

206/281-2772 voice | 206/281-2266 fax | frmacdon@spu.edu | www.spu.edu/falconsonline

No. 1 Falcons Host NCAA West Regional This Week Women Complete Perfect Regular Season, Earn Top Seed

Next order of business. With the conference championship and the school's first-ever perfect regular season in the books, Seattle Pacific University turns its attention to earning a trip to the Elite Eight when it hosts the NCAA Division II West Regional this week. Seven other women's basketball teams will converge on Brougham Pavilion, where the Falcons have won 33 straight. Play begins Friday (Mar. 14) with four first-round games, including the No. 1-ranked Falcons (27-0) facing Chico State (17-9) in the nightcap. Semifinals are Saturday night (Mar. 15), with the regional championship game Monday night (Mar. 17). The West winner will advance to play the North Central champion at the Elite Eight, Mar. 26 in Saint Joseph, Mo.

Eight is enough. Until this year, a top seed needed only a couple wins to move beyond the region, but the NCAA expanded the national bracket to 64 teams and the regionals to eight. The West field features three nationally-ranked teams: SPU, No. 5 Cal State Bakersfield and No. 24 Western Washington. The latter are the region's Nos. 2 and 3 seeds. Western Washington plays Northwest Nazarene in an all-Great Northwest Athletic Conference matchup while CSUB meets a conference rival of its own, Cal State Stanislaus. The SPU-Chico victor advances to play the winner of Montana State Billings and Central Washington. This is the second time Seattle Pacific has hosted the West Regional. It parlayed the home-court advantage to reach the 1998 Elite Eight.

But wait, there's more. Coach **Gordy Presnell** and his team set two primary goals before beginning this season: win the GNAC championship and host the regional tournament. Missions accomplished. And yet, there's so much more to be done. "We've accomplished more than we ever imagined, but we're confident we are capable of even more," said Presnell, who hopes history repeats itself. The top seed in the West the past two years—Cal Poly Pomona—has not only gone on to the Elite Eight but has won two NCAA championships. North Dakota State is the only team in the history of Div. II to complete a perfect season, claiming the 1995 title with a 32-0 record.

Interesting twists. Friday's first-round game features an interesting twist: Chico State's rookie head coach, Lynne DeYoung, played at SPU and was Presnell's top assistant for five seasons. If the Falcons advance, they could meet Central Washington in the semifinal round. The Wildcats met Seattle Pacific twice in GNAC play, with the total margin of the losses only 14 points. They are also the last visitor to win at the pavilion. Finally, should the top two seeds meet in the championship, it represents a rematch of last year's first-round game, which Cal State Bakersfield won, 96-84. SPU has not lost since.

The winning formula. Presnell, voted the GNAC Coach of the Year, will tell anyone that the formula for success lies in the leadership and unselfish but spectacular play of three seniors, plus a wealth of talent. Point guard **Kerie Hughes** (Sr., 5-6, Mount Vernon, Wa./Mount Vernon) earned GNAC Player of the Year, and is a first team all-conference pick along with center **Kelley Berglund** (Sr., 6-3, Port Angeles, Wa./Washington State), and **Stephanie Urrutia** (Sr., 5-9, Sunnyside, Wa.) received honorable mention. Berglund, the team's scoring (13.5) and rebounding (8.4) leader, was the GNAC player of the week after totaling 32 and 15, respectively, in last week's wins over Western Oregon (89-44) and Humboldt State (78-44). During the past month, Hughes is averaging 15.9 points. In four games versus nationally-ranked Div. II teams, Berglund averaged 18.5 points and 3.3 steals while Hughes averaged 14.0 points and 6.8 assists.

2002-03 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

SPU Quick Facts

2002-03 Record—27-0 (GNAC 18-0)
Coach—Gordy Presnell, 16th year
Coach's Career & SPU Record— 334-122

This Week

Fri., Sat. & Mon., March 14, 15 & 17
NCAA Division II West Regional
Brougham Pavilion, Seattle, Wa.

Friday, Mar. 14

1st Round: 12:30, 2:30, 5:30, 7:30 p.m.
West. Washington. v Northwest Nazarene
Cal State Bakersfield v Cal State Stanislaus
Mont. State Billings v Central Washington
Seattle Pacific v Chico State

Saturday, Mar. 15, 5 & 7 p.m.

Game 1 Winner v Game 2 Winner
Game 3 Winner v Game 4 Winner

Monday, Mar. 17, 7 p.m.

Regional Championship Game

Last Week's Results

at SPU 89, Western Oregon 44
at SPU 78, Humboldt State 44

Streaks & Such

The Falcons have won 33 consecutive home games

Stat de jour

SPU clinched its seventh straight NCAA playoff berth and its eighth in nine years

NCAA Div. II Poll (Mar. 5)

1. Seattle Pacific
2. California (Pa.)
3. Bentley (Ma.)

also

5. Cal State Bakersfield
24. Western Washington

Final GNAC Standings

	W	L	W	L
Seattle Pacific	18	0	27	0
Western Washington	15	3	22	5
Northwest Nazarene	12	6	19	8
Central Washington	12	6	17	8
Saint Martin's	9	9	13	14
Western Oregon	8	10	13	14
Alaska Anchorage	6	12	11	15
Humboldt State	4	14	9	18
Seattle University	3	15	9	18
Alaska Fairbanks	3	15	8	19

Depth charge. One reason the individual numbers won't astound many observers is because Presnell goes 11 deep, meaning the minutes are spread out. The quality depth enabled SPU to overcome the losses of forward **Kristin Poe** (Jr., 5-8, Enumclaw, Wa./Enumclaw) and guard **Trisha Hermanson** (So., 5-6, Buckley, Wa./White River) for 13- and 10-game absences, respectively. In fact, two games after replacing Poe in the starting lineup, **Michelle Beaumont** (So., 5-11, Bellingham, Wa./Sehome) scored a GNAC-record 35 points. **Carli Smith** (Fr., 5-11, Spokane, Wa./Valley Christian), with five double-doubles in points and rebounds, is the GNAC freshman of the year while **Mandy Wood** (Fr., 5-6, Port Angeles, Wa.) is the No. 1 three-point shooter (.507) in the conference.

Put-backs. Seattle Pacific will practice from 3-4:45 p.m. through Wednesday and 6-7 p.m. Thursday. The latter is closed to the media...Since going to No. 1 in the nation Feb. 12, the Falcons have attracted three crowds in excess of 1,200, including a record 1,475 in the final regular season game...The team has tied the school season record for victories at 27, first set in 1997-98. It is on record pace for free-throw percentage (.754)...Hughes, **Valerie Gustafson** (Jr., 6-0, Olympia, Wa./Black Hills), Beaumont and **Stacie Lukkes** (Sr., 6-0, Kent, Wa./Kentwood) were selected to the academic all-conference team last week. Lukkes is a three-time selection and Gustafson a two-timer...Urrutia, who is 13-23 from the field in her last three outings, moved up to No. 9 on the career scoring leader list while Poe is now No. 10 in rebounds...The Falcons led the GNAC in eight statistical categories, including scoring (84.3), scoring margin (+23.1), field-goal percentage (.480), three-point accuracy (.397), rebounding (+9.2), steals (13.0), scoring defense (61.1) and defensive field-goal percentage (.357)...Nationally, SPU is No. 4 in scoring margin, No. 5 in scoring offense and sixth in three-point accuracy. Individuals among the GNAC top five, besides Wood, include **Brittney Kroon** (Fr., 6-4, Wasilla, Ak.), No. 2 in blocks (1.27); Beaumont, No. 2 in 3-point percentage (.478); Gustafson, No. 3 in field-goal percentage (.569); Hughes, No. 3 in assists (5.81) and No. 5 in 3-point accuracy (.427); Berglund, No. 4 in rebounding (8.5) and No. 4 in field-goal percentage (.558); and Smith, No. 5 in field-goal percentage (.552)...Presnell has now been a conference coach of the year five times (1995, '97, '98, '01 and '03).

Opponent & series notes. Chico State relies heavily on the three-pointer, ranking eighth in the NCAA with an average of 8.4 per game, including 17 in their final game last week. The Wildcats feature point guard Kim Abts, who averages 6.8 assists and 14.0 points. They have won four in a row and 10 of 13. They have lost all three previous meetings...Montana State Billings, a former conference foe of Seattle Pacific, has won 14 of 22 in the series but has lost its last five visits to the pavilion, dating back to 1996. The Yellowjackets beat SPU in the first round of the 2000 regional...Central Washington and Northwest Nazarene are both on six-game win streaks...Western Washington was runner-up to SPU in the GNAC and is in the playoffs for the sixth year in a row. The Vikings lost twice to the Falcons this season but lead the series 45-14, including a playoff win in 1999...Cal State Bakersfield, a program born in 2000-01, has won 23 straight games and is led by Heather Garay, the nation's No. 3 scorer (23.3). Garay had 31 points, 15 boards and five steals in the playoff win over SPU last year. Cal State Stanislaus, their opening draw, is the only team to defeat the Roadrunners.

2002-03 Women's Basketball Roster

No.	Name	Pos	Hgt	Yr	Exp	Hometown (High School/Last Coll.)
4	Carli Smith	F	5-11	Fr	HS	Spokane, Wa. (Valley Christian)
11	Trisha Hermanson	G	5-6	So	1V	Buckley, Wa. (White River)
12	Mandy Wood	G	5-6	Fr	HS	Port Angeles, Wa. (Port Angeles)
20	Kerie Hughes	G	5-6	Sr	3V	Mount Vernon, Wa. (Mt. Vernon)
21	Autumn Garis	G	5-8	Fr	HS	Redmond, Wa. (Redmond)
22	Demecia Casimir	G	5-7	Fr	HS	Spokane, Wa. (Northwest Christian)
23	Michelle Beaumont	G	5-11	So	1V	Bellingham, Wa. (Sehome)
24	Stephanie Urrutia	G	5-9	Sr	3V	Sunnyside, Wa. (Sunnyside)
30	Stacie Lukkes	C	6-0	Sr	3V	Kent, Wa. (Kentwood)
31	Kristin Poe	F	5-8	Jr	2V	Enumclaw, Wa. (Enumclaw)
32	Kelley Berglund	C	6-3	Sr	1V	Port Angeles, Wa. (Pt. Angeles/WSU)
33	Brittney Kroon	C	6-4	Fr	HS	Wasilla, Ak. (Wasilla)
42	Valerie Gustafson	F-C	6-0	Jr	2V	Olympia, Wa. (Black Hills)

Head Coach: Gordy Presnell

Assistant Coaches: Lindsey Dion, Jamie Craighead

2002-03 Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 22-23	at Goodrich Classic (Bellingham, Wa.)	
Nov. 22	SPU v North Dakota State	W, 70-67
Nov. 23	SPU v Colorado Christian	W, 93-44
Nov. 27	at Northwest College	W, 110-50
Nov. 29	WESTMONT	W, 95-56
Nov. 30	PACIFIC LUTHERAN	W, 73-55
Dec. 5	at Humboldt State*	W, 98-76
Dec. 7	at Western Oregon*	W, 62-48
Dec. 20	at Lewis-Clark State	W, 81-64
Dec. 27-28	CCAA/GNAC Challenge (Bellingham)	
Dec. 27	Cal Poly Pomona	W, 87-73
Dec. 28	Cal State L.A.	W, 84-52
Jan. 4	LEWIS-CLARK STATE	W, 83-58
Jan. 9	NW NAZARENE*	W, 95-75
Jan. 11	SAINT MARTIN'S*	W, 90-49
Jan. 18	at Central Washington*	W, 63-60
Jan. 23	at Western Washington*	W, 78-62
Jan. 25	at Seattle University*	W, 78-62
Jan. 30	ALASKA ANCHORAGE*W	90-57
Feb. 1	ALASKA FAIRBANKS* W	80-72
Feb. 6	at Saint Martin's*	W, 73-62
Feb. 8	at Northwest Nazarene*	W, 81-74
Feb. 15	CENTRAL WASH.* W	80-69
Feb. 20	SEATTLE UNIVERSITY*W	86-40
Feb. 22	WESTERN WASH.* W	102-91
Feb. 27	at Alaska Anchorage*	W, 93-78
Mar. 1	at Alaska Fairbanks*	W, 84-69
Mar. 6	WESTERN OREGON*	W, 89-44
Mar. 8	HUMBOLDT STATE* W	78-44
Mar. 14-17	NCAA West Regional (Seattle, Wa.)	
Mar. 26-29	NCAA Elite Eight (St. Joseph, Mo.)	

*Great Northwest Athletic Conference games
All times are Pacific

2002-03 Statistical Leaders

Scoring

Kelley Berglund	13.5
Kerie Hughes	12.4
Stephanie Urrutia	12.1
Valerie Gustafson	10.1

Rebounds

Kelley Berglund	8.4
Carli Smith	7.4

Assists

Kerie Hughes	5.8
Stephanie Urrutia	3.9

Shooting Percentage

Valerie Gustafson	.569
Kelley Berglund	.558
Carli Smith	.552

Three-Point Percentage

Mandy Wood	(34-68) .507
Michelle Beaumont	(37-69) .478

Free-Throw Percentage

Trisha Hermanson	.893
Carli Smith	.828

Steals

Kerie Hughes	1.96
Kelley Berglund	1.81
Valerie Gustafson	1.77

Blocks

Brittney Kroon	1.27
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Team	Pts.	Reb	FG%	FT%	3P%
SPU	84.3	43.2	.481	.754	.397
Opp.	61.1	34.0	.353	.673	.309

Seattle Pacific University
2002-03 Women's Basketball Statistics
Record: 27- 0/ 18- 0 GNAC

Date	Opponent	Score	Site	Attend	Rec.	Leading Scorer	Leading Rebounder
11/22	North Dakota St.	W 70- 67	N Bellingham, Wa.	125	1- 0	24- Kelley Berglund	13- Kelley Berglund
11/23	Colorado Christian	W 93- 44	N Bellingham, Wa.	105	2- 0	16- Mandy Wood	8- Kelley Berglund
11/27	Northwest College	W 110- 50	A Kirkland, Wa.	123	3- 0	17- Stephanie Urrutia	8- Brittney Kroon
11/29	Westmont College	W 95- 56	H Seattle, Wa.	450	4- 0	17- Stephanie Urrutia	9- Kristin Poe
11/30	Pacific Lutheran	W 73- 55	H Seattle, Wa.	200	5- 0	23- Kelley Berglund	12- Kelley Berglund
12/ 5 *	Humboldt State	W 98- 76	A Arcata, Calif.	332	6- 0	19- Kerie Hughes	8- Carli Smith
12/ 7 *	Western Oregon	W 62- 48	A Monmouth, Ore.	200	7- 0	13- Kelley Berglund	11- Kelley Berglund
12/20	Lewis-Clark St.	W 81- 64	A Lewiston, Id.	800	8- 0	21- Michelle Beaumont	12- Carli Smith
12/27	Cal Poly Pomona	W 87- 73	N Bellingham, Wa.	192	9- 0	19- Stephanie Urrutia	6- G'son/Smith/B'lund
12/28	Cal State L.A.	W 84- 52	N Bellingham, Wa.	253	10- 0	35- Michelle Beaumont	11- Kelley Berglund
1/ 4	Lewis-Clark State	W 83- 58	H Seattle, Wa.	325	11- 0	15- Stephanie Urrutia	10- Valerie Gustafson
1/ 9 *	N'west Nazarene	W 95- 75	H Seattle, Wa.	350	12- 0	17- Carli Smith	19- Carli Smith
1/1 *	St. Martin's	W 90- 49	H Seattle, Wa.	575	13- 0	15- Kelley Berglund	11- Kelley Berglund
1/18 *	Central Washington	W 63- 60	A Ellensburg, Wa.	951	14- 0	14- Carli Smith	7- Carli Smith
1/23 *	Western Wash.	W 78- 62	A Bellingham, Wa.	1606	15- 0	18- Kerie Hughes	12- Carli Smith
1/25 *	Seattle U.	W 78- 62	A Seattle, Wa.	589	16- 0	19- Valerie Gustafson	8- Kelley Berglund
1/30 *	Alaska Anchorage	W 90- 57	H Seattle, Wa.	311	17- 0	15- Kerie Hughes	12- Kelley Berglund
2/ 1 *	Alaska Fairbanks	W 80- 72	H Seattle, Wa.	1252	18- 0	18- Kerie Hughes	11- Carli Smith
2/ 6 *	Saint Martin's	W 73- 62	A Lacey, Wa.	125	19- 0	19- Trisha Hermanson	10- Carli Smith
2/ 8 *	N'west Nazarene	W 81- 74	A Nampa, Id.	1242	20- 0	23- Kerie Hughes	10- Carli Smith
2/15 *	Central Washington	W 80- 69	H Seattle, Wa.	1211	21- 0	24- Kelley Berglund	12- Kelley Berglund
2/20 *	Seattle U.	W 86- 40	H Seattle, Wa.	752	22- 0	15- Mandy Wood	12- Carli Smith
2/22 *	Western Wash.	W 102- 91	H Seattle, Wa.	1375	23- 0	19- Kelley Berglund	10- Valerie Gustafson
2/27 *	Alaska Anchorage	W 93- 78	A Anchorage, Ak.	757	24- 0	21- Kerie Hughes	8- Stephanie Urrutia
3/ 1 *	Alaska Fairbanks	W 84- 69	A Fairbanks, Ak.	323	25- 0	21- Kerie Hughes	12- Kelley Berglund
3/ 6 *	Western Oregon	W 89- 44	H Seattle, Wa.	805	26- 0	14- Kelley Berglund	8- Berglund/Smith
3/ 8 *	Humboldt State	W 78- 44	H Seattle, Wa.	1475	27- 0	18- Kelley Berglund	9- Kristin Poe

* - GNAC Game

— All FG — — 3 Pt FG — — FT — — Rebounds —

Seattle Pacific	GP-GS	M- A	Pct	M- A	Pct	M- A	Pct	Off	Def	Tot	Avg	A	TOBLK	STL	PF	D	Min-	Avg	Pts	Avg
Michelle Beaumont	27-18	78- 175	44.6	33- 69	47.8	38- 47	80.9	17	47	64	2.4	36	61	10	15	49- 0	571-	21.1	227	8.4
Kelley Berglund	27-27	129- 231	55.8	0- 4	0.0	107-145	73.8	71	155	226	8.4	21	77	24	49	81- 0	581-	21.5	365	13.5
Demecia Casimir	17- 0	5- 8	62.5	0- 2	0.0	0- 0	0.0	2	6	8	0.5	3	3	0	2	3- 0	54-	3.2	10	0.6
Autumn Garis	14- 0	3- 16	18.8	0- 1	0.0	7- 12	58.3	4	8	12	0.9	5	4	0	1	2- 0	86-	6.1	13	0.9
Valerie Gustafson	27-26	112- 197	56.9	1- 4	25.0	47- 67	70.1	42	100	142	5.3	43	38	15	48	74- 0	603-	22.3	272	10.1
Trisha Hermanson	17- 1	26- 90	28.9	11- 48	22.9	25- 28	89.3	6	24	30	1.8	38	39	4	22	17- 1	306-	18.0	88	5.2
Kerie Hughes	26-26	96- 221	43.4	32- 75	42.7	98-128	76.6	7	47	54	2.1	151	69	4	51	27- 0	742-	28.5	322	12.4
Brittney Kroon	26- 0	34- 67	50.7	0- 0	0.0	17- 29	58.6	30	40	70	2.7	7	14	33	6	24- 0	198-	7.6	85	3.3
Stacie Lukkes	27- 1	28- 65	43.1	0- 1	0.0	18- 27	66.7	38	37	75	2.8	15	33	8	14	45- 1	330-	12.2	74	2.7
Kristin Poe	14- 7	30- 81	37.0	6- 21	28.6	14- 21	66.7	21	50	71	5.1	41	32	3	28	24- 0	286-	20.4	80	5.7
Carli Smith	27- 1	90- 163	55.2	0- 0	0.0	53- 64	82.8	81	118	199	7.4	22	45	6	37	39- 0	463-	17.1	233	8.6
Stephanie Urrutia	27-27	120- 247	48.6	28- 73	38.4	60- 75	80.0	31	78	109	4.0	106	77	14	40	52- 0	716-	26.5	328	12.1
Mandy Wood	27- 1	61- 128	47.7	34- 67	50.7	23- 29	79.3	6	26	32	1.2	53	50	2	36	25- 0	464-	17.2	179	6.6
Team								39	35	74		3								0
Seattle Pacific	27-27	812-1689	48.1	145-365	39.7	507-672	75.4	395	771	1166	43.2	541	545	123	349	462- 2			2276	84.3
Opponents	27-27	569-1613	35.3	143-463	30.9	370-550	67.3	353	565	918	34.0	374	652	62	269	522-135			1651	61.1

— First Half — — Second Half — — Game —

All FG	695-	1459	47.6%	117-	230	50.9%	812-	1689	48.1%
3 Pt FG	129-	320	40.3%	16-	45	35.6%	145-	365	39.7%
FT	394-	527	74.8%	113-	145	77.9%	507-	672	75.4%

Deadball Rebounds: Seattle Pacific 83, Opponents 79
Opponent Team Rebounds: 87 — (Offense: 45 Defense: 42)
Opponent Team Turnovers: 2
Technical Fouls: None