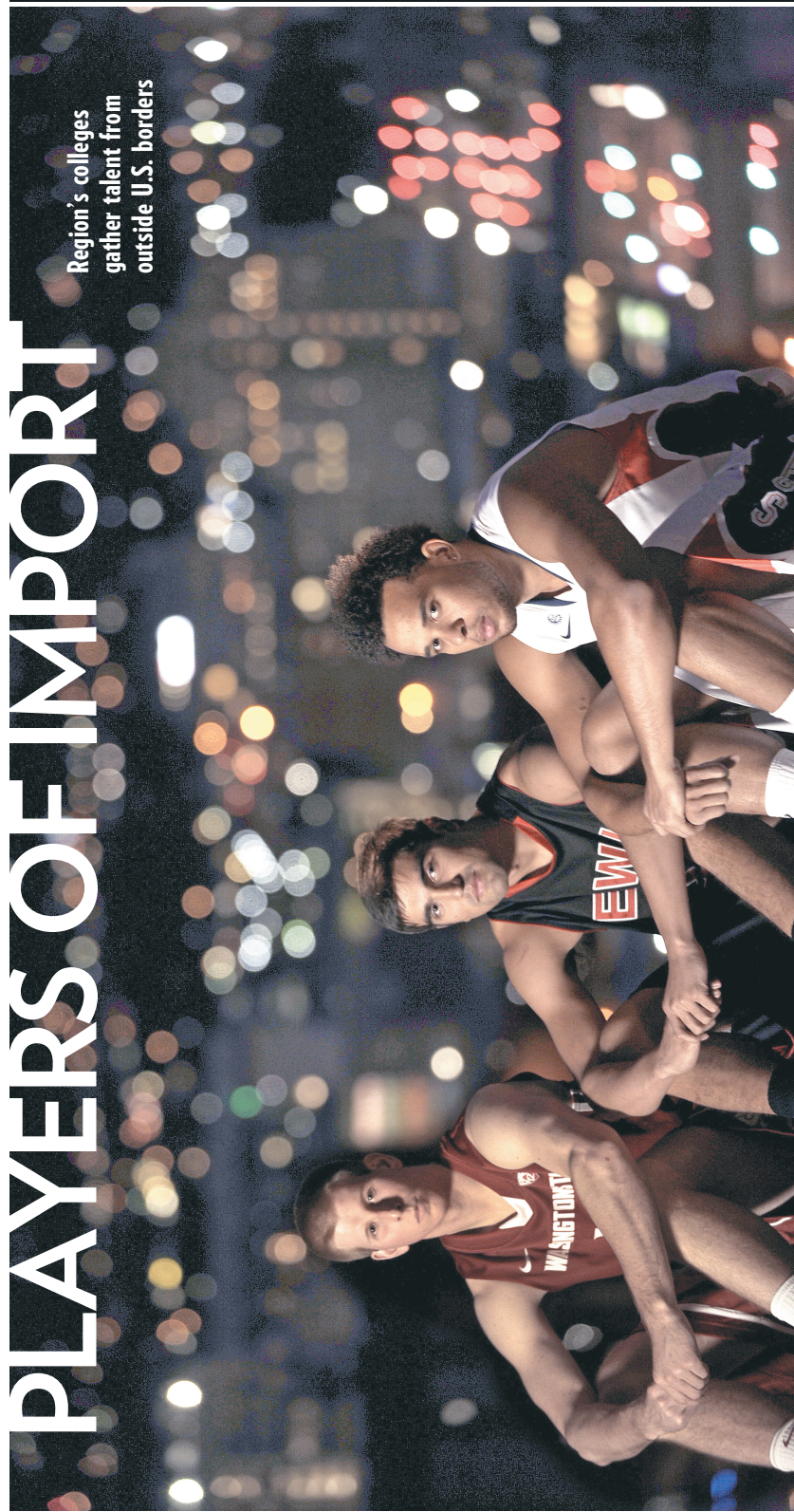


# PLAYERS OF IMPORT

Region's colleges  
gather talent from  
outside U.S. borders



## INSIDE



Cougars' youth behind senior Brock Motum key

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Bulldogs' deep talent pool ready for rugged state

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Vandals are stronger and eager for a deeper run

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Pirates are reloaded and poised for a NWC repeat

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Pictured From left, MSU Cougars' Brock Motum of Australia, EWU Eagles' Kenly Joss of Australia, and Gonzaga's Cliff Spoke of Germany sit atop Spokane's Cliff Park in October.

NATH FLORIAN PHOTO  
BY AP/WIDEWORLD

# WASHINGTON HUSKIES

## 5 Keys

### Play defense

This is something the Huskies didn't do particularly well last year, and one of the reasons why they lost five nonconference games and eventually missed the NCAA tournament despite winning the Pac-12 Senior center Aziz N'Diaye returns as UW's best defender, but where the

Huskies need to improve the most is at the guard position and in transition. With three veteran starters in Abdul Gaddy, Scott Suggs and C.J. Wilcox, those areas could improve.

### Find a go-to scorer

Last year, the Huskies had Terrence Ross and Tony Wroten. The three years prior, they had Isaiah Thomas. Quincy Pondexter fit the bill, too. But for the first time in a few years, coach Lorenzo Romar's squad doesn't have a proven go-to, give-me-the-ball scorer who can create his own shot at will. Guards C.J. Wilcox and Scott

### Adjust to the new offense

Romar has scrapped his motion offense in favor of running things through the high post, a major departure from recent years. The Huskies will still look to run and push tempo – a Romar staple – but the coach admits the team's offensive scheme will look entirely different this season. Whether the Huskies adjust quickly to the offense once the games start will tell a lot about

how consistent they can be offensively this season.

### Get the biggs involved

This might be the least-proven group of post players Romar has had at Washington, especially from an offensive standpoint. N'Diaye is experienced but has never been a scoring threat. Desmond Simmons, a 6-foot-7 forward, contributes mostly on defense and on the boards. Shawn Kemp Jr. spent last season knocking off rust and hasn't shown much other than slam dunks and layups. Freshman Jernard Jarreau is unproven.

With the new offense giving UW's biggs a larger role, they need to take advantage or the Huskies will be pretty limited in the halfcourt.

### Take care of the ball

Wroten's big-play ability was contracted by his at-times out-of-control style, which led to more turnovers than the Huskies wanted. With a little less free-wheeling in the high-post offense – and a more controlled point guard in Gaddy – UW's turnovers may decrease, especially if their backcourt players make the right decisions in transition.



## Fast facts

**Conference:** Pac-12  
**Colors:** Purple and Gold  
**Ticket office:** (206) 543-2200  
**Home court (Capacity):** Alaska Airlines Arena (10,000)  
**Website:** gohuskies.com  
**Head coach:** Lorenzo Romar, 11th season  
**Record at UW:** 219-113  
**Career record:** 312-201 (16)  
**Assistants:** Paul Fortier, 8th season; Brad Jackson, 1st season; Jim Shaw, 9th season.  
**2011-12 record:** 24-11  
**2011-12 Pac-12 record/finish:** 14-4/1st  
**Letterwinners back/lost:** 9/4  
**Starters back/lost:** 2/3  
**Newcomers:** 4



## On the Web

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Summarizes senior point guard Abdul Gaddy of this season's Huskies: "The team is the face of the team."

## Difference maker

### C.J. Wilcox

He's Washington's top returning scorer, and already has a reputation as one of the nation's best shooters. But C.J. Wilcox might have to evolve a little more as an offensive player this season.

Wilcox, a fourth-year junior, will be one of four veteran starters for the Huskies, and is the most established scorer of the bunch.

Within UW's new motion offense, though, there could be more opportunities for Wilcox to do damage from spots on the floor that aren't behind the 3-point arc. And, perhaps, more beyond the 3-point arc, too.

Coach Lorenzo Romar said he Wilcox, along with other UW players, don't get talked about as go-to scorers because people don't know what they can do yet.

Wilcox averaged 14.2 points per game as a sophomore last season, and made 40.2 percent of his 3-point attempts.

"C.J. Wilcox has been in a role that he's shared with others," Romar said. "With (the new offense), C.J. will have a lot more screens set for him."



Summarizes senior point guard Abdul Gaddy of this season's Huskies: "The team is the face of the team."

# Dawgs' new tricks

Team's makeup dictates that Romar switches Huskies to high-post offense

By Christian Caple

christianc@spokesman.com, (509) 998-3155

The way Lorenzo Romar talks about his team's new offensive approach, you'd think he's been waiting to try it his entire career.

In a way, he has. The Washington men's basketball team has rarely lacked dribble-drive shot creators in Romar's 10 seasons as coach, and so UW's motion offense suited its talent and athleticism.

But gone now are first-round NBA draft picks Tony Wroten and Terrence Ross, two all-conference players a year ago who carried the Huskies offensively and led them to the Pac-12 regular-season championship (though the Huskies became the first major conference champion in the modern era to miss out on the NCAA tournament).

Without that star power they're doing it differently this season. Romar installed a high-post offense during the offseason, a throwback to his days as an assistant under UCLA coach Jim Harrick.

"It's totally different," Romar said. "We relied a lot on guys beating guys off the dribble before. Now there's a lot more screens being set, there's a lot more

different looks, just a lot more different looks in it.

To UW's advantage was a six-game trip to Europe and Africa during the summer, preceded by 10 practices that allowed the Huskies some early acclimation to the new system.

Romar said his players have embraced it, and seem to be "more together" than teams in the past that have featured all-conference players or potential NBA picks.

And while the Huskies have some known talent this season, it's not quite as heralded. With the losses of Ross, Wroten and senior Darnell Gant, the Huskies also lost 52.4 percent of their scoring from last year.

"We don't really have that dominant personality, that one guy that's the face of the team," senior point guard Abdul Gaddy said. "The team is the face of the team."

"People know who the captains are," Romar said. "People kind of have an idea who's probably going to be the guys to take the last shot in the game, already know their roles to a degree."

Some of those roles are clearly defined. Gaddy, who Romar expects to thrive in an offense with more direction, is the

team's leader as its starting point guard. Fourth-year junior C.J. Wilcox, the team's leading returning scorer (14.2 points per game last season), is one of the nation's best 3-point shooters. And fifth-year senior Scott Suggs, who redshirted last season due to injury, will likely start alongside Gaddy and Wilcox in an experienced UW backcourt. Freshman point guard Andrew Andrews, who redshirted last year, should also contribute.

The post positions are less defined. Aziz N'Diaye, the Huskies' 7-foot-center, is back for his senior season. Sophomore forward Desmond Simmons started UW's exhibition game against Western Washington and played quite a bit as a freshman, but his offensive game is limited. So is 6-foot-10 sophomore Shawn Kemp Jr., and slender 6-foot-10 redshirt freshman Jernard Jarreau is a bit of an unknown.

"The biggs are involved much more than they were in our motion," Romar said. "The biggs were kind of at the mercy of the guards (before). Here, there are just a number of built-in options for them to get the basketball in places to be effective, so I think it benefits everybody."

## 2012-13 Huskies roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous school)
12	Andrew Andrews	G	6-2	195	Fr.	Portland (Benson Tech)
2	Perris Blackwell	F	6-9	280	Sr.	Etiwanda, Calif. (San Francisco)
10	Martin Breunig	F	6-8	210	So.	Leverkusen, Germany (St. John's NW Military)
34	Gilles Diericck	C	6-11	220	So.	Ghent, Belgium (Florida International)
0	Abdul Gaddy	F	6-3	195	Sr.	Tacoma (Bellarmine Prep)
33	Jernard Jarreau	F	6-10	220	Fr.	New Orleans (McDonogh 35 Senior)
40	Shawn Kemp, Jr.	F	6-9	255	So.	Canton, Ga. (Hargraves Military Academy, Va.)
5	Aziz N'Diaye	C	7-0	260	Sr.	Dakar, Senegal (College of Southern Idaho)
14	Dion Overstreet	G	5-9	175	Jr.	Venice, Calif. (Edmonds CC)
35	Austin Seferian-Jenkins	F	6-6	258	So.	Fox Island, Wash. (Gig Harbor HS)
30	Desmond Simmons	F	6-7	220	So.	Vallejo, Calif. (Salesian HS)
22	Quinn Sterling	G	6-4	185	So.	Mercer Island, Wash. (Mercer Island HS)
4	Hikeem Stewart	G	6-2	185	So.	Seattle (Rainier Beach HS)
15	Scott Suggs	G	6-6	195	Sr.	Washington, Mo. (Washington HS)
23	C.J. Wilcox	G	6-5	195	Jr.	Pleasant Grove, Utah (Pleasant Grove HS)



Senior Scott Suggs returns after missing much of last season with a broken ankle.

WSU COUGARS

5  
Keys

**Motum must respond to increased attention**

Six-foot-10 senior Brock Motum dealt with more double-teams as last season wore on, but still managed to lead the Pac-12 in scoring with 18 points per game.

This season – especially with the loss of guards Faisal Aden and Reggie Moore – Motum is the Cougars' only established scorer, so it figures that opponents will key on him even more.

He's proved to be a clever scorer, and his unorthodox offensive style helps him solve different defensive approaches. That skill must evolve this year for WSU to be successful.

**Backcourt must handle the pressure**

With Moore gone, guards Royce Woolridge, DaVonte Lacy and Mike Ladd will be expected to help bring the ball up the floor, likely by committee at times. None of those players are true point guards, with Woolridge being the closest. It's likely opposing teams will try to pressure the Cougars more in the backcourt than in recent years, but if WSU proves early it can get the ball up and down the court regardless, teams might back off a little bit.

**Where's the scoring?**

Coach Ken Bone said that behind Motum, he could see a scenario in which a handful of players average around the same number of points. Lacy has shown the ability to shoot well from 3-point range. Ladd is healthy again after suffering a concussion and playing through an injured thumb last season, and his offensive game is likely to improve as a result. Junior forward D.J. Shelton will be relied upon to score more, too. As with WSU's point-guard situation, their scoring will be done by committee, too.

**Rotation guys must stay healthy**

The Cougars dealt with their share of injuries last year – Aden's torn ACL, Ladd's concussion/ thumb, Lacy's wrist, Motum's ankle – and the Cougars overcame them by receiving extra contributions from role players. This season, those role players aren't as defined, and WSU lacks the depth to sustain the same number of injuries it did last year. It's imperative that WSU's starters stay injury-free, especially early as the inexperienced Cougars try to develop a rhythm.

**Bring the freshmen along quickly**

WSU was hoping to have high-scoring freshman guard Que Johnson available this season, but he didn't get eligible. Still, WSU has a pair of freshmen – forwards Richard Longrus and Brett Boese – who could play quite a bit with the Cougars so short on experience. Longrus is a rugged player who rebounds well, and Boese (Shadle Park) developed his reputation in high school as a shooter. WSU will need both to mature fast to provide depth.



**On the Web**

Follow our WSU Cougars reporter Christian Caple on Twitter @ChristianCaple

Visit our Cougars Report page at www.spokesman.com/cougoops



Guard DaVonte Lacy, center, is one of two returning starters for WSU, along with senior Brock Motum.

Discover card

Tough early schedule will show what's in store for Cougs

By Christian Caple  
christianc@spokesman.com, (509) 998-3135

They know what to expect from Brock Motum. That much, at least, is certain. Otherwise, the Washington State men's basketball team leaves much to the imagination. Four seniors are gone from last year's team, as well as dismissed starting point guard Reggie Moore.

The promise of WSU's unknowns, then, is what the Cougars are banking on now.

Motum, the Pac-12 leading scorer last year at 18 points per game, returns for his senior season as one of the top players in the league. DaVonte Lacy is WSU's only other returning full-time starter. And in the absence of a secondary scorer like Moore or departed senior Faisal Aden, coach Ken Bone admits that "we're going to need a little bit from everybody."

The Cougars will be tested early with a trip to Kansas City, where they'll play perennial power Kansas on Nov. 19 in the CBE Classic, and either Texas A&M or Saint Louis the following day.

A home game against Gonzaga awaits on Dec. 5. WSU will use those games, as well as the rest of its preleague schedule, to gauge where it's at in several areas.

Can transfer Royce Woolridge handle the point guard duties? He'll get help from Lacy and senior guard Mike Ladd, but it appears Woolridge will get first crack as WSU's primary ball-handler.

"He's still learning," Motum said of the redshirt sophomore, who practiced with WSU last season while sitting out. "Obviously, Reggie had three years under his belt of offense and stuff, and Royce is still new to the system, so he's just learning the tendencies of the guys he's playing with. I think that'll come with experience."

Bone and Motum both laud Woolridge's defensive ability.

"The defense was something in high school people said I couldn't do," said Woolridge, who was a three-star recruit before committing to Kansas as a high-schooler. "So I've really been working on my defense the past couple years."

And who, besides Motum, will pick up the scoring slack left behind by Aden and Moore, especially with Motum likely to see a bevy of double-teams this season?

"There's a few of them that want to be that guy," coach Ken Bone said. "But I really think there's just a number of guys that probably average about the same amount of points. D.J. Shelton, Dexter (Kernich-Drew), Royce, Mike Ladd, DaVonte Lacy – all those guys are capable of averaging 7 to 10-11 points a game, and there's a lot of good teams that get by with a balanced scoring attack. And I think that's what we'll probably have after Brock."

"I feel like we have the weapons and the shooters to punish them if they do (key on him)," Motum said.

The aforementioned have shown promise at times, though never consistently. Bone hopes that with Ladd healthy – he played most of last season with a damaged ligament in his thumb – the senior from Seattle can provide a scoring lift.

Ladd's contributions were limited to defense and rebounding last season, his reputed smooth shooting motion thrown off by the injury.

"Last year, I was playing with a messed up thumb basically the whole season, so I couldn't really do much," Ladd said. "This season, I'm back like I never left."

So is Lacy, who became a fixture in WSU's lineup as a freshman last season. Dexter Kernich-Drew, an athletic sophomore, could also contribute in the backcourt. Shelton, a 6-foot-9 junior forward, is Motum's most likely companion in the starting frontcourt, though freshman Richard Longrus could see minutes, too, along with 6-foot-7 shooting specialist Brett Boese.

2012-13 Cougars roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous school)
2	Mike Ladd	G	6-5	195	Sr.	Seattle (Fresno State)
3	DaVonte Lacy	G	6-3	206	So.	Tacoma (Curtis HS)
4	Bryce Leavitt	G	6-4	184	Fr.	Kennewick (Kennewick HS)
5	Will Dilorio	G	6-5	190	Jr.	Bainbridge Island, Wash. (Bainbridge HS)
10	Brett Kingma	G	6-1	175	So.	Mill Creek, Wash. (Oregon)
12	Brock Motum	F	6-10	245	Sr.	Brisbane, Australia (Aus. Institute of Sport)
13	James Hunter	F	6-9	250	Sr.	Sydney, Australia (Gillette College, Wyo.)
15	Junior Longrus	F	6-7	232	Fr.	Oakland, Calif. (Bishop O'Dowd)
20	Jordan Railey	C	6-10	264	Jr.	Beaverton, Ore. (Iowa State)
21	Dominic Ballard	G	6-4	199	Fr.	Seattle (Bothell HS)
22	Royce Woolridge	G	6-3	175	So.	Phoenix (Kansas)
23	D.J. Shelton	F	6-10	250	Jr.	Rialto, Calif. (Citrus College)
24	Keaton Hayenga	F	6-5	209	Jr.	Sammamish, Wash. (Bellevue CC)
32	Que Johnson	G	6-5	205	Fr.	Pontiac, Mich. (Westwind Prep, Ariz.)
33	Brett Boese	F	6-7	214	Fr.	Spokane (Shadle Park HS)
34	Dexter Kernich-Drew	G	6-6	182	So.	Melbourne, Australia (Cauffield Grammar)



Fast facts

Conference: Pac-12  
Colors: Crimson and Gray  
Ticket Office: 1-800-EO-COUGS  
Home court: Friel Court (11,677)  
Website: wscougars.com  
Head coach: Ken Bone, 4th season  
Record at WSU: 57-46  
Career record: 392-213 (20), Division I: 134-95 (7)  
Assistants: Curtis Allen, 2nd season; Ben Johnson, 9th season; Ray Lopes, 1st season  
2011-12 overall record: 19-18  
2011-12 Pac-12 record/finish: 7-11/8th  
Letterwinners back/lost: 6/6  
Starters back/lost: 2/3  
Newcomers: 8



Predictions

1. Arizona
2. UCLA
3. Stanford
4. California
5. Washington
6. Colorado
7. Oregon State
8. Oregon
9. Washington State
10. Arizona State
11. USC
12. Utah



Royce Woolridge will be the primary ball-handler.

Difference maker

Royce Woolridge

Following the dismissal of Reggie Moore, Royce Woolridge is likely to be the Cougars' primary ball-handler this season, with help along the way from guards DaVonte Lacy and Mike Ladd.

Even if Moore were still around, though, Woolridge, a redshirt sophomore, would be expected to contribute. Fans were predictably excited when he transferred from Kansas, even though he had to sit out last year per NCAA transfer rules.

Now, he's almost guaranteed to start at point guard for a team that lost its second- and third-leading scorers and leading assist man (Moore) from a year ago.

WSU hopes Woolridge's year spent sitting and watching will help him feel more comfortable.

"I learned a lot about the game because you have sit out and you get to see things," Woolridge said. "It was just kind of tough because I really wanted to get out there and play."

WSU coach Ken Bone lauds Woolridge's competitive nature and his dedication to defense, but seems to anticipate growing pains.

"He's quick, he can shoot," Bone said. "But it's going to take time. Just like Reggie Moore was on that All Pac-10 freshman team, but he wasn't consistent every night out either. There were nights he was OK, and other nights he was really good. Royce will probably face the same situation."

## EWU EAGLES



### Fast facts

**Conference:** Big Sky  
**Colors:** Red and White  
**Ticket office:** (866) 460-EAGS  
**Home court:** Reese Court (6,000)  
**Website:** ewueagles.com  
**Coach:** Jim Hayford, 2nd season  
**Record at EWU:** 15-17  
**Career record:** 269-101 (12); Division I: 15-17 (1)  
**Assistants:** Craig Fortier, 2nd season; Craig Ehlo, 2nd season; Shantay Legans, 4th season.  
**2011-2012 record:** 15-17  
**2011-2012 Big Sky record/finish:** 8-8/4th  
**Letterwinners back/lost:** 6/4  
**Starters back/lost:** 2/3  
**Newcomers:** 7



### Predictions

1. Montana
2. Weber State
3. Northern Colorado
4. EWU
5. Portland State
6. North Dakota
7. Montana State
8. Sacramento State
9. Idaho State
10. Southern Utah
11. Northern Arizona

## 5 Keys

**Seamless PG move**  
 Either senior Kevin Winford or transfer Justin Crosigle must move seamlessly into the point guard position left by Cliff Colimon. Winford saw limited action last season, while Crosigle, a transfer from St. Joseph's, is new to the Eastern system.

**Chiverton must relax**  
 SF Collin Chiverton will be the focal point of the offense, but he must improve ability to handle the pressure of being targeted by opposing defenses. He also must step up his game at the defensive end, especially on the boards.

**Hit the boards**  
 Last year's club struggled on the boards against dominant post players, and now lose 65 percent of their rebounding in the form of departed players Cliff Ederaine, Laron Griffin, Cliff Colimon and Tremayne Johnson.

**All-around leadership**  
 Seniors Chiverton, Winford and shooting guard Jeffrey Forbes must demonstrate leadership - on the court and off - as the Eagles field 10 players who have never seen a game in an Eastern uniform. The leadership is even more important as several foreign players are also new to the level of competition at the American collegiate level.

**Intense defense**  
 Continue to play tough defense, but fouling less in the process. Last year, the Eagles ranked near the bottom of Division I in fouls and disqualifications.



### On the Web

Follow Eagles reporter Jim Allen on Twitter @srjmallen

Find our Eagle Report page online at [spokesman.com/ewuhoops](http://spokesman.com/ewuhoops)



Senior forward Collin Chiverton, last season's Big Sky Conference Newcomer of the Year, will be a target for opposing defenses.

# Wingin' it

Even with 10 new faces, Eagles plan on postseason return

By Jim Allen  
 jma@spokesman.com, (509) 459-5437

Jim Hayford didn't know what to expect when he took over the Eastern Washington basketball program last year. One year later, he could say the same thing. With 10 new players and just two returning starters, Hayford says he's "cautiously optimistic that despite youth and inexperience, that we will continue to be a postseason team."

Last year, the Eagles finished fourth in the Big Sky, then won their first playoff game in six years en route to the conference semifinals. Once there, Eastern took host Montana to the limit, falling 74-66. All but eight of those points came from departed senior starters Cliff Colimon, Cliff Ederaine and Laron Griffin, who along with senior Tremayne Johnson accounted for almost 65 percent of the Eagles' rebounds. The biggest shoes to fill belonged to Colimon, who averaged a team-leading 16.5 points while moving from shooting guard to the point.

Returning, however, is senior forward Collin Chiverton, a 6-foot-6, 200-pound package of highlight reels who captivated fans and foes alike last season. Despite leg and back injuries, Chiverton averaged 13.9 points a game and was named the conference Newcomer of the Year. Senior Jeffrey Forbes returns at shooting guard. Last year he was hampered by a hand injury, but still averaged 6.9 points and was the Eagles' defensive spark.

Hayford expects Ivan Dorsey, a transfer from City College of San Francisco, to provide instant

shooting help for a team that shot only 35.7 percent from 3-point range.

Sophomore Parker Kelly, a 6-foot-4 sophomore from Gonzaga Prep, was the Eagles' most reliable outside shooter (44.9 percent). At the point, Hayford is counting on Justin Crosigle, a junior transfer who started as a freshman at St. Joseph's. The 5-foot-11 Crosigle "has great quickness, he's a great ball-handler, and he can shoot the ball," said Hayford. The biggest change will come inside, where several players will contend.

Freshman Venky Jois of Australia, 6-7 and 220, is expected to see playing time. Thomas Reuter (6-6, 225) a freshman from Germany, is described by Hayford as bringing strength and shooting to small and power forward. Danny Powell, a 6-6, 225-pound freshman from Phoenix, may also contribute.

"Danny, Venky and Thomas are interchangeable players with different skills," Hayford said. "But between the three of them, they have everything you would want at those two positions."

Germans Martin Seiferth, a 6-10 transfer from Oregon, and Frederik Jörg, a 7-1 freshman, are both "big centers for the Big Sky," Hayford said. Hayford hopes EWU can use outside shooting and its transition game to manufacture points, but at the same time, to take care of the ball.

"Our system is predicated on three things. We want to push the ball and be a transition team. Two, we want to really take care of the ball and be a low-turnover team. And three, we want to shoot the ball well from deep."



Freshman Venky Jois of Australia, 6-7 and 220, is expected to see playing time.

### Difference maker Venky Jois

All those rebounds that left Reese Court at the end of last season? The Eagles expect Venky Jois to get more than his share.

The freshman from Australia is "extremely athletic and a jumping machine," EWU head coach Jim Hayford said.

The 6-foot-7, 220-pound Jois is lean, but still has 10 pounds on last year's center and top rebounder, Cliff Ederaine. Jois was the South East Australian Basketball League Youth Player of the Year in 2011, an award previously won by Patty Mills and Andrew Bogut.

He also participated in swimming, soccer, Australian rules football, cross country and track and field.

"Even though he's a freshman, Venky brings great maturity and leadership to the program," Hayford said.

Jois, 19, says that "Whether it's boards or points, hopefully I can make an impact."

### 2012-13 Eagles roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous school)
1	Tyler Harvey	G	6-4	175	Fr.	Torrance, Calif. (Bishop Montgomery)
2	Daniel Hill	G	5-9	160	Fr.	Sydney, Australia (Newington College HS)
4	Danny Powell	F	6-6	225	Fr.	Phoenix (Desert Vista HS)
5	Justin Crosigle	G	5-11	170	Jr.	Paterson, N.J. (St. Joseph's, Penn.)
10	Parker Kelly	G	6-4	195	So.	Spokane (Gonzaga Prep)
12	Martin Seiferth	F	6-10	230	So.	Berlin, Germany (Oregon)
13	Thomas Reuter	F	6-6	225	Fr.	Breckerfeld, Germany (Theodor-Heuss)
20	Ivan Dorsey	G	6-0	180	Jr.	San Francisco (City College of San Francisco)
21	Frederik Jörg	F	7-1	285	Fr.	Korschenbroich, Germany (Eversten HS)
22	Jeffrey Forbes	G	5-10	170	Sr.	Federal Way (Federal Way HS)
23	Kevin Winford	G	5-11	170	Sr.	Anchorage, Alaska (Bartlett HS)
24	Collin Chiverton	F	6-6	200	Sr.	San Jose, Calif. (City College of San Fran)
25	Jordan Hickert	F	6-9	230	Sr.	Bunbury, Australia (Neosho County CC, Kan.)
34	Jaylen Henry	F	6-7	230	Jr.	Las Vegas (Cheyenne HS)
42	Garrett Moon	F	6-5	200	Jr.	San Francisco (City College of San Francisco)
55	Venky Jois	F	6-7	220	Fr.	Boronia, Australia (Box Hill HS)

# GONZAGA BULLDOGS



Gary Bell, right, reflects the kind of talent Gonzaga returns this season along with gifted newcomers.



## Fast facts

**Conference:** WCC  
**Colors:** Blue, White & Red  
**Ticket office:**  
 (509) 315-9046  
**Home court:** McCarthey Athletic Center (6,000)  
**Website:** gonzags.com  
**Coach:**  
 Mark Few, 14th year  
**Record at GU:** 342-90  
**Career record:** 342-90  
**Assistant coaches:**  
 Tommy Lloyd, Ray Giacolelli, Donny Daniels  
**2011-12 overall:** 27-7  
**2011-12 WCC record/finish:** 13-3/2nd  
**Letterwinners:**  
 returning/lost: 8/5  
**Starters returning/lost:**  
 4/1  
**Newcomers:** 4

## 5

### Keys

**Solid 'smalls'**  
 Receive solid play at small forward from a handful of options.

**Stay strong**  
 GU must show toughness, particularly against rugged nonconference schedule.

**Stay healthy**  
 Minus Kelly Olynyk, GU will have just three "biggs" for the first three games.

**Follow the leaders**  
 Without big man Robert Sacre, it'll be leadership by committee.

**Avoid slumps**  
 Sophs Kevin Pangos and Gary Bell Jr. poised to build on outstanding freshmen seasons.



TYLER TJOMSLAND 5-R  
 Gary Bell is a threat on both sides of the floor.

## Difference maker

Gary Bell Jr.

A case could be made for anybody in the starting five or Przemek Karnowski, who came off the bench in Gonzaga's exhibition game, but Gary Bell Jr. is perhaps the bigger difference maker at both ends of the court. The 6-foot-1 sophomore from Kent, Wash., joined Kevin Pangos to form one of the top backcourts on the West Coast last season. Bell averaged 10.4 points and drained 52.3 percent of his 3-point attempts in conference games and nearly 48 percent for the season. Bell, a 74 percent free-throw shooter, also contributed 2.5 rebounds and 2 assists. Bell is regarded as one of the team's best defenders and often guarded the opponent's top perimeter player. Bell was GU's leading scorer in two NCAA tournament games, averaging 16 points.

# Deep impact

With astounding depth, Zags ready to take on rugged schedule, WCC

By Jim Meehan  
 jim@spokesman.com, (208) 765-7131

It's been a while since Gonzaga navigated through a preseason without encountering some turbulence. Two years ago it was forward Elias Harris battling a shoulder injury, followed by an early season issue with his Achilles tendon. Last year it was Guy Landry Edi's eight-game suspension handed down by the NCAA. This season, junior forward Kelly Olynyk will sit out the first three games for a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. The difference is this go-around the Bulldogs seem better equipped to deal with the absence of a key player. "Our starting five and our second five, it doesn't really drop," Harris said. "I feel like it's consistent and that's going to be really helpful during the season." The Bulldogs have a proven backcourt with sophomore starters Kevin Pangos and Gary Bell Jr. They return wings Mike Hart and Edi and their 33 combined starts. "We've had a great run of guards at Gonzaga and certainly there's a great group in the WCC right now," GU head coach Mark Few said. "I love the ones I have in Gary and Kevin. They had remarkable years for freshmen and David (Stockton) is as tough as they come and has a great feel for the game." Gonzaga has frontcourt talent in Harris, Olynyk, Sam Dower and newcomer Przemek Karnowski. Harris has been All-WCC three times. Dower was named to the All-WCC preseason



TYLER TJOMSLAND tyler@spokesman.com  
 Guy Landry Edi returns on the wing, where the Bulldogs are thick with talent.

team. Olynyk has been praised by the coaching staff for improvements he made during last year's redshirt season. One recruiting analyst touted Karnowski, a 7-foot-1 freshman from Poland, as a "McDonald's All-American-type recruit." "Przemek is going to be a very good player," Few said. "He can pass very well, nice touch, his feet are good and he runs the floor. But we have three that play at or around the hoop in Elias, Sam and Kelly that are very, very good players. 'Shem' has hit work out for him to get time with those other guys." Edi and Hart have plenty of company at the small forward position. Kyle Dranginis, coming off a redshirt season, "does a lot of things well," Few said. Drew Barham, a 6-7 transfer from Memphis, is considered a quality perimeter shooter.

The Bulldogs will need their strength in numbers to deal with another challenging nonconference schedule. The Bulldogs have three games, beginning with Clemson on Thanksgiving Day, at the Old Spice Classic. GU also faces West Virginia, Washington State, Illinois, Kansas State, Baylor, Oklahoma State and Butler. December is particularly rugged with WSU, Illinois, Kansas State, Baylor and Oklahoma State packed into a six-game stretch. "I listen really closely on Selection Sunday to the message they try to send with the seeding and even the selection," Few said. "It comes down to, we all have nonconference games and what do you do with those nonconference games? You can control that. It seems to me the committee keeps telling us to go out and play other NCAA tournament teams." Saint Mary's, Gonzaga and BYU made the NCAA tournament last season and those three are expected to contend for the WCC title this winter. Gonzaga was tabbed the favorite, according to the coaches' preseason poll, followed by BYU and Saint Mary's, which ended GU's 11-year streak of WCC titles last season. "I'm here to tell you if Saint Mary's is third in our league we're somewhere between the ACC and Big East as far as the toughest conference in the country," Loyola Marymount coach Max Good said. "I can assure you Saint Mary's is a much better team than to be picked third."

## 2012-13 Bulldogs roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous school)
3	Kyle Dranginis	G	6-5	175	Fr.	Nampa, Idaho (Skyview HS)
4	Kevin Pangos	G	6-2	182	So.	Newmarket, Ontario (Denison Secondary)
5	Gary Bell, Jr.	G	6-1	205	So.	Kent, Wash. (Kentridge HS)
10	Guy Landry Edi	F	6-6	218	Sr.	Agboville, Ivory Coast (Midland College, Texas)
11	David Stockton	G	5-11	165	Jr.	Spokane (Gonzaga Prep)
13	Kelly Olynyk	F	7-0	238	Jr.	Kamloops, BC (South Kamloops HS)
15	Rem Bakamus	G	6-0	150	Fr.	Longview, Wash. (Mark Morris HS)
20	Elias Harris	F	6-8	239	Sr.	Speyer, Germany (Friedrich-Magnus-Schwerdt)
22	Gerard Coleman	G	6-3	173	Jr.	Boston (Providence College)
24	Przemek Karnowski	C	7-1	305	Fr.	Torun, Poland (Nicolaus Copernicus)
30	Michael Hart	G	6-6	206	Sr.	Portland (Jesus HS)
35	Sam Dower	C	6-9	255	Jr.	Brooklyn Park, Minn. (Osseo HS)
43	Drew Barham	G	6-6	195	Jr.	Memphis, Tenn. (University of Memphis)

**WEST COAST CONFERENCE**

**Predictions**

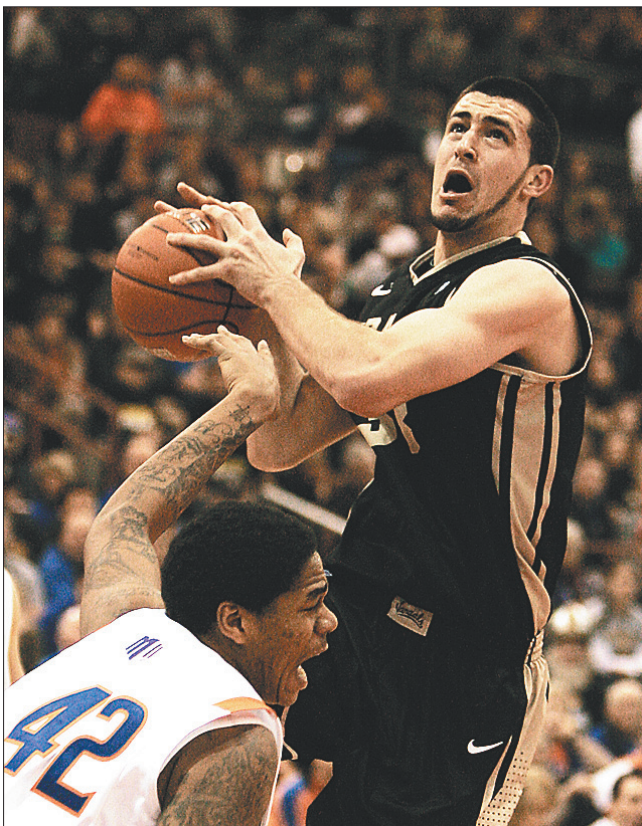
1. Gonzaga
2. Saint Mary's
3. BYU
4. Loyola Marymount
5. Santa Clara
6. San Diego
7. San Francisco
8. Portland
9. Pepperdine

## On the Web

Follow Gonzaga men's basketball reporter Jim Meehan on Twitter @arjimm

Visit our Zags Report page at [spokesman.com/zags](http://spokesman.com/zags)

# IDAHO VANDALS



Fifth-year senior center Kyle Barone, a preseason all-conference pick, will be part of a solid inside-outside duo with Stephen Madison.



## Fast facts

**Conference:** WAC  
**Colors:** Black, Silver & Gold  
**Ticket Office:** (208) 885-6466  
**Home court:** Cowan Spectrum (7,000)  
**Website:** govandals.com  
**Coach:** Don Verlin, 5th year  
**Record at Idaho:** 69-60  
**Career record:** 69-60  
**Assistants:** Mike Freeman, 5th season; Tim Murphy, 2nd season; Chris Heibling, 4th season  
**2011-12 overall record:** 19-14  
**2011-12 WAC record/finish:** 9-5/3rd  
**Letterwinners:** returning/lost: 8/4  
**Starters returning/lost:** 2/3  
**Newcomers:** 5

## 5 Keys

### Steady, mature Barone

Preseason all-WAC center Kyle Barone was suspended for much of the preseason. He'll need to be a force in the block.

### Finding a fit at PG

Mike McChristian slides into the starting role occupied by Landon Tatum. He's bigger and more physical, but he needs to improve his ballhandling.

### Developing third scorer

Barone and Stephen Madison are proven weapons. Who else will step up? Best guesses: Connor Hill, Antwan Scott and Marcus Bell.

### Nonconference schedule

With games at New Mexico, UTEP and WSU, this is Idaho's best – and most formidable – slate in Verlin's five years at UI.

### Fewer post fouls

Beyond Barone and Wendell Faines, UI has little experience on the low block. Newcomer Bell has impressed with his rebounding skills.



Idaho will count on Post Falls' Connor Hill, left.

## Difference makers

Connor Hill and Antwan Scott

Don Verlin isn't sure if the Vandals will be as balanced offensively as they were last year. But he knows this much: UI needs another steady scorer or two to complement Kyle Barone and Stephen Madison.

That's where Connor Hill and Antwan Scott fit in. The shooting guards with contrasting styles will likely share minutes and the scoring spotlight. Hill (Post Falls) was tied for second on the team as a freshman with 47 3-pointers. Verlin hopes he can make a similar first-to-second year jump that Madison made last year.

Scott, a 6-1-JC transfer, showed in the preseason that he can put up points as a long-range shooter and slasher to the basket. His versatility should come in handy.

"The way he shot it the whole preseason and just in practice, it's very impressive," Madison said. "He knows how to get his shot."

# Total ownership

Vandals coach Verlin says it's time to win some WAC tournament games

By Josh Wright  
 Correspondent

**M**OSCOW, Idaho – In four years, Don Verlin has shaped the Idaho men's basketball program to his liking. The roster is fully his own. The four seniors on this year's team are scheduled to graduate in December or in the spring. The demanding system he's carried over from Utah State has yielded consistent results.

All that's nice. But Verlin expects more. "You know, we've had a pretty good four-year run," the fifth-year coach said. "No question about it, it's time to win some WAC tournament games."

Despite being the higher-seeded team three out of four years, Idaho is 0-4 in the conference tourney under Verlin – a mark that the 47-year-old coach harped on when asked about taking the program to the next level.

This year the Vandals will again rely on newcomers to log big minutes, but they have the talent – and just enough experience – to be in the mix in the new-look WAC.

Fifth-year senior center Kyle Barone, a preseason first-team all-WAC selection,

returned last week from a nearly monthlong suspension after an alcohol-related arrest in early October. He'll team with junior wing Stephen Madison to form one of the league's best inside-outside duos.

Verlin likes the pieces around his two veteran standouts, even if most are unproven. Junior-college transfer Marcus Bell, a 6-foot-8 power forward, is "probably the best natural rebounder we've had since I've been here," the Vandals' boss said.

Another JC transfer, shooting guard Antwan Scott, impressed the coaching staff and his teammates in preseason camp with his athleticism and scoring ability. He and sophomore Connor Hill of Post Falls should provide UI with consistent outside shooting.

Leading the Vandals' offense will be senior Mike McChristian, who last year came off the bench as a small forward. He played fewer than 15 minutes all of last season at point guard, but he still feels ready to take over the position full time.

"Even though I played small forward in the games (last year), I would be point guard in the practice," said McChristian, a 6-2 California native. "So I feel like with that experience, and the short amount of

time I (played) last year ... I think I've gained confidence at the position."

Still, with Landon Tatum and Deremy Geiger graduated, the point guard spot is the team's biggest question mark, Verlin said. This is the first time in his tenure that he won't start someone with significant experience at the position.

"It's a huge concern," Verlin said. "I guess it's kind of like having a new quarterback. We got so used to Landon being out there for the last two years."

Consistency at point guard has helped Idaho have its most prosperous period over the last four years since the early 1990s. The Vandals have averaged 17 wins a season and finished third in the WAC three times.

They've also pocketed enough regular seasons to get invites to the College Insider.com tournament three times in Verlin's tenure. But they haven't come close to the biggest prize – their first NCAA tournament berth since 1990. First, though, the Vandals must break through at the WAC tournament.

"I feel like we've finally got a system in place," Verlin said. "Now we need to parlay that into some tournament wins – first of all, starting at the WAC tournament."

## 2012-13 Vandals roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous school)
0	Robert Harris, Jr.	G	5-10	180	Jr.	Kent, Wash. (Eastern Arizona)
1	Denzel Douglas	G	5-10	180	Jr.	Los Angeles (Casper College)
3	Mansa Habeeb	G	6-3	215	Sr.	Buffalo, N.Y. (Southeastern CC)
4	Mac Stannard	G	6-2	170	Jr.	Moscow, Idaho (Walla Walla CC)
5	Connor Hill	G	6-2	190	So.	Post Falls (Post Falls HS)
11	Westin Hill	G	5-11	180	So.	Bakersfield, Calif. (Liberty HS)
12	Mike McChristian	G	6-2	200	Sr.	Vacaville, Calif. (Yuba College)
15	Max Salesky	G	6-2	170	Fr.	Priest River, Idaho (Priest River HS)
20	Matt Borton	G	6-5	195	So.	Yakima (West Valley-Yakima HS)
21	Antwan Scott	G	6-1	170	Jr.	Wylie, Texas (Ranger College)
24	Marcus Bell	F	6-8	220	Jr.	Modesto, Calif. (Marshalltown CC)
32	Allen Jiles IV	G	6-2	200	Jr.	Los Angeles (Cal State Northridge)
33	Kyle Barone	C	6-10	220	Sr.	Garden Grove, Calif. (Pacifica HS)
34	Stephen Madison	F	6-5	205	Jr.	Portland (Jefferson HS)
41	Ty Egbert	F	6-8	195	Fr.	Coulee Dam, Wash. (Lake Roosevelt HS)
42	Joe Kammerer	C	6-9	225	Jr.	Eugene, Ore. (North Eugene HS)
45	Wendell Faines	F	6-8	250	Sr.	Lincoln, Neb. (Saddleback JC)



## Predictions

- Utah State
- Denver
- New Mexico State
- Idaho**
- Louisiana Tech
- Texas-Arlington
- Texas-San Antonio
- Seattle
- San Jose State
- Texas State

## On the Web

Follow Idaho reporter Josh Wright on Twitter @SR\_joshwright

DIVISION I WOMEN



Guard Haiden Palmer, left, and forward Stephanie Golden are expected to be key contributors for Gonzaga this season.

# Working class

Gonzaga has talent, work ethic to make another NCAA tournament run

By Dave Trimmer  
Correspondent

How long can the ground-breaking streak go on for the Gonzaga women's basketball team? Not winning a West Coast Conference title, a run that is at eight but still short of the men's recently-ended run of 11.

Not reaching the NCAA Tournament, which they've done four straight years, far shy of the men's 14 straight.

What the Gonzaga women have done is something that no other Inland Northwest Division I program has accomplished: Three straight runs into the second weekend of the NCAA Tournament.

That's Elite and Sweet, as an Elite Eight appearance sandwiched between a

pair of Sweet 16's, and once again the Bulldogs are aiming for the top. "This is as much talent as I've had on my team - ever," said veteran coach Kelly Graves, never one to shy away from expectations. "It's unproven talent in a lot of cases, it's young talent. That can make it tough but there's no reason, with our skill, talent and athletic ability we can't keep doing what we've been doing."

"That doesn't mean we're going to, but no one last year thought we were going to do that. (The girls) expect it (but) they don't take it for granted."

The Bulldogs will need contributions from untested players, especially freshmen, to keep any streak alive, which is true for the other three area programs - Eastern Washington, Idaho and Washington State - that enter the season

with hope of improving. The number of seniors, and not all are starters, for Bulldogs (two), Eagles (three), Vandals (two) and Cougars (two) barely outnumber WSU's freshman class (six).

But across the board the coaches have confidence in their new players. "Get to know the freshmen's names," WSU coach June Dugberry said. "This is a talented group. This freshman class is as good as any in the country."

### Bulldogs green up front

The Bulldogs went 14-2 in the league, 28-6 overall and reached their third regional with a new backcourt. If they

See WOMEN, 07

### Predictions



#### WEST COAST CONFERENCE

- Gonzaga
- Brigham Young
- Saint Mary's
- San Diego
- Santa Clara
- Pepperdine
- Portland
- Loyola Marymount
- San Francisco



#### PAC-12

- Stanford
- California
- UCLA
- Southern Cal
- Arizona State
- Oregon State
- Utah
- Colorado
- Washington
- Washington St.
- Arizona
- Oregon



#### WAC

- Louisiana Tech
- Utah State
- Denver
- Idaho
- Seattle University
- Texas State
- San Jose State
- New Mexico State
- Texas-San Antonio
- Texas-Arlington



#### BIG SKY

- Idaho State
- Montana
- Northern Colorado
- Montana State
- North Dakota
- Portland State
- EWU
- Sacramento State
- Northern Arizona
- Southern Utah
- Weber State

### 2012-13 rosters

GONZAGA BULLDOGS					
	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous school)	
1	Chelsea Waters	G/F	6-1	Fr.	Lewiston (Lewiston HS)
3	Haiden Palmer	G	5-8	Jr.	Moreno Valley, Calif. (Oregon State)
5	Maiki Viela	G	5-6	So.	Lahaina, Hawaii (Lahainaluna HS)
10	Danielle Walter	G	6-0	So.	Pasco (Pasco HS)
12	Taylor Karr	G	5-8	Sr.	Pacifica, Kan. (Kansas State)
13	Michaela O'Rourke	G	5-10	Fr.	Bellevue (Eastside Catholic)
14	Sunny Greinacher	F	6-4	So.	Essen, Germany (Grashof Gymnasium)
20	Meghan Winters	G	5-11	Sr.	Englewood, Colo. (Regis JS)
22	Shaniqua Niles	F	6-0	Fr.	Spokane (West Valley HS)
23	Kiera Kidron	F	6-2	Fr.	New Boston, Mich. (Sturon HS)
24	Keani Albanese	G	5-10	So.	Santa Barbara, Calif. (Buena HS)
30	Stephanie Golden	C	6-3	Jr.	Clayton, Calif. (Miramonte HS)
31	Elle Tinkle	G	6-2	Fr.	Missoula (Big Sky HS)
33	Lindsay Sherbert	G	6-0	Jr.	Temecula, Calif. (University of California)
34	Jazmine Redmon	G	5-9	Jr.	Spokane (Mead HS)
44	Shelby Cheslek	C	6-5	Fr.	Pullman (Pullman HS)

WSU COUGARS					
	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous school)	
2	Ireti Amojor	G/F	5-10	Jr.	Berlin, Germany (Coubertin)
11	Dawnyelle Awa	G	5-9	Fr.	Kailua-Kona, Hawaii (Konawaena HS)
34	Mariah Cooks	F	6-0	Fr.	Santa Maria, Calif. (Ernest Rihetti HS)
23	Shalie Dheensaw	F/C	6-4	So.	Victoria, British Columbia (Claremont Secondary)
12	Taylor Edmondson	G	5-11	Fr.	Carlsbad, N.M. (Carlsbad HS)
3	Lia Galdeira	G	5-11	Fr.	Kamuela, Hawaii (Konawaena HS)
4	Katie Grad	G	5-9	Sr.	Lake Tapps, Wash. (Auburn-Riverside HS)
21	Jordan Kelley	G	5-10	So.	Gillette, Wyo. (Campbell County HS)
33	Carly Noyes	C	6-5	Sr.	Moses Lake (Moses Lake HS)
42	Hana Potter	F/C	6-2	Jr.	St. Louis Park, Minn. (Hopkins HS)
5	Tia Presley	G	5-9	So.	Spokane (Gonzaga Prep)
22	Sage Romberg	G/F	6-1	Jr.	McKinleyville, Calif. (McKinleyville HS)
24	Brandi Thomas	G/F	6-1	Jr.	McCleary, Wash. (Elma HS)
30	Whitney Tanjum	F	6-1	Fr.	Stacy, Minn. (Chisago Lakes HS)
10	Alexas Williamson	G	5-8	Fr.	Chino Hills, Calif. (Mater Dei HS)

IDAHO VANDALS					
	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous school)	
1	Christina Salvatore	W	5-11	Fr.	Anaheim, Calif. (Canyon HS)
3	Krissey Karr	PG	5-6	So.	Anaheim, Calif. (Orange Lutheran HS)
10	Stacey Barr	G	5-8	So.	Melbourne, Australia (Maribyrnong)
13	Ali Forde	P	6-2	Fr.	Woodinville, Wash. (Woodinville HS)
14	Maren Austgulen	P	6-0	So.	Bergen, Norway (Pinewood Prep.)
20	Adelle Schivo	G	5-6	Jr.	San Francisco (Football JC)
21	Jessica Graham	P	6-0	Sr.	Ripon, Calif. (Modesto Christian HS)
22	Janelle Weiss	PG	5-5	Jr.	Salem, Ore. (Chemeketa CC)
24	Natalie Lainhart	G/P	5-11	Fr.	Las Vegas (Silverado HS)
25	Alex Quinnett	P	6-1	Fr.	Moscow, Idaho (Moscow HS)
32	Ana Overgaard	G	5-11	Fr.	Weiser, Idaho (Weiser HS)
33	Alyssa Charlston	G/P	6-1	Jr.	Sammamish, Wash. (Eastlake HS)
35	Connie Ballesterio	G	5-9	Fr.	Orange, Calif. (Villa Park HS)
42	Ashley Walters	P	6-4	Jr.	Wilsonville, Oregon (Wilsonville HS)

EWU EAGLES					
	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous school)	
32	Aubrey Ashenfelter	G	6-0	Jr.	Portland (Gowdridge, Ore. HS)
33	Morganne Comstock	F	6-2	So.	Kent, Wash. (Kentlake HS)
25	Hayley Hodgins	G/F	5-10	Fr.	Pasco, Wash. (Chiawana HS)
4	Kylie Huerta	G	5-1	So.	Covington, Wash. (Kentwood HS)
54	Laura Hughes	C	6-2	Jr.	West Richland, Wash. (Hanford HS)
12	Hanna Mack	C	6-4	Jr.	Eugene, Ore. (Marist HS)
24	Miranda Mielke	G	5-5	Fr.	Davenport, Wash. (Davenport HS)
13	Lexie Nelson	G	5-6	So.	Butte, Mont. (Montana)
3	Courtney Nolen	C	6-1	Sr.	Penryn, Calif. (Del Oro HS)
21	Carnie Queda	P	6-1	Sr.	Tacoma (Mount Tahoma HS)
30	Chenise Pakoatas	G	5-9	Jr.	Inchelium, Wash. (Mead HS)
11	Cece Pearl	F	5-11	Fr.	Peoria, Ariz. (Peoria HS)
20	Tisha Phillips	G	5-9	Fr.	Lapwai, Idaho (Lewiston HS)
22	Kayleigh Ryan	G/F	5-10	Fr.	Lynden, Wash. (Lynden Christian HS)
10	Jordan Schoening	G	5-7	Sr.	Post Falls (Post Falls HS)
42	Melissa Williams	F	6-1	So.	Camas, Wash. (Camas HS)

### Fast facts



**Conference:** WCC  
**Colors:** Blue, White & Red  
**Ticket office:** (509) 313-6000  
**Home court:** McCarthy Athletic Center (6,000)  
**Website:** gozogs.com  
**Head coach:** Kelly Graves, 13th season  
**Record at GU:** 256-225  
**Career record:** 322-151 (15)  
**Assistants:** Jodie Kaczor Berry, Lisa Misphey Fortier, Julie Shaw  
**2011-12 overall:** 28-6  
**2011-12 WCC record/finish:** 14-2/1st  
**Letterwinners back/lost:** 9/5  
**Starters back/lost:** 2/3  
**Newcomers:** 4



**Conference:** Pac-12  
**Colors:** Crimson & Gray  
**Ticket Office:** 1-800-GO-COUGS  
**Home court:** Friel Court (11,677)  
**Web:** wsucougars.com  
**Head coach:** June Daugherty, 6th season  
**Record at WSU:** 38-86  
**Career:** 359-323 (23)  
**Assistants:** Mike Daugherty, Brian Holsinger, Ashley Grover  
**2011-12 overall:** 13-20  
**2011-12 Pac-12 record/finish:** 5-13/11th  
**Letterwinners back/lost:** 5/4  
**Starters back/lost:** 3/2  
**Newcomers:** 6



**Conference:** Pac-12  
**Colors:** Purple and gold  
**Ticket Office Phone:** 206-543-2200  
**Home Court:** Alaska Airlines Arena (10,000)  
**Website:** gohuskies.com  
**Head Coach:** Kevin McCuff, 2nd season  
**Record at UW:** 20-14  
**Assistant Coaches:** Mike Neighbors, Kevin Morrison, Aida Barnes  
**2011-12 Record:** 20-14  
**2011-12 Pac-12 Record/Finish:** 8-12/7th  
**Letterwinners Returning/Lost:** 7/5  
**Starters Returning/Lost:** 1/4



**Conference:** WAC  
**Colors:** Silver and Gold  
**Ticket office:** (208) 885-6466  
**Home court:** Cowan Spectrum (7,000)  
**Web:** govandals.com  
**Coach:** John Newlee, 5th year  
**Record at Idaho:** 51-71  
**Career:** 179-184 (13)  
**Assistants:** Jordan Green, Christa Sanford, Kristi Zeller  
**2011-12 overall:** 12-20  
**2011-12 WAC record/finish:** 6-8/4th  
**Letterwinners back/lost:** 3/2  
**Starters back/lost:** 3/2  
**Newcomers:** 8



**Conference:** Big Sky  
**Colors:** Red and White  
**Ticket Office:** 1-866-4GO-EAGS  
**Home court:** Reese Court (6,000)  
**Website:** goeags.com  
**Head coach:** Wendy Schuller, 12th season  
**Record at EWU:** 142-179  
**Assistants:** Steve Lowe, Alison Heva, Jessica Harrington  
**2011-2012 record:** 16-14  
**Big Sky record/finish:** 10-6/3rd  
**Letterwinners back/lost:** 9/4  
**Starters back/lost:** 3/2  
**Newcomers:** 4

# MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

International recruiting is a win-win situation for players and local programs

By Jim Meehan | jimmm@spokesman.com, (208) 765-7131

Fans once needed a roster to learn about their favorite college basketball players. Nowadays, a map would come in handy. One of those spinning global maps.

Area Division-I schools continue to reach across borders and oceans in search of talent. Five of Gonzaga's 12 scholarship players were born outside the U.S. Eastern Washington has six international players – three Germans and three Australians. Washington State has a trio of Aussies. Idaho doesn't have a foreign player this year, a first in coach Don Verlin's five seasons.

Last year Gonzaga and Saint Mary's both had seven foreign players. When the teams met for the WCC tournament title, seven of 10 starters were internationals. They're not alone. In 2000, 143 internationals made up 3 percent of D-I rosters, according to the NCAA. Those figures essentially doubled by 2004 (285, 5.7 percent) and they took another jump the next five years. In 2007, there were 406 foreign players.

There were 79 internationals in the 2009 NCAA tournament, according to Latitude News. That figure soared to 99 last year.

The number of imports keeps growing for a simple reason: supply and demand, on both sides of the equation.

See **FOREIGNERS, 012**



DAN PELLE danp@spokesman.com  
With no full scholarships in Canada, Kevin Pangos, above, came to Gonzaga. Brock Motum, right, arrived at WSU from Australia.



Associated Press



Przemek Karnowski, above, of Poland, is considered the prize on this year's Gonzaga recruiting class and is already listed on some NBA mock draft boards.

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TYLER TJOMSLAND tyler@spokesman.com



Associated Press

German forward Elias Harris, above, is one of five scholarship players on Gonzaga's roster. Former WSU player Aron Baynes (at left), was recruited by assistant coach Ben Johnson, who played professionally in Australia. EWU freshman Venky Jois, below, didn't take a salary with his Australian team so he could play in the United States.



DAN PELLE danp@spokesman.com

## All-foreign team

Members of The Spokesman-Review Sports staff select Inland NW All-International Division-I team. Also: John Blanchette talks with 7-foot-1 George Trontzos, who came from Greece to GU in 1959.

Page 10

## Questions and answers

Reporter Jim Meehan talks to a variety of foreign-born players from Gonzaga, Washington State and Eastern Washington Universities about their experiences playing in the Northwest.

Pages 10 and 12

## Anecdotes from the road

Recruiting in another country has its adventures. Area coaches reflect on their experiences in unfamiliar countries while searching for the next player like former Gonzaga star Ronny Turiaf.

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## Recruiting success

Gonzaga assistant Tommy Lloyd has built a reputation on recruiting foreign athletes. Long before that a former Whitworth coach brought many foreign athletes to the United States.

Page 13

# Casting a wide net

The explosion of foreign imports to area colleges since 2000

Graphic by Molly Quinn mollyq@spokesman.com

### GONZAGA

- 1 Axel Dench, Melbourne, Australia (1997-2000)
- 2 Germaine Forbes, London, England (2001-02)
- 3 Ronny Turiaf, Le Robert, Martinique (2002-05)
- 4 Calum MacLeod, Wellington, New Zealand (2005)
- 5 J.P. Batista, Pernambuco, Brazil (2005-06)
- 6 Pierre Marie Altidor-Cespedes, Montreal, Quebec, Canada (2005-07)
- 7 Mamery Diallo, Evreux, France (2006)
- 8 Abdullahi Kuso, Kaduna, Nigeria (2007-08)
- 9 Bol Kong, Vancouver, B.C., Canada (2010)
- 10 Mangisto Arop, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada (2010-11)
- 11 Kelly Olynyk, Kamloops, B.C., Canada (2010-2012)
- 12 Elias Harris, Speyer, Germany (2010-2012)
- 13 Robert Sacre, North Vancouver, B.C., Canada (2008-2011)
- 14 Kevin Pangos, Newmarket, Ontario, Canada (2011-2012)
- 16 Guy Landry Edi, Agboville, Ivory Coast (2011-2012)
- 17 Mathis Mönninghoff, Ibbenbüren, Germany (2011-2012)
- 18 Mathis Keita, Thionville, France (2011-2012)
- 19 Przemek Karnowski, Torun, Poland, (2012)

### EWU

- 1 Jeremy McCulloch, Ladysmith, B.C., Canada (2002-05)
- 2 Henry Bekkering, Taber, Alberta, Canada (2005-06)
- 3 Milan Stanojevic, Subotica, Serbia (2008-09)
- 4 Martin Seifther, Berlin, Germany (2012)
- 5 Jordan Hickert, Bunbury, Australia (2012)
- 6 Frederik Jorg, Korschenbroich, Germany (2012)
- 7 Thomas Rueter, Breckerfeld, Germany (2012)
- 8 Venky Jois, Boronia, Australia (2012)

### WSU

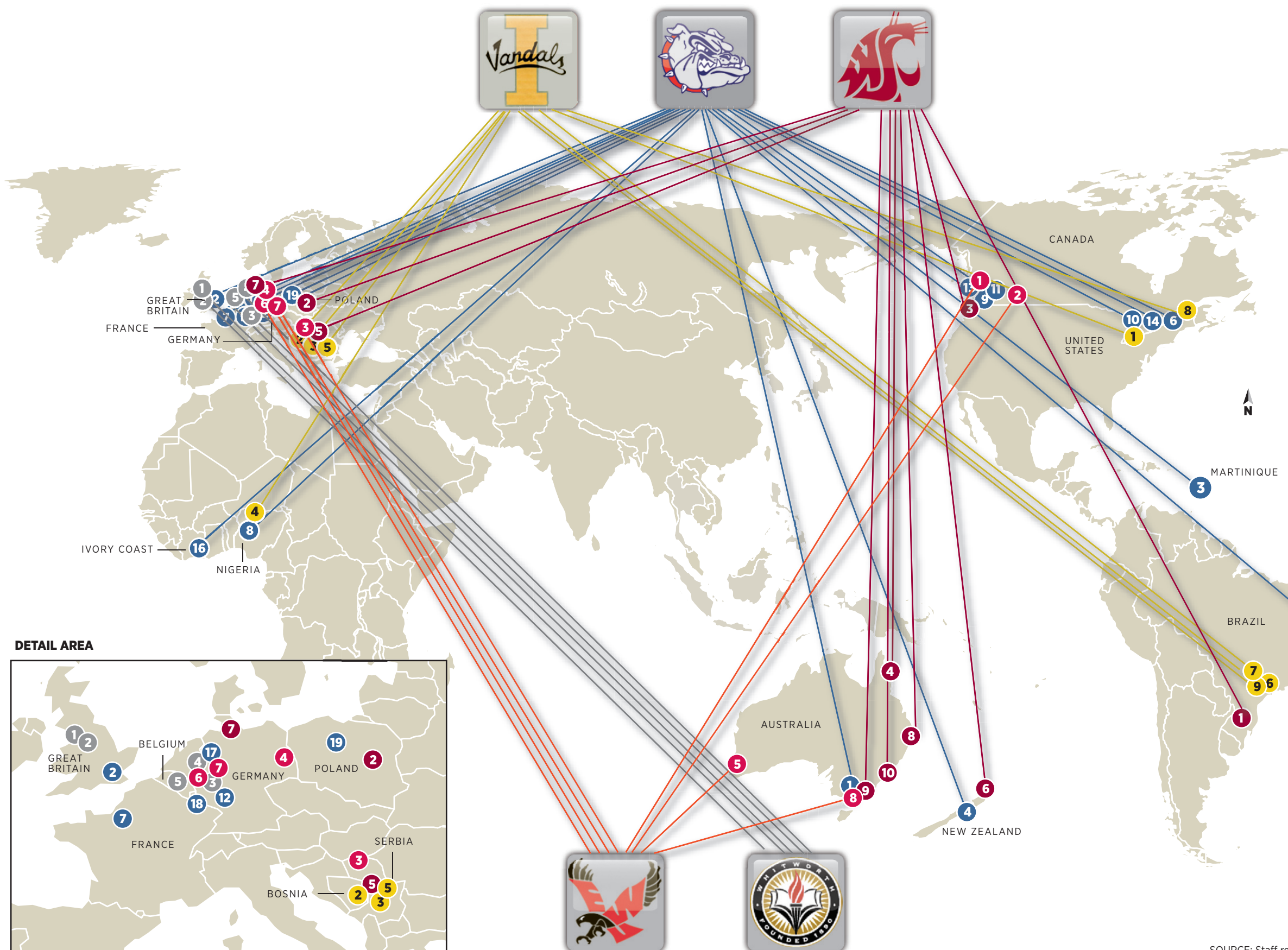
- 1 Paulo Rower, Santa Maria, Brazil (2000-2001)
- 2 Pawel Stasiak, Warsaw, Poland (2001-2003)
- 3 Gill, Shami, Mission, B.C., Canada (2001-2005)
- 4 Aron Baynes, Cairns, Australia (2005-2008)
- 5 Nikola Koprivica, Belgrade, Serbia (2006-2010)
- 6 Thomas Abercrombie, Auckland, New Zealand (2007-2008)
- 7 Fabien Boeke, Hamburg, Germany (2007-2009)
- 8 Brock Motum, Brisbane, Australia (2009-2012)
- 9 Dexter Kernich-Drew, Melbourne, Australia (2011-2012)
- 10 James Hunter, Sydney, Australia (2012)

### IDAHO

- 1 David Radlovic, London, Ontario, Canada (2002-03)
- 2 Armend Kahrmanovic, Sarajevo, Bosnia (2003-05)
- 3 Igor Vrzina, Ludjija, Serbia (2005-06)
- 4 Desmond Nwoke, Kano, Nigeria (2005-07)
- 5 Nebojsa Jakovljevic, Belgrade, Serbia (2006)
- 6 Luis Augusto, São José do Rio Preto, Brazil (2007-09)
- 7 Luciano de Souza, Matao, Brazil (2008-10)
- 8 Djim Bandoumel, Quebec City, Canada (2010)
- 9 Luiz Toledo, Araraquara, Brazil (2011)

### WHITWORTH

- 1 Mark Cowell, Blackpool, England (2001)
- 2 James Jones, Manchester, England (2005-2007)
- 3 Felix Friedt, Düsseldorf, Germany (2008-2012)
- 4 Andreas Samus, Düsseldorf, Germany (2008)
- 5 Idris Lasisi, Leuven, Belgium (2011-2012)



SOURCE: Staff research



## FOREIGN-BORN PLAYERS

Q  
And A**What was the biggest surprise in coming to America?**

"How big basketball was in the U.S. The entire school is crazy about basketball, the community. There's no way in hell you could create that in Germany. I said, 'Wow, I made the right move to come here.'"

**Elias Harris, GU**

"Probably the portions of food and how cheap everything is. Big portions. I think the small size of McDonald's soda is like large size back home, and it was a dollar. For a large soda back home it's three bucks. And free refills everywhere."

**Brock Motum, WSU**

"Just how nice everyone is here, especially to the foreign players."

**Daniel Hill, EWU**

"Just time management. You've got class, then you've got practice, then you've got to eat, then you've got homework, then sleep. You also want to have a social life so you've got to figure out a way to get your time management correct."

**Dexter Kernich Drew, WSU**

"I don't know if it was a surprise, but just how everyone follows Gonzaga basketball. I heard about it when I was getting recruited, but being part of it is completely different. You don't really get that, especially with basketball in Canada. That's one thing I really love, how everyone supports basketball and how big it is on campus and in the whole community. You only get that with hockey back home."

**Kevin Pangos, GU**

"For me, the biggest surprise is that it's very busy. You don't have a lot of (spare) time. You're always on the go."

**Przemek Karnowski, GU**

"For me personally, definitely the living by yourself, doing things by yourself, the independence."

**Venky Jois, EWU**

"Probably the food. I find food in Australia a bit more healthy than food over here. A lot of fast food over here. That was a big adjustment. When I first got here I put on a few pounds."

**James Hunter, WSU**

"I think it was the fan base, in Oregon (where he transferred from in 2011) it was just insane."

**Martin Seifert, EWU**

"The people don't know me, especially because I'm so big (7-foot-1), so they're asking me those type of questions all the time."

**Frederik Jörg, EWU**

"Not that I didn't expect it, but the weather, especially the snow."

**Jordan Hickert, EWU**

"To be honest, that Cheney is pretty small."

**Thomas Reuter, EWU**



George Trontzos arrived in Spokane from Greece in 1959 to play for Gonzaga.

## A tall tale

GU had 7-1 Trontzos when foreigners weren't in vogue

The plane landed at Geiger Field about a quarter to 7 on an August evening, and the passengers all smartly ducked their heads exiting through the side door.

Except George Trontzos, who more or less jackknifed out of the aircraft. In 1959, a teenager who stood 7-foot-1 was quite a sight in Spokane, and doubly mysterious if he appeared out of the blue from someplace on the other side of the globe like, say, Greece.

That's still true, of course. When someone that big suits up to play basketball at Gonzaga University, it's cause for all sorts of hubbub, because the arena is forever sold out, every game is on TV and outsize players always come with outsized expectations. The Zags have such a player now in Przemek Karnowski, and his arrival from Poland may as well have been heralded with palace trumpets.

It was a good deal different 53 years ago. The foreign players that fill up American college rosters now? George Trontzos was foreign before it was cool and still a curiosity.

"Everything is more globalized now," he said in a phone conversation. "Everybody is the same. Something happens, it's on the Internet in an hour, all over the world. I think it's much easier to go play in the USA now."

Trontzos, now 70, lives in an Athens suburb, retired from the banking industry, which is probably a good thing to be retired from in Greece these days. Time and distance have frayed some of his Gonzaga ties. The coach who greeted him at Geiger that night, Hank Anderson, is dead. Old teammates are scattered, though when Bob Hunt, who played with Trontzos on the 1961 and '62 Bulldogs, detoured to Athens on a trip years ago, the stop was illuminating.

"I'm in a bar and I ask the bartender if he's ever heard of George Trontzos," recalled the Portland saloonkeeper, "and in about 15 minutes they had him down there."

That's because Trontzos was a much bigger deal as a player in Greece than he ever was here, 7-1 or not.

"I was 17 years old when I came to Gonzaga," said Trontzos, "and it wasn't like I started playing when I was 8 years old. I started at 16."

But after leaving GU, he would blossom into a star for AEK, champions of Greece's pro league six times during his time there and the first Greek team to win an international trophy in any sport when it claimed the European Winners Cup in 1968. Trontzos had 24 points against Prague Slavia in the title game, played outdoors in front of 80,000 people at Panathenian Stadium, site of the first modern Olympics.

JOHN BLANCHETTE



He also scored more than 1,500 points in 136 games over 11 years with the Greek national team, serving as captain for four.

His Gonzaga turn was more about self-discovery and even personal courage, pioneer that he was.

Though he wasn't GU's first foreign player. When he arrived at school, he inherited a 7-foot-1-foot bed that had been procured for Jean Claude Lefebvre, a 7-3 1/2-foot giant who like Trontzos later had been found for Anderson by former Whitworth coach Jim McGregor, then something of an international hoop gadfly.

Lefebvre stayed just two years — homesick, disappointed with his progress, disenchanted with America.

The son of an army colonel, Trontzos was far more at ease, though he didn't speak much English when he landed in Spokane with another import, Hans Albertsson of Sweden.

"For the first month or so, with the school not open yet, we sat in a rented place next to the school and watched TV," Trontzos recalled.

"That's how I improved my English." But beyond "Dobie Gillis," there were also dinners at the homes of Greek families, card games and "Friday night dances, hayrides, things like that," he said. He even babysat for Hunt and his wife.

Instead of returning to Europe during the summers or playing international ball as players do now, he worked — at a lumber mill in Oregon, surveying in the Nez Perce National Forest, and even at Playfair Race Course, where he was the world's tallest stable hand.

And he liked the camaraderie of teams that had a mix of older service veterans — Frank Burgess among them — and younger Northwesters.

"We stayed pretty late at some pub one night and we had a game the next day," Trontzos recalled. "We won but the coach made us play the whole game — that was our punishment."

Slender and easily muscled physically and a basketball newbie, Trontzos' development was fitful. Not until his senior year did he play regularly, averaging not quite six points and eight rebounds a game. A bigger regret is that he left GU in 1963 without graduating.

But he left with something else.

"The most rewarding thing is that I found myself," he said. "I was ashamed of my height. It was very difficult in Greece, because everybody was looking at you and making jokes, saying things that weren't very nice to a young boy. It was much better in America. People were nice — not only to me, but to each other.

"Coming to Spokane built my confidence as a man."

## All-foreign team

Inland NW All-International Division-I team as picked by members of staff of The Spokesman-Review, with consideration given for team impact/representation on four area D-I schools:



**Robert Sacre, GU**  
Two-time All-WCC selection finished with 181 blocks, second on GU's all-time list



**Elias Harris, GU**  
Has averaged at least 12.4 points and 6.0 rebounds in each of his three seasons



**Ronny Turiaf, GU**  
2005 WCC player of the year after averaging 15.9 points, 9.5 rebounds



**Aron Baynes, WSU**  
2012 Olympian scored 1,064 points and grabbed 653 rebounds at WSU



**Brock Motum, WSU**  
Led Pac-12 in FG percentage (59.9) two years ago and scoring (8.0) last year



**Pete Mullins, WSU**  
Australian ranks 31st on WSU's all-time scoring list with 1,021 points from 1951-53



**J.P. Batista, GU**  
Made 59 percent of FGs, averaged 19.3 points, 9.4 boards on 29-win '06 team



**Kevin Pangos, GU**  
Led Gonzaga in minutes played, scoring, 3-pointers, assists and steals last season



**John Rillie, GU**  
Hit 20 of 28 3-point attempts in 1995 WCC tournament to lead GU to first NCAA tournament



**Gordie Herbert, UI**  
1984 Olympian averaged 12.6 points and 6.5 rebounds on Sweet 16 team in 1982

**Honorar mention**  
Gonzaga: Quentin Hall, Axel Dorch, Paul Rogers, Jean Claude Lefebvre. EWU: Aaron Olson, John Randa. Idaho: Mauro Gomes, Luciano de Souza, Luis Agosto. WSU: Kojo Mensah-Bonsu, Rodrigo de la Fuente, Nikola Koprivica

COACHES

# Road trips like no others

Coaches bring home stories, not just recruits

By Jim Meehan  
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Eastern Washington basketball coach Jim Hayford was on a recruiting trip in Germany and feeling a bit jet-lagged from a long flight.

"We're on an express train and if you miss your stop on one of those, like I did, the next thing you know you're an hour down the road," Hayford cracked. "After that happened I made sure the phone alarm was very loud."

One can imagine the potential for Clark Griswold-like travel misadventures when a coach visits a foreign country on a recruiting trip.

Idaho coach Don Verlin was an assistant at Utah State when he went to Japan to check out several prospective players. In his spare time, he watched Daisuke "Dice-K" Matsuzaka pitch in a Seibu Lions game, but getting to the stadium probably reminded him of a rebounding drill.

"One of the first trains I get on, people are bumping me, running into me and elbowing me," he said. "That's just the way of life. One of the coaches took us out to dinner and it was almost like a Mardi Gras situation, a ton of people on the street. I asked through our interpreter if there's a lot of crime and he said, 'No crime. We have none of that.'"

Verlin's advice: "Take a business card from the hotel in case you get lost. My first time I went over there without a phone. I'll never do that again, but it was a really good trip."

Gonzaga assistant Tommy Lloyd compared traveling overseas to a TV show: "It's a version of the Amazing Race. That's how I approach it."

An amazing thing happened when



Eastern Washington University basketball coach Jim Hayford has recruited foreign players into his inner circle. DAN PELLE dandp@spokesman.com

Lloyd was 35,000 feet in the air. The pilot told passengers that the plane was being diverted because of volcanic activity in Iceland. The eruption stalled air travel in Europe for days.

"I landed in Paris, went to get my rental car and these guys from Norway were negotiating with the lady from Avis, willing to pay 2,000 euros (roughly \$2,600) to take a car," he said.

Lloyd had a car reservation and drove to Germany. From there, he traveled by train.

"They were so full it was unbelievable," he said. "I was so tired. I

remember these three Swedish guys were on their way back from Scotland and a golf trip. I just remember looking at these guys and telling them, 'I know you're going to think I'm crazy but do you mind moving your legs a bit so I can lay down under this bench with my backpack.'"

Lloyd managed to make his visits and returned home, just one day later than originally scheduled.

Head coach Mark Few went with Lloyd to visit Przemek Karnowski in Poland and another recruit in France. Both stops produced memories.

"I'm not in Tommy's league on those trips. It's 12 hours on the plane and hitting the ground running." Few said.

"We found a great pizza joint right in Przemek's hometown (Torun). Poland was pretty incident-free. We stopped in Paris on the way back and that wasn't quite incident-free. The hotel was like a hostel. It was like Tommy Lloyd on his college day trip. Anybody could kind of wander into your room; he thought it was great.

"I don't mind camping and sleeping on the dirt. I do that all the time, but that was a little different."



Idaho head coach Don Verlin had international players spend Christmas at his house the past four years. Associated Press

## Internationals can be a gift

Verlin rewarded beyond court

By Jim Meehan  
jimm@spokesman.com, (208) 765-7311

Christmas will be a little different at the Verlin household this December.

Idaho basketball coach Don Verlin has invited foreign players over to his house the last four Christmases because there wasn't enough time for them to travel back home.

Verlin's previous rosters have included Brazilians Luis Augusto, Luciano de Souza and Luiz Toledo, and Canadian Djim Bandoemel, but the current roster doesn't have an international player.

"This will be the first year we haven't had a foreign kid for Christmas," said Verlin, the fifth-year coach. "It's always fun when they were here. The Brazilians loved to play games, dominoes, Yahtzee, Mexican Train. They'd laugh and giggle and play games all night."

Verlin has no reservations about recruiting foreign players, but it takes a sizable commitment.

"We probably haven't done as much as some schools, and the main reason is finances," he said. "If you're going to recruit foreign players, you have to make a commitment to going over there on a yearly basis and

building relationships. That's something some schools have made and it's paid off."

"We keep an ear to the ground and if there's a guy we check him out."

Augusto, de Souza and Bandoemel were junior-college transfers. Augusto was at UI when Verlin arrived. Verlin knew about Toledo when he played at Modesto (Calif.) Christian High, and heard from a contact when the Brazilian decided to transfer from St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia, Canada.

"Every one of those kids was very appreciative of their opportunity," Verlin said. "They were well-mannered, polite kids, very respectful of the coaches. They were a lot of fun. I always think it was easy to talk with them because we're inquisitive about what they've done and how they grew up and they're the same with us."

Traveling overseas is more expensive, whether it's a coach visiting a promising forward in Europe or a prospect flying to visit a U.S. college campus.

"If it's a guy that we like and we think we can get and all the stars align, we'll spend the money and go," Verlin said. "If we can get the same caliber player from the Northwest, we're going to stay in the States."



STATE FARM BATTLE IN SEATTLE  
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## FOREIGN-BORN PLAYERS



Associated Press

WSU gave Australian Brock Motum, center, a collegiate option instead of having to play professionally.

### FOREIGNERS

Continued from 08

"When I got the job, if we went over to Seattle I was fighting some negative stereotypes in terms that Eastern hadn't been good," second-year Eagles coach Jim Hayford said. "Just think about when you go fishing. If you can get with the right people internationally you can get your hook in the water and there's a lot less hooks there."

Gonzaga has landed several highly rated recruits, including Jeremy Pargo, Austin Dye, Matt Bouldin and Gary Bell Jr., but the Zags often face an uphill battle for five-star recruits. GU, mainly through assistant coach Tommy Lloyd's efforts, has had a run of outstanding international players, including Ronny Turiaf, Robert Sacre, Elias Harris and Kevin Pangos. The prize of this year's recruiting class is Przemek Karnowski, a center from Poland.

"The No. 1 thing is it expands your recruiting base," Lloyd said. "Being a little isolated in eastern Washington, there's not a plethora of high level D-I players running around. We have to think outside the box."

"It gives you more options. We look everywhere and throw it all on the table and we make decisions on who is the best fit. And the next question is, Who can we realistically get?"

Two of WSU's best players in the last decade are Australians Aron Baynes and Brock Motum, thanks in part to the recruiting efforts of assistant coach Ben Johnson. He played professionally in Cairns, Australia, from 1993-95 and returned to Australia to coach in 2002-03, where he first noticed then-15-year-old Baynes.

"I think (WSU) is a great sell because you can come play for a great program and a great coach and play in the best conference top to bottom," said Johnson, whose wife, Nicky, played professionally in Townsville, Australia. "People can say what they want about the level of play, but the most pros come from this conference the last six years. These kids want that kind of challenge."

It's a two-way street. U.S. colleges can strengthen their roster with internationals. Foreign players are able to work on their basketball skills against quality



FILE: The Spokesman-Review  
Canadian Kevin Pangos wants to play in the NBA, a goal he had a better shot at by coming to Gonzaga.

competition and attend college, a combination that usually isn't possible in their homeland.

"In most countries it's straight to professional basketball. There's no real university system set up," said Motum, a senior who led the Pac-12 in scoring last season. "You don't have the opportunities you have in America. There's a lot of opportunities in the U.S. college system, hopefully to achieve your dream."

"That's the sad thing. You couldn't have a successful basketball life and college life in Germany," Seiferth said. "It's a perfect outcome here."

The preferred outcome is eventually playing in the NBA or at high levels professionally overseas, with a degree in hand.

"Obviously my goal is the NBA," said Pangos, All-WCC as a freshman last season. "My best chance at getting noticed and making the NBA is through the U.S. There aren't full scholarships in Canada. It's only academic and it's only partials. There's more money here."

"There's more competition, way better media coverage. Everything is just bigger here."

Few players are bigger than Karnowski, the 7-1, 305-pounder who is already showing up on NBA mock draft boards. "I think this is the best way to develop as a player," Karnowski said.

"The game is much more athletic and much faster than Europe. Here I can develop my body. Secondly, I can study and play basketball. In Europe, it's hard to play pro and continue (at a) university."

And Gonzaga's Harris explained, "You can shoot whenever you want here because the gym is

available 24-7."

In addition to video, scouting services and word of mouth from former players toiling overseas, coaches rely on international contacts, often from their past playing days. In Hayford's case, one of his longtime friends keeps an eye on Australian players while living in Melbourne.

WSU's Johnson is well-connected in Australia. "Everywhere we went (during the Cougars' five-game Australian tour in August) he knew a lot of people," Motum said. "Especially our last game, it was like a homecoming for him. It was where he played and met his wife and there were a couple of pictures of him hanging up."

Lloyd played professionally in Australia and Germany. A friend from Germany mentioned Harris to Lloyd, who phoned German national team coach Dirk Bauermann. "He said Elias was the most talented kid in Germany since (Dirk) Nowitzki," said Lloyd, who was on a plane to Europe five days after hearing about Harris. "We needed to take a hard look at him."

International players often have a different skill set than U.S. counterparts.

"In America, if you're a big kid they throw you into the post because how many bigs are at each high school?" Hayford said. "If you're a big kid in Berlin, youth basketball is not in the schools and if you're a good player you're going to be playing against older men on these club teams. If you're a 15-year-old kid playing against a 27-year-old physical guy, it's kind of necessary to develop some new skills because you can't outmuscle them."

There are academic and amateurism hurdles with international players, but an adjustment by the NCAA a few years ago eased restrictions on the pro/amateur status. Before, a foreign prospect

often faced suspension for a number of NCAA games if he had played on a team with at least one professional player. That's no longer the case if prospects can prove they didn't have an agent, didn't sign a contract and didn't receive pay beyond "actual and necessary expenses."

"Academically it was never a problem," EWU freshman forward Venky Jois said. "Most of the people on my (Australian) team were getting paid. I definitely could have gotten paid, but I had to sacrifice that."

Seiferth's older brother, Andreas, now 23, plays professionally in Germany and didn't have the option of coming to the U.S. Andreas, who played on a national team with GU's Harris, signed a pro contract out of the youth program, Seiferth said.

Foreign players have countless examples of countryman who have excelled at U.S. colleges. Seiferth was coached in Germany by Henrik Ködl, who played at North Carolina. Jois recalled "hearing stories about (Australian) Patty Mills playing at Saint Mary's and later in the NBA."

"I think the numbers will keep going up because kids will see what others have done before them," said Harris, who called ex-Washington Husky/NBA player Detlef Schrempf a pioneer in German basketball. "I heard about Ronny (Turiaf) when I was in Germany. I saw that it was a great deal and I wanted to do that, too. Now other people look up to me and see what the guys at Eastern are doing and what Motum is doing at Washington State."

## Q And A

### What was the biggest adjustment for you when you came here to play basketball?

"To live without family, things like doing laundry and cooking each day."  
**Thomas Reuter, EWU**

"It was being in charge of my own things, not having Mom or Dad around to help me out. If you need something, you have to pick up phone and make the call. You have to go grocery shopping, do your laundry. At home, I didn't have to worry about all that stuff. It was go to school and play basketball. That was a little shock at first. There's much more to life than what I thought."  
**Elias Harris, GU**

"Mainly the small town, that was the biggest adjustment, but I've grown to embrace it, the town and the community."  
**Brock Motum, WSU**

"The first biggest adjustment was being in a small town, coming from Melbourne. There's five million people there. The way the game is played over here is very fast and physical. Everyone's more athletic and taller. Just the whole organizational side of college basketball threw me off a little bit when I got here."  
**Dexter Kernich Drew, WSU**

"I think tempo of the game. It's faster, I have to prepare for that."  
**Przemek Karnowski, GU**

"It was the time-management stuff, and I'm pretty good with my time, but there's so much you want to get done whether it's extra reps in the gym or finishing an assignment. It's really long days, but I think I've handled it pretty well."  
**Kevin Pangos, GU**

"Definitely the workload. Studies, I'm used to doing a lot more, but basketball, back home we do maybe two sessions of one-and-a-half hours. This is a lot more."  
**Venky Jois, EWU**

"The workload, it's a lot more."  
**Daniel Hill, EWU**

"Just the culture; the different cultures are completely different from Australia. Different people, getting to know the guys. You make friends but it's still different to where you've been born and what you grew up with. But I like it. It's cool. The basketball culture's way better over here with all the fans getting behind it and everything."  
**James Hunter, WSU**

"It was the language."  
**Martin Seiferth, EWU**

"Practicing here is much harder, a lot longer than in Germany, but it makes you tougher."  
**Frederik Jörg, EWU**

"Life in Australia is pretty laid-back, pretty cruisy. Over here it's a lot more upbeat, a lot more going on."  
**Jordan Hickert, EWU**

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## RECRUITING



Gonzaga assistant coach Tommy Lloyd, left, recruited current players Elias Harris (Germany), Kevin Pangos (Canada) and Przemek Karnowski (Poland).

TYLER TJOMSLAND tyler@spokesman.com

# Ambassador Lloyd

Assistant coach has brought several international stars to Gonzaga

By Jim Meehan

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Tommy Lloyd was a young assistant at Gonzaga when head coach Mark Few asked him to step up his game.

Lloyd had played two years professionally in Germany and Australia in the late 1990s and Few wanted him to use his connections to broaden GU's recruiting horizons. Lloyd had numerous contacts with former coaches and teammates overseas. He enjoyed traveling.

"It all kind of came together," Lloyd said. Lloyd's efforts have helped bring several prominent imports to the program, including senior Elias Harris (Germany), sophomore Kevin Pangos (Canada) and freshman Przemek Karnowski (Poland) on the current roster.

"We've got a niche (recruiting internationally)," Few said. "Tommy has done a nice job with that." Lloyd remains close to Ronny Turiaf, who sparked interest from Gonzaga while playing for the French national team with future NBA players Tony Parker, Boris Diaw and Mickael Piétrus. In one game, Turiaf broke a backboard.

Turiaf was a raw talent when he arrived in Spokane. He was charismatic and had an obvious passion for the game, but there was something else about Turiaf that impressed Lloyd.

"A lot of people in his camp in Europe were telling him not to come to Gonzaga because they didn't think he'd get playing time here," Lloyd said. "He wasn't worried about instant playing time. He was worried about getting good competition and

"They (foreign players) are comfortable here. And we have a track record with them and we can point to past successes."

**Tommy Lloyd,**

GU assistant coach who has flair for international recruiting

needing time to develop. He literally had a long-range plan."

Austin Daye's early exit for the NBA Draft created an opening for Harris. The 6-8 forward responded by averaging 14.9 points and 7.1 rebounds as a freshman.

Pangos' performance at a camp prompted a Canadian junior national team coach, who was a friend of Lloyd's, to make a phone call.

"He told me, 'I just saw a kid that has Gonzaga written all over him,'" Lloyd said. "From Day 1, I knew it was a perfect fit for both sides."

Pangos led Gonzaga in scoring last season and earned All-WCC honors. Before Pangos committed, Lloyd was in the stands when Pangos and Canada faced Poland at the U-17 World Championships in Hamburg, Germany.

"I just saw this massive kid with great hands and he threw in a couple of jump hooks," Lloyd said of his first impressions of Karnowski.

The 7-foot-1 center made an impression on Pangos, too. They later teamed up at the Nike Hoop Summit in Portland.

"We got to know each other and built a relationship that way," Pangos said. "I just gave him my opinion of what it's like here, how much I loved it and tried to give him an idea about U.S. schools, not just Gonzaga, and he ended up liking it."

Karnowski visited Gonzaga and Cal, but he turned down overtures from Ohio State, Marquette, Kansas and Duke.

"I had exams to take (in Poland) and I really liked Gonzaga," Karnowski said. "I know Kevin Pangos for two years; that was also a plus. Gonzaga was in contact with me for two years."

Gonzaga faces competition on two fronts when recruiting internationally – other U.S. schools, and pro teams in the prospect's homeland. The latter remains a possibility, even after a player joins GU's program. Former Zag Mathis Möttinghoff, who saw limited time in his two seasons, is playing professionally in Germany.

Harris has been considered an NBA prospect since his arrival at Gonzaga. He also could have returned to Europe and made big money – perhaps \$300,000 or more annually.

"I started something here and I'm not a guy that starts something and leaves and starts something else, just like Momma tells me," Harris said. "Now I'm close. I'm going to graduate on time and it's going to be a win-win situation if I can fulfill my dream and play basketball at a high level and make a good amount of money."

Lloyd said Gonzaga is an attractive option.

"They're comfortable here," he said. "And we have a track record with them and we can point to past successes."

# Original travel agent

Former Whitworth coach helped create two-way pipeline for players

By John Blanchette  
Correspondent

Jim McGregor won't take credit for lighting the long-burning fuse that set off the international boom in college basketball.

He dishes that credit to Frank Warren.

The man McGregor says fired him as basketball coach at what was then Whitworth College.

The year was 1953. McGregor was 31 years old and in three years had steered the Pirates to 72 wins and an appearance in the NAIA national tournament. He had sent two players, Phil Jordan and Ralph Polson, to the NBA at a time when the league had only nine teams. But his methods, strategies, temperament and general indifference to Whitworth's Christian mission got him crosswise with the school's president. The day before McGregor was named Coach of the Year at the old SWABs banquet came the report of his resignation, though in his book "Called for Travelling" and all conversations since, he's called it a firing.

But it was more than that. When two jobs he'd seemed to have nailed down suddenly went to others, McGregor had an inspiration.

"I found it expedient," he said, "to



Courtesy photo

**Ex-Whits coach Jim McGregor was overseas pioneer.**

get a coaching position somewhere they couldn't read Dr. Warren's letter of recommendation."

His first stop: Italy. That was the first of eight countries he served as national coach, on top of 30-odd more where he was a consultant and clinician. In and around those gigs, McGregor developed something of a basketball flea market, coaching teams of post-collegiate American players barnstorming through Europe and other ports of call meeting club teams.

The clubs were looking for American players. The players were looking to land foreign contracts. McGregor would collect the reward of a transfer fee. And every now and then in the process, he would uncover a young European player eager to play basketball for an American college.

Among the first was Jean Claude Lefebvre, a 7-foot-3 1/2 Frenchman he hooked up with an old coaching rival, Hank Anderson, at Gonzaga.

The Gonzaga of that era wasn't going to recruit anyone for an American 7-footer, so Anderson was eventually all ears – even if he was leery of McGregor's ways. While at Whitworth, McGregor had tried to recruit rebounder deluxe Jerry Vermillion right out of GU's gym during a freshman game. When McGregor tried to coax Anderson into taking his team on a tour of the Far East, the Zags coach's response was, "I don't know about you, Jim. I can see us coming back in a rowboat."

But recruiting was another matter. Two years after Lefebvre, McGregor sent another 7-footer, George Trontzos of Greece, and 6-8 Hans Albertsson of Sweden to Gonzaga. It wasn't an exclusive deal. Peruvian Raul Duarte got steered to Iowa State, and there were scads of others.

"I was getting players from college coaches (for the touring teams), and helping them find foreign players," McGregor said. "It was a two-way street."

The real foreign invasion wouldn't come until the game overseas grew television, the Olympic movement and money all playing a part in that. But nudging it along in the early stages was "Jolly Jim" McGregor.

"I wasn't alone at it for long," he

acknowledged, "but for five or six years, I was the only shop in town."

Now there's a franchise on every corner. Gonzaga assistant Tommy Lloyd, with connections that date back to his playing days, has kept the Zags stocked with international talent. Washington State's Ben Johnson has specialized in recruiting Australia, where he also played.

Eastern Washington coach Jim Hayford – who followed McGregor at Whitworth by four decades – has launched a major international recruiting blitz.

Placing foreign players at colleges was the lesser part of McGregor's enterprise – a mere priming of the pump.

But he could see, even as early as the 1970s and '80s, that the international game was making gains on ours.

"One of the reasons overseas coaching and playing caught up with us is that they don't get too concerned with 'systems,'" McGregor said. "When I was coaching, everyone had a system. In other countries, like Yugoslavia, they concentrated on teaching skills: jump shots, two dribbles and pull-up, footwork. But they weren't much on the shuffle or the motion offense or whatever."

McGregor will turn 91 two days before New Year's and now lives in Bellevue. He is dumbstruck when he turns on his TV and sees college rosters stacked with foreign players – though even more when he notes that "there are 8,000 Americans playing overseas now."

"World basketball," he said, "has expanded beyond my comprehension."

# WHITWORTH PIRATES



DAN PELLE dmp@spokesman.com  
Senior guard Wade Gebbers, a second-team all-NWC pick last season, is part of a strong backcourt for Whitworth.

## Ship won't sink

Pirates lost key players, but reload and look for another run in NCAAAs

**By Jim Allen**  
jima@spokesman.com, (509) 459-5457

In more ways than one, Whitworth hopes to hit the ground running this season. A challenging early schedule, some big holes to fill, and best of all, coach Matt Logie says, "Some young guys itching to make an impact."

Those new guys will get the chance to help Whitworth do what it does every season — shrug off the loss of several talented players and move on. Last year, in Logie's first season the Pirates went 26-4 and reached the Sweet 16 of the Division III national tournament for the third straight year.

"We want to reach our potential as a team," said junior guard Dustin McConnell. "Nobody knows what that is right now, but a big way of doing that is taking little steps every day."

Those steps will quicken soon. The Pirates are at home against Division III powers St. Thomas (Nov. 17) and Mary Hardin-Baylor (Nov. 23).

"That says a lot about our program that those teams are willing to come play here," says senior guard Wade Gebbers. "It's exciting for us. We're ready and we know our students will be excited."

For Logie, the games are an early measuring stick for a Pirates team which enters the season ranked 14th in the D3shops.com preseason poll but loses its two top scorers and rebounders from last season in wing Idris Lasisi and post Felix Friedt.

"Everyone is trying to position themselves for the postseason," said Logie. "They are willing to challenge themselves, as are we. I'm not sure that

week in and week out you're going to see the same level of competition in the Northwest Conference.

"We're hopeful that some of our newcomers can hit the ground running." They'll help from Gebbers and McConnell, perhaps the best guard tandem in the conference. Gebbers, a senior from Brewster, was a team captain and second-team all-NWC pick last season, averaging 12.8 points and 3.4 assists while playing almost 34 minutes a game.

"Wade's the guy that the players look to and put the team on his back in some respect," Logie said, praising Gebbers' ability to score and defend.

McConnell, a junior from Clarkston, averaged 7.7 points while shooting 87 percent from the foul line.

"Dustin had a great sophomore year as his confidence grew, and he's ready to pick up where he left off," Logie said. Guard Colton McCargar, a junior from Richland, appeared in 29 games, averaging 4.7 points and hitting 46 percent from 3-point range. "He established himself as our sixth man, someone we could rely on, especially on perimeter shots," Logie said.

Forward Mack Larkin, a 6-foot-5 forward from Anacortes, Wash., is the Pirates' top returnee in the frontcourt, averaging 7.0 points and 3.8 rebounds. He is looking "more comfortable in the four position than he did at the start of last season," Logie said.

Senior Zach Payne and junior Taylor Farnsworth of Mead are the other frontcourt returnees with experience. It's too early to say who will step up in the post, Logie said. "We might not

necessarily be as deep in the front court, but the guys who are returning were challenged in games and in practice."

The Pirates' six-player recruiting class "addressed some areas of depth," said Logie, who was hired in the spring of 2011 and didn't have a chance to develop a full class his first year.

**Women**  
Helen Higgs enters her 19th season as head coach with a team that returns five of last year's top six scorers. The Pirates hope to improve on last year's record — 11-14 overall and 7-9 in the Northwest Conference — for the second straight season.

The Pirates lose leading scorer Lexi Belcher, but return 5-foot-7 junior guard Kayla Johnson, who averaged 11.6 points and a team-high 6.6 rebounds. Also back are 5-foot-7 senior guards Emily Guthrie and Lauren Picha.

Guthrie was the Pirates' third-leading scorer last year with an 11.4 average and ranked third in rebounds with 4.3 a game. In addition to a 9.7 scoring average, Picha proved to be the Pirates' top outside shooting threat, hitting 38.7 percent of her 3-point attempts.

Jamie Lyons and Kendra Lahue, both 5-foot-10 juniors, may see an increased role in the frontcourt. Lyons started in 24 games last year and averaged 5.7 points and 4.1 boards. Lahue appeared in every game and averaged 5.6 points.

Sophomore Kendra Knutsen, a 5-foot-5 guard from Shadle Park, adds depth in the backcourt. Entering this season, Higgs is 263-192, the most wins in school history.



### Fast facts

**Conference:** Northwest  
**Colors:** Crimson & Black  
**Ticket office:** (509) 777-3224  
**Home court:** Whitworth Fieldhouse (1625)  
**Website:** whitworth.edu

**Men**  
**Head coach:** Matt Logie, 2nd season  
**Record:** 26-4  
**Assistants:** Damien Jablonski, Jesse Wamboldt, Matt Melka  
**2011-2012 record:** 26-4  
**2011-2012 NWC record/finals:** 15-1/1st  
**Letterwinners back/lost:** 10/4  
**Starters back/lost:** 3/2  
**Newcomers:** 3

**Women**  
**Head coach:** Helen Higgs, 19th season  
**Record:** 263-192  
**Assistant:** Heather Bowman  
**2011-12 record:** 11-14  
**2011-12 NWC record/finals:** 7-9/5th  
**Letterwinners back/lost:** 11/3  
**Starters back/lost:** 4/4  
**Newcomers:** 3



### Predictions

**Men**  
1. Whitworth  
2. Pacific Lutheran  
3. Whitman  
4. Lewis & Clark  
5. Puget Sound  
6. Linfield  
7. George Fox  
8. Pacific  
9. Willamette

**Women**  
1. George Fox  
2. Whitman  
3. Lewis & Clark  
4. Whitworth  
5. Puget Sound  
6. Pacific  
7. Pacific Lutheran  
8. Linfield  
9. Willamette

## 5 Keys (men)

**Experienced backcourt**  
Leadership on and off the court from their experienced backcourt, including senior point guard Wade Gebbers, off guard Dustin McConnell and sixth man Colton McCargar.

**New big men**  
The emergence of post players to replace graduated Felix Friedt and Jack Looftburrow. Friedt was among the most dominant centers in recent Whitworth history, leading last year's team in both scoring and rebounding, but several players have a chance to take that role.

**Get out of gate**  
A fast start against one of the toughest early-season schedules in recent years. Whitworth opens with Idaho State, hosts national powers St. Thomas (Minn.) and Mary Hardin-Baylor, the Pirates open conference play at home against tough Puget Sound and PLU.

**Accuracy improvement**  
More consistent shooting from 3-point range, which was spotty late last season. The Whitworth big men will have to try to match Friedt's ability to pass the ball back out to teammates for open 3-pointers.

**Keep 'em coming**  
Developing more depth in the frontcourt. Zach Payne and Taylor Farnsworth will be critical players.

### 2012-13 team rosters

MEN		Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown (Previous school)
1	Taylan Yildiz	G	Fr.	6-3	155	Instanbul, Turkey (German HS)
3	Dustin McConnell	G	Jr.	5-11	170	Clarkston (Clarkston HS)
4	Grant McNiel	G	Fr.	6-3	170	Wilsonville, Ore. (Wilsonville HS)
5	Austin Ehlo	G	So.	6-2	193	Spokane (Lewis and Clark HS)
12	Wade Gebbers	G	Sr.	5-11	168	Brewster, Wash. (Brewster HS)
15	Zach Payne	F	Sr.	6-6	230	Danville, Calif. (Diablo Valley College)
20	Colton McCargar	G	Jr.	6-1	182	Richland (Richland HS)
22	Robby Douglas	G	Jr.	6-1	170	Spokane (Shadle Park HS)
23	Mack Larkin	F	Sr.	6-5	199	Anacortes, Wash. (Anacortes HS)
24	Taylor Farnsworth	P	So.	6-8	225	Spokane (Montana)
32	George Valle	G	Fr.	6-4	200	Bellevue, Wash. (Sammamish HS)
34	Hank Aldous	F	Fr.	6-5	170	Dallas (Shelton HS)
35	Matt Roth	F	So.	6-5	195	Spokane (West Valley HS)
40	Kyle McEachran	G	So.	6-3	185	Bellevue (University Prep)
41	Lucas Peterson	G	So.	6-3	175	Redmond, Wash. (Bear Creek)
42	Brandon Loller	F	Fr.	6-6	215	Lake Oswego, Ore. (Lakeridge HS)
44	Adam Wilks	F/P	So.	6-7	210	Andover, Kan. (Andover Central HS)
50	Dan Hutchinson	P	So.	7-0	230	Deer Park (Mt. Hood CC)

WOMEN		Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Hometown (Previous school)
2	Lexie Zappone	G	Fr.	5-7	Spokane (Lakeside HS)
3	Jamie Lyons	F	Jr.	5-10	Kennewick (Southridge HS)
4	Lauren Picha	G	Sr.	5-7	Puyallup, Wash. (Puyallup HS)
5	Briann Maley	PF	Fr.	5-10	Rosalia (Rosalia HS)
10	Emily Guthrie	G	Sr.	5-7	Snohomish, Wash. (Snohomish HS)
11	KC McConnell	G	Fr.	5-6	Clarkston (Clarkston HS)
12	Jenna Caccchio	G	Jr.	5-7	Boise (Capital HS)
13	Mikayla Kraemer	F/P	Fr.	6-0	West Linn, Ore. (West Linn HS)
14	Lexxi Hallberg	F	Fr.	5-11	Wenatchee (Wenatchee HS)
15	Kendra Knutsen	G	So.	5-5	Spokane (Shadle Park)
20	Alexis McLeod	G	Fr.	5-7	Kirkland, Wash. (Woodinville HS)
21	Kendra Lahue	F/P	Jr.	5-10	Nine Mile Falls (Lakeside HS)
22	Emily Travis	G/F	Jr.	5-8	Spokane (Lewis and Clark HS)
24	Bethany Fleming	F	Jr.	5-9	Newberg, Ore. (Newberg HS)
25	Faith Emerson	F	Fr.	5-11	Santa Barbara, Calif. (Providence Hall)
31	Jessica Logan	F	Fr.	5-9	Fossil, Ore. (Wheeler HS)
32	Kayla Johnson	G	Jr.	5-7	Colfax (Colfax HS)
33	Katara Belton-Sharp	F	So.	5-9	Spokane (Ferris HS)



Dan Pelle photo  
Men's coach Matt Logie.



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File photo  
Women's head hoops coach Helen Higgs.

## JUNIOR COLLEGES



All-conference pick Michael Middlebrooks led the SWAC in rebounding a blocked shots last season.

KATHY PLONKA kathypl@spokesman.com

# Cardinals loaded

Finding playing time for impressive roster is good problem for NIC coach

By Greg Lee  
greglee@spokesman.com, (509) 844-8868

Every indication points to North Idaho College men's basketball coach Jared Phay's ninth season being his best. Now all that has to happen is potential to be realized.

There's no question that NIC will feature some of the best talent it's had under Phay, and arguably the deepest roster.

It begins with 6-foot-8 sophomore Michael Middlebrooks (Rainier Beach), a first team all-Scenic West Athletic Conference selection last year. He led the SWAC in rebounding and blocked shots.

Middlebrooks is joined by 6-2 sophomore guard Keon Lewis (Chief Sealth), a second team all-SWAC pick and 7-0 sophomore center Kaj Sherman (Mercer Island), honorable mention all-SWAC. Lewis is the Cardinals' top returning scorer (14.5 points per game).

It doesn't stop there, though. Redshirt freshman Chris Sarbaugh (Gonzaga Prep), who transferred from Gonzaga University, has secured the starting job at point guard.

Phay has been impressed with Sarbaugh's transition to NIC. "You split up the team for scrimmages and 90 percent of the time the team Sarbaugh is on wins," Phay said.

Another player in the mix for a starting job is 6-9 freshman James Webb (Augusta, Ga.), who was an NCAA Division I nonqualifier.

Players fighting for time are 6-0 sophomore Mikey Hope, a transfer from Evergreen State College; 6-3 freshman Cole Lockett (Auburn, Wash.), who redshirted last year after a knee injury; 6-4 sophomore Jaiil Abdul-Bassit (Anchorage, Alaska), a transfer from Monroe Junior College; 6-9 freshman Nathan Rathbun (Deary, Idaho); and 6-0 sophomore Jordan McCloud (Federal Way).

"I like our depth but you can't play 12 guys in a game," Phay said. "And when you get into conference, your rotation

usually goes down to eight or nine. "Jaiil could be our best player," Phay said. "He's unbelievably talented. He just gets in his own way. He's long, athletic and shoots it well."

Phay likes the conference schedule. Like last year, NIC will play each team three times. Sometimes they'll play a team twice at home, sometimes they'll play a team twice on the road. This year, NIC plays its three toughest opponents — College of Southern Idaho, Salt Lake Community College and Snow College — on their courts.

"We'll see how we handle adversity and how tough mentally we become," Phay said. The conference rotates its tournament and NIC will play host to the men's and women's tourneys (Feb. 28-March 2).

### NIC women

The Cardinals are two years removed from their magic run that ended in a NJCC championship. Whether NIC has deep-season capability remains to be seen, but Cardinals coach Chris Carlson likes the makeup of his team.

"We have seven returners and all of them played a lot. And we have three freshmen that have potential to start."

NIC returns three starters, including 5-8 Katie Buskey (Maple Valley, Wash.), second team all-SWAC, and 6-3 Danika Johnson (Kalispell, Mont.). Splitting a position last year were 5-9 Angela Woods (Lynnwood, Wash.) and 5-11 Aimee Durbridge (Coffs Harbour, Australia).

Also back are 5-11 Hannah Love (West Valley), 5-9 Mollie Kramer (Colton) and 5-3 Tori Davenport (Post Falls).

Kabri Emerson (Butte, Mont.), a 6-3 transfer, and 5-8 Georgia Sturton (Melbourne, Australia) and 6-0 Renae Mokrzycki (Cranbourne, Australia), both freshmen, are fighting for starting spots.

### CCS men

Jeremy Groth, a four-year assistant

coach, takes over after Clint Hull resigned in early October.

Groth is thankful that he's been around the program and is familiar with the returners and newcomers.

"I like how they've responded to everything," Groth said. "The come every single day ready to give their best effort and compete."

CCS has a lot of scoring to replace with the departure of Preston Wynne (Wellpinto), who rewrote the school's record book.

The key returners are 6-2 Eric Hollbrook (Priest River), 6-3 Brady Bagby (West Valley) and 6-9 Luke Evans (North Central). Stefan Buratto (Sandpoint), who redshirted last year, returns along with 6-4 Tyler Edwards (Cusick).

Others in the mix are TJ Bracey (Gonzaga Prep), Chase Haack (Ferris), Mitch Vanderwiell (Cole Valley, Boise) and Jack Nygaard (Kamiah, Idaho).

### CCS women

The Sasquatch are coming off their worst season under coach Bruce Johnson, who enters his 25th year.

"We're much better than last year," reports Johnson. "It was a nightmare. We lost three starters from the get go. We weren't very good and it showed."

Naturally Johnson expects much improvement.

"I'm looking forward to having some athletes after not having them last year," Johnson said.

CCS returns one starter — 5-6 Jordan Brons (Colville). The Sasquatch also bring back 5-7 Amelia Cook and 5-6 Kylie Tareski, both from Medical Lake, and 5-8 Breanna Wilson (Travis Air Force Base).

Johnson is also excited about freshman transfer Riley Holsinger (North Central), who accepted a scholarship at Boise State University but got homesick. Others Johnson is high on are 5-11 freshman Tamar Williams (Boise) and 6-0 freshman Morgan Freeman (Hanford).

### Fast facts



**Conference:** Scenic West Athletic (SWAC)  
**Colors:** Maroon and Gray  
**Ticket office:** (208) 769-3348  
**Home court:** Christianson Gym (1,520)  
**Website:** nicathletics.com

#### Men

**Head coach:** Jared Phay, 9th year  
**Record at NIC:** 174-80  
**Assistant:** Corey Symons  
**2011-12 record:** 24-8  
**2011-12 SWAC:** 9-6/3rd  
**Letterwinners back:** 2

#### Women

**Head coach:** Chris Carlson, 9th year  
**Record at NIC:** 197-65  
**Assistant:** Carey Carlson  
**2011-12 record:** 23-6  
**2011-12 SWAC:** 12-3/1st  
**Letterwinners back:** 4



**Conference:** Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAAAC)

**Colors:** Navy, Columbia Blue and Gold  
**Ticket office:** (509) 533-7445  
**Home court:** SFCC Gymnasium (3,200) and Walter S. Johnson Sports Complex at SCC, (1,200)  
**Website:** athletics.spokane.edu

#### Men

**Head coach:** Jeremy Groth, 1st year  
**Record at CCS:** 0-0  
**Assistant:** Grant Johnson, Jesse Vowels  
**2011-12 record:** 24-5  
**2011-12 NWAAAC record/final:** 12-2/5th  
**Letterwinners back:** 4

#### Women

**Head coach:** Bruce Johnson, 25th year  
**Record at CCS:** 408-191  
**Assistant:** Rick Walter  
**2011-12 record:** 7-19  
**2011-12 NWAAAC record/final:** 2-2/8th  
**Letterwinners back:** 4



### On the Web

Follow 5-R Sports department on Facebook for updates at [www.facebook.com/spokesmansports](http://www.facebook.com/spokesmansports)

### 2012-13 Sasquatch rosters

Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Previous school
1	W	So.	6-4 Cusick HS
2	G	Fr.	6-0 Gonzaga Prep
3	G	Fr.	6-2 Kamiah HS
4	G	Fr.	5-10 University HS
5	G	Fr.	5-10 Timberline HS
10	G	Fr.	6-1 Sandpoint HS
13	G	So.	6-2 Priest River HS
14	W	Fr.	6-5 Cole Valley Christian
15	G	Fr.	6-2 Genesee HS
20	G	So.	6-3 West Valley HS
22	W	Fr.	6-4 Ferris HS
24	P	Fr.	6-6 Northwest Christian
33	P	Fr.	6-7 Colton HS
33	G	Fr.	5-11 Silverado HS
40	P	So.	6-9 North Central HS
<b>WOMEN</b>			
4	G	Fr.	5-6 University HS
10	G	So.	5-6 Colville HS
12	G	So.	5-6 Medical Lake HS
14	G/F	Fr.	5-6 North Central HS
20	G	Fr.	5-9 Lake Roosevelt HS
22	G	So.	5-7 Medical Lake HS
24	G/F	So.	5-8 Travis AFB
30	C	Fr.	5-11 Centennial HS
31	G/F	Fr.	5-8 Cheney HS
32	F	Fr.	5-10 Fruitland HS
34	G	So.	5-7 Valley HS
42	F	Fr.	5-7 East Valley HS
44	C	Fr.	6-0 Hanford HS
50	F	Fr.	5-8 University HS

### 2012-13 Cardinals rosters

Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Hometown (Previous school)
1	F	So.	6-6 Federal Way, Wash. (Decatur HS)
3	W	So.	6-4 Anchorage, Alaska
4	PG	Fr.	6-3 Spokane (Gonzaga University)
5	PG	Fr.	6-2 Coeur d'Alene (Lake City HS)
11	G	Fr.	6-1 Coeur d'Alene (Coeur d'Alene HS)
14	G	So.	6-2 Seattle (Chief Sealth HS)
15	F	So.	6-9 Seattle (Rainier Beach HS)
20	PG	So.	6-0 Tacoma (Wilson HS)
22	G	Fr.	6-3 Grantsville, Utah (Grantsville HS)
23	F	Fr.	6-9 Augusta, Ga. (Osak's Virtual)
24	W	Fr.	6-3 Auburn (Auburn-Riverside HS)
42	C	Fr.	6-9 Deary, Idaho (Deary HS)
44	C	So.	7-0 Mercer Island (Mercer Island HS)
RS	W	Fr.	6-7 Coeur d'Alene (Coeur d'Alene HS)
RS	G	Fr.	5-9 Spanaway, Wash. (Kuna HS)
RS	W	Fr.	6-6 Boise (Bozrah HS)
<b>WOMEN</b>			
5	G	So.	5-9 Lynnwood, Wash. (Edmonds-Wd.)
10	G	So.	5-8 Maple Valley, Wash. (Tahoma HS)
12	G	So.	5-9 Coeur d'Alene (Lake City HS)
15	G	So.	5-3 Post Falls (Post Falls HS)
21	F	So.	6-0 Butte (Butte HS)
24	G	Fr.	5-8 Melbourne, Australia (Wesley)
25	G/F	So.	5-11 Coffs Harbor, Australia (John Paul)
30	F	Fr.	6-0 Cranbourne, Australia (Lyndhurst)
32	G	So.	5-9 Colton (Colton HS)
33	F	So.	5-11 Spokane (West Valley HS)
35	P	So.	6-3 Kalispell, Mont. (Flathead HS)
44	G	Fr.	5-9 Sandpoint (Sandpoint HS)

SCHEDULES

Gonzaga men

Table of Gonzaga men's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

# Lake Buena Vista, Fla. \* Battle in Seattle

WSU men

Table of WSU men's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

EWU men

Table of EWU men's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

Idaho men

Table of Idaho men's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.



Associated Press photo. GU men's coach Mark Few looks to inspire the team's 2nd-place WCC finish.

UW men

Table of UW men's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

Whitworth men

Table of Whitworth men's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

CCS men

Table of CCS men's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

NIC men

Table of NIC men's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

Gonzaga women

Table of Gonzaga women's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

WSU women

Table of WSU women's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

EWU women

Table of EWU women's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

Idaho women

Table of Idaho women's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

NIC women

Table of NIC women's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.



colin@spokesman.com. GU women's coach Kelly Graves points his team toward a WCC title.

UW women

Table of UW women's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

Whitworth women

Table of Whitworth women's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

CCS women

Table of CCS women's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

NIC women

Table of NIC women's basketball schedule including dates, opponents, and times.

\*At Williston (ND) St. College. #Bigfoot/Cardinal Classic at NIC and CCS.

## DIVISION I WOMEN



Gonzaga defensive leader Jazmine Redmon returns to the backcourt along with fellow junior Haiden Palmer and senior Taelor Karr.

## WOMEN

Continued from 07

make it four, a possibility with the first NCAA tournament weekend at GU for the third-straight season, it will be with a new frontcourt, a somewhat minor concern to Graves.

"We never won a conference championship because of where we were picked," the coach said after Brigham Young was picked ahead of his team. "We won eight in a row because we're the best team and we worked the hardest."

If they do that, inexperience up front won't be near as nerve-wracking.

Stephanie Golden, a 6-foot-3 junior, and 6-4 sophomore Sunny Greinacher, played a combined 10 minutes a game (7.1 ppg, 4.2 rpg) behind three senior starters last year and their backups are going to be freshmen.

There are five of them, headlined by 6-5 redshirt Shelby Cheslek. "Shelby has been terrific; she has a shot at being newcomer of the year in conference. She can do a little bit of everything," Graves said. "I think (the freshmen) will be in the rotation and have a chance to have an impact."

There are six experienced guards with senior Taelor Karr (7.5 ppg, 4.5 rpg) and juniors Haiden Palmer (12.4 ppg, 4.5 rpg) and Jazmine Redmon, the defensive leader, slated to start.

Graves said of his 18th team at Gonzaga. "We're two or three deep in some spots and they know they're competing every day for time. As young kids are, they're inconsistent sometimes."

"Our lineup is going to be fluid through Christmas. Our role development is still a work in progress, but I'm very pleased with our progress. We have depth, we have athletic ability, we have talent. We just haven't had those players separate themselves."

## Eagles look to sophomores

Eagles coach Wendy Schuller is probably putting the fewest eggs in the freshman basket, but that's because she has four sophomores and two redshirts from last year's big class.

EWU went 10-6 in the Big Sky Conference, its second-best showing behind the 2010 champs, and 16-34 overall on the back and combined 30.5 points per game from a pair of graduated all-league performers.

"We are obviously going to look very different this year," said Schuller, who is entering her 12th season. "But good coaches adjust to their personnel and we have a great nucleus of players coming back."

The most experience is up front with a pair of returning 6-1 starters, senior center Carrie Ojeda (10.2 ppg, 6.9 rpg) and sophomore forward Melissa Williams (4.6, 5.3). The other starter is 6-0 junior wing Aubrey Ashenfelter (6.3, 3.3), who will be asked to step into a bigger role.

"This year we are going to have to score more together, which is one of the things that made us great the year

## 2012-13 Huskies women's roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown
15	Jeneva Anderson	F	6-0	Sr.	Spokane (Lewis and Clark)
13	Katie Collier	F/C	6-3	Fr.	Covington, Wash.
14	Heather Corral	G/F	6-1	Fr.	Vancouver, Wash.
32	Jazmine Davis	PG	5-7	So.	San Jose, Calif.
30	Kassia Fortier	G	5-8	Jr.	Issaquah, Wash.
11	Mathilde Gilling	F/C	6-3	Fr.	Rungsted Kyst, Denmark
10	Kristi Kingma	G/F	5-10	Sr.	Mill Creek, Wash.
33	Kellie McCann-Smith	G	5-9	Jr.	Asotin, Wash. (Clarkston HS)
24	Deborah Meeks	G/F	5-8	Fr.	Benton Harbor, Mich.
3	Talia Walton	F	6-2	Fr.	Tacoma
1	Mercedes Wetmore	G	5-8	Jr.	Lake Tapps, Wash.
23	Aminah Williams	F	6-0	So.	Seattle

we won the conference title," Schuller said. "This is going to be a team that on any given night several different players can lead us in scoring."

The one freshman Schuller raves about is Hayley Hodgins, a 5-10 wing out of Pasco, who redshirted last year.

The Eagles will also count on a pair of sophomores to run the team, 5-11 Kylie Huerta from Covington, Wash., and 5-6 Lexie Nelson, from Butte, who sat out last year after transferring from Montana. Both played in all but one game of their respective freshman seasons.

"We'll use (the freshmen) a lot," Newlee said. "It depends on how quick they are to assimilate."

Stacey Barr, a 5-6 sophomore, added 10 points off the bench and Ashley Walters, a 6-4 junior, averaged a block a game.

Despite a combined 10 starts they might not automatically step into starting roles because of the freshmen.

Alie Ford, a 6-2 post from Woodinville, Wash., is strong and very skilled, the coach said, and there is chemistry in the backcourt because Californians Christina Salvatore and Connie Ballesterio played AAU with Karr.

"We'll use (the freshmen) a lot," Newlee said. "It depends on how quick they are to assimilate."

## Cougars like incoming frosh

The Cougars, after going 5-13 in the conference, made a surprising run to the league tournament semifinals, which always optimistic coach June Daugherty said led to the best offseason as she enters her sixth season.

But WSU is only picked 10th in the Pac-12, which is OK with the coach. She believes her freshmen can help do better than that considering the 13-20 record represented the most overall wins in 16 years.

"This is an extremely talented and competitive class," Daugherty said. "Everybody is pushing for playing time."

There were four double-figure scorers in two preseason games - all from freshmen, two from Lia Galdeira, a 5-11 guard out of Hawaii.

"I know they picked us 10th," Daugherty said. "That's a reflection of how good this league is. It's wonderful. We love it. It's a motivator. It's fun to go out and prove people wrong. The only way you do that is to go out each day and work hard."

Two starters return in 6-5 senior Carly Noyes (7 ppg, 3 rpg) and 6-1 junior Sage Romborg (7.3, 3.7), unless you add in two key guards coming back from injury.

Ireti Amogo, a 5-10 junior, (9 ppg) was lost to a knee injury the first weekend of conference play. Midway through the season 5-9 sophomore Tia Presley (5.8 ppg), the all-time leading scorer in the Greater Spokane

League, suffered a broken foot.

Amogo is back but might not be in shape to start right away, although she will be expected to be a big contributor and leader. Presley is expected to start at point guard.

While those two were out, Brandt Thomas, a 6-1 junior (5.6, 3.4), became a force from the backcourt. The five players gave the Cougs 90 starts last season despite the injuries.

## Huskies playing small ball

The secret to success for the 2011-12 University of Washington women's basketball team was really no secret.

Getting the ball to the biggest player on the floor, 6-foot-4 wide-body Regina Rogers, was the first, second and third option in UW's attack, and the Huskies had plenty of size surrounding her up front.

Oh, how long ago those days seem now.

While head coach Kevin McGuff enters his second season with the return of featured scorer Kristi Kingma on the wing, he also has a vertically-challenged team that might have to get creative to make up for the loss of Rogers and three other veterans up front.

"We're obviously smaller than last year," McGuff said, "which just means we'll play a little bit differently."

One frontcourt option was supposed to be incoming freshman Katie Collier, a 6-3 McDonald's All-American who was projected as a likely starter before a summer knee injury ended her season before it began. That leaves UW with just three available players taller than 6-feet.

Talia Walton, a 6-2 redshirt freshman from Tacoma, played in one game last season but was granted a medical redshirt because knee problems sidelined her for almost the entire year. UW's tallest player, 6-3 Mathilde Gilling, was a late addition to the 2012 recruiting class after coaches discovered her on a European tour last summer; she has yet to play a college game. Six-foot-1 freshman Heather Corral, who played point guard in high school, is also new to college basketball.

"I knew we were going to be smaller," McGuff said. "Then Katie gets hurt, and now we're a lot smaller. It just means we're going to have to change the style of play a little bit, so that's what we're doing."

That change will involve a lot more running. The Huskies hope to outrun the competition and wear out bigger teams in the process.

Led by Kingma, sophomore point guard Jazmine Davis and combo guard Mercedes Wetmore, UW has plenty of scoring options below the 6-foot benchmark.

Kingma should spend even more time on the wing this season, while 6-footers Aminah Williams and Jeneva Anderson (Lewis and Clark) might have to improve their rebounding to find minutes on a team short on height but deep in perimeter options.

Everett Herald staff writer Scott M. Johnson contributed to this report.