



Women's Volleyball

Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

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UW-Whitewater Expected To Win Second Straight Championship

Madison, Wis.--University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, the defending league champion, is expected to claim the 2005 Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC) women's volleyball championship, according to the league's sports information directors.

UW-Whitewater, which has won seven conference titles in the last nine seasons, received seven first-place votes in this year's conference poll and is ranked No. 8 nationally in the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Preseason Poll. The Warhawks have made 13 consecutive NCAA Division III Tournament appearances.

Stacy Boudreau takes over the Warhawk program in 2005 after spending the last three seasons at Iowa Wesleyan College where she compiled a 70-37 record. She replaces Kris Russell who retired after 24 seasons and amassed an 812-231 mark with one national championship and 10 WIAC crowns.

The Warhawks will be led by senior outside hitter Cassie Uttech, who claimed AVCA All-America third team honors last year.

UW-La Crosse received one first-place vote and is pegged to place second in the conference race. The Eagles, ranked No. 14 nationally, advanced to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Division III Tournament last year for the second straight season and have had just 13 losses in the last two years, the lowest two-year total for the program since the 1978-79 teams had 12 losses. UW-La Crosse must replace Laura Wagner, who claimed conference player of the year honors and was an AVCA All-America first team selection in 2004.

UW-River Falls, ranked No. 20 nationally, secured the remaining first-place nod and is expected to place third in the league pecking order. The Falcons most recently claimed a share of the WIAC title in 2002 and 2003 and have recorded 12 straight 20-plus win seasons.

UW-Eau Claire registered 20-plus wins for the sixth consecutive season during the 2005 campaign. Head coach Lisa Herb ranks fourth on the NCAA Division III wins list with 729 victories among active head coaches.

UW-Stout, ranked No. 21 nationally, claimed their first-ever WIAC Tournament title a year ago and their third NCAA Tournament appearance in team history after also participating in 1998 and 1994. The Blue Devils lost AVCA All-Americans Brooke Viegut (first team) and Tanille Hartwig (second team), along with Erin Heeger, who led the NCAA Division III with 15.09 assists per game in 2004.

UW-Platteville, ranked No. 16 nationally, has had the last two NCAA Division III Midwest Region Freshmen of the Year, with Mallory Dzubay claiming the honor last fall and Dana Alf winning it in 2003.

2005 Preseason Picks

	<u>2004 Record</u>
1. Whitewater (7)	34-6, 7-1
2. La Crosse (1)	31-7, 5-3
3. River Falls (1)	24-11, 5-3
4. Eau Claire	20-11, 4-4
5. Stout	31-5, 6-2
6. Platteville	27-8, 5-3
7. Oshkosh	22-11, 3-5
8 (tied). Stevens Point	21-14, 1-7
8 (tied). Superior	8-24, 0-8

()--First-place votes

*Voted on by WIAC

Sports Information Directors

Brian Schaefer begins his first full season as head coach at UW-Oshkosh after guiding the Titans to a 10-6 record at the end of the 2004 campaign. UW-Oshkosh has won 20-plus matches 11 times in the last 12 seasons.

UW-Stevens Point's 21 victories a year ago were the most for the program since 1998 and a 10-win improvement from the 2003 campaign, while UW-Superior welcomes back Molly Ray, who claimed all-WIAC honorable mention status in 2003.

Team Vitals

Eau Claire

Head Coach: Lisa Herb; 21st season; 566-199 record at UWEC / 730-288 overall Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 10/7 Starters Returning/Lost: 4/2 Returning All-WIAC: Jenny Wolter, Sr., OH (Honorable); Shanna Berger, Jr., Libero (All-Def.)

La Crosse

Head Coach: Sheila Perkins; 12th season; 271-114 record at UWL / 373-225 overall Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 4/5 Starters Returning/Lost: 2/4 Returning All-WIAC: Tanya Foldy, Sr., Setter (Honorable); Jenny Randall, Sr., Libero (All-Def.)

Oshkosh

Head Coach: Brian Schaefer; 2nd season; 10-6 record at UWO / 10-6 overall Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 8/6 Starters Returning/Lost: 3/3 Returning All-WIAC: Leah Rosenbaum, So., MB (Honorable)

Platteville

Head Coach: Deb Schulman; 18th season; 406-227 record at UWP / 406-227 overall Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 9/4 Starters Returning/Lost: 3/3 Returning All-WIAC: Dana Alf, Jr., OH (Honorable), Miranda Hall, Sr., Libero (All-Def.)

River Falls

Head Coach: Patti Ford; 14th season; 353-140 record at UWRF / 353-140 overall Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 8/3 Starters Returning/Lost: 3/3 Returning All-WIAC: Andrea Geehan, Jr., MH (Honorable); Kathryn Krtnick, Jr., Setter (Honorable); Katie Thompson, Jr., OH (Honorable)

Stevens Point

Head Coach: Stacey White; 5th season; 48-82 record at UWSP / 48-82 overall Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 11/4 Starters Returning/Lost: 4/2 Returning All-WIAC: Shelly Maus, So., MB (Honorable); Lori Marten, Jr., Libero (All-Def.)

Stout

Head Coach: Jill Jolliff; 13th season; 261-149 record at UWS / 261-149 overall Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 10/7 Starters Returning/Lost: 1/5 Returning All-WIAC: None

Superior

Head Coach: Lynne Deadrick; 3rd season; 21-45 record at UWS / 21-45 overall Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 9/3 Starters Returning/Lost: 5/1 Returning All-WIAC: None

Whitewater

Head Coach: Stacy Boudreau; 1st season; 0-0 record at UWW / 70-37 overall Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 13/3 Starters Returning/Lost: 5/1 Returning All-WIAC: Cassie Uttech, Sr., OH (1st Team); Kim Fruit, Sr., OH (Honorable)