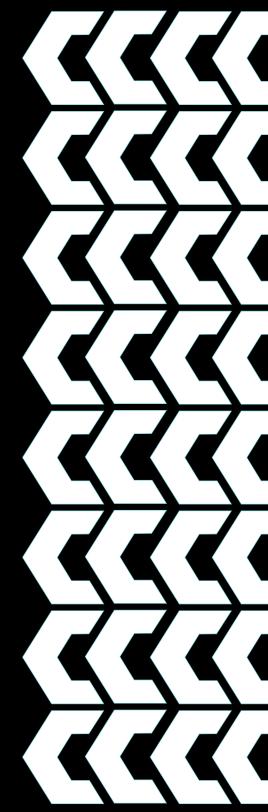


2021-22 West Coast Conference Annual Report



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From the Commissioner GLORIA NEVAREZ

We had a lot to celebrate in 2021-22. Following a historically successful year in 2020-21, and despite the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the WCC continued to excel. The WCC vied for several national championships, with two individual NCAA titles and four top-four finishes.

As the landscape of college athletics continues to evolve at a rapid pace, the West Coast Conference has established itself as a leader in the west. I am incredibly proud of the resolve of our student-athletes, coaches and administrators who navigated some of the nation's most rigorous COVID-19 protocols while still competing for national titles. As the NCAA loosens the restrictions on transfers, NIL (name, image, and likeness) and works to reformat the governance structure of the entire association, the WCC is well represented across all the committees currently working on the new version of the NCAA constitution.

After a year without fans able to attend games, the stands were once again filled and the passionate support for our student-athletes returned in venues across our conference footprint. The spirit of competition was in full bloom, and we were thrilled to see our student-athletes competing and thriving.

Just three months after competing in the spring of 2021, our fall sports picked right back up in August. We were excited to bring fans back to our men's and women's cross country championship in October. BYU's Conner Mantz and Whittni Orton showed why they are the best in the nation, with thrilling performances to lead their respective teams to victory. When it was all said and done, our conference champions were national champions! Eight months after claiming a team national championship in March of 2021, the BYU women's cross country team was the NCAA runner up in the fall.

Early December was an exciting time for the WCC with three volleyball programs, three women's soccer programs and two men's soccer programs earning NCAA bids. The atmosphere at Stevens Stadium on the Santa Clara campus was electric, as two WCC programs faced off in the NCAA Women's College Cup. Santa Clara and BYU staged an incredible

match that was decided in penalty kicks in front of a sold-out stadium and a national television audience. BYU prevailed in the all-WCC semifinal and nearly gave the Conference a women's soccer national championship in back-to-back years.

As the calendar turned toward the winter months, the excitement of men's and women's basketball was back in our arenas. We welcomed the return of fans to the University Credit Union WCC Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament with a sold-out crowd at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas. A top-five team and a No. 1 seed in Gonzaga men's basketball, and a top-20 team in BYU women's basketball highlighted another year of multiple NCAA bids for the Conference. Gonzaga, Saint Mary's and San Francisco gave the WCC three NCAA Tournament bids in men's basketball for the first time in a decade. In all, six men's basketball teams earned postseason bids. BYU and Gonzaga earned NCAA Tournament bids, highlighting five postseason selections in women's basketball. The Zags reached the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament Sweet 16 with a National Player of the Year finalist in Drew Timme and a National Freshman of the Year finalist in Chet Holmgren.

The success of our teams continued in the Spring, as LMU, Pepperdine and San Diego gave the WCC three women's tennis programs in the NCAAs for the first time since 2012. Pepperdine and San Diego gave the WCC multiple NCAA men's tennis bids for the first time since 2015. Pepperdine women's tennis, runner-up a year ago, reached the quarterfinals. Four WCC men's golf programs – Pepperdine, BYU, San Francisco and San Diego – gave the WCC four NCAA bids for the first time since 2018, and two NCAA women's golf programs – Pepperdine and BYU – earned NCAA berths.

LMU softball tied for the WCC regular crown and gave UCLA a fight in the NCAA regional. The Lions also captured the beach volleyball conference title and earned their second consecutive top-four NCAA finish in the national tournament.

A thrilling WCC Baseball Tournament, which expanded to six teams this past year, saw

third-seeded San Diego bring home the title in extra innings. The Toreros and nationally-ranked Gonzaga gave the WCC multiple NCAA bids in June.

Outside of competition, the Conference continues to be a champion for change, as a member of a traditionally underrepresented community was hired in more than half of the 84 searches in the first full year of the Russell Rule between August 2020 and July of 2021.

We are in a unique chapter in collegiate athletics. As a member of the NCAA Constitution Committee and Transformation Committee, I have had the opportunity to work with leaders around the nation to identify a better path that will allow the NCAA to serve the membership better in today's collegiate athletics landscape. There's certainly a lot more work ahead of us as we move forward

During an unprecedented period in our history these last two years, the WCC has experienced unprecedented success. We look forward to celebrating more titles and successes around the conference as we turn our focus to 2022-23.

in this process.

Together, We Create Champions.

Regards,

flow Humes

Gloria







Men's Basketball
Chet Holmgren, Gonzaga
Drew Timme, Gonzaga

Men's Cross Country
Casey Clinger, BYU
Conner Mantz, BYU
James Mwaura, Gonzaga

<u>Women's Basketball</u> Shaylee Gonzales, BYU

Beach Volleyball
Marine Kinna, LMU
Reka Orsi Toth, LMU
Melanie Paul, Pepperdine
Avery Poppinga, LMU
Megan Rice, LMU
Madison Shields, Pepperdine

Women's Cross Country Anna Camp-Bennett, BYU Aubrey Frentheway, BYU Whittni Orton, BYU Ruby Smee, USF

<u>Women's Soccer</u> Mikayla Colohan, BYU Alex Loera, Santa Clara Kelsey Turnbow, Santa Clara

Volleyball
Rachel Ahrens, Pepperdine
Whitney Bower, BYU
Kennedy Eschenberg, BYU
Kenzie Koerber, BYU

Men's Golf Joe Highsmith, Pepperdine Dylan Menante, Pepperdine William Mouw, Pepperdine

Women's Tennis
Savannah Broadus, Pepperdine
Shiori Fukuda, Pepperdine
Mariia Kozyreva, Saint Mary's
Janice Tjen, Pepperdine
Lisa Zaar, Pepperdine

Men's Tennis August Holmgren, San Diego

<u>Baseball</u>
Brett Gillis, Portland
Gabriel Hughes, Gonzaga
Brycen Mautz, San Diego
Caleb Ricketts, San Diego





The Academic Performance Rate (APR) holds institutions accountable for the academic progress of their student-athletes through a team-based metric that accounts for the eligibility and retention of each student-athlete for each academic term.

« NCAA APR Updates

The data reflects a four-year average from 2017-18 to 2020-21.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors suspended APP penalties and loss of access to postseason competition for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 data collections.

There was no public release of NCAA data in Spring 2020, 2021, or 2022 and therefore no NCAA average or benchmarks released.

« WCC Performance Highlights

Eight WCC sports increased or maintained their average APR from last year.

Ninety-one of 150 WCC teams increased or maintained their average from last year.

Forty WCC teams have a perfect APR (1000).





The WCC hosted Student-Athlete Advisory Committee calls during the 2021-22 academic year, providing programming aligning with the following themes:

« <u>Hispanic Heritage Month- September</u>

The West Coast Conference, invited Kelvin Quelizof Brown University to speak on the significance of Hispanic Heritage month as well as student and administrative initiatives on campus. During his time at University of New Orleans, Queliz conducted interviews with Hispanic students, both in English and Spanish, as a means of not only communicating to their peers in the US, but also to their families at home through social media. Queliz challenged the committee to use their voice and platform, to not only share their culture with others, but to also continue to create a welcoming environment to new students on campus.

« International Student-Athletes' Experiences

The WCC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Student-Athlete Ad Hoc Committee, had a joint meeting and discussed international student-athletes' experiences after being recruited. This conversation was led by WCC SAAC member, Jonathon Curran of Saint Mary's, who presented on initiatives from Gaels for DEI. In this discussion, Curran shared that Gaels for DEI was formed to start conversations surrounding cultural background and experiences for a more inclusive environment. Members of the committees shared their experiences in adjusting to a new culture, and how they can be better leaders, welcoming teammates from different parts of the country and world.

« Mental Health

The Conference invited Speaker Dr.
Alexander Cushing, a sports psychologist

at Pepperdine to lead a presentation and discussion on student-athlete mental health. Dr. Cushing shared current campus resources and encouraged WCC SAAC to identify and share campus resources with fellow teammates/friends. The committee discussed difficulties on speaking about mental health and the importance of open communication with administrators and coaches. Dr. Cushing and Toni-Ann Derby of the WCC, met with athletic trainers, mental health professionals, and those who working in student-athlete development to discuss plans, best practices, and resources for student-athlete mental health.

« Title IX

Lauren Kearny, a student-athlete at Saint Mary's, led a Title IX & Healthy Relationships presentation and discussion. In this presentation, Kearny discussed the definition and purpose of Title IX, process for reporting incidents as well as support and campus resources.

« NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum
In November 2021, two WCC studentathletes, Tim Zeitvogel of Pepperdine and
Bailey Woinarwicz of LMU, were nominated
and selected to attend the NCAA
Student-Athlete Leadership Forum in Houston, Texas. At this forum, studentathletes learned enhanced leadership skills
from trained facilitators and participated
in a community service project.

« Leadership

As part of leadership development, SAAC committee members were given the opportunity to present on topics to the committee. Topics included: Title IX, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, Leading in Campus Initiatives Conversation/Updates, and Social Justice, as well as NIL discussion and resources.

WCC CHAMPIONS

























WCC CHAMPIONS







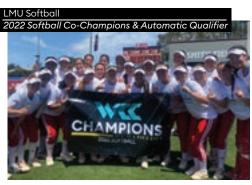














COMPETITIVENESS: CROSS COUNTRY





« BYU's Whittni Orton captured the NCAA Women's Cross Country Championship with a time of 19:25.4 (second fastest time in the history of the course) in the 6K race at the NCAA meet in Tallahassee, Florida on Nov. 20. She became the first WCC athlete to win the women's individual NCAA Cross Country Championship.

« Orton guided BYU to a second-place finish as a team at the NCAA Championship. It was the program's third consecutive podium finish at the NCAA Championships. BYU won the NCAA team title in the Spring of 2021.

« Orton completed her stellar BYU career as an NCAA individual (fall of 2021) and team (spring of 2021) Champion. She was named the 2022 Honda Sport Award winner for cross country by the Collegiate Women's Sports Awards. Along with the prestigious Honda Award, Orton was a three-time USTFCCCA All-American.

« Four WCC runners earned All-America honors overall by finishing in the top-40 in the NCAA Championship race. Along with Orton, fellow BYU runner Anna Camp-Bennett finished 12th, San Francisco sophomore Ruby Smee placed 34th and BYU's Aubrey Frentheway finished 38th. In the last four NCAA Championships, WCC runners have earned 17 All-America selections.

« Orton was honored as the WCC Runner of the Year for the second time in her career, while BYU Head coach Diljeet Taylor was honored as the WCC Coach of the Year for the fourth consecutive season.

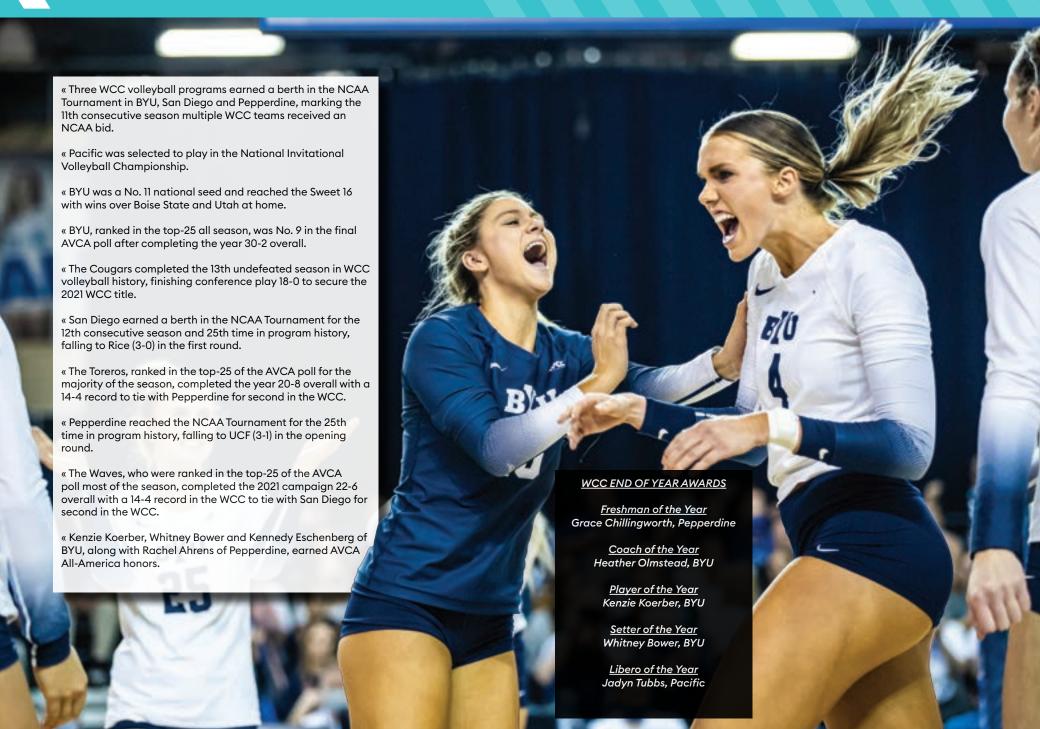
«The Cougars captured the WCC Championship crown as a team for the fourth consecutive year. Orton, who crossed the line at 20:01 at Newhall Community Park in Concord, California, became only the third WCC student-athlete to win the women's race multiple times. Anna Camp (20:07), Aubrey Frentheway (20:08) and Lexy Halladay (20:17) finished three through five for the Cougars in the conference championship meet. USF's Ruby Smee (20:06) was runner up in the WCC Championship, while Portland's Laura Pellicoro won WCC Freshman of the Year honors, posting an 11th place finish (20:53) in the conference meet.

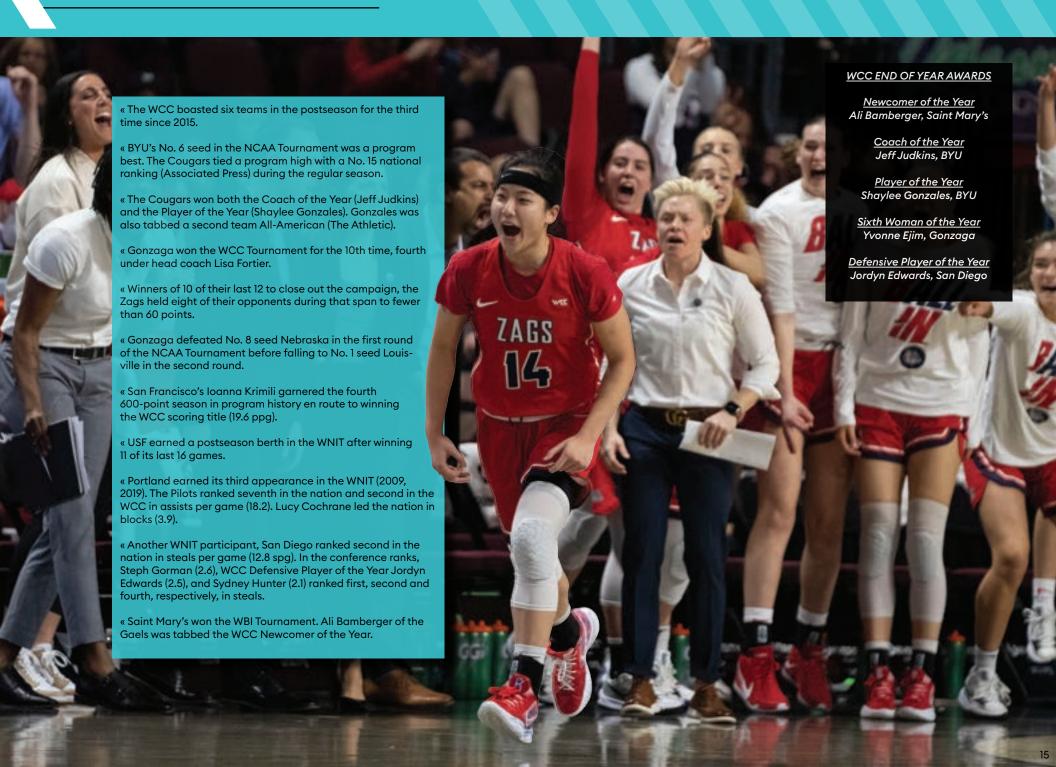


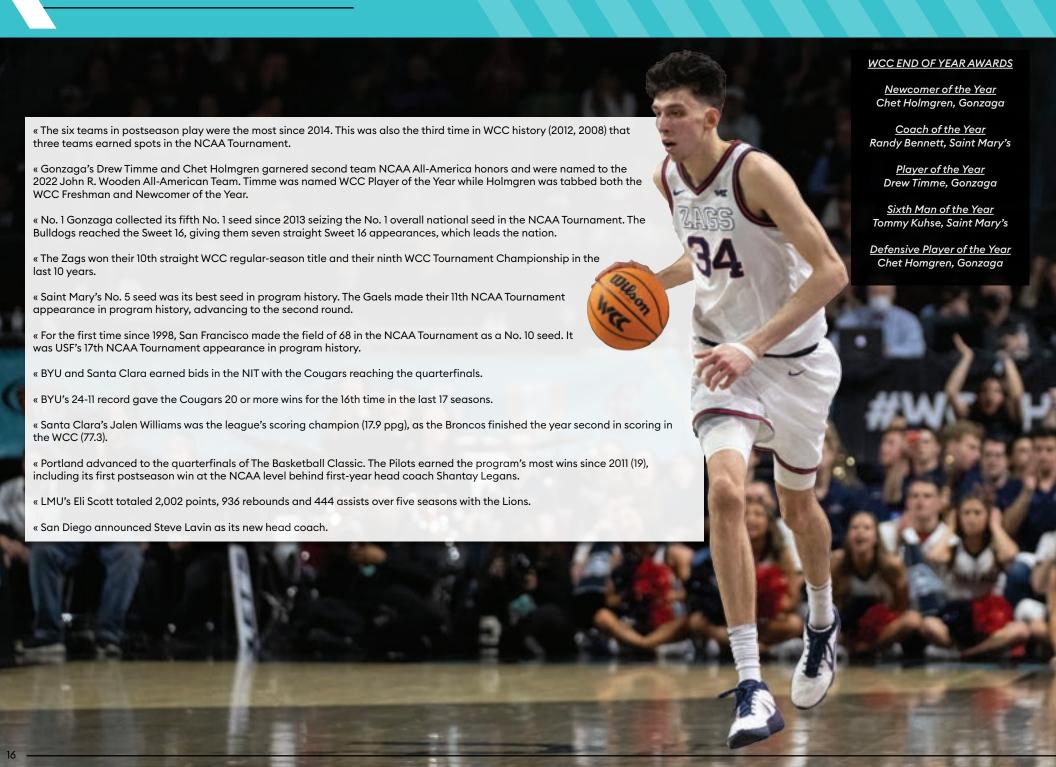
- « For the second-straight year, the WCC was represented in the College Cup final, as BYU took on Florida State and fell in penalty kicks.
- « Santa Clara made their 12th College Cup appearance, while BYU made it's program's first appearance.
- $\mbox{\tt w}$ The Bronco-Cougar meeting is the second time two WCC teams have faced in the College Cup.
- « The WCC sent three teams to the NCAA Tournament for the 19th time in the last 22 seasons.
- « The Conference hosted the College Cup at Stevens Stadium to a sold out crowd.
- « Three WCC teams were ranked in the final United Soccer Coaches poll: BYU (2), Santa Clara (4), and Pepperdine (13).
- « BYU's Mikayla Colohan finished second in the nation in goals (18), third in points per game (2.21), and fourth in assists (15), while the Cougars led the NCAA in scoring (3.21 goals per game).
- « With 51 points, Mikayla Colohan led the NCAA and teammate Cameron Tucker ranked fifth nationally with 40 points.
- « Portland's Bedya Sawan scored six game-winning goals, good for fifth nationally.
- « Zoe Clevely recorded 12 shutouts for the Waves, the second most in the nation.
- « Three student-athletes were selected in the NWSL draft. Julie Doyle and Kaile Halvorsen from Santa Clara and Jordan Thompson became Gonzaga's first-ever NWSL draftee.
- « Pepperdine had a dominant season with 17 wins and earned the program's fifth national seed in the NCAA Tournament.
- « Santa Clara's Kelsey Turnbow and BYU's Mikayla Colohan was a finalist for the Honda Award presented by the Collegiate Women Sports Awards.
- $\mbox{\tt w}$ Gonzaga posted a 15-5 overall record, highlighted by an eight-game win streak.

















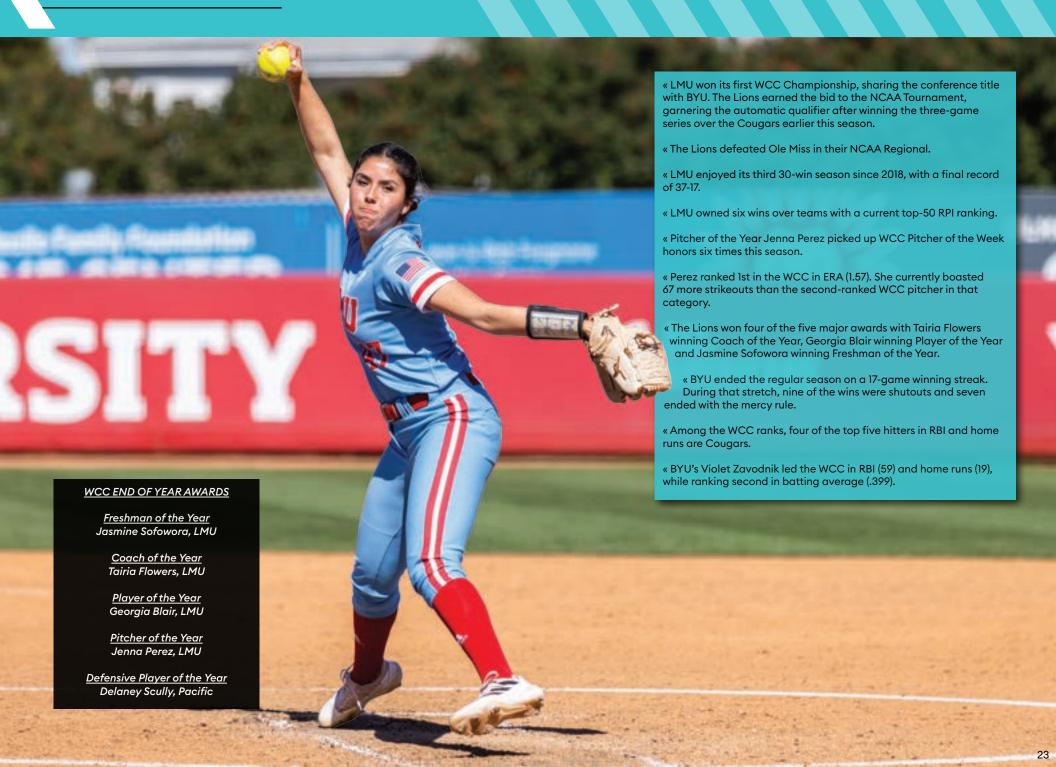


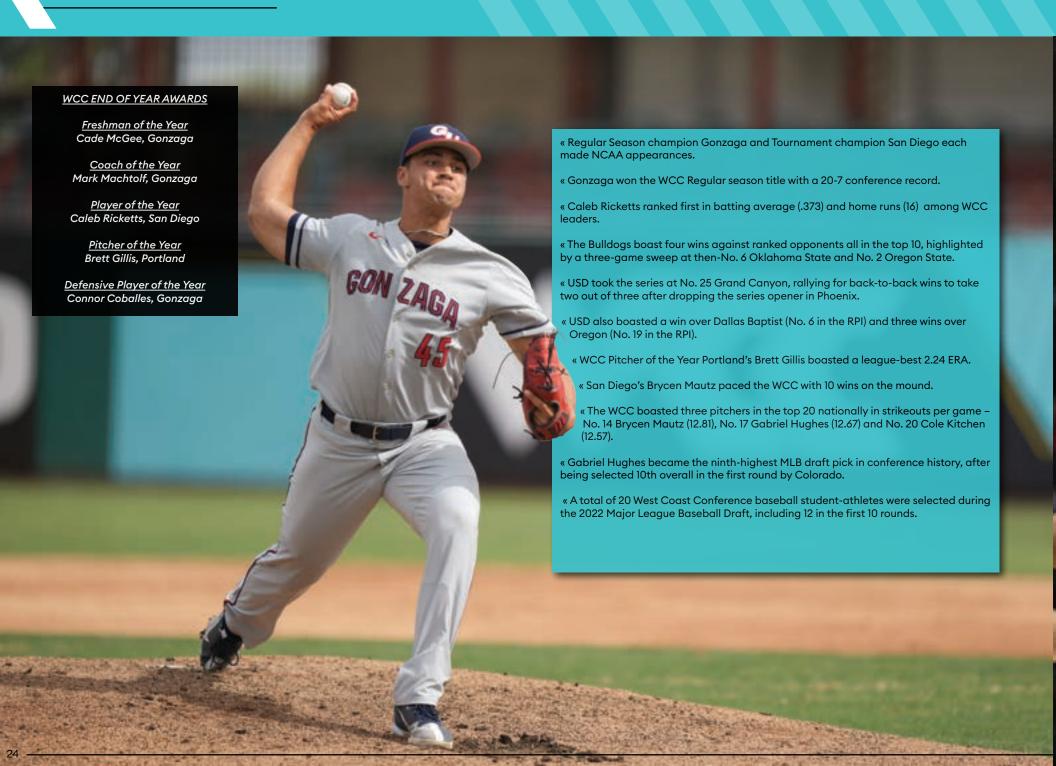
- « Pepperdine won the first three rounds at home to advance to the quarterfinals. The Waves fell, 4-3, to top-seeded North Carolina in the NCAA Quarterfinals.
- « Pepperdine was in the national rankings all season, and earned a No. 8 national seed.
- « Four Pepperdine Waves qualified for the NCAA Singles Tournament, Shiori Fukuda, Lisa Zaar, Taisiya Pachkaleva, and Victoria Flores. San Diego's Solymar Colling, Veronica Miroshnichenko from LMU and Saint Mary's Mariia Kozyreva also earned bids.
- « In the NCAA First Round, LMU faced Texas Tech and San Diego faced Arizona State. Both dropped 4-1 decsions.
- « Waves Savannah Broadus and Janice Tjen advanced to the semifinals in the NCAA Doubles Tournament.
- « Pepperdine beat USD for its eighth consecutive WCC Tournament title.
- « Pepperdine made its 37th trip to the NCAA Championship.
- « Shiori Fukuda was voted the WCC Player of the Year after completing the regular season 28-9 and ranked No. 16 in the ITA Rankings. She guided the Waves to a perfect 7-0 record in conference play.
- « Pepperdine's Savannah Broadus was named the WCC Freshman of the Year after compiling a 29-9 regular season record, including a perfect 6-0 in dual matches during conference play.
- « Agustin Moreno of LMU was named WCC Coach of the Year. He guided the Lions to a No. 23 ITA ranking and an 18-4 final record.











Nationally Televised games

Televised games on Regional Sports Networks

- « Viewership for WCC men's basketball conference games on ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPNU increased 1% from the previous year.
- « The women's basketball championship game of the 2022 University Credit Union WCC Tournament on ESPNU was viewed by more than 62,000 people, a **32%** increase in viewership from the 2021 women's basketball title game.
- « The men's basketball championship game of the 2022 University Credit Union WCC Tournament on ESPN was viewed by more than 1.1 million people for the second year in a row.



impressions on twitter

new followers on twitter & instagram

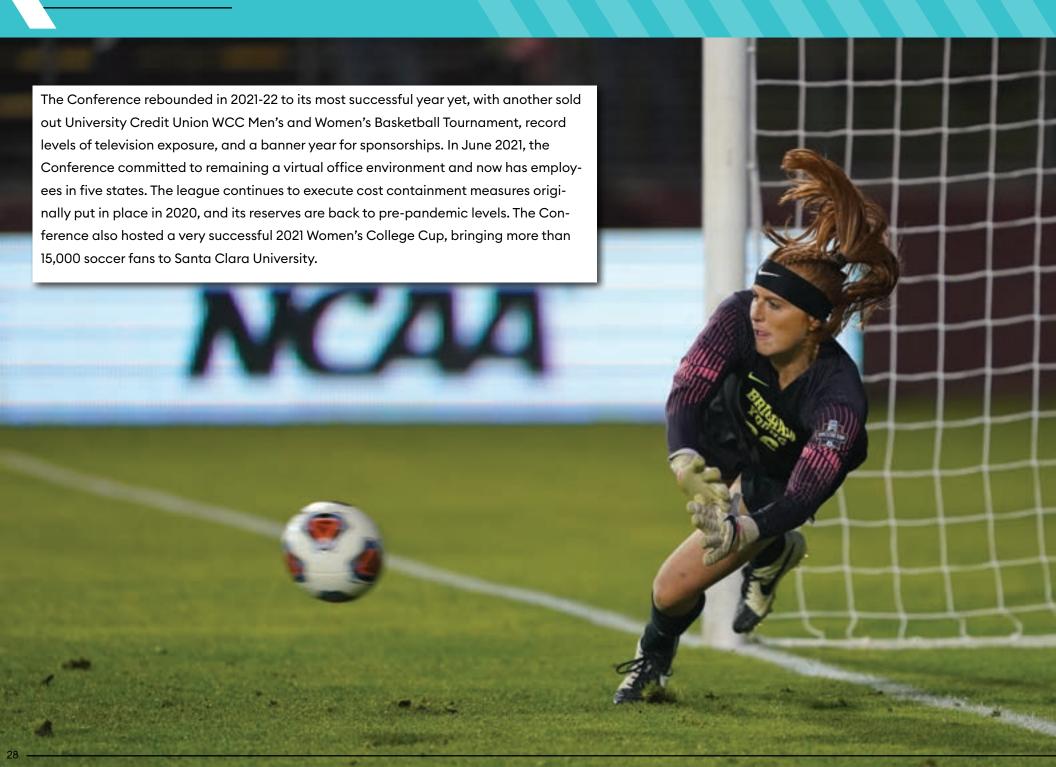
followers on instagram

twitter impressions on @WCChoops during the 2022 University Credit Union WCC Men's and Women's Basketball Tournament

As of May 13







81 of 84 (96.4%) total hires met the Russell Rule in the first year of the hiring commitment.

44 candidates (52.4%) among 84 hired are from traditionally underrepresented communities.

135 candidates from traditionally underrepresented communities were included in the final candidate pools of the 84 searches.

« With the adoption of the Russell Rule, the West Coast Conference's groundbreaking conference-wide diversity hiring commitment, in August of 2020, the Conference and its membership continue their strong commitment for a more diverse and inclusive environment that supports the student-athletes of the WCC.

« The Russell Rule, named after WCC and NBA legend Bill Russell, requires the athletic department at each member institution and the Conference office to include a member of a traditionally underrepresented community in the pool of final candidates for every athletic director, senior administrator, head coach and full-time assistant coach position

As part of the Russell Rule, the WCC partnered with human rights activist and pioneer for racial equality, Dr. Richard Lapchick, the founder and Director of The Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport (TIDES), to develop a race and gender report card on the demographics of the athletic department at each WCC institution and the Conference office.

The 2021 TIDES WCC Racial and Gender Report Card represents the demographics of each institution and the Conference Office on July 31, 2021. The TIDES report card is intended to track the progress of the diversity hiring commitment through a snapshot of the demographics at the end of the hiring cycle.

The gender demographic of senior staff at the 10 member institutions and the Conference office overall is 35.0% female. The racial demographic of senior staff includes 19.0% of employees from a

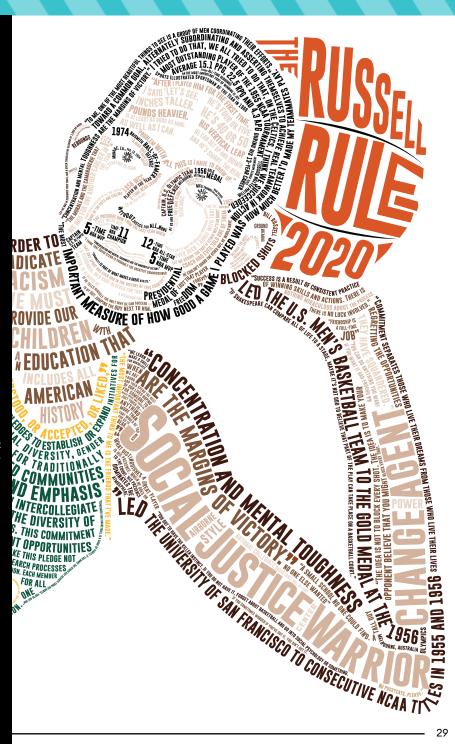
traditionally underrepresented community. The WCC's racial demographic for the 10 institutions and the Conference office is higher than the NCAA demographics (18.5%), while the gender demographic is slightly lower than the NCAA demographics (41.2%).

Among head coaches of men's programs that compete in the WCC at the 10 member institutions, 17.5% are from a traditionally underrepresented community. The NCAA demographics list 19% of head coaches of men's teams from a traditionally underrepresented community. Four percent of head coaches of men's teams are female according to the NCAA demographics. In the WCC, 1.8% of the overall group of head coaches of men's teams are female.

Among head coaches of women's programs in the WCC, 42.7% are female, compared to the overall NCAA demographics of 41.0%. The racial demographics of this group includes 21.3% from a traditionally underrepresented community, similar to the NCAA demographics that include 21.0% from a traditionally underrepresented community.

At least half (51.7% of men's teams and 50.0% of women's teams) of the assistant coaches of both men's and women's basketball programs in the WCC are from a traditionally underrepresented community. That is nearly 10% greater than the NCAA demographics (42.4% of men's teams and 40.1% of women's teams) in both men's and women's basketball. The NCAA percentage of female assistant coaches in men's basketball is 1.0%. There is not currently a female assistant coach for a WCC men's basketball program. In women's basketball, the NCAA percentage of female assistant coaches is 67.1%. In the WCC, 56.7% of assistant coaches in the 10 women's basketball programs are female.

For a more detailed report on TIDES' WCC Racial and Gender Report Card. log on to wccsports.com/RussellRule.



Over the course of the 21-22 academic year, WCC representatives served on 27 Cabinets/Committees. The WCC has key individuals in leadership roles governing Division I athletics including University of San Diego President James Harris serving on the Board of Governors, Vice Chair of the Division I Board of Directors and the Division I Board of Directors Infractions Process Committee and Commissioner Gloria Nevarez serving on the Division I Transformation Committee, Knight Commission Board of Directors and USA Basketball Board of Directors.

COMMITTEE NAME	NAME	INSTITUTION
Board of Governors	James Harris	USD
Division I Board of Directors (Vice Chair)	James Harris	USD
Division I Board of Directors Infractions Process Committee	James Harris	USD
Division I Committee on Academics	Timothy Law Snyder	LMU
Division I Council	Renee Baumgartner	SCU
Division I Competition Oversight Committee	Renee Baumgartner	SCU
National Invitational Basketball (NIT) Selection Committee	Gloria Nevarez	WCC
Baseball Rules Committee	Chris Standiford	GON
Constitution Convention Committee	Gloria Nevarez	WCC
Division I Baseball Committee	Bill McGillis	USD
Division I Degree Completion Award Committee	Karen Peters	POR
Division I Initial-Eligibility Waivers Committee	Thad Satre	LMU
Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Committee	Glenn Layendecker	WCC
Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Committee	Jason Brough	POR
Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee	Gloria Nevarez	WCC
Division I Men's Golf Committee	Constance Hurlbut	WCC
Division I Nominating Committee	Karen Peters	POR
Division I Presidential Forum	Thayne McCulloh	GON
Division I Progress Toward Degree Waivers Committee	Chad Gwilliam	BYU
Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	Nikki Leishman	UOP
Division I Transformation Committee	Gloria Nevarez	WCC
Division I Women's Basketball Competition Committee	Melissa Barlow	WCC
Division I Women's Rowing Committee	Thad Satre	LMU
Division I Women's Soccer Committee	Scott Leykam	POR
Division I Women's Softball Committee	Brian David Kolze	UOP
Women's Beach Volleyball Committee	Joan McDermott	USF
Women's Gymnastics Committee	Guard Young	BYU

27 Cabinets/Committees with WCC Representation in 2021-22