 dpg - third), followed by Boise State's Lauren Hamm (4.37 - fourth). The other top dig returners are Louisiana Tech's Brittany Nakamura (3.97 - fifth), Hawai'i's Elizabeth Ka'aihue (3.96 - sixth), San Jose State's Kristal Tsukano (3.95 - seventh), Utah State's Christine Morrill (3.92 - eighth) and Idaho's Kelsey Yonker (3.67 - ninth). The final top dig returner is Idaho's Haley Larsen (3.44 - 10th).

SONNICHSEN AND NETHERBY-SEWELL JOIN THE WAC FAMILY – Louisiana Tech and Fresno State both added new head coaches this off season. Former Tulsa head coach Matt Sonnichsen become the Lady Techsters' new head coach, while former Hofstra head coach Lauren Netherby-Sewell takes the reins for the Bulldogs.

Sonnichsen was the head coach at Newberry College in 2007. Prior to his stay at Newberry, Sonnichsen was an assistant at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa, where he coached the 2006 season under his father, Tom. Sonnichsen's longest tenure as head coach came during his eight seasons at the helm of the University of Tulsa Hurricanes. Under his guidance, Tulsa had its first winning season in over 20 years in 2000 while finishing with 20 wins or better three separate seasons. His team finished second in the Eastern Division WAC in 2004 and earned a third place finish in C-USA in 2005.

In her two years at Hofstra, Netherby-Sewell led the Pride to their first-ever Colonial Athletic Association Championship in 2006 with a 17-1 conference record. That team was ranked No. 32 in the country, the highest ever ranking in school history. They also won their schools' first NCAA Tournament game and advanced to the second round. Her overall record as a head coach is 43-19. Before being named head coach at Hofstra, Netherby-Sewell was an assistant for the Pride for two seasons, following two years as an assistant at Columbia, where she also earned her Master's in Physical Education.

RETURNING ALL-WAC PLAYERS – Of the 12 first-team all-WAC players in 2007, six should return for the 2008 season, including two from Hawai'i, Jamie Houston and Aneli Cubi-Otineru. There are three returning from New Mexico State, Amber Simpson, Krystal Torres and Lindsey Yon. Idaho's Haley Larsen and San Jose State's Colleen Burke also return from the first team. Six of the second-team all-WAC performers will also return this season, including San Jose State's Niki Clement. Idaho's Haley Larsen and Utah State's Danielle Taylor and Melissa Osterloh also return from the second team. The other remaining second-team honorees from last season are Hawai'i's Stephanie Brandt and Tara Hittle.

REGIONAL SITE SELECTED – The NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Committee has announced the following sites for regional competition of the 2008 NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championships.

Regionals (4) December 12-13, 2008

Host: Colorado State University

Moby Arena
Fort Collins, Colorado

Host: Pennsylvania State University

Rec Hall
University Park, Pennsylvania

Host: University of Texas

Gregory Gymnasium
Austin, Texas

Host: University of Washington

Bank of America Arena
Seattle, Washington

CSTV/AVCA TOP 25 POLL (Final)

Rk	School	Points	Record
1.	Penn State (60)	1500	34-2
2.	Stanford	1440	32-3
3.	Southern California	1367	29-5
4.	California	1299	26-8
5.	Nebraska	1248	30-2
6.	Texas	1225	27-4
7.	UCLA	1114	23-11
8.	Florida	1064	29-3
9.	Oregon	944	22-11
10.	Washington	912	27-4
11.	Cal Poly	826	23-8
12.	BYU	783	24-8
13.	St. John's	772	33-4
14.	Wisconsin	720	26-5
15.	Middle Tennessee	628	35-3
16.	Kansas State	591	23-9
17.	Iowa State	544	19-14
18.	Hawai'i	499	27-6
19.	Michigan	454	24-11
20.	Michigan State	346	21-14
21.	New Mexico State	230	26-6
22.	Clemson	222	29-4
23.	Long Beach State	195	26-7
24.	Dayton	174	33-2
25.	San Diego	137	21-8

Other WAC teams receiving votes: None

RichKern.com TOP 30 POLL (Final)

Rk	School	Points
1.	Penn State	390
2.	Stanford	377
3.	Southern California	362
4.	California	344
5.	Nebraska	337
6.	Texas	330
7.	UCLA	297
8.	Florida	288
9.	Washington	274
10.	Oregon	272
11.	Cal Poly	255
12.	Wisconsin	238
13.	BYU	215
14.	Kansas State	213
15.	St. Johns	200
16.	Middle Tennessee	193
17.	Iowa State	177
18.	Hawai'i	168
19.	Oklahoma	152
20.	Long Beach State	134
21.	Michigan	127
22.	Michigan State	116
23.	San Diego	85
24.	Purdue	74
25.	Colorado State	69
26.	Ohio	66
27.	Dayton	57
28.	New Mexico State	51
29.	Louisville	38
30.	Wichita State	32

Other WAC teams receiving votes: None



2007 DOUBLE-DOUBLES

The following is the list of double-doubles in the WAC this season.

Larsen, Haley-UI.....	21
Burke, Emily-SJSU.....	16
Yon, Lindsey-NMSU.....	14
Clement, Niki-SJSU.....	14
Osterloh, Melissa-USU.....	14
Phillips, Shannon-LTU.....	14
Altermatt, Krista-NMSU.....	12
Brandt, Stephanie-UH.....	12
Cubi-Otineru, Aneli-UH.....	12
Miller, Ashley-NEV.....	12
Fairbanks, Kristen-LTU.....	11
Houston, Jamie-UH.....	11
James, Kelsey-UI.....	10
Loney, Sarah-UI.....	9
Nielson, Amanda-USU.....	9
Walker, Jillann-LTU.....	9
Senftleben, Jennifer-SJSU.....	8
Klein, Mandy-BSU.....	8
Hittle, Tara-UH.....	6
Van Grouw, Kasey-FS.....	6
Gintant, Alyssa-NMSU.....	5
Hess, Tiffany-FS.....	5
Crow, Kelly-SJSU.....	3
Fowles, Chelsea, USU.....	3
Tiffany Starring, Boise State.....	3
Wiggins, Angela-FS.....	3
Ale, Monarisa-USU.....	2
Baldwin, Lindsay-NEV.....	2
Claussen, Jamie-BSU.....	2
Rasmussen, Tairyn-FS.....	2
Tamietti, Arlee-BSU.....	2
Anglin, Keri-SJSU.....	1
Ericson, Teal-NEV.....	1
Amian, Brianna-SJSU.....	1
Ericson, Maren-BSU.....	1
Hamm, Lauren-BSU.....	1
Harrington, Kylie-NEV.....	1
Hernandez, Allison-NEV.....	1
McKee, Alisha-FS.....	1
Oguh, Kim-NMSU.....	1
Pederson, Debbie-UI.....	1
Simpson, Amber-NMSU.....	1

2008 Volleyball Major Rule Changes
(from the NCAA)

Terminology – The term “game” will be changed to “set”. Rationale: Volleyball throughout the world refers to “sets” rather than “games”. Coaching instruction and referee training will be more consistent and compatible with this change.

Points Required to Win a Set – The number of points required to win sets one through four is now 25. Rationale: There seems to be a reduction in the intensity of many contests in the middle of a set that is played to 30 points. The intention of this rule change is to increase fan and player focus and fan excitement. Additionally, the Division I Championship committee recommended this change. Note: The number of points required to win the deciding set remains at 15.

Ball Handling Directive – Based on extensive discussion at the 2008 annual meeting, the NCAA Women’s Volleyball Rules Committee has developed a new directive regarding ball handling judgment, primarily regarding second team contacts. This is not a rule change, but a new approach to ball handling judgments that is intended to increase intensity and focus for the players and coaches, and improve fan understanding and involvement.

Substitutions – The maximum number of substitutions for each team is 12 per set. Rationale: When sets were played to 30 points, a maximum of 15 substitutions allowed for a ratio of two points to each substitution. With the change to 25-point sets, a reduction to 12 substitutions per set approximately maintains that ratio.

Substitutes in Warm-up Area – The rules regarding the legal location of substitutes are clear. Substitutes in the warm-up area must be at least 2 meters from the extended sideline, which reduces the chances of them interfering with play, or with the opponent’s or referees’ view of the actual layers on the court (including the server).



WAC Freshman of the Year, Chelsea Fowles, and WAC Coach of the Year, Grayson DuBose, both from Utah State received their honors at the WAC Banquet prior to the championship in Las Cruces last season.



The Rainbow Wahine captured their eighth WAC Tournament in 2007, defeating New Mexico State in five games.

LOOKING BACK AT 2007

HAWAII TO HOST WAC VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT – The Western Athletic Conference announced the University of Hawai'i will host the 2008 WAC Volleyball Tournament, Nov. 20-23 at the Stan Sheriff Center in Honolulu. The 2008 Volleyball Tournament is the first of three WAC Championships to be held in Hawai'i along with the tennis and baseball championships.

HAWAII CAPTURES EIGHTH-STRAIGHT TOURNAMENT TITLE – In a rematch of the 2006 championship, the Hawai'i Rainbow Wahine captured their eighth-straight WAC Tournament championship after a thrilling five-game match against the host and second-seeded New Mexico State Aggies. This was just the third WAC Tournament title match that was decided in five games, dating back to 1998 when Hawai'i defeated BYU. The Rainbow Wahine were led by the outside hitting duo of Jamie Houston and Aneli Cubi-Otineru. Houston had 22 kills and three blocks and Cubi-Otineru had 17 kills and 20 kills. With the win, Hawai'i received the WAC automatic berth to the NCAA Tournament.

All-Tournament Team

Keri Anglin, MB, Sr., San Jose State
 Stephanie Brandt, S, So., Hawai'i
 Karly Sipherd, MB, Sr., Nevada
 Amber Simpson, MB, Jr., New Mexico State
 Kim Oguh, MB, Sr., New Mexico State
 *Jamie Houston, LS, Jr., Hawai'i
 Aneli Cubi-Otineru, LS, So., Hawai'i
 Krystal Torres, L, Sr., New Mexico State

*Tournament MVP

WAC TOURNAMENT RECORDS – A couple of records were broken at the 2007 WAC Volleyball Tournament. Nevada's Lauren Kelly tied the record for service aces in a match with five against Idaho in the quarterfinals. Hawai'i set the record for fewest kills allowed when it allowed only 19 kills by Boise State in the quarterfinals.

UTAH STATE STOPS STREAK – Utah State notched its biggest win of the 2007 season Nov. 11 with a shocking three-game sweep against No. 10 Hawai'i (30-28, 31-29, 30-27) at the Stan Sheriff Center. With the win, Utah State concluded its regular season with a 17-12 record, and finished in third place in the Western Athletic Conference with an 11-5 league record.

Hawai'i, who finished its regular season at 21-5, including a 15-1 league mark, had won 97 straight WAC matches at home and was 169-2 (.988) in WAC play since joining the league for volleyball in 1996. Utah State entered the match against Hawai'i having lost 20-straight contests to the Rainbow Wahine.

The win for the Aggies was its first over a ranked opponent since it defeated then 24th-ranked UC Santa Barbara in five games on Sept. 15, 2005. The last time Utah State defeated a team ranked in the top 10 was on Sept. 12, 2000 when it beat then 10th-ranked BYU in three games in Logan.

HAWAII'S KAUFMAN EXCELS IN TRACK AND FIELD – Hawai'i two-sport athlete Amber Kaufman broke the school record in the high jump on the final day of the 2008 Western Athletic Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships. As a team, the Rainbow Wahine placed sixth with 74.5 points while Louisiana Tech captured its fourth consecutive team title. Kaufman, a starter on the nationally-ranked women's volleyball team, cleared 6-0.5 (1.84m) edging teammate Emily Sheppard (5-11.25/1.81m) for her first career WAC gold medal. Kaufman's mark is the second highest in the country this season and is a "B" standard for the U.S. Olympic Team.

FORMER HAWAII STAR WILLOUGHBY EARNS SPOT ON NATIONAL TEAM – Former Rainbow Wahine three-time All-American Kim Willoughby was added to the U.S. Women's National Volleyball Team, according to Team USA Head Coach 'Jenny' Lang Ping.

Willoughby was the 2003 American Volleyball Coaches Association National Player of the Year, earning first-team All-America honors three times (2001-03). She was also a three-time WAC Player of the Year and two-time Joe Kerney Award winner as the top athlete in the conference.

Willoughby holds six UH career records, in kills, kills per game, attempts, aces, digs and digs per game. Her 5.92 kill per game average ranks third all-time in NCAA history, with her 2,598 career kills ranking sixth.

The Napoleonville, La., native recently completed her 2007-08 professional season with Famila Chieri, a team in the top-tier Italian Serie A League. She tallied 306 points for Chieri while playing in 73 sets within 21 matches. Willoughby ranked 12th in points per set at 4.19, while her 3.82 kill average was eighth-best in the league.



Former Hawai'i All-American Kim Willoughby looks to be one of three former Rainbow Wahine volleyball players to represent the United States in the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

2008 Division I Women's
VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



First and Second Rounds
December 4-5, 5-6 or 6-7

Regionals
December 12-13

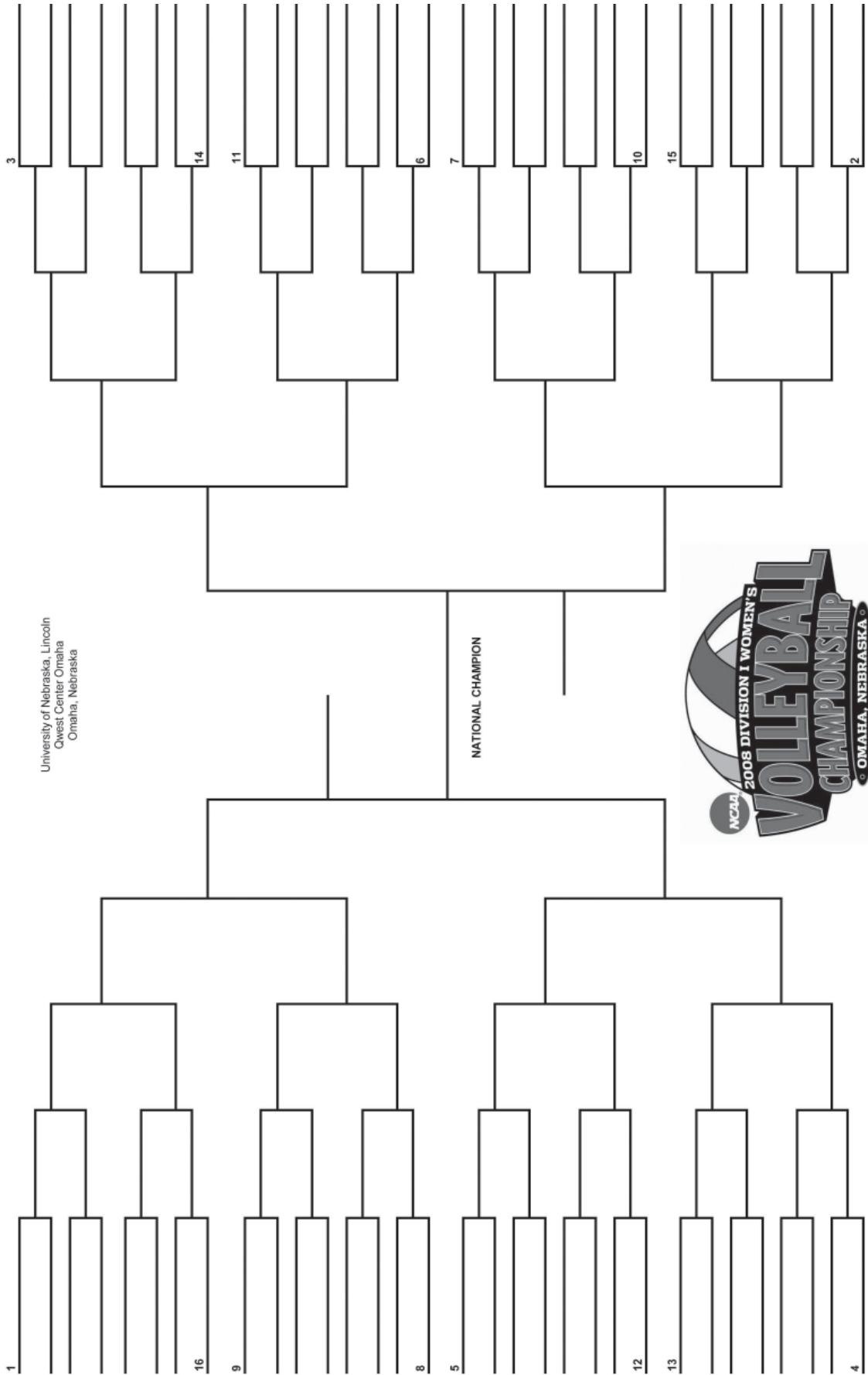
Semifinals
December 18

National Championship
December 20

Semifinals
December 18

Regionals
December 12-13

First and Second Rounds
December 4-5, 5-6 or 6-7



*First- and second-round matches will be played on the campus of one of the participating institutions.



WAC

WESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

2008 SCHOOL INFORMATION

