

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 28, 2007**

## No. 20 Falcons To Take Given Back Home Top-Ranked Tampa Among Foes In Seaside Tourney

**Scene shifts north.** It's a big state, and the Seattle Pacific University volleyball team will move 350 miles closer to home without leaving California this weekend for the Otter Invitational in Seaside. There, the 20th-ranked Falcons (3-1) will play four times Friday and Saturday (Aug. 31-Sept. 1) before coming back home to begin Great Northwest Athletic Conference play. SPU meets Saginaw Valley State (3-1) and host Cal State Monterey Bay (0-4) the opening day and top-ranked Tampa (2-1) and Notre Dame de Namur (1-3) Saturday. The GNAC opener is Sept. 6 versus Seattle University.

**Homecoming's a Given.** This weekend is a homecoming for the Falcons' record-setting outside, **Alyssa Given** (Sr., Salinas, Ca./Notre Dame). She will be playing 10 miles from her hometown, and hopefully her friends and relatives will find the short trip well worthwhile. Given has gotten off to a strong start, leading SPU to its biggest win in two seasons. She smacked down 22 kills, including the final two points, in the five-game upset of No. 4 UC San Diego. Given owns the school and GNAC records for single match kills (32) and total points. She totaled 66 kills 22 digs, 11 blocks and an impressive 14 aces in the first week.

**Saturday showdown.** It's happened only once before, and Saturday morning the Falcons get another shot at beating the No. 1 team in the land. So far, they have seen two of the best four teams in the nation, and come away with a split. When SPU meets defending national champion Tampa it will be an opportunity to replicate Coach **Chris Johnson's** first signature win, a home upset of then-No. 1 Nebraska-Kearney in 2005.

**Biggest since.** The program's biggest win in the two years since came last week in San Bernardino. In a result which will significantly affect the early-season national and regional rankings, SPU beat UCSD in five games. The Falcons will likely float up from their preseason ranking of No. 20 in the first weekly coaches poll Sept. 4. Prior to beating the defending regional champion Tritons, Seattle Pacific had dropped five straight matches to CCAA opponents, including exits in each of the last two NCAA tournaments. Given cinched a place on the Coyote Classic all-tournament team with by cracking five of her kills in the deciding fifth game.

### Last week's scores:

at Cal State San Bernardino def. SPU 30-21, 30-20, 30-20  
SPU def. UC San Diego 26-30, 30-20, 32-30, 26-30, 15-9  
SPU def. Fort Lewis 30-21, 30-23, 21-30, 30-25  
SPU def. Cal State Dominguez Hills 30-25, 30-13, 26-30, 30-28

**Baptism by fire.** Johnson did not hesitate to have his freshmen tested by fire in their first collegiate outings. Setter **Joelle Perez** (Fr., Vancouver, Wa./Heritage) proved to be a capable heir to All-American Jenna Von Moos. Perez not only ran the offense, but was third on the team in digs (31) and totaled seven blocks and seven aces. **Nikki Osuna**

## 2007 VOLLEYBALL

### Quick Facts

2007 Record- 3-1 (0-0 GNAC)  
Coach-Chris Johnson, 3rd year  
Coach's SPU Record- 48-10

### Upcoming Matches

Otter Invitational  
*Otter Sports Center, Seaside, Ca.*

*Fri., Aug. 31*

SPU v Saginaw Valley State, 11:30 a.m.  
SPU at Cal State Monterey Bay, 8 p.m.

*Sat., Sept. 1*

SPU v Tampa, 11:30 a.m.  
SPU v Notre Dame de Namur, 4:30 p.m.

### Last Week's Results

at Cal State San Bernardino def. SPU 3-0  
SPU def. UC San Diego 3-2  
SPU def. Fort Lewis 3-1  
SPU def. Cal State Dominguez Hills 3-1

### Streaks & Such

The Falcons have won three in a row entering the week

### Stat de jour

In their last three outings—all wins—SPU had 38 aces and 38 blocks to 20 each for the opponents

### Preseason NCAA Rankings

1. Tampa
2. Minnesota Duluth
3. Cal State San Bernardino
4. UC San Diego

*also*

20. Seattle Pacific
23. Western Washington

### GNAC Standings

	W	L	W	L
Northwest Nazarene	0	0	4	0
Seattle Pacific	0	0	3	1
Alaska Fairbanks	0	0	3	1
Western Washington	0	0	2	2
Montana St. Billings	0	0	2	2
Western Oregon	0	0	2	2
Alaska Anchorage	0	0	2	2
Seattle University	0	0	1	3
Central Washington	0	0	0	4
Saint Martin's	0	0	0	4

(Fr., Bellflower, Ca./Los Alamitos) served seven aces and made 27 digs. **Courtney Alberi** (Fr., Castaic, Ca./Valencia), who also made her debut within driving distance of her hometown, led the club in attacking percentage (.333) and **Sarah Risser** (Fr., Santa Barbara, Ca./Dos Pueblos), yet another Californian, contributed 17 kills and four blocks.

**In a groove.** Of course, not everything was rosy. Flexing its muscles at home, Cal State San Bernardino dealt SPU a season-opening sweep for the second year in a row. Rejuvenated by the UCSD match, the Falcons won four-set contests with Fort Lewis and Cal State Dominguez Hills, the former atoning for one of two regular-season losses in '06. Seattle Pacific out-blocked the Toros 14-6 and hit .226 against the Skyhawks.

**Serving up some 'D.'** In the three wins, the difference was most certainly Seattle Pacific's serve/receive and net games. The Falcons nearly doubled the number of aces served by their foes (38-20) and enjoyed a nearly identical (38-20.5) advantage in blocks. **Angie Wodrich** (Sr., Richland, Wa.) and **Robin De Jong** (So., Goleta, Ca./Dos Pueblos) totaled career-highs of 10 and nine blocks, respectively, against UC San Diego. Wodrich added another nine and **Rachel Biornstad** (Sr., Kent, Wa./Kentlake) eight in the CSDH match. For the first four matches, Wodrich is averaging 1.38 blocks, nearly double her '06 season average.

**Quick sets.** Given needs two more aces to become No. 3 on the school's career list, and she's just nine behind the all-time record of 142. Given is 190 kills away from the career mark of 1249. She moved into No. 4 last week...SPU hit .183 and, after CSSB opened with a clip of .214, held opponents to an average of .145. Biornstad hit .250 on the attack...The Falcons played without injured middle **Jessica Bettencourt** (South Lake Tahoe, Ca.). She may be cleared to play this weekend.

**Opponent/series notes.** This will be the first meetings with Tampa, Notre Dame de Namur, Saginaw Valley State and Cal State Monterey Bay. Saginaw swept three opponents, including Alaska Anchorage of the GNAC. Tampa fell at home to NAIA power Cal Baptist but won its next two. Notre Dame faced four CCAA teams, beating Humboldt State. Monterey Bay faced stiff opposition in Hawaii, winning three games in four matches.

**SPU Coaches.** Chris Johnson took the Falcons to their first conference championships, their highest national rankings and NCAA tournament berths in his first two seasons as head coach, and was twice voted GNAC co-coach of the year. Johnson was the team's top assistant in 2004, and earlier served as an assistant at NAIA powerhouse Westmont from 2001-03. Former Central Washington star Crystal Ames joins the staff, which includes Johnny Lai and Jill Spratt.

## 2007 Volleyball Roster

No.	Name	Pos	Hgt	Yr	Exp	Hometown (High School/Last School)
1	Alyssa Given	OH	5-10	Sr	3V	Salinas, Ca. (Notre Dame)
3	Rachel Biornstad	MB	6-0	Sr	3V	Kent, Wa. (Kentlake)
4	Torii Mount	L	5-2	Jr	2V	Gresham, Or. (Gresham)
6	Alexa Vondrak	OH	5-9	So	1V	Gresham, Or. (Sam Barlow)
7	Joelle Perez	S	5-9	Fr	HS	Vancouver, Wa. (Heritage)
8	Robin De Jong	MB	5-10	So	1V	Goleta, Ca. (Dos Pueblos)
11	Angie Wodrich	OH	5-10	Sr	3V	Richland, Wa. (Richland)
12	Jessica Bettencourt	MB	5-11	So	1V	So. Lk. Tahoe, Ca. (S. Lk. Tahoe)
13	Kylie Johnson	MB	6-0	Fr	RS	Tucson, Az. (Catalina Foothills)
15	Sarah Risser	OH	5-9	Fr	HS	Santa Barbara, Ca. (Dos Pueblos)
16	Nikki Finley	OH	5-9	So	1V	Highlands Ranch, Co. (Mtn. Vista)
23	Nikki Osuna	L	5-3	Fr	HS	Bellflower, Ca. (Los Alamitos)
24	Courtney Alberi	OH	5-11	Fr	HS	Castaic, Ca. (Valencia)

Head Coach: Chris Johnson

Assistant: Crystal Ames, Johnny Lai, Jill Spratt

## 2007 Season Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time/Res.
Aug. 23-25	Coyote Classic (San Bernardino, Ca.)	
Aug. 23	SPU at Cal State San Bernardino	L 0-3
Aug. 24	SPU v UC San Diego	W, 3-2
Aug. 25	SPU v Fort Lewis	W, 3-1
	SPU v Cal St. Dominguez Hills	W, 3-1
A. 31-Se. 1	Otter Invitational (Seaside, Ca.)	
Aug. 31	Saginaw Valley State	11:30
	at Cal State Monterey Bay	8:00
Sept. 1	Tampa	11:30
	Notre Dame de Namur	4:30
Sept. 6	Seattle University*	7:00
Sept. 8	Montana State Billings*	7:00
Sept. 15	Northwest Nazarene*	7:00
Sept. 20	at Western Oregon*	7:00
Sept. 22	at Saint Martin's*	7:00
Sept. 27	Alaska Anchorage *	7:00
Sept. 29	Alaska Fairbanks *	7:00
Oct. 4	at Central Washington*	7:00
Oct. 6	at Western Washington*	7:00
Oct. 13	at Northwest Nazarene*	6:00
Oct. 18	Saint Martin's *	7:00
Oct. 20	Western Oregon *	7:00
Oct. 25	at Alaska Fairbanks*	8:00
Oct. 27	at Alaska Anchorage*	8:00
Nov. 1	Western Washington *	7:00
Nov. 3	Central Washington *	3:00
Nov. 8	at Montana State Billings*	6:00
Nov. 10	at Seattle University*	7:00
Nov. 15-17	NCAA Pacific Regional	
N. 29-D. 1	NCAA Championships	

\*Great Northwest Athletic Conference games  
All times are Pacific

## 2007 Statistical Leaders

Kills per game	
Alyssa Given	4.12
Angie Wodrich	2.62
Courtney Alberi	2.56

Attacking Percentage	
Courtney Alberi	.333
Rachel Biornstad	.250
Angie Wodrich	.182

Blocks per game	
Angie Wodrich	1.38
Rachel Biornstad	1.19
Robin De Jong	1.00

Digs per game	
Torii Mount	3.69
Angie Wodrich	2.31
Nikki Osuna	2.08

Assists per game	
Joelle Perez	9.94

Service Aces per game	
Alyssa Given	0.88
Nikki Osuna	0.54
Joelle Perez	0.44

Team	Kills	Pct.	Blk	Dig	Ace
SPU	12.19	.183	2.88	12.31	2.69
Opp.	11.88	.145	1.72	12.94	1.62

**Seattle Pacific Combined Team Statistics (as of Aug 27, 2007)**  
**All matches**

<b>RECORD:</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>HOME</b>	<b>AWAY</b>	<b>NEUTRAL</b>
<b>ALL MATCHES.....</b>	<b>( 3-1 )</b>	<b>( 0-0 )</b>	<b>( 0-1 )</b>	<b>( 3-0 )</b>
<b>CONFERENCE.....</b>	<b>( 0-0 )</b>	<b>( 0-0 )</b>	<b>( 0-0 )</b>	<b>( 0-0 )</b>
<b>NON-CONFERENCE.....</b>	<b>( 3-1 )</b>	<b>( 0-0 )</b>	<b>( 0-1 )</b>	<b>( 3-0 )</b>

##	STATS	SUMMARY	-----ATTACK-----					--SET--		----SERVE----			--DIG--			-----BLOCKING-----						
			G	K	K/G	E	TA	Pct	A	A/G	SA	SE	SA/G	RE	DIG	D/G	BS	BA	Total	B/G	BE	BHE
13	Johnson,Kylie		3	2	0.67	0	3	.667	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
16	Finley,Nikki		2	1	0.50	0	2	.500	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
24	Alberi,Courtney		9	23	2.56	7	48	.333	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	1	0.11	0	2	2	0.22	0	0
3	Biornstad,Rachel		16	28	1.75	10	72	.250	0	0.00	5	11	0.31	0	8	0.50	3	16	19	1.19	3	0
11	Wodrich,Angie		16	42	2.62	20	121	.182	5	0.31	5	9	0.31	2	37	2.31	2	20	22	1.38	1	0
1	Given,Alyssa		16	66	4.12	32	188	.181	1	0.06	14	16	0.88	6	22	1.38	3	8	11	0.69	0	0
7	Perez,Joelle		16	6	0.38	4	19	.105	159	9.94	7	5	0.44	0	31	1.94	2	5	7	0.44	0	11
15	Risser,Sarah		9	17	1.89	13	55	.073	2	0.22	0	0	0.00	1	7	0.78	0	4	4	0.44	0	0
8	De Jong,Robin		16	9	0.56	8	36	.028	3	0.19	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	1	15	16	1.00	0	0
6	Vondrak,Alexa		6	0	0.00	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	1	0.00	0	5	0.83	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
4	Mount,Torii		16	1	0.06	1	2	.000	3	0.19	5	5	0.31	14	59	3.69	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
23	Osuna,Nikki		13	0	0.00	0	0	.000	5	0.38	7	6	0.54	3	27	2.08	0	0	0	0.00	0	1
	TEAM												0									
	SEATTLE PACIFIC.....		16	195	12.19	95	546	.183	178	11.12	43	53	2.69	26	197	12.31	11	70	46.0	2.88	4	12
	Opponents.....		16	190	11.88	112	538	.145	170	10.62	26	52	1.62	43	207	12.94	9	37	27.5	1.72	1	10

TEAM STATISTICS	SPU	OPP	DATE	OPPONENT	W/L	SCORE	SCORE-BY-GAME	ATTEND
ATTACK.....			08/23/07	at #3 CSU San Bernardino	L	0-3	21-30,20-30,20-30	220
Kills.....	195	190	Aug 24	vs #4 UC San Diego	W	3-2	26-30,30-20,32-30,26-30,15-9	65
Errors.....	95	112	08/25/07	vs Fort Lewis	W	3-1	30-21,30-23,21-30,30-25	110
Total Attacks....	546	538	Aug 25	vs CS Dominguez Hills	W	3-1	30-25,30-13,26-30,30-28	-
Attack Pct.....	.183	.145						
Kills/Game.....	12.2	11.9						
SET.....								
Assists.....	178	170						
Assists/Game.....	11.1	10.6						
SERVE.....								
Aces.....	43	26						
Errors.....	53	52						
Aces/Game.....	2.7	1.6						
SERVE RECEPTIONS....								
Errors.....	26	43						
Errors/Game.....	1.6	2.7						
DEFENSE.....								
Digs.....	197	207						
Digs/Game.....	12.3	12.9						
BLOCKING.....								
Block Solo.....	11	9						
Block Assist.....	70	37						
Total Blocks.....	46.0	27.5						
Blocks Per Game...	2.9	1.7						
Block Errors.....	4	1						
BALL HANDLING ERRORS	12	10						
ATTENDANCE.....								
Total.....	0	220						
Dates/Avg Per Date	0/0	1/220						
Neutral site #/Avg	3/58							
Current win streak	3	-						
Home win streak...	0	-						