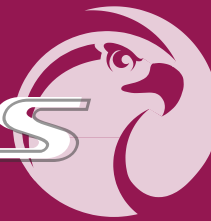


SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY

Falcon News

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Tough Tests: Men Open GNAC In Alaska Falcons On 3-Game Win Streak; Lynch, Bremerman All-Tourney

Alaska awaits. Never mind the weather outdoors, it's tough to win *indoors* in Alaska, and that's exactly the challenge facing Seattle Pacific University this week as the men's basketball team opens Great Northwest Athletic Conference play. The Falcons (7-4) begin defense of their crown Thursday night (Jan. 4) against Alaska Anchorage (9-2). The scene shifts to Alaska Fairbanks (9-5) Saturday evening (Jan. 6). Next week SPU hosts Western Oregon and Western Washington.

Coming together. Nothing came easily in December. The Falcons lost three in a row at one point and their four wins were by a combined margin of 19 points. Still, it appears that Coach **Jeff Hironaka** has a squad which has hardened sufficiently to enter the league fray. Rarely do GNAC victories come easily, and based on the past month SPU should arrive up north well-prepared. Coming off losses to three opponents currently ranked among the top 25, Seattle Pacific twice came from behind against Utah's Dixie State, prevailing 82-76 on the road and 71-67 at home. In between was a hard-fought, 75-71 win over Cheyney.

Tall order. The age-old formula for contenders is to win every home game and split on the road. So far, so good. SPU is 5-0 at home after claiming its own post-Christmas tournament, the Oak Harbor Freight Lines Classic. Away from Brougham Pavilion it is 2-4 (1-1 in true road games, 1-3 in neutral settings) and Alaska has been no paradise. The Falcons have only managed to earn a road sweep three times (1984, '91 and '99) and they have been blanked seven times in 23 conference junkets. Combined, Anchorage and Fairbanks are 11-1 at home this season versus non-Division I opponents.

On second thought. The GNAC coaches poll was taken back before a single game had been played. That may explain why the standings bear little resemblance to the poll. Favored Central Washington is under .500 and the Alaskans, picked third and seventh, each have nine wins. Anchorage might well be the new favorite, with Seattle Pacific (originally the No. 2) among the short list of contenders. A year ago, it was picked No. 4 yet won the title.

Role playing. Successful teams are built on chemistry as much as pure talent, and the acceptance of roles is big part of creating a winner. Because Hironaka lost his point guard, **Jared Moultrie** (Sr., 6-2, West Point, Ut./Clearfield/Salt Lake CC), to a season-ending knee injury early on, roles have been evolving. The Falcons are counting on **Brian Lynch** (Sr., 6-1, Missoula, Mt./Great Falls) and **Marques Echols** (Jr., 6-2, Seattle, Wa./Garfield-Peninsula CC) to not only fill Moultrie's minutes but also a selfless job in which they must focus on making others look good. At last week's tournament, they seemed to be living into the role. Lynch made key baskets and a total of four steals, scoring 20 points to earn all-tournament honors. Echols, who had delivered a key three and 16 points Dec. 20 at Dixie State, passed for six assists with only one turnover in 46 minutes at the tourney.

Toughening up. Two players entrusted with starring roles are **Dustin Bremerman** (Sr., 6-4, Yakima, Wa./Eisenhower) and **Rob Will** (Jr., 6-10, Seattle, Wa./O'Dea), and last week they both were forced to bounce back from adversity in plain view. Will totaled more turnovers and personal fouls (8 each) than rebounds (7) against Dixie State and Cheyney. But in the late stages of the return game he converted two baskets, including a three-point play, to help down the Rebels. Bremerman was 0-5 from the field in the first half vs. Dixie, which

2006-07 MEN'S BASKETBALL

Quick Facts

2006-07 Record- 7-4 (0-0 GNAC)

Coach-Jeff Hironaka, 5th year

Coach's SPU Record- 83-43

This Week's Games

Thr., Jan. 4, 8 p.m. PST

SPU at Alaska Anchorage

Wells Fargo Sports Center, Anchorage, Ak.

Sat., Jan. 6, 8 p.m. PST

SPU at Alaska Fairbanks

Patty Center, Fairbanks, Ak.

Recent Scores

SPU 82, at Dixie State 76

at SPU 75, Cheyney 71

at SPU 71, Dixie State 67

Streaks & Such

The Falcons have won three in a row and are 5-0 at home

Stat de jour

Seattle Pacific has come home with an Alaska sweep only three times in 23 tries

GNAC Standings

	W	L	W	L
Alaska Anchorage	0	0	9	2
Seattle University	0	0	8	3
Alaska Fairbanks	0	0	9	5
Seattle Pacific	0	0	7	4
Western Washington	0	0	6	4
Northwest Nazarene	0	0	5	6
Western Oregon	0	0	5	6
Central Washington	0	0	5	6
Saint Martin's	0	0	3	8

GNAC Preseason Poll

1. Central Washington
2. Seattle Pacific
3. Alaska Anchorage
4. Seattle University
5. Western Washington
6. Saint Martin's
7. Alaska Fairbanks
8. Northwest Nazarene
9. Western Oregon

NCAA Rankings

led by eight at the break. He reasserted himself in the second stanza, hitting 6 of 7 shots and scoring 18 of his 20. His rebound layup with 18 seconds left proved pivotal, giving SPU a 69-65 lead. Bremerman also made the all-tournament team, totaling 39 points and shooting 59 percent from the field.

Put-backs. Bremerman is No. 5 in career scoring (1460) and is now approaching Howard Hoppner (1521) and Jim Ballard (1530). He is 10th in GNAC career scoring, 8th in three-pointers and rebounds...Lynch has 10 assists and only four turnovers in the last four games while averaging 9.0 points...The Falcons have been out-rebounded in each of the last seven games, including margins of 10 or more in three of the last five...Echols came off the bench to make four threes at Dixie State and **JoJay Jackson** (Jr., 6-5, Fairfield, Ca.) contributed 14 and eight rebounds...**Drew Matzen** (Sr., 6-4, Bothell, Wa./Lynnwood) had 10 assists and hit 5 of 11 threes last week...Against Cheyney, SPU shot 50 percent from the field, including 11 of 22 treys. It has won 24 consecutive games when shooting at least 50 percent. The second win over Dixie State was the first time this season SPU has won without shooting 50 percent...After earning only 42 trips to the foul line during the four-game road trip, SPU shot 45 in two games last week...The Falcons have averaged 12.8 turnovers in the last four outings, down from 20.0 in the previous three games...Opponents are hitting 38.8 percent of their threes, putting SPU next-to-last in the GNAC, and the Falcons are ninth in rebounding margin (-5.5). Individually, Will is the shot-blocking leader (2.3). Bremerman is No. 4 in scoring (17.5) and free-throw accuracy (.917)...With a 12-1 finish, GNAC teams completed the non-conference portion of their schedules with a respectable 57-44 record (.563), including 42-33 (.560) against Division II schools and 23-22 (.511) against West Region teams. A year ago when the GNAC earned five West Region playoff berths, conference teams were 64-26 in non-conference games (.711), including 37-17 (.685) against Div. II schools and 25-10 (.714) against West Region teams (18-6 vs. the CCAA)...The SPU-UAA game be heard online at www.goseawolves.com and Saturday's game is available at www.820sports.com.

Opponent & series notes. Winner of four straight, Alaska Anchorage is 7-2 at home but has yet to play its first road game. The Seawolves lead the GNAC in scoring (60.6) and shooting (.396) defense, and offensive field-goal percentage (.538). They feature Eric Draper, who averages 16.8 points. UAA leads the series with SPU 27-19, but has lost 11 of the last 18...Alaska Fairbanks has won three in a row going into Thursday's game with Central Washington. The Nanooks have yet to leave Alaska. Jushey Rockett of UAF leads the league in both scoring (22.3) and rebounding (9.6) and the team is No. 1 in rebounding (+7.9). The Falcons lead the series 42-12...For weather buffs, the forecast for Anchorage is no more than 6 degrees this week with Fairbanks plummeting to minus-25 (a high of -17) Saturday. The sun peaks over the horizon for about four hours, setting at about 3 p.m.

Missing links. For the latest and best information on Seattle Pacific University athletics, click on the Falcons Online (www.spu.edu/falconsonline). For updated standings and statistics, see the Great Northwest Athletic Conference web site at www.gnacsports.com.

2006-07 Men's Basketball Roster

No	Name	Pos	Hgt	Yr	Exp	Hometown (High School/Last College)
1	Marques Echols	G	6-2	Jr	TR	Seattle, Wa. (Garfield/Peninsula CC)
3	Adam Wardell	G	6-2	Fr	RS	Sedro Woolley, Wa. (Sedro Woolley)
4	Jared Moultrie	G	6-2	Sr	1V	West Point, Ut. (Clearfield/Salt Lk CC)
20	Austin Yuen	G	5-8	Sr	3V	Mercer Island, Wa. (Mercer Island)
21	Casey Reed	F	6-5	So	TR	Canby, Or. (Canby/Navy)
22	Brandon Larrieu	G	5-10	Fr	HS	Puyallup, Wa. (Franklin Pierce)
23	Filip Popovic	C	6-7	Jr	TR	Montenegro, Serbia (Skyline CC)
30	Drew Matzen ✓	F	6-4	Sr	3V	Bothell, Wa. (Lynnwood)
32	Dustin Bremerman ✓	F/G	6-4	Sr	3V	Yakima, Wa. (Eisenhower)
33	Rob Diederichs	F	6-8	Fr	RS	Shoreline, Wa. (Shorewood)
34	JoJay Jackson ✓	F	6-5	Jr	TR	Fairfield, Ca. (Vallejo/Solano JC)
40	Robbie Will ✓	C	6-10	Jr	1V	Seattle, Wa. (O'Dea/Bellevue CC)
44	Brian Lynch ✓	G	6-1	RS	1V	Missoula, Mt. (Great Falls/Montana)
	Matthew Johnson	G	6-2	Fr	HS	Fontana, Ca. (Eastmont)
	Kahlil Mathews	G	6-2	Fr	HS	Seattle, Wa. (Mercer Is./Air Force)

Head Coach: Jeff Hironaka

Assistant Coaches: Brock Veltri, George Parker, Scott Reid, Adam Swinyard

✓ Projected starters

2006-07 Season Schedule/Results

Date	Opponent	Time/Res.
Nov. 10-12	Shamrock Invitational (Moraga, Ca.)	
Nov. 10	at Saint Mary's	L, 60-71
Nov. 11	Murray State	W, 76-68
Nov. 12	San Diego State	L, 73-76
Nov. 17-18	SODEXHO TIP-OFF CLASSIC	
Nov. 17	CAL STATE L.A.	W, 85-67
Nov. 18	CAL POLY POMONA	W, 84-71
Nov. 24-25	Falcon Thanksgiving Classic (Las Vegas, Nv.)	
Nov. 24	UC San Diego	L, 52-62
Nov. 25	Cal St. Dominguez Hills	W, 84-65
Dec. 2	BYU HAWAII	W, 98-93
Dec. 12	at Cal State San Bernardino	L, 66-86
Dec. 15-16	High Desert Classic (Las Vegas, Nv.)	
Dec. 15	SPU v Central Missouri	L, 60-71
Dec. 16	SPU v Rollins	L, 75-88
Dec. 20	at Dixie State	W, 82-76
Dec. 29-30	OAK HARBOR FREIGHT LINES CLASSIC	
Dec. 29	CHEYNEY	W, 75-71
Dec. 30	DIXIE STATE	W, 71-67
Jan. 4	at Alaska Anchorage*	8:00
Jan. 6	at Alaska Fairbanks*	8:00
Jan. 11	WESTERN OREGON*	7:00
Jan. 13	WESTERN WASHINGTON*	7:00
Jan. 18	at Northwest Nazarene*	6:00
Jan. 20	at Seattle University*	7:30
Jan. 25	SAINT MARTIN'S*	7:00
Jan. 27	at Central Washington*	7:00
Feb. 1	NORTHWEST NAZARENE*	7:30
Feb. 3	SEATTLE UNIVERSITY*	3:30
Feb. 8	CENTRAL WASHINGTON*	7:00
Feb. 10	at Western Oregon*	7:00
Feb. 17	at Saint Martin's*	7:00
Feb. 22	ALASKA FAIRBANKS*	7:30
Feb. 24	ALASKA ANCHORAGE*	7:00
Mar. 1	at Western Washington*	7:00

*Great Northwest Athletic Conference games
All times are Pacific

2006-07 Season Leaders

Scoring

Dustin Bremerman	17.5
Rob Will	11.7
Drew Matzen	10.5
Rob Diederichs	10.2

Rebounds

Rob Will	6.0
JoJay Jackson	5.3

Assists

Brian Lynch	3.6
Drew Matzen	3.3

Steals

Brian Lynch	1.9
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Blocked Shots

Rob Will	2.3
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Field Goal Percentage

Rob Will	.541
JoJay Jackson	.522

Three-Point Percentage

Marques Echols	(13-30) .433
Drew Matzen	(26-60) .433

Free Throw Percentage

Dustin Bremerman	(33-36) .917
Marques Echols	(16-19) .842

Team	Pts.	Reb	FG%	FT%	3P%
SPU	75.6	31.3	.478	.719	.381
Opp.	74.3	36.8	.451	.675	.388

Seattle Pacific Combined Team Statistics (as of Dec 31, 2006)
All games

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

## 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...	10-10	331 33.1	61-119	.513	26-64	.406	28-31	.903	8	21	29	2.9	21	2	26	18	1	4	176	17.6
40 Will,Rob.....	11-11	297 27.0	53-98	.541	0-1	.000	23-34	.676	16	50	66	6.0	28	0	25	31	25	8	129	11.7
30 Matzen,Drew.....	11-11	337 30.6	42-91	.462	26-60	.433	5-11	.455	9	29	38	3.5	25	1	36	15	1	10	115	10.5
33 Diederichs,Rob.....	11-0	197 17.9	41-79	.519	14-38	.368	16-32	.500	8	26	34	3.1	16	0	25	14	1	13	112	10.2
34 Jackson,JoJay.....	11-11	271 24.6	36-69	.522	14-37	.378	11-13	.846	10	48	58	5.3	37	3	20	24	5	8	97	8.8
01 Echols,Marques.....	11-0	240 21.8	22-55	.400	13-30	.433	16-19	.842	9	25	34	3.1	18	0	26	19	1	4	73	6.6
44 Lynch,Brian.....	11-10	304 27.6	22-47	.468	10-26	.385	13-17	.765	6	14	20	1.8	29	2	39	24	0	21	67	6.1
04 Moultrie,Jared.....	2-2	55 27.5	7-19	.368	1-6	.167	5-5	1.000	6	3	9	4.5	1	0	7	5	0	3	20	10.0
22 Larrieu,Brandon....	11-0	58 5.3	4-20	.200	0-9	.000	9-10	.900	1	3	4	0.4	9	0	2	9	0	1	17	1.5
23 Popovic,Filip.....	10-0	65 6.5	8-16	.500	0-1	.000	0-2	.000	10	6	16	1.6	15	1	6	5	0	1	16	1.6
21 Reed,Casey.....	7-0	39 5.6	4-9	.444	0-0	.000	1-2	.500	1	4	5	0.7	6	0	1	4	2	2	9	1.3
03 Wardell,Adam.....	8-0	31 3.9	0-5	.000	0-1	.000	1-2	.500	0	4	4	0.5	7	0	2	3	0	1	1	0.1
TEAM.....									15	12	27	2.5	0		1					

Total.....	11	2225	300-627	.478	104-273	.381	128-178	.719	99	245	344	31.3	212	9	215	172	36	76	832	75.6
Opponents.....	11	2225	288-639	.451	71-183	.388	170-252	.675	148	257	405	36.8	190	-	166	168	30	92	817	74.3

TEAM STATISTICS	SPU	OPP	DATE	OPPONENT	W/L	SCORE	ATTEND
SCORING.....	832	817	11/17/06	CAL STATE L.A.	W	85-67	717
Points per game.....	75.6	74.3	11/18/06	CAL POLY POMONA	W	84-71	818
Scoring margin.....	+1.4	-	11/24/06	vs U. of California - San Diego	L	52-62	157
FIELD GOALS-ATT.....	300-627	288-639	11/25/06	vs Cal. State - Dominguez Hills	W	84-65	119
Field goal pct.....	.478	.451	12/02/06	BYU HAWAII	W OT	98-93	656
3 POINT FG-ATT.....	104-273	71-183	*12-12-06	at Cal State San Bernardino	L	66-86	347
3-point FG pct.....	.381	.388	12/15/06	vs Central Missouri	L	60-71	41
3-pt FG made per game..	9.5	6.5	12/16/06	vs Rollins	L	75-88	47
FREE THROWS-ATT.....	128-178	170-252	12/20/06	at Dixie State College	W	82-76	1351
Free throw pct.....	.719	.675	12/29/06	CHEYNEY	W	75-71	317
REBOUNDS.....	344	405	12/30/06	DIXIE STATE	W	71-67	517
Rebounds per game.....	31.3	36.8					
Rebounding margin.....	-5.5	-					
ASSISTS.....	215	166					
Assists per game.....	19.5	15.1					
TURNOVERS.....	172	168					
Turnovers per game.....	15.6	15.3					
Turnover margin.....	-0.4	-					
Assist/turnover ratio..	1.3	1.0					
STEALS.....	76	92					
Steals per game.....	6.9	8.4					
BLOCKS.....	36	30					
Blocks per game.....	3.3	2.7					
WINNING STREAK.....	3	-					
Home win streak.....	5	-					
ATTENDANCE.....	3025	2062					
Home games-Avg/Game....	5-605	2-849					
Neutral site-Avg/Game..	-	4-91					

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	OT	Total
Seattle Pacific.....	396	422	14	832
Opponents.....	397	411	9	817