

2005-06 NWAACC MEN'S BASKETBALL SEASON OUTLOOK

NORTHERN DIVISION

BELLEVUE HELMSMEN

COACH: Jeremy Eggers (3rd year).

2004-05: 12-4(League), 22-9 (Season). Tied for First place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 3

KEY PLAYERS: F Bryce Daub, G Josh Lostlen,
G Luke Landdeck.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We are looking to build on last year's success. With only three returners, we have a lot of young players to develop. With both high goals and hard work, we are looking forward to being competitive every night out.

EDMONDS TRITONS

COACH: Nate DuChesne (first year).

2004-05: 8-8, 14-12. Fifth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 4

KEY PLAYERS: G Jason Pegues, P Drew Pettersen,
P Andrew Madsen, G Jeffrey Burns.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: Team depth and overall team speed should be improved. We have a good core of valuable returners and a very strong recruiting class.

EVERETT TROJANS

CO-COACHES: Larry Walker (21st year) & Darrell Walker (4th yr).

2004-05: 9-7, 20-11. Tied for third place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 5

KEY PLAYERS: G Will Hardy, G Cassidy Laurich,
G Kyle Jefferson, F Nate Seban, G Jake Moore, G Tim Libs.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: With no starters back, it might take us a while, but we should be pretty good by January. We do have a lot of depth and we plan on using it. We should have another competitive season in the North Division.

OLYMPIC RANGERS

COACH: Billy Landram (3rd year).

2004-05: 5-11, 12-16. Eighth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 4

KEY PLAYERS: G Calvin Saylor, G Dan Scheibner,
C Jason Simmons, G Adam Schmidmyer.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: As usual, it will be tough to compete in the North. We have a lot of new faces and how well they play together will depend on how well we do. The returning sophomores will have to pick up the lead to be successful.

PENINSULA PIRATES

COACH: Peter Stuart (4th year).

2004-05: 12-4, 15-15. Tied for first place.

Seventh place at NWAACC Tournament.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 3

KEY PLAYERS: F Scott Helpenstell, G Willie Blackburn,
F Vladimir Paraik.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: Our hope is to be competitive in the North Division. With only three returnees, we have plenty of work to get done before we meet that goal.

SEATTLE STORM

COACH: Kyle Gray (2nd year).

2004-05: 4-12, 7-21. Last place

RETURNING PLAYERS: 2

KEY PLAYERS: G Cody Gray, G-F Nigel Sims,
G-F Anthony Schmidt, C Darnell Pendleton.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We should be very competitive in the tough North Division. We have got some good experienced players to go with our two returners. We should be in the hunt for the playoffs.

SHORELINE DOLPHINS

COACH: Jeff Menday (2nd year. Last coached in 2003-04.).

2004-05: 6-10, 11-16. Eighth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 5

KEY PLAYERS: W Maurice Reed, F Sean Tracey,
Jason Goodwin, Delvaughn Tined.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: With returning starters Reed, Goodwin and Tinned, we hope to improve on last season's record. Tracey is the highlight of the 2005 recruiting class.

SKAGIT VALLEY CARDINALS

COACH: Roger Valentine (14th year).

2004-05: 9-7, 13-17. Tied for third place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 5

KEY PLAYERS: G Jeremy Brown, F Josh Brown,
C Austin Wilcox, G Freddy Hamilton, F Ryan Frazer.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We have a strong nucleus of returning players who played in the NWAACC Tournament. In addition, we have added some strong local talent to complement the returners. Our difficult preseason schedule will give us an indication whether we will be a tournament team. I am pleased with how hard our players are working.

WHATCOM ORCAS

COACH: Chris Scrimsher (6th year).

2004-05: 7-9, 12-13. Sixth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 3

KEY PLAYERS: P Matt Hargrave, G O.Z. Bearden,
G Jake Gilmore.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: With only three returning players, experience will be a factor early on. This is a team that is committed to hard work, has excellent court intelligence, and has proven to receive instruction well. Our team speed will be a strength which will give the opposition trouble, and it should make up for our lack of size. Our goals are to peak in January and make it to the playoffs.

(Continued on next page)

2005-06 NWAACC MEN'S BASKETBALL
SEASON OUTLOOK (page 2 of 4)

WESTERN DIVISION

CENTRALIA TRAILBLAZERS

COACH: Dave Klovdahl (6th year).

2005-06: 7-9, 11-17. Sixth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 3

KEY PLAYERS: G Marcus Hinton, P Keyen Fulton, W Joby Voetberg, W Mike Ognuskie, P Melvin Samuel.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We will have a very young squad. Our success will depend on how well we mesh our solid freshmen with a talented group of returning players. Leading our returners will be one of the best players in the NWAACC in Hinton along with transfer Fulton. Voetberg is an energetic player who started several games last season. Defense and shooting will be keys to our success.

CLARK PENGUINS

COACH: Mike Arnold (4th year).

2004-05: 4-12, 7-21. tied for last place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 3

KEY PLAYERS: P Erving Adams, G James Hardy G Josias Flynn, Kenan Powell, Kenny Chapman, Drew Bergerson, Will Hillebrand, Alex Mitchell.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We have improved from last season with the new recruits. How well all these freshmen can adjust and adapt to the college level will determine the preconference performance. We look to be more competitive this season in the West than we were last year.

GRAYS HARBOR CHOKERS

COACH: Leonard Barnes (3rd year).

2004-05: 10-6, 18-13. Fourth place.
Sixth place at NWAACC Tournament.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 7

KEY PLAYERS: P Bill Richardson, G Eric Fink, F Darrick Jones, P Ross Gomes, G Jason Failor, G Jeff Wyman.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We have a solid foundation of returning players, as well as a good recruiting class. As long as we continue to work hard each day to improve, we should be good competition. We look forward to the season and competing against some of the best teams in the NWAACC. We appreciate all the support shown to our team whether on the road or at home.

GREEN RIVER GATORS

COACH: Tim Malroy (2nd year).

2004-05: 4-12, 9-17. Tie for last place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 2

KEY PLAYERS: G Zack Madren.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: Thirteen new players will have the opportunity to earn playing time for this season. However, being a young team in the loaded Western Region, this will be a challenge in every contest.

HIGHLINE THUNDERBIRDS

COACH: Che Dawson (3rd year).

2004-05: 8-8, 12-14. Fifth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 4

KEY PLAYERS: G Nate Jackson, G Jaxin Skyward.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We are very young, but have very positive sophomores who have a strong will to get better.

LOWER COLUMBIA RED DEVILS

COACH: Jim Roffler (15th year).

2004-05: 13-3, 26-7. First place.

Two-time defending NWAACC champions.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 4

KEY PLAYERS: G Omar Krayem, F Germain Jordan, F Nick Moore, F Joe Womack, G E.J. Schoen, G Mickey Polis, G Kyle Jackson.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: Krayem and Jordan will attempt to lead LCC back to Kennewick for a "three-peat." Team defense will be the determining factor in the ultimate success of this ballclub.

PIERCE RAIDERS

COACH: Bill Mendelson (3rd year).

2004-05: 11-5, 23-9. Tied for second place.

NWAACC runner-up.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 3

KEY PLAYERS: G David Howard, F Michael Wright, F Jamar Berry, F Andre Thelander, G Ryan Reynolds.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: With one returning starter from last year's squad that made it to the championship game, we have brought in ten new players for another run at the playoffs. Defense will be our strength once again this season. Our goal is to improve on the school record of 23 wins from last season.

SOUTH PUGET SOUND CLIPPERS

COACH: Bill Bell (3rd year).

2004-05: 4-12, 8-18. Tied for last place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 2

KEY PLAYERS: F Brett Stuckey, G Matt Sledge, F Derek Palm.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We are quick, fast and aggressive this season. How we handle our quickness, and our ability to capitalize on that, will determine our outcome. If our speed comes together with patience, we will be an exciting team to witness this season.

TACOMA TITANS

COACH: A.C. Mosley (3rd year).

2004-05: 11-5, 16-15. Tied for second place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 4

KEY PLAYERS: G Ron Soen, W Amos Saffold, F Brandon Smith, F Jason Shepard.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We are small and quick. We are going to pressure the ball and push the tempo. With the West Region being the toughest league in the NWAACC, it is going to be a battle all season to finish in the top four. We hope to be in the mix at the end.

(Continued on next page)

2005-06 NWAACC MEN'S BASKETBALL
SEASON OUTLOOK (page 3 of 4)

EASTERN DIVISION

BIG BEND VIKINGS

COACH: Mark Poth (19th year).

2004-05: 9-5, 18-11. Third place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 3

KEY PLAYERS: G Mark Moss, C Antonio Walker, F-C Jeff Coffman, G Blake Solomon, G Laron Stuckey, F Curtiss Mosely, G-F Jordan Baker, G Derek Miller.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We have a lot of new faces but we're a solid team with a lot of depth. We should be a solid team by the start of league play.

BLUE MOUNTAIN TIMBERWOLVES

COACH: Larry Bartee (15th year).

2004-05: 2-12, 12-16. Last place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 0

KEY PLAYERS: C Daniel Creech, G Michael Smith, G Mitchell Smith.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We have brought in a whole new squad. We are athletic and plan to compete in the East. We are in a tough division filled with great teams so it will be tough. We will let you know how it looks in March.

COLUMBIA BASIN HAWKS

COACH: Lane Schumacher (4th year).

2004-05: 6-8, 13-16. Sixth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 5

KEY PLAYERS: F Riley Sivak, G Christian Hammond, G Jim White, F Matt Larson.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: CBC has a lot of new faces, mixed in with five returnees. The Hawks look to have more depth at every position compared to the last three years. If our players gel together, they could become a really solid team by the end of the season. The depth at every position will allow us to play a lot of different players.

SPOKANE SASQUATCH

COACH: Eric Hughes (4th year).

2004-05: 11-3, 24-9. First place.

Fourth place at NWAACC Tournament

RETURNING PLAYERS: 6

KEY PLAYERS: G Jeremy Mangum, G Joel Ryman, G Erik Bell, F Jordan Hammond, F Humberto Perez.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: Spokane will be led by its dynamic backcourt this season. The featured player will be East MVP Mangum who will be joined by returning starters Ryman and Bell along with freshman Perez. The Sasquatch are hoping to capitalize on last season's record.

TREASURE VALLEY CHUKARS

COACH: Derrick Boles (4th year).

2004-05: 8-6, 10-19. Fourth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 6

KEY PLAYERS: Eddie Coulsen, Justin Lott, Josh Young, Tyler McKee, Jordan Frates, Courtney Early, Terrell Tipson, Wendell Moore.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We will be looking to finish in the top four in our region. With Eastern Region selections Lott and Coulsen, we are experienced enough in the backcourt to make a run. Returning six sophomores from last season, with five of them starting at least one game, the Chukars are one of the teams to watch in the East.

WALLA WALLA WARRIORS

COACH: Jeff Reinland (13th year).

2004-05: 7-7, 16-10. Fifth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 4

KEY PLAYERS: G Robert Comer, P Paul Hautzinger, P Derek Trembley, G Sam Howard, G Travis Noble, F Curtis Carlson, G Dane Peterson, G Jake Burns.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: The East Region has a host of new faces this season, so it is difficult to predict with any degree of accuracy, how the race for the regional title will unfold. Every year for about the past five years, every team has been solid, and we expect more of the same this season. At WWCC, we have a nice mix of players, and thus, we should be able to compete hard every night out.

WENATCHEE VALLEY KNIGHTS

COACH: Greg Franz (17th year).

2004-05: 3-11, 8-19. Seventh place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 3

KEY PLAYERS: G Brandon Jess, F Nate Sadawasser, G Willie Stinnett, F Allen Tibbetts, G Drew Cavanaugh, F Andrew Harum, F Jesse Webb.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: The Knights have a significantly different look than any other team in my 17 seasons as head coach. A broader recruiting approach has brought more speed, quickness and depth to our roster. The development of quality team chemistry will be a key to our goal of making the NWAACC Tournament.

YAKIMA VALLEY YAKS

COACH: Ray Funk (first year).

2004-05: 10-4, 19-10. Second place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 6

KEY PLAYERS: G Rickey Lott, G Donnie Harrison-Davis, W Tony Wilson, G Cedale Doyle, F WaLynn Burgess, G Cedric Green.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: This will be a year of transition with a new coach. We have some skilled players and solid athletes, and the challenge will be getting them to gel together as a unit. We should be a competitive ballclub.

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SOUTHERN DIVISION

CHEMEKETA STORM

COACH: David Abderhalden (4th year).

2004-05: 13-1, 25-8. Tied for first place.

Eighth place at NWAACC Tournament.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 2

KEY PLAYERS: W Riley Luettgerodt, G Nick Finley, W Steven Davis, G Jake Dastrup, W Jim McQuiston.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: This season's team is very young and not very big. We will have to be very scrappy in order to compete.

CLACKAMAS COUGARS

COACH: Clif Wegner (8th year).

2004-05: 9-5, 24-7. Third place.

Third place at NWAACC Tournament.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 5

KEY PLAYERS: C Brian Freeman, F Jake Kettles, F Garold Howe, F Martin Axnick, F Ervin Sims, G David Cernin, G Alex Brock.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We will try to extend Clackamas' 27-year consecutive winning seasons streak and our seventh straight 20-win season. We figure to be one of the top teams in the South.

LANE TITANS

COACH: Matt Swagerty (2nd year).

2004-05: 5-9, 12-16. Fifth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 2

KEY PLAYERS: G-F Josh Akwenuke, C Brad Kanis, G-F Nick Keith.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We are young, as our two returners are the only players who are not freshmen, which should make for a tough start. If we are able to learn to play together, and some of our freshmen mature quickly, we should be competitive by league play. We are a group with a positive attitude and great team spirit, which would aid us in a quick learning process and, hopefully, a berth in the NWAACC Tournament.

LINN-BENTON ROADRUNNERS

COACH: Randy Falk (15th year).

2004-05: 4-10, 10-17. Sixth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 1

KEY PLAYERS: G Kyle Masten, P Ryan Pool, P Derek Grinnell, W-P Alex Stock, W Kyle Johnson.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: With a young team, LBCC will need to be very solid on defense and look to play smart on the offensive end.

MT. HOOD SAINTS

COACH: Rob Nielson (7th year).

2004-05: 13-1, 27-4 Tied for first place.

Fifth place in NWAACC Tournament.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 5

KEY PLAYERS: G Cody Nielson, G Nick Klinger, C Adonnell Arrington, G James Loe, F Ryan Johnson, F Jake Glisson, G Demarcus Branch, C Kaylone Riley.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: MHCC looks to rebuild after losing four starters. Klinger and Nielson will lead the Saints as they shoot for a fourth straight Southern Division title. This team will focus on defense and as they try to create easy opportunities on the offensive end. A tough preseason will prepare us for a very strong Southern Region battle.

PORTLAND PANTHERS

COACH: Wayne Mendezona (first year).

2004-05: 3-11, 7-20. Tied for last place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 0

KEY PLAYERS: LaMarcus Stewart, Rory Morgan, Elton Adell.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We begin this season with a new coach and a new team. Stewart, Morgan and Adell comprise a potent three-man attack that will present matchup problems for opposing teams. We will be small, but quick, and dangerous in the open floor.

SOUTHWESTERN OREGON LAKERS

COACH: Trevor Hoppe (first year).

2004-05: 6-8, 12-19. Fourth place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 5

KEY PLAYERS: G Emmanuel Ndikubwimana, G Romell Witherspoon, F Kurtis Devon, F Matt Pizzola, F David Timpe.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We hope to play an up-tempo style of basketball. A new coach and a lot of new faces will need to come together as a team.

UMPQUA TIMBERMEN

COACH: Donell Morgan (4th year).

2004-05: 3-11, 11-17. Tied for last place.

RETURNING PLAYERS: 1

KEY PLAYERS: F Ryan Lucas, G Russell Steplight, F Seth Bauman, G John Berger, G-F Malik Parker-Hill, G Gerry Pickens.

COACH'S OUTLOOK: We will look to rebuild quickly. We return our power forward Lucas who we will lean on heavily for inside scoring, rebounding and leadership. Steplight should lead a very talented but youthful crop of guards. With nine new players, we look to possibly struggle early. I look for this team to gel by mid-season and make a serious push to the NWAACC Tournament.

COACHES' TEAMS TO BEAT

NORTH 1-Bellevue. 2-Peninsula. 3-Edmonds.

WEST 1-Lower Columbia. 2-Grays Harbor. 3-Highline.

EAST 1-Spokane. 2-Big Bend. 3-Treasure Valley.

SOUTH 1-Mt. Hood. 2- Clackamas. 3-Chemeketa.

NWAACC CHAMPIONSHIP

1-Lower Columbia. 2- Clackamas & Spokane.