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GNAC Title, West Seeding Remain At Stake

SPU Men's Fate Will Go Down To Final Game Sat.

End & beginning. It's the magical month of March and while the men's basketball season is winding up for some, it may be just beginning for others this weekend. Seattle Pacific University will wrap-up the regular season Saturday night (Mar. 4), when both the Great Northwest Athletic Conference championship and the right to host the NCAA Division II West Regional will be decided. The 17th-ranked Falcons (13-4, 21-5) are trying to catch Western Washington in both races but are essentially assured of a postseason berth going into their game at Northwest Nazarene (7-10, 12-14). The NCAA tournament bracket will be announced Sunday night (Mar. 5) with first-round games Mar. 10.

Down to the wire. Seattle Pacific has a chance to win its first conference crown in six years and bring the regional to Brougham Pavilion for just the third time. Although there are several scenarios for doing so, the most favorable involves getting a victory at Northwest Nazarene and at least one loss by Western Washington in Alaska this week. Currently, SPU trails the Vikings by one loss in the GNAC. The two teams have traded first place and the No. 1 spot in the West rankings back and forth the past four weeks, with WWU now on top.

Forget the Oscars. While the rest of creation is watching the Academy Awards, coaches, players and diehard basketball fans will be tuned to the NCAA tournament announcement at 7:30 Sunday, when the tournament sites, seeding and pairings will be unveiled. SPU is seeking its 16th trip to the postseason and 10th in the last 13 years. The Falcons have only hosted a West Regional twice before (1965, 2000) and each time emerged as tournament champions and the West representative to the Elite Eight. Tentative dates for the first three rounds of the tournament are Mar. 10, 11 and 13. Regional winners advance to the Elite Eight, which begins Mar. 22 in Springfield, Mass.

Coming of age. Twenty-one may be the marker for a person coming of age in society, but 22 has a special ring to it for SPU. In the program's modern era, only five teams have won 22 or more games prior to a national tournament, and four reached at least the second round, including the Final Four squad of 2000. This is Coach **Jeff Hironaka's** second straight 20-win season. His Falcons were eliminated in the first round of last year's regional by eventual West champion Cal Poly Pomona. With Hironaka on the bench as either an assistant or head coach, the Falcons have been seeded first or second in a regional four times.

2 B's. It's been a special season so far—a No. 3 national ranking at one point and 13 consecutive weeks in the top 20—and that goes for some individuals as well. Guards **Dustin Bremerman** (Sr., 6-4, Yakima, Wa./Eisenhower) and **Tony Binetti** (Sr., 6-1, Enumclaw, Wa.) form the program's most potent 1-2 scoring punch, averaging 19.3 and 18.5 points, respectively (Jackie Johnson and Scott Rolfness combined for 37.4 in 1988-89). Both Bremerman and Binetti have a chance to break the top 10 in season scoring (523), needing 22 and 42 points, and Binetti is 27 assists from cracking the top five in that category. In last week's 103-79 win at Saint Martin's, Binetti (23) and Bremerman (22) combined for 45.

Supporting cast. A key factor this season has been team chemistry and after waning a bit it is coming around again. Five players scored in double figures in each of last week's games, making it seven times this season. In another 11 games there have been four players with 10 or more points. **Chad Williams** (Sr., 6-8, Burlington, Wa./Burlington-Whatcom CC) broke out of a slump with a combined 27 points in two games on 11-18 shooting. Center

2005-06 MEN'S BASKETBALL

SPU Quick Facts

2005-06 Record—21-5 (GNAC 13-4)

Coach—Jeff Hironaka

Coach's Career Record—71-38 (4th year)

This Week's Games

Sat., Mar. 4, 6 p.m. PST

SPU at Northwest Nazarene

Johnson Sports Center, Nampa, Id.

Sun., Mar. 5, 7:30 p.m. PST

NCAA Selection Announcement

Last Week's Results

at Seattle University 90, SPU 76

SPU 103, at Saint Martin's 79

Streaks & Such

The Falcons have won 15 straight games when shooting at least 50 percent from the field, and have lost their last four when shooting under 50 percent

Stat de jour

Averaging a combined 37.8 points, Dustin Bremerman and Tony Binetti form the best 1-2 scoring punch in program history

GNAC Standings

	W	L	W	L
Western Washington	13	3	21	4
Seattle Pacific	13	4	21	5
Humboldt State	9	7	15	9
Alaska Anchorage	9	7	18	10
Central Washington	9	7	14	11
Alaska Fairbanks	8	8	15	10
Seattle University	8	8	15	10
Northwest Nazarene	7	10	12	14
Western Oregon	3	13	8	17
Saint Martin's	2	14	7	18

NCAA National Rankings

1. Delta State (Ms.)
2. Saint Joseph's (In.)
3. Virginia Union

also

9. Western Washington
17. Seattle Pacific

West Regional Rankings

1. Western Washington
2. Seattle Pacific
3. Cal State Bakersfield
4. Chaminade (Hi.)
5. Alaska Anchorage

Robbie Will (So., 6-10, Seattle, Wa./O'Dea-Bellevue CC) now has five straight games of double figures. **Mike Bushmaker** (Sr., 6-7, Yakima, Wa./Eisenhower) is the top-scoring sixth man in the GNAC (11.3) and **Drew Matzen** (Jr., 6-4, Lynnwood, Wa./Bothell) was one point shy of his career high with 15 points at Seattle University.

Offensive behavior. Even the best shooters' legs can get a bit weary at this stage of the season, so one less day of practice and only one game this week may help SPU enter the NNU game and the postseason relatively fresh. SPU is No. 4 in NCAA field-goal percentage (.517), and is also among the national leaders in sinking shots from the foul line (.769, 6th) and three-point arc (.399, 19th). They have made 50 percent or higher from the field 15 times, winning each of those games. They have lost their last four games when shooting under 50 percent.

Put-backs. The Falcons are contending for their seventh conference championship since 1984 and first since 2000...Saturday's game can be heard live on the web at nnsports.com. Live audio and video streaming of the NCAA bracket announcement is available at ncaasports.com...Seattle Pacific out-rebounded Saint Martin's 45-28 with Bremerman doubling his previous career high with 16. It was his first career double double...Will, who leads the GNAC with 2.08 blocked shots per game, is now tied for the No. 5 SPU season total (54)...Bremerman and Binetti are both within reach of the top 10 (1210) in career scoring, with 1194 and 1181 points, respectively...Binetti has scored in double figures in all 26 games. He had seven steals last week...Bremerman has scored 30 points or more five times this season, the most in the GNAC. He was held without a three (0-2) for only the second time this season and the first time in 20 games at Saint Martin's. After going 29-46 in the first five games of February, he has hit 6-21 in the last three...After missing 13 of 16 treys in three games, Binetti was 3-6 at SMU. In the last seven games, he has 35 assists and just six turnovers and 12 steals in the last four games. When Binetti scores 20-plus away from home, SPU is 7-0 this season...Seattle Pacific is No. 2 in conference blocked shots (3.92) and overall shooting (.517). It's No. 3 in field goal percentage defense (.457), scoring (86.4, 15th nationally) and free throw percentage (.769). Individually, Binetti is No. 3 in three-point accuracy (.477) and No. 4 in assists (5.2) and steals (2.0). Bremerman is third in three-point percentage (.464, 6th in NCAA) and sixth in scoring (19.3). Bushmaker is fourth in field-goal percentage (.625)...The Falcons are only 4-4 when outscored in the second half and 4-3 when allowing opponents to shoot 50 percent or higher...Seven times this season SPU has come from at least eight points down to win, including three on the road...In each loss, SPU has made less than one-third of their threes, including 10-31 in the 90-76 loss at Seattle U...In their four Div. II losses, the Falcons have yielded an average of 93.0 points.

Opponent & series notes. Seattle Pacific has won 11 of the last 13 meetings with Northwest Nazarene and leads the series 37-21. The Crusaders have won three out of five, including upsets over Western Washington and Alaska Fairbanks. They are allowing 86.2 points per game, and hoist an average of 30 three-pointers game. Mesut Ademoglu, who averages 19.5 points and 7.2 rebounds, missed the first meeting in which the Falcons equaled their No. 2 score in winning 124-107. Bremerman scored a career-high 38 to offset Ryan McCarthy's 32 (nine treys).

2005-06 Men's Basketball Roster

No.	Name	Pos	Hgt	Yr	Exp	Hometown (High School/Last Coll.)
3	Jeff Knudson	F	6-7	Sr	3V	Mukilteo, Wa. (Kamiak)
4	Jared Moultrie	G	6-2	Jr	TR	West Point, Ut. (Clearfield/Salt Lake)
11	Tony Binetti ✓	G	6-1	Sr	3V	Enumclaw, Wa. (Enumclaw)
13	Mike Bushmaker	F	6-7	Sr	3V	Yakima, Wa. (Eisenhower)
15	Brian Lynch	G	6-1	Jr	TR	Missoula, Mt. (Great Falls/Montana)
20	Austin Yuen	G	5-8	Jr	2V	Mercer Island, Wa. (Mercer Island)
22	Chad Williams ✓	F	6-8	Sr	2V	Burlington, Wa. (B-Edison/Whatcom)
23	Tim Gabelein	F/C	6-6	Sr	2V	Langley, Wa. (South Whidbey)
30	Drew Matzen ✓	F	6-4	Jr	2V	Bothell, Wa. (Lynnwood)
32	Dustin Bremerman ✓	F/G	6-4	Jr	2V	Yakima, Wa. (Eisenhower)
40	Robbie Will ✓	C	6-10	So	RS	Seattle, Wa. (O'Dea/Bellevue CC)

Head Coach: Jeff Hironaka

Assistant Coaches: Brock Veltri, Scott Reid, George Parker

✓ Projected starters

2005-06 Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Res./Time
Nov. 1	AL BLUE ANGELS (Ex.)W,	102-79
Nov. 10	at BYU (Exhib.)	L, 72-86
Nov. 12	at New Mexico (Exhib.)	L, 53-71
N. 18-19	Sodexo tip-Off Classic	
Nov. 18	CS MONTEREY BAY	W, 95-79
Nov. 19	CS SAN BERNARDINO	W, 85-81
Nov. 25-26	CSLA Classic (Los Angeles, Ca.)	
Nov. 25	SPU v CS Dominguez HillsW,	70-68
Nov. 26	SPU at Cal State L.A.	W, 73-70
Dec. 3	Oak Harbor Freight Lines Challenge	
	HAWAII PACIFIC	W, 69-54
Dec. 13	at Nevada	L, 57-83
Dec. 17-18	High Desert Classic (Las Vegas, Nv.)	
Dec. 17	SPU v Missouri Southern	W, 93-65
Dec. 18	SPU v Pittsburg State	W, 83-77
Dec. 21	at Cal Poly Pomona	W, 69-66
Dec. 31	NW NAZARENE*	W, 124-107
Jan. 5	at Western Oregon*	W, 89-74
Jan. 7	at Humboldt State*	W, 97-87
Jan. 12	ALASKA ANCHORAGE*W,	87-80
Jan. 14	ALASKA FAIRBANKS*W,	93-66
Jan. 19	at Central Washington*	W, 99-91
Jan. 21	at Western Washington*	L, 84-95
Jan. 26	SAINT MARTIN'S *	W, 88-79
Jan. 28	SEATTLE UNIVERSITY *W,	82-73
Feb. 2	HUMBOLDT STATE*	W, 97-92
Feb. 4	WESTERN OREGON *	W, 94-79
Feb. 9	at Alaska Fairbanks*	W, 88-82
Feb. 11	at Alaska Anchorage*	L, 75-89
Feb. 16	WESTERN WASH. *	W, 90-86
Feb. 18	CENTRAL WASH. *	L, 87-98
Feb. 23	at Seattle University*	L, 76-90
Feb. 25	at Saint Martin's*	W, 103-79
Mar. 4	at Northwest Nazarene*	6:00
Mar. 10-13	NCAA West Regional	
Mar. 22-25	NCAA Elite Eight (Springfield, Ma.)	

*Great Northwest Athletic Conference games

2005-06 Season Leaders

Scoring

Dustin Bremerman	19.3
Tony Binetti	18.5
Robbie Will	11.4
Mike Bushmaker	11.3
Chad Williams	9.9

Rebounds

Robbie Will	6.3
Dustin Bremerman	5.2

Assists

Tony Binetti	5.2
Jared Moultrie	2.6
Chad Williams	2.6

Steals

Tony Binetti	2.0
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Blocked Shots

Robbie Will	2.1
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Field Goal Percentage

Mike Bushmaker	.625
Robbie Will	.597

Three-Point Percentage

Tony Binetti	(52-109) .477
Dustin Bremerman	(77-166) .464

Free Throw Percentage

Dustin Bremerman	(92-107) .860
Jared Moultrie	(46-55) .836

Team	Pts.	Reb	FG%	FT%	3P%
SPU	86.4	34.2	.517	.769	.399
Opp.	80.4	34.9	.457	.694	.380

The Automated ScoreBook
 SPU Combined Team Statistics (as of Feb 26, 2006)
 All games

RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES.....	(21-5)	(11-1)	(7-4)	(3-0)
CONFERENCE.....	(13-4)	(8-1)	(5-3)	(0-0)
NON-CONFERENCE.....	(8-1)	(3-0)	(2-1)	(3-0)

##	Player	GP-GS	Min--Avg	---TOTAL---		---3-PTS---		FT-FTA	Pct	---REBOUNDS---				PF	FO	A	TO	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
				FG-FGA	Pct	3FG-FGA	Pct			Off	Def	Tot	Avg								
32	Bremerman,Dustin...	26-26	806 31.0	166-314	.529	77-166	.464	92-107	.860	42	93	135	5.2	45	0	66	50	7	22	501	19.3
11	Binetti,Tony.....	26-26	818 31.5	164-288	.569	52-109	.477	101-121	.835	14	68	82	3.2	71	1	135	56	9	52	481	18.5
40	Will,Robbie.....	26-24	566 21.8	120-201	.597	0-1	.000	57-97	.588	50	114	164	6.3	71	1	32	35	54	8	297	11.4
13	Bushmaker,Mike.....	26-2	567 21.8	115-184	.625	5-15	.333	59-80	.738	25	64	89	3.4	63	1	38	41	13	14	294	11.3
22	Williams,Chad.....	26-26	649 25.0	93-225	.413	35-99	.354	37-46	.804	31	98	129	5.0	54	3	67	48	8	8	258	9.9
30	Matzen,Drew.....	26-25	558 21.5	66-128	.516	22-53	.415	17-28	.607	13	63	76	2.9	36	0	38	17	6	11	171	6.6
4	Moultrie,Jared.....	26-0	608 23.4	32-66	.485	12-31	.387	46-55	.836	27	57	84	3.2	50	1	67	34	2	24	122	4.7
15	Lynch,Brian.....	20-0	263 13.2	17-64	.266	8-41	.195	15-17	.882	8	23	31	1.6	31	1	28	26	2	12	57	2.9
03	Knudson,Jeff.....	24-1	253 10.5	15-49	.306	10-38	.263	12-13	.923	10	22	32	1.3	21	0	24	14	1	6	52	2.2
23	Gabelein,Tim.....	16-0	92 5.8	3-9	.333	0-0	.000	1-4	.250	3	12	15	0.9	23	1	3	6	0	4	7	0.4
20	Yuen,Austin.....	10-0	20 2.0	2-5	.400	0-1	.000	3-4	.750	0	0	0	0.0	2	0	1	1	0	0	7	0.7
TEAM.....										23	30	53	2.0	0		2					
Total.....		26	5200	793-1533	.517	221-554	.399	440-572	.769	246	644	890	34.2	467	9	499	330	102	161	2247	86.4
Opponents.....		26	5200	752-1644	.457	203-534	.380	383-552	.694	338	569	907	34.9	490	-	425	339	56	156	2090	80.4

TEAM STATISTICS	SPU	OPP	DATE	OPPONENT	W/L	SCORE	ATTEND
SCORING.....	2247	2090	11/18/05	CAL ST. MONTEREY BAY	W	95-79	573
Points per game.....	86.4	80.4	11/19/05	CAL ST. SAN BERNARDINO	W	85-81	820
Scoring margin.....	+6.0	-	^11/25/05	vs CS Dominguez Hills	W	70-68	82
FIELD GOALS-ATT.....	793-1533	752-1644	^11/26/05	at Cal State L.A.	W	73-70	243
Field goal pct.....	.517	.457	12/03/05	HAWAII PACIFIC	W	69-54	827
3 POINT FG-ATT.....	221-554	203-534	12/13/05	at Nevada	L	57-83	6422
3-point FG pct.....	.399	.380	+12/17/05	vs Missouri Southern	W	93-65	130
3-pt FG made per game..	8.5	7.8	+12/18/05	vs Pittsburg State	W	83-77	230
FREE THROWS-ATT.....	440-572	383-552	12/21/05	at Cal Poly Pomona	W	69-66	149
Free throw pct.....	.769	.694	*12/31/05	NORTHWEST NAZARENE	W	124-107	319
REBOUNDS.....	890	907	*01/05/06	at Western Oregon	W	89-74	225
Rebounds per game.....	34.2	34.9	*01/07/06	at Humboldt State	W	97-87	1400
Rebounding margin.....	-0.7	-	*01/12/06	ALASKA ANCHORAGE	W	87-80	409
ASSISTS.....	499	425	*01/14/06	ALASKA FAIRBANKS	W	93-66	765
Assists per game.....	19.2	16.3	*01/19/06	at Central Washington	W	99-91	1894
TURNOVERS.....	330	339	*01/21/06	at Western Washington	L	84-95	2632
Turnovers per game.....	12.7	13.0	*01/26/06	SAINT MARTIN'S	W	88-79	518
Turnover margin.....	+0.3	-	*01/28/06	SEATTLE UNIVERSITY	W	82-73	1654
Assist/turnover ratio..	1.5	1.3	*02/02/06	HUMBOLDT STATE	W	97-92	371
STEALS.....	161	156	*02/04/06	WESTERN OREGON	W	94-79	324
Steals per game.....	6.2	6.0	*02/09/06	at Alaska Fairbanks	W	88-82	853
BLOCKS.....	102	56	*02/11/06	at Alaska Anchorage	L	75-89	1199
Blocks per game.....	3.9	2.2	*02/16/06	WESTERN WASHINGTON	W	90-86	1839
WINNING STREAK.....	1	-	*02/18/06	CENTRAL WASHINGTON	L	87-98	978
Home win streak.....	0	-	*02/23/06	at Seattle University	L	76-90	787
ATTENDANCE.....	9397	16639	*2/25/06	at Saint Martin's	W	103-79	393
Home games-Avg/Game....	12-783	11-1472					
Neutral site-Avg/Game..	-	3-147					

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	Total
SPU.....	1050	1197	- 2247
Opponents.....	1012	1078	- 2090

Individual Season/Career Highs

	<i>Season</i>	<i>Career</i>
4-Jared Moultrie		
Points	12 vs. Western Oregon, 1/5/06	12 vs. Western Oregon, 1/5/06
Rebounds	7 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05	7 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05
Assists	7 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05	7 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05
Steals	5 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05	5 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05
3-Jeff Knudson		
Points	12 vs. Humboldt State, 1/7/06	19 vs. Saint Martin's, 12/30/03
Rebounds	4 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05	6 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 2/27/03
Assists	6 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05	6 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05
3-pointers	3 vs. Humboldt State, 1/7/06	5 vs. Saint Martin's, 12/30/03; Central Wash., 1/22/04
15-Brian Lynch		
Points	16 vs. Cal State Monterey Bay, 11/18/05	16 vs. Cal State Monterey Bay, 11/18/05
Rebounds	4 vs. Missouri Southern, 12/17/05	4 vs. Missouri Southern, 12/17/05
Assists	5 vs. Hawaii Pacific, 12/3/05; Missouri Southern, 12/17/05	5 vs. Hawaii Pacific, 12/3/05; Missouri Southern, 12/17/05
3-pointers	4 vs. Cal State Monterey Bay, 11/18/05	4 vs. Cal State Monterey Bay, 11/18/05
11-Tony Binetti		
Points	27 vs. Central Washington, 1/17/06	27 vs. Central Washington, 1/17/06
Rebounds	7 vs. Cal State San Bernardino, 11/19/05; Humboldt State, 2/2/06	10 vs. Humboldt State, 2/24/05
Assists	11 vs. Alaska Anchorage, 1/12/06	11 vs. Humboldt State, 1/10/04; Alaska Anchorage, 1/12/06
3-pointers	5 vs. Cal Poly Pomona, 12/21/05	5 vs. Cal Poly Pomona, 12/21/05
Steals	5 vs. Saint Martin's, 1/26/06	5 vs. Humboldt State, 2/24/05; Saint Martin's, 1/26/06
13-Mike Bushmaker		
Points	27 vs. Humboldt State, 1/7/06	27 vs. Humboldt State, 1/7/06
Rebounds	8 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05	8 vs. Alaska Anchorage, 12/4/03; NW Nazarene, 12/31/05
Assists	4 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05; Alaska Fairbanks, 1/14/06	5 vs. UC San Diego, 12/16/03
Steals	5 vs. Saint Martin's, 1/26/06	5 vs. Saint Martin's, 1/26/06
20-Austin Yuen		
Points	2 vs. 3 teams; last Saint Martin's, 2/25/06	5 vs. Pacific Lutheran, 12/10/04
Rebounds		1 vs. three teams; last Seattle Univ., 3/5/05
Assists	1 vs. Alaska Fairbanks, 1/14/06	1 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 3/3/05
Steals		3 vs. Pacific Lutheran, 12/10/04
22-Chad Williams		
Points	19 vs. Alaska Anchorage, 1/12/06	21 vs. Western Oregon, 2/26/05
Rebounds	9 vs. Cal State Monterey Bay, 11/18/05; Saint Martin's, 1/26/06	11 vs. Hawaii Hilo, 11/26/04
Assists	5 vs. five teams; last Humboldt State, 2/2/06	6 vs. Alaska Fairbanks, 1/22/05
3-pointers	4 vs. Humboldt State, 2/2/06	4 vs. Humboldt State, 2/2/06
23-Tim Gabelein		
Points	3 vs. Alaska Fairbanks, 1/14/06	5 vs. Pacific Lutheran, 12/10/04
Rebounds	3 vs. Cal State Monterey Bay, 11/18/05	3 vs. three teams; last Cal State Monterey Bay, 11/18/05
Assists	1 vs. three teams	1 vs. four teams
30-Drew Matzen		
Points	16 vs. Missouri Southern, 12/17/05	16 vs. Missouri Southern, 12/17/05
Rebounds	9 vs. Missouri Southern, 12/17/05	9 vs. Missouri Southern, 12/17/05
Assists	5 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05	5 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05
3-pointers	3 vs. Alaska Anchorage, 1/12/06	3 vs. Central Washington, 1/6/05; UA Anchorage, 1/12/06
32-Dustin Bremerman		
Points	38 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05	38 vs. Northwest Nazarene, 12/31/05
Rebounds	16 vs. Saint Martin's, 2/25/06	16 vs. Saint Martin's, 2/25/06
Assists	6 vs. Western Oregon, 2/4/06	8 vs. Hillsdale, 11/25/04
3-pointers	8 vs. Alaska Fairbanks, 2/9/06	8 vs. Alaska Fairbanks, 2/9/06
40-Robbie Will		
Points	22 vs. Western Oregon, 2/4/06	22 vs. Western Oregon, 2/4/06
Rebounds	11 vs. Western Washington, 1/19/06	11 vs. Western Washington, 1/19/06
Assists	4 vs. Cal State L.A., 11/26/05	4 vs. Cal State L.A., 11/26/05
Blocked shots	6 vs. Hawaii Pacific, 12/3/05; Western Washington, 1/19/06	6 vs. Hawaii Pacific, 12/3/05; Western Wash., 1/19/06