

D III NEWS

The Monthly Newsletter of Division III Men's Basketball

Volume 20, Number 1

October/November 2012

Player of the Year



AJ Matthews, Farmingdale St.

Preseason Preview 2012-13!

Top 25 Predictions

Top 10 Teams:

1. Va. Wesleyan
2. Wis. Whitewater
3. North Central
4. Wooster
5. Cabrini
6. Franklin & Marshall
7. Hope
8. Amherst
9. Wm. Paterson
10. Ill. Wesleyan

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Publishing Schedule

DIII News will publish 14 editions this season. Here's a schedule to help you keep track of all the issues:

- Preseason Preview
- December 5
- December 12
- December 26
- January 9
- January 16
- January 23
- January 30
- February 6
- February 13
- February 20
- February 27
- March 6
- Postseason Review

Welcome to DIII News' 20th Anniversary Season!

Welcome to the 2012-13 *DIII News* Preseason Preview issue! We are excited about this upcoming season and glad to have you join us for what should be a terrific campaign.

This year is a special one for our staff because it is our 20th season covering men's Division III basketball. As you might recall, our company celebrated 20 years of writing about small college basketball two years ago. When we launched this venture, Division II men's hoops was our only publication. Because of the reception it received, we expanded to Division III men's coverage as well. The world is certainly a different place than when we started this version in 1993, but the basketball is as competitive as ever.

As our long-time readers will notice, this is the first time we have sent our Preseason Preview issue electronically. Over the years, the regular season issues migrated to PDF versions with the advent of the Internet, however we always kept the Preseason Preview as a printed edition. But, times change and we asked several readers what they thought about going digital with the first edition and they were fine with it. So, we're giving it a try this year. Let us know what you think and if you miss the printed version.

Speaking of change, you'll see a number of new coaches and positions at traditional Division III powers listed on the next page. This was one of the more active off-seasons for coaching moves and we are interested to see how these new situations and skippers influence the Division III landscape. Many of the new coaches are replacing long-time legends and it's their time to make their own mark.

Two years ago we expanded our schedule to 14 issues a season and it was very well received. We're sticking to that again this year after the tremendous feedback. Basically, you'll hear from us weekly in January and February during the heart of the season and the run-up to the NCAA tournament announcement.

Now, to the upcoming season. As always, the task of compiling the Top 25 was a challenge but the No. 1 spot goes



to a familiar name: Virginia Wesleyan (27-4) welcomes back four of its top five scorers from last year's NCAA tournament team. Junior All-American D.J.

Woodmore (16.1 ppg) leads the way in the backcourt along with senior Chris Astorga (14.9 ppg). A number of teams, including Wisconsin Whitewater and North Central, are close behind for the top spot so it should be a very competitive season.

The *DIII* Preseason Player of the Year is AJ Matthews from Farmingdale State. See our All-Americans on page 11.

I want to thank our corporate partners for being part of our publication. Schelde North America is back as the title sponsor of the *DIII News* Coach of the Year and the Coach of the Month award as well. The company is a big supporter of small college basketball and was great to work with last year for our biggest award. I hope you call on Schelde when your equipment needs arise and thank them for their support of Division III basketball.

Be sure to visit our web site, www.smallcollegehoops.com, and follow us on Twitter (@SmallColHoops) for updates between our regular issues.

We're ready for this season, our 20th covering men's Division III basketball and 22nd overall writing about small college basketball, and we hope you are also. Thanks for your support and we'll see you in December with the next edition.

Gary Rubin
Editor & Publisher

2012 Division III Coaching Changes

School	New Coach
Anderson	Owen Handy
Arcadia	Justin Scott
Baruch	John Alesi
Centenary	Brendan Twomey
Coe	Bryan Martin
Edgewood	Justin Meyer
Gallaudet	Brendan Stern
Immaculata	Terrence Stewart
Kalamazoo	Eric Dougal
Knox	Kevin Walden
LaRoche	Hermie Carmichael
Maranatha	Keith Salscheider
New England	Ed Silva
Nichols	Jeff Lindgren
North Park	Tom Slyder
Northland	Scott Sorenson
Ohio Northern	Kevin Byrne
Olivet	Chris Coles
Otterbein	Todd Adrian
Piedmont	Mark Bollinger
Ripon	Ryan Kane
Rosemont	Robert Hughes
St. Thomas	John Tauer
Schreiner	Jimmy Smith
Swarthmore	Landry Kosmalski
Wis. Eau Claire	Matt Siverling
Wis. Oshkosh	Patrick Juckem
Wis. Superior	Paul Eberhardt
York (Pa.)	Matt Hunter

Twomey Takes Over at Centenary

HACKETTSTOWN, N.J. — Centenary College Department the hiring of Brendan Twomey as the new men’s basketball head coach. Twomey joins the Cyclones after a four-year coaching career at Stevens Institute of Technology where he served as the associate head men’s basketball coach.

CAC Adds Three Members

YORK, Pa. — The Presidents Council of the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) announced the addition of Penn State Harrisburg as a full member of the conference, beginning July 1, 2013. Penn State Harrisburg is the third institution, along with Christopher Newport University and Southern Virginia University, to join the CAC for the 2013-14 academic year.

Christopher Newport and Penn State Harrisburg will be immediately eligible for conference championships and NCAA Division III tournament opportunities. Southern Virginia, which is entering its first year as an NCAA Division III provisional member in 2012-13, will become eligible to compete in CAC playoffs during its third year of the four-year provisional membership process (2014-15).

Division III Final Headed to Atlanta to Commemorate March Madness

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — The Division III Management Council has approved a new format for the men’s basketball championship this coming year to accommodate the Division III championship game being played in conjunction with the 75th men’s basketball celebration being held in Atlanta during the Division I Final Four.

The one-time format change calls for single games to be played at individual campus sites on Saturday, March 2, followed by second-round games at campus sites the following Saturday and third-round contests on Saturday, March 16. Quarterfinalists will compete in Salem, Va., on March 22 and then those winners will play semifinal games on March 23. The two winners will head to Atlanta two weeks later.

It’s a different approach than the current format that brackets the field in regional pods of two or four teams for first- and second-round games the first Thursday through Saturday after selections, followed by four, four-team sectionals the next weekend.

It’s also different than a proposal the Division III Men’s Basketball Committee submitted earlier that called for a one-week delay between selections and first-round pod play.

The format changes became necessary when the NCAA decided to stage all three divisions’ men’s finals on the same weekend to celebrate the 75th year of NCAA men’s basketball championships in 2013. The Division I Men’s Final Four semifinals and final will be April 6 and 8 in the Georgia Dome as previously planned. But given the celebratory nature of the anniversary, Divisions II and III were invited to conduct their championship games that weekend, too. Both the DII and DIII finals will be on Sunday, April 7, in nearby Philips Arena. A back up plan will be developed to accommodate any school with a policy that precludes competition on Sunday.

While Division III embraced the unique opportunity to join the most high-profile stage in college sports, it required a different tournament format, since the 2013 Division III championship game will be two weeks later than it would have been under the current formula.

The Division III Men’s Basketball Committee had the first opportunity to suggest how best to mitigate the gap. Based on feedback from the Division III members of the National Basketball Coaches Association, the committee at its June meeting proposed a week off between the selection date and the first and second rounds, which would have maintained the pod structure the division is accustomed to on that first weekend of play. That would have been followed by single games on Saturday, March 16, instead of the customary four-team sectionals.

“Salem has been a tremendous experience for our finalists ever since the city began hosting that event,” said Division III Men’s Basketball Committee chair Ken Schumann, the AD at Pacific (Oregon). “The opportunity to have four more schools experience that is another real positive that came out of the joint 2013 championship.”

• Ohio Wesleyan assistant men's basketball coach, Mark Bollinger, has been named head coach of the Piedmont College (Ga.) men's basketball team. In four seasons as an assistant on Mike DeWitt's staff at OWU, the team posted a 66-40 record, including a 44-20 mark in NCAC games.

• Edgewood College has named Justin Meyer the sixth head men's basketball coach in the school's history. Meyer has been on the Eagles' coaching staff for a total of 11 seasons serving at various times as an assistant coach, recruiting coordinator and head assistant coach, before being promoted to his current position of associate head coach prior to the 2009-10 season.

• Rosemont has announced the hiring of Bob Hughes as head men's basketball coach. Hughes inherits a team in its fourth season of competition and a squad that competed in the conference tournament for the first time in 2012. Hughes most recently was an assistant coach at Washington College.

• Eric Dougal was introduced as Kalamazoo's head men's basketball coach. Dougal spent the last six seasons as an assistant coach at two highly competitive NCAA Division III programs, Manchester (2006-11) and UW-Platteville (2011-12).

• Northland College Director of Athletics Bill Wilson announced that Scott Sorenson has been named the LumberJacks new men's basketball coach. Sorenson, replaces Stu Engen who departed Northland after just four weeks on the job.

• Chris Coles has been named Olivet's head men's basketball coach. He comes to Olivet from Saginaw Valley State where he has served as an assistant men's basketball coach for the last five years. He replaces Gene Gifford, who was not retained after this past season. The Comets were 4-21.

Coe Coach Moves to Wis. Oshkosh

OSHKOSH, Wis. — Patrick Juckem has been named the new head coach at Wisconsin Oshkosh. He replaces Ted Van Dellen, who retired in March.

For the past seven years, Juckem was the head men's basketball coach at Coe, leading the Kohawks to an overall record of 105-79 (.571). Coe won the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship during both the 2006 and 2012 seasons.

Alesi Succeeds Rankis

NEW YORK — John Alesi has been named head coach at Baruch College. He replaces Ray Rankis, who retired and will remain as athletic director.

During his 29 years, Rankis compiled a 419-361 overall record that included winning the CUNYAC Championship in 2000 and making three appearances in the NCAA Division III tournament.

Alesi joined the Baruch staff in June 2011 and spent his first year as the Associate Head Coach before his promotion.

Alesi, a 2003 graduate of Baruch College with a bachelor's degree in marketing management, returned to Baruch following stints as an assistant coach with several Division I staffs.

Hunter Replaces Gamber at York

YORK, Pa. — Matt Hunter has been named York College's new men's basketball and golf coach. Hunter replaces long-time head coach Jeff Gamber who retired after 35 years at the helm of both Spartan programs.

Hunter comes to York after spending the last four seasons as a full time assistant coach at DeSales. The Bulldogs went 84-32 during Hunter's tenure on the DeSales bench. The Bulldogs went to a pair of NCAA tournaments as they advanced to the Elite Eight in 2008-09 and to the Sweet 16 in 2009-10. DeSales won two MAC Freedom Conference championships and played in the championship game in three of the four years he was with the program.

Immaculata Taps Stewart as Coach

IMMACULATA, Pa. — Immaculata University announced the hiring of Terrence Stewart as the school's new men's basketball coach.

Stewart arrives at Immaculata having spent the last two seasons with the LaSalle University men's basketball program serving as the video coordinator and assistant director of operations. In his role with the Explorers, Stewart worked with the coaching staff to prepare scouting reports, coordinate film exchange and assist in coordinating recruiting visits.

Stewart played collegiately at Rowan from 1992-1996. The Profs reached the NCAA tournament during all four seasons he was on the team, including three appearances in the national semifinals. Rowan captured the national championship in 1996, and Stewart was named the most outstanding player of the tournament.

Martin Moves to Coe Head Post

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa — Coe College has named Bryan Martin as the new head coach of the Kohawk men's basketball program.

Martin comes to Coe after spending the past four years as the associate head coach at the University of North Dakota.

Martin played a key role in North Dakota's transition from NCAA Division II to NCAA Division I. In the Fighting Sioux's last two years in the Great West Conference, they won the league title. Martin also served as the recruiting coordinator and offensive coordinator.

Prior to working at North Dakota, Martin was the head coach at North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC).

Got News?

Send news, milestones and general feature ideas to:

info@smallcollegehoops.com

The 2012-13 DIII News Preseason Top 25

1. Va. Wesleyan	13. Capital	Others to watch: Rhode Island College Ithaca Randolph-Macon Oswego St. Texas-Dallas Chris. Newport Staten Island Wittenberg Bethany Transylvania Rose-Hulman St. Norbert NYU Coe Whitworth
2. Wis. Whitewater	14. Washington (Mo.)	
3. North Central	15. Middlebury	
4. Wooster	16. MIT	
5. Cabrini	17. St. Thomas	
6. Franklin & Marshall	18. Scranton	
7. Hope	19. Farmingdale St.	
8. Amherst	20. St. Mary's (Md.)	
9. Wm. Paterson	21. Ohio Wesleyan	
10. Ill. Wesleyan	22. Trinity (Texas)	
11. Wis. Stevens Point	23. Hartwick	
12. East. Connecticut	24. Messiah	
	25. B'ham Southern	

Northeast Region**Commonwealth Coast Conference****Top Teams:**

1. Endicott 2. Salve Regina 3. Wentworth

Player of the Year: Sedale Jones, Curry, Sr.

Outlook: Endicott (20-9), the CCC's highest scoring offense, returns its top four scoring options for the 2012-13 season and is looking for a second conference title. All four returners were named All-CCC last year, including ROY Andre Makris. Senior guard Lance Greene (13.4 ppg, 5.0 rpg) and junior Lachlan Magee (13.4 ppg, 5.2 rpg) should provide most of the offense. Others to watch in the race include Salve Regina and Wentworth.

Great Northeast Athletic Conference**Top Teams:**

1. Albertus Magnus 2. St. Joseph's 3. Lasell

Player of the Year: Anthony Click, Anna Maria, Jr.

Outlook: Despite the loss of the program's first-ever All-American in Ray Askew, the Albertus Magnus Falcons (28-2) return four starters in 2012-13. First-team all-conference guard Darius Watson (19.1 ppg) and Arshad Jackson leads the scoring attack.

Little East Conference**Top Teams:**

1. East. Connecticut 2. R.I. College 3. West. Connecticut

Player of the Year: Ryan Martin, Keene St., Sr.

Outlook: Defending champion Eastern Connecticut (24-6) returns Chris Robitaille (10.9 ppg, 6.8 rpg) and point guard Joe Ives, both seniors, to the starting lineup as well as junior Mike Garrow, who started and appeared in only five games last year due to illness. The Warriors are chasing their fourth straight 20-win season. Rhode Island College (23-7) is after its seventh straight NCAA tournament bid and welcomes back three starters, led by senior point guard Tahrike Carter (10.0 ppg, 5.5 rpg).

Massachusetts State Athletic Conference**Top Teams:**

1. Salem 2. Bridgewater 3. Westfield

Player of the Year: Lee Vazquez, Westfield, Sr.

Outlook: Salem St. (20-8) will have a new look this year with only two returning starters and no Brian Clark in the middle. The Vikings will look to senior forward Nate Simpson (12.8 ppg, 9.1 rpg) to pick up the scoring slack. Bridgewater (16-2) and Westfield (16-11), with top MASCAC scorer Lee Vazquez (21.1 ppg), should factor into the league title run.

New England Women's and Men's Conference**Top Teams:**

1. MIT 2. WPI 3. Springfield

Player of the Year: Alex Berthiaume, Springfield, Sr.

Outlook: After reaching the NCAA Final Four for the first time in school history and finishing 29-2, MIT should be in the hunt again for national and conference honors after losing just two letterwinners from last season's team. Senior guard Mitchell Kates (14.2 ppg) is among three returning starters and provides leadership in the backcourt for the Engineers. WPI (20-7) and Springfield (17-10) are poised to compete.

NESCAC**Top Teams:**

1. Amherst 2. Middlebury 3. Wesleyan

Player of the Year: Aaron Toomey, Amherst, Jr.

Outlook: Defending champion Amherst (26-3) will need to replace the school's all-time leader in three-pointers made, but the combination of Aaron Toomey (17.9 ppg, 2.9 rpg, 4.8 apg), Willy Workman and Pete Kaasila will give the Lord Jeffs a strong starting core. Middlebury (26-4) welcomes back four starters but must replace league MVP Ryan Sharry and his 18 points per game. Joey Kizel (14 ppg) should improve his offensive output this year. Wesleyan (20-6) leads a group expected to challenge for the NESCAC crown.

Conference Previews

New England Collegiate Conference

Top Teams:

1. Becker 2. Elms 3. Wheelock

Player of the Year: Taeshon Johnson, Southern Vt., Sr.

Outlook: Defending champion Becker (24-5) must replace league MVP Terrance Favors and his scoring output but returns most of its roster. Sophomore Jerome Cohen (12 ppg) leads the charge after a super freshman season. Elms (18-11) is a team to watch in the race.

North Atlantic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Colby-Sawyer 2. Castleton 3. Me. Farmington

Player of the Year: Mark Comstock, Castleton, Sr.

Outlook: Three starters are back for Colby-Sawyer (20-8), led by Koang Thok (14.4 ppg). The Chargers return a host of veterans to battle for open starting spots. Castleton and Maine Farmington are expected to challenge in the NAC.

East Region

Empire Eight

Top Teams:

1. Hartwick 2. Ithaca 3. Nazareth

Player of the Year: Jared Suderley, Hartwick, Jr.

Outlook: Hartwick (23-4) looks for its third straight NCAA tournament appearance with three starters back from last year's team. The Hawks return junior All-American forward Jared Suderley (19.4 ppg, 8.6 rpg) and eight letter winners. Ithaca (14-14) returns four of five starters from its 2011-12 NCAA tournament team. The Bombers, who won the Empire 8 tournament, return their top two scorers and the NCAA DIII assists leader.

Liberty League

Top Teams:

1. Hobart 2. Skidmore 3. St. Lawrence

Player of the Year: Stefan Thompson, Hobart, Sr.

Outlook: Defending champion Hobart (23-6) returns three starters and is loaded with backcourt talent in senior guard Stefan Thompson (13.4 ppg, 2.9 rpg) and Liberty League Defensive Player of the Year Joe Gibbons. The Statesmen need to fill their frontcourt to replace three graduated forwards. Skidmore and St. Lawrence will challenge in the conference race.

North Eastern Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Morrisville St. 2. Penn St. Harrisburg 3. Wells

Player of the Year: Mickey Davis, Morrisville St., Jr.

Outlook: Morrisville St. (19-9) has high expectations with all five starters back from last season's NCAA tournament team. League MVP Mickey Davis (17.7 ppg, 6.4 rpg) is the go-to force for the Mustangs. Defense will be key for Morrisville as they outscored opponents by only three points a game last year. In the South division, Penn State Harrisburg (20-7) is the team to beat.

SUNYAC

Top Teams:

1. Oswego 2. Cortland 3. Buffalo St.

Player of the Year: Hayden Ward, Oswego St., Sr.

Outlook: Oswego (26-4) is coming off its second straight NCAA appearance and must replace two-time All-American Chad Burrige. The Lakers, the top defensive club in the SUNYAC, return Second Team NABC East Region player Hayden Ward (15.7 ppg, 9.1 rpg) and three-year starting point guard Sean Michele to help extend the streak. Cortland (21-7) is a team to watch as is Buffalo St. (18-9), the leading scoring team in the conference behind Jake Simmons (20.7 ppg).

South Region

American Southwest Conference

Top Teams:

East: 1. Texas-Dallas 2. E. TX Baptist 3. La. College

West: 1. M.H. Baylor 2. H-Simmons 3. Schreiner

Player of the Year: Kyle Schleigh, Texas-Dallas, Jr.

Outlook: Texas-Dallas (22-5) returns three starters from last year's team that outscored opponents by 11 points a game. Top scorer Kyle Schleigh (15.9 ppg, 8.1 rpg) should pick up the slack left by the graduation of league MVP Chris Barnes. In the West, Mary Hardin-Baylor (25-3) will have a new look with just two starters returning. Junior Kitrick Bell (10 ppg) is expected to slide into a starting role and increase his offensive output. Hardin-Simmons (21-7) should be a serious contender in the league race.

Old Dominion Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Va. Wesleyan 2. R-Macon 3. H-Sydney

Player of the Year: D.J. Woodmore, Va. Wesleyan, Jr.

Outlook: Expect another tough race in the ODAC this year. Virginia Wesleyan (27-4) welcomes back four of its top five scorers from last year's NCAA tournament team. Junior All-American D.J. Woodmore (16.1 ppg) leads the way in the backcourt along with senior Chris Astorga (14.9 ppg). R-MC (21-7) went to the NCAA tournament with just two seniors and eight freshman last season. The Yellow Jackets will look to those underclassman with a year of maturity under their belts to contribute and to mesh with upperclassmen Lamar Giggetts (12.2 ppg, 6.1 rpg) and Andrew Simon. Hampden-Sydney (19-8) and Guilford (17-9) are teams to watch in the ODAC race.

Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Trinity 2. Austin 3. Colo. College

Player of the Year: Ryan Milne, Colo. College, Jr.

Outlook: Trinity (21-9) returns four starters from last year's team that won the SCAC title and advanced to the second round of the NCAA tournament. The Tigers are led by junior forward Zach Lambert, (15.1 ppg, 4.8 rpg) and two other top scorers.

Southern Athletics Association

Top Teams:

1. B'ham So. 2. Rhodes 3. Centre

Player of the Year: Andrew Galow, Rhodes, Sr.

Outlook: In the inaugural SAA season, Birmingham Southern (25-2) looks like the team to beat with four returning starters. Leading scorer Zac Richards (12 ppg, 6.3 rpg) should carry a big scoring load this year.

USA South Atlantic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Chris. Newport 2. Maryville 3. NC Wesleyan

Player of the Year: Tra Benefield, Chris. Newport, Jr.

Outlook: Three starters return for defending champion Christopher Newport (23-5) as it begins its final season in the USAS. Junior forward Tra Benefield (15.8 ppg, 5.8 rpg) leads the way and will get help from Mike Cherry and Nik Biberaj. Maryville (18-9) joins the league and should be a factor in the race.

Mid. Atlantic Region

Capital Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. St. Mary's 2. Mary Washington 3. Wesley

Player of the Year: Paul Reynolds, Wesley, Sr.

Outlook: Expectations are high at defending champion St. Mary's (20-8) where all five starters are back from last year's team. Senior guard Devin Spencer (11.5 ppg) partners with first-team all-league forward Christian MacAuley (10.8 ppg) to lead the scoring for the Seahawks. Despite losing three starters, Mary Washington (18-9) still has firepower to compete in the league. Top scorer Bradley Riester (12.1 ppg) could slide into a starting role.

Centennial Conference

Top Teams:

1. F&M 2. Muhlenberg 3. Johns Hopkins

Player of the Year: Jon Ward, Ursinus, Sr.

Outlook: Despite the loss of *DIII News* Player of the Year Georgio Milligan, Franklin & Marshall (28-3) is expected to be a force with four returning starters. Hayk Gyokchyan (12.9 ppg) and Jon Salandra (9.5 ppg) are expected to pick up the scoring slack this season for the Diplomats. Muhlenberg (18-9) returns four starters and most of its roster but must replace leading scorer Spencer Liddic. The backcourt of Malique Killing (16.6 ppg) and Austin Curry (11.4 ppg) is solid and will lead the Mules this season.

Colonial States Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Cabrini 2. Keystone 3. Gwynedd-Mercy

Player of the Year: Warren Murphy, Centenary, Sr.

Outlook: After a school record 31 wins and the school's first appearance in an NCAA championship game, Cabrini returns three starters and an experienced group of players. Senior guard Jeremy Knowles (12.2 ppg, 5.1 rpg) leads the Cavaliers' scoring

attack as they seek their third consecutive CSAC title. Seniors Goran Dulac (6.0 ppg, 5.7 rpg) and A.J. Williams (9.1 ppg, 2.2 rpg) give Cabrini an inside-outside balance. Keystone (21-6) led the league in scoring last season with 91.1 points per game and will crank up its offense again this campaign.

Landmark Conference

Top Teams:

1. Scranton 2. Juniata 3. Susquehanna

Player of the Year: Reed Buck, USMMA, Jr.

Outlook: Two-time defending champion Scranton (23-8) returns three starters from its Elite Eight team. Backcourt trio Travis Farrell (13.6 ppg, 5.3 rpg), Ross Danzig (13.1 ppg, 5.3 rpg) and Tommy Morgan, (11.3 ppg, 4.5 rpg) provide much of the offensive spark for the Royals. The departure of starters Luke Hawk and Matt Swaback leaves a big void to fill in the frontcourt. Juniata and Susquehanna are teams to watch in the Landmark race.

Middle Atlantic Conference

Top Teams:

Commonwealth: 1. Messiah 2. Lycoming 3. Widener

Freedom: 1. Misericordia 2. Eastern 3. Wilkes

Player of the Year: Danny Brooks, Lebanon Valley, Sr.

Outlook: In the Commonwealth, Messiah (20-7) welcomes back three starters and all but two players from last year's NCAA tournament team that won the league title for the first time since 2005-06. The Falcons will look to all-conference returners Derrick Mosley (12.7 ppg, 6.6 rpg) and David Fernandez (16.1 ppg, 4.7 rpg) to carry much of the scoring load. Four starters are back for Lycoming (19-8) as it prepares to challenge in the Commonwealth. Kevin Anthony (13.1 ppg) and Anthony Martin (12.5 ppg) are the top returning scorers for the Warriors. Widener (18-8) is a team that could make some noise in the conference race. In the Freedom League, Misericordia (21-7) returns two starters who led the team in scoring a year ago. Despite losing senior All-American and league MVP Ethan Eichhorst (18 ppg), the Cougars will count on Steve Artzerounian (14.4 ppg) and Matt Greene (9.1 ppg) to pick up the scoring slack. Eastern (15-11) graduated six seniors from last season and will count on a crop of newcomers to contribute right away. Wilkes (17-10) is a team to watch.



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Conference Previews

Atlantic Region

CUNYAC

Top Teams:

South: 1. Staten Island 2. Brooklyn 3. Medgar Evers

North: 1. Baruch 2. Lehman 3. Hunter

Player of the Year: Winston Douglas, Medgar Evers, Sr.

Outlook: Staten Island (26-5) is coming off its best season in history, having reached the Sweet 16. Two starters and 11 letterwinners are back in the fold, led by junior guard Bloochy Magloire (17.7 ppg, 5.1 rpg) and forward Matt Van Manen, who missed 18 games to injury last year. In the North, Baruch (14-14) must replace two-time All-CUNYAC Chir Beauchamp.

New Jersey Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

North: 1. Wm. Paterson 2. Ramapo 3 Rutgers-Newark

South: 1. Rch. Stockton 2. Kean 3. Rowan

Player of the Year: Lance Brown, Wm. Paterson, Sr.

Outlook: William Paterson (24-4) returns all five starters and nearly its entire roster from last year's team that put up 73.4 points per game. NJAC Player of the Year Lance Brown (18.4 ppg, 9.5 rpg) and senior guard Corey Chandler (19.9 ppg, 4.2 apg) power the offense. In the South, Richard Stockton (20-9) is the team to beat.

Skyline Conference

Top Teams:

1. Farmingdale St. 2. Mt. St. Mary 3. Old Westbury

Player of the Year: AJ Matthews, Farmingdale St., Sr.

Outlook: Defending champion Farmingdale State (23-6) returns a strong nucleus from last year's NCAA tournament team, led by senior All-American AJ Matthews (22.4 ppg, 16.3 rpg). Senior Ryan Davis (155 assists) is back to run the point guard position. Mt. St. Mary (23-7) will count on junior guard Joe Stabach (13.3 ppg) to lead its attack.

Great Lakes Region

Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference

Top Teams:

1. Medaille 2. LaRoche 3. Penn St. Behrend

Player of the Year: David Palmer, Pitt-Greensburg, Sr.

Outlook: Defending champion Medaille (25-3) is retooling this year after losing four senior starters but should still have enough talent to be favored in the AMCC. Sophomore center Sean Bellomo (9.6 ppg, 4.0 rpg) is coming off a terrific freshman campaign for the Mavericks.

Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association

Top Teams:

1. Hope 2. Trine 3. Calvin

Player of the Year: Nate Snuggerud, Hope, Sr.

Outlook: Two-time defending champion Hope (27-2) returns three starters from its NCAA tournament team. Senior forward Nate Snuggerud (17.4 ppg) led the conference in scoring last year and should get offensive help from senior guard Billy Seiler and junior post Nate VanArendonk. Trine (15-11) is a

team to watch. The Thunder lost only one player from last year and return all-league selections Ian Jackson (18.3 ppg) and Scott Rogers (13.7 ppg). Calvin (13-13) and Adrian (17-9) are expected to compete in the MIAA race this year.

North Coast Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Wooster 2. Ohio Wesleyan 3. Wittenberg

Player of the Year: Dimonde Hale, Denison, Sr.

Outlook: The race in the NCAC should be wide open. Two starters return for Wooster (26-5) from its postseason team: Josh Claytor (11.1 ppg) and Xavier Brown (12.4 ppg). Ohio Wesleyan (20-8) welcomes back four starters from last year's NCAA tournament team. The Bishops must replace leading scorer and NCAC MVP Tim Brady. Wittenberg (24-7) will attempt to re-load after losing four starters. The Tigers will count on a host of veterans to battle for playing time.

Ohio Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Capital 2. John Carroll 3. Marietta

Player of the Year: Malcolm Heard, Wilmington, Jr.

Outlook: Expect another tough battle in the OAC. The Capital Crusaders (19-10) are poised to defend their OAC championship with four returning starters, including all-conference and all-region forward Spencer Niekamp (14.2 ppg, 4.7 rpg) and All-OAC guard Michael Sommer. Other teams to watch include John Carroll and Marietta. John Carroll and Marietta are others teams to watch in the race.

President's Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Bethany 2. Thiel 3. Thomas More

Player of the Year: Nick Wilcox, Bethany, Sr.

Outlook: Bethany (25-4) returns four starters in a quest to win its third straight PAC title. Leading the Bison is returning PAC Player of the Year Nick Wilcox (14.8 ppg, 7.9 rpg), as well as senior point guard Reece Mabery (13.7). Senior guard James Barton (13.1) and junior forward Leslie Addy (6.7), along with senior Brady Pacific (11.9) off the bench give Bethany plenty of offensive power.

Midwest Region

College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin

Top Teams:

1. North Central 2. Ill. Wesleyan 3. Augustana

Player of the Year: Landon Gamble, North Central, Jr.

Outlook: North Central (22-8) welcomes back four starters and almost its entire roster from last year's team that reached the Sweet 16. Landon Gamble (13.7 ppg) and Derek Raridon (12.7 ppg) power the Cardinals' offense. Illinois Wesleyan (23-8) looks to continue its hot streak that started at the end of last season and carried the team all the way to the Final Four. Junior forward Victor Davis (10.9 ppg, 4.9 rpg) and 6-7 senior center Kevin Reed (8.7 ppg, 6.0 rpg) lead the list of returners for Ron Rose's

Titans. Augustana (19-7) and Wheaton (23-7), which needs to replace its top four scorers from a year ago, should make the CCIW race one of the best in the country this year.

Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Transylvania 2. Rose-Hulman 3. Hanover

Player of the Year: Ethan Spurlin, Transylvania, Sr.

Outlook: Transylvania (23-5) has four starters back on the roster and only lost two players from last year's squad. Ethan Spurlin (16.8 ppg, 6.4 rpg) and Brandon Rash (15.6 ppg) lead the offensive attack. Rose-Hulman also returns four starters and seven of its top eight scorers from last year's team that won the HCAC tournament and qualified for the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1999. The Fightin' Engineers will count on the backcourt duo of Julian Strickland (13.3 ppg) Austin Weatherford (12.8 ppg) for offensive output.

Midwest Conference

Top Teams:

1. St. Norbert 2. Grinnell 3. Lake Forest

Player of the Year: Griffin Lentsch, Grinnell, Sr.

Outlook: Expectations are high at St. Norbert (16-9) where all five starters, most of the roster, and 69 points return to the court this season. All-league guard Brandon Gries (14.5 ppg, 4.5 rpg) is among three double figure returning starters for the Green Knights. An offseason trip to Italy saw the team go 3-0 against local clubs. Grinnell (18-5) will crank up its 110.9 points per game average behind senior Griffin Lentsch (26.2 ppg), the top scorer in the MWC.

Northern Athletics Conference

Top Teams:

North: 1. Lakeland 2. Concordia 3. Edgewood

South: 1. Benedictine 2. Concordia Ill. 3. Rockford

Player of the Year: Jake Schwarz, Lakeland, Sr.

Outlook: Expect a wide open race in the NAC this season. In the North, where most of the power lies in the league, Lakeland (21-7) returns three starters, led by the high-scoring duo of Jake Schwarz (23.4 ppg) and Justin Ward (16.8 ppg). Concordia (21-6) and Edgewood (23-7) will make the North a three-way race. In the South, Benedictine (13-14) and Concordia Chicago (10-16) were co-regular season champions a year ago and look to be the top teams again this campaign.

St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Webster 2. Eureka 3. Westminster

Player of the Year: Stefan Whittingham, Webster, Jr.

Outlook: Webster (13-13) returns its entire roster this year and looks to retain its leadership position in the SLIAC. Leading scorer and league MVP Stefan Whittingham (15.5 ppg, 8.2 rpg) powers the Gorlocks and gets help from all-league forward

Roman Robinson (12.7 ppg). Eureka (15-11) is expected to challenge with returning first-team all-league performers Dustin Fritsch (17.1 ppg, 8.5 ppg), the SLIAC's top scorer, and center Mark Lessen (14.8 ppg, 8.3 ppg).

West Region

Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Coe 2. Dubuque 3. Buena Vista

Player of the Year: David Mataloni, Coe, Sr.

Outlook: Coe begins a new era with as head coach Bryan Martin takes the reigns this season. The cupboard is hardly bare for the new coach as the Kohawks return three All-Iowa Conference players to the 2012-13 squad, including Iowa Conference MVP David Mataloni (15.9 ppg). Andrew Wirth (11.9 ppg) and Seth Light (11 ppg) add offensive support. Dubuque (17-9) must replace leading scorer Lee Piccinelli but the duo of Mitch Michaelis (13.3 ppg) and Chris Frazier (13 ppg) is expected to be enough to keep the Spartans in the upper part of the Iowa standings. Buena Vista (17-11) returns leading scorer and all-league selection Les Nordquist (15.4 ppg).

Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. St. Thomas 2. Gustavus 3. St. Olaf

Player of the Year: John Nance, St. Thomas, Sr.

Outlook: St. Thomas (22-7) is looking to become the first program to win or share eight consecutive MIAC championships. The Tommies return 11 of their top 12 players and add a few promising recruits. Senior center Tommy Hannon (16 ppg, 7.0 rpg) played nine games last year before a season-ending injury and returns after medical hardship to team with first-team all-league guards John Nance (11.8 ppg) and Will DeBerg (12.9 ppg). Gustavus (20-8) will need to find scoring to replace the loss of All-American Seth Anderson and his 22 points per game. Seniors Ben Biewen and James Hill will try to fill the void.

Northwest Conference

Top Teams:

1. Whitworth 2. Puget Sound 3. Whitman

Player of the Year: Zach Anderson, Linfield, Sr.

Outlook: Expect a tight race in the NWC this year. Two starters are back for defending champion Whitworth (26-4) from its third straight Sweet 16 team that won by an average margin of 13 points a game. Senior Wade Gebbers (12.8 ppg) will be called upon to step up his offensive output this year for the Pirates. Puget Sound (20-7) is expected to be a top competitor in the NWC and will count on a crop of newcomers and veterans to fill four vacant starting positions. Riggs Yarbro (9.0 ppg), Rex Holmes (8.2 ppg) and Derek Jobe (8.1 ppg) should step into prominent roles. Whitman (18-8) should be a factor as well.

Conference Previews

West, Cont.

Southern California Intercollegiate Conference

Top Teams:

1. C-M-S 2. Pomona 3. Whittier

Player of the Year: Tyler Gaffaney, C-M-S, Jr.

Outlook: Defending champion Claremont-Mudd-Scripps (25-3) will have a new look with two starters returning. The Stags need to replace their top two scorers from a year ago and will count on junior all-league performer Tyler Gaffaney (10.4 ppg) to help pick up the slack. Pomona-Pitzer (16-10) welcomes back four starters and its top five scorers from last season. Leading scorer Michael Cohen (10.9 ppg) could move into a starting role this year.

Upper Midwest Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Bethany Lutheran 2. Northwestern 3. St. Scholastica

Player of the Year: Gavin Kroehler, Bethany Lutheran, Sr.

Outlook: Bethany Lutheran (16-11) has high hopes with five starters and nearly its entire roster back from last season. Alex Welden (15.4 ppg) and co-league MVP Gavin Kroehler (13.7 ppg) lead the scoring attack. Northwestern (17-11) is looking to earn back its UMAC regular season trophy from 2010-11, and advance to the NCAA tournament for a third consecutive year. The Eagles return four starters, including national 3-point shooting champion in Tom Gisler, and leading scorer and co-league MVP Wade Chitwood (17.3 ppg, 2.9 rpg).

Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

Top Teams:

1. Whitewater 2. Stevens Point 3. River Falls

Player of the Year: Tyler Tillema, Stevens Point, Sr.

Outlook: Defending national champion Whitewater (29-4) will look to repeat behind three returning starters but must replace All-American Chris Davis up front. Point guard Alex Merg (6.1 ppg, 4.2 rpg) and a host of reserves will get their chance to shine with extended roles this campaign. Stevens Point (20-8) is chasing a seventh straight postseason bid. The Pointers added Division I transfer Clayton Heuer (Green Bay) to the mix of three returning starters. Senior Tyler Tillema (16.3 ppg, 5.1 rpg) powers the offense. River Falls (20-8) should be a factor in the league race despite losing four starters from last season.

**Next Issue Coming Dec. 1 with
Player and Coach of the Month
Awards!**

University Athletic Association

Top Teams:

1. Washington 2. NYU 3. Rochester

Player of the Year: John DiBartolomeo, Rochester, Sr.

Outlook: Washington University (20-7) returns 17 letterwinners and three starters from last year's team which won the UAA championship. Junior forward Chris Klimek (12.5 ppg, 5.4 rpg) leads the Bears. NYU (21-6) is coming off its first NCAA championship appearance since 1997-98. Though the Violets must replace leading scorer Andy Stein, they return four starters who will form the nucleus of a team that looks to improve upon last season. Senior guard Kyle Stockmal (14.5 ppg, 4.0 rpg) is the top returning scorer for NYU. Three starters are back for Rochester (17-8), led by All-American John DiBartolomeo (19.1 ppg, 5.0 rpg). A European trip this past summer should help the Yellowjackets get ready for the season.

Independents

Top Teams:

1. St. Joseph's (NY) 2. Neb. Wesleyan 3. UC Santa Cruz

Player of the Year: Nathan Roeder, North Central, Sr.

Outlook: The ranks of Division III independents continues to shrink due to expanding conferences. The handful of teams competing as independents are led by St. Joseph's NY (13-14) and Nebraska Wesleyan (12-14).

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2012-13 Preseason All-Americans



Player of the Year

AJ Matthews
Farmingdale St.



DIIN Top 24 Selections

NORTHEAST

Aaron Toomey	Amherst	Junior	Guard
Ryan Martin	Keene St.	Senior	Guard
Alex Berthiaume	Springfield	Senior	Guard

EAST

Jared Suderley	Hartwick	Junior	Forward
John DiBartolomeo	Rochester	Junior	Guard
Mickey Davis	Morrisville St.	Junior	Guard

ATLANTIC

AJ Matthews	Farmingdale St.	Senior	Center
Lance Brown	Wm. Paterson	Senior	Forward
Winston Douglas	Medgar Evers	Senior	Forward

MID. ATLANTIC

Reed Buck	USMMA	Senior	Forward
Danny Brooks	Leb. Valley	Senior	Forward
Jon Ward	Ursinus	Senior	Forward

SOUTH

D.J. Woodmore	Va. Wesleyan	Junior	Guard
Kyle Schleigh	Texas-Dallas	Junior	Forward
Tra Benefield	Chris. Newport	Junior	Forward

GREAT LAKES

Malcolm Heard	Wilmington	Junior	Forward
Nate Snuggerud	Hope	Senior	Forward
Nick Wilcox	Bethany	Senior	Forward

MIDWEST

Landon Gamble	North Central	Junior	Forward
Ethan Spurlin	Transylvania	Senior	Forward
Griffin Lentsch	Grinnell	Senior	Guard

WEST

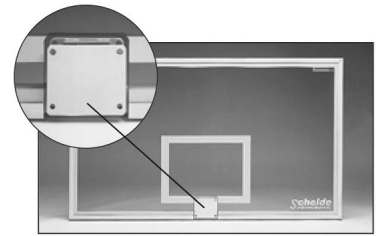
Tyler Tillema	Stevens Point	Senior	Guard
David Mataloni	Coe	Senior	Guard
John Nance	St. Thomas	Senior	Guard

Honorable Mention

- Stefan Thompson, Hobart, Sr.
- Paul Reynolds, Wesley, Sr.
- Zach Richards, B'ham Southern, Sr.
- Ryan Milne, Colo. College, Jr.
- Hayden Ward, Oswego St., Sr.
- Warren Murphy, Centenary, Sr.
- Andrew Galow, Rhodes, Sr.
- Will Green, FDU, Jr.
- Sedale Jones, Curry, Sr.
- David Palmer, Pitt-Greensburg, Sr.
- Anthony Click, Anna Maria, Jr.
- Gavin Kroehler, Bethany Lutheran, Sr.
- Dimonde Hale, Denison, Sr.
- Lee Vazquez, Westfield, Sr.
- Jake Schwarz, Lakeland, Sr.
- Zach Anderson, Linfield, Sr.
- Taeshon Johnson, Southern Vt., Sr.
- Stefan Whittingham, Webster, Jr.
- Mark Comstock, Castleton, Sr.
- Mitchell Kates, MIT, Sr.
- Tyler Gaffaney, C-M-S, Jr.
- Spencer Niekamp, Capital, Sr.
- Wade Chitwood, Northwestern, Sr.
- David Palmer, Pitt-Greensburg, Sr.
- Russ Conley, Penn. St. Behrend, Sr.
- Asmar Capers, Drew, Sr.
- Sean Rossi, Ithaca, Sr.
- Matt Pepdjonovic, Suffolk, Sr.
- Brandon Gries, St. Norbert

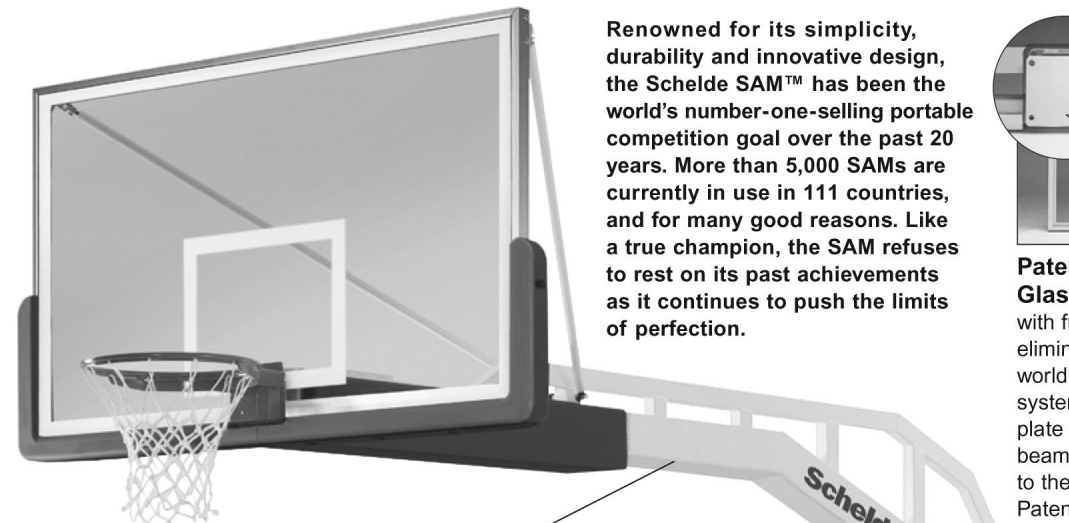
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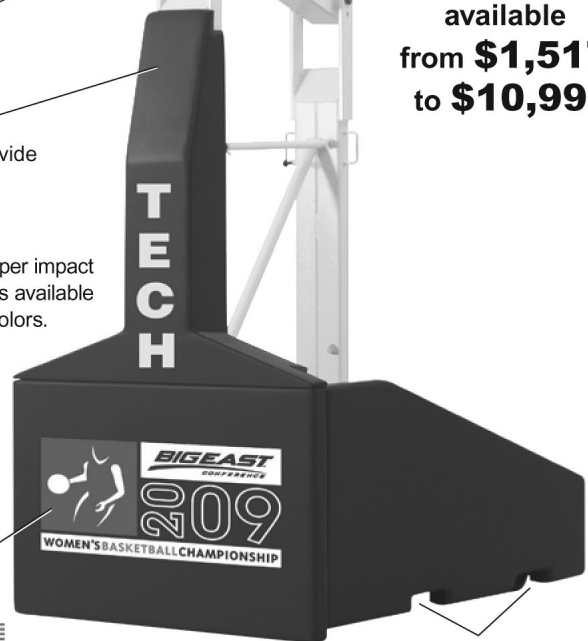
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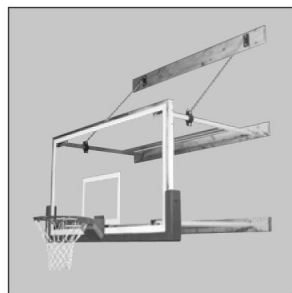
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