



PRESS RELEASE

WBCA announces 2015 Academic Team Honor Rolls presented by AT&T

ATLANTA (July 14, 2015) – The University of Missouri–Kansas City, Ohio Dominican University, Nebraska Wesleyan, Valley City State University and Snow College are the top honorees in their respective divisions on the WBCA Academic Top 25 Team Honor Rolls presented by AT&T* for the 2014–15 season, the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association announced today.

The WBCA Academic Top 25 presented by AT&T annually recognizes NCAA Division I, II and III; NAIA; and junior/community college women’s basketball teams across the nation that carry the highest combined grade point average (GPA) inclusive of all student–athletes on their rosters for the entire season. The 2014–15 season is the 20th in which the WBCA has compiled the honor rolls.

Here are the top honorees by division, their head coaches and combined GPAs:

Division	Institution	2014–15 Head Coach	Team GPA
NCAA Division I	University of Missouri–Kansas City	Marsha Frese	3.726
NCAA Division II	Ohio Dominican University	Lynsey Warren	3.842
NCAA Division III	Nebraska Wesleyan University	Britni Fett	3.65
NAIA	Valley City State University	Jill DeVries	3.692
Jr/Comm College	Snow College	Natalie Visger	3.626

The University of Missouri–Kansas City reached the WBCA Academic Top 25 Honor Roll presented by AT&T for the third time in program history and earned the top spot for NCAA Division I for the second straight year. Ohio Dominican University makes the list for the sixth time and sits atop the NCAA DII honor roll for the second time overall. Nebraska Wesleyan took the top spot for NCAA Division III for the first time in program history and returned to the list for the first time since 2004. Valley City State University made the list for the seventh time in the award’s 20 year history, posting their best showing since last making the list in 2010 at the two spot for NAIA. Snow College leads the Junior/Community College division for the third consecutive year.

“The WBCA applauds these teams for their commitment to academic excellence during the 2014–15 school year,” said Danielle Donehew. “The student–athlete experience is an exciting and challenging time period and we appreciate these programs for setting an academic standard that other teams can strive to achieve. We value the hard work and dedication the players and coaches have put forth to thrive in the classroom and

on the basketball court.”

“We applaud these young women for delivering on the court and in the classroom,” said Ryan Luckey, AVP, AT&T Corporate Sponsorships. “They set a tremendous example for all student-athletes.”

A team’s GPA is calculated by dividing the total number of quality points earned by the total number of hours attempted by all team members in the academic terms (semesters or quarters) that the season spans. Weighted grades are converted to a 4.0 scale. The GPA’s are rounded to the nearest thousandth of a point. Teams are nominated for the honor by a WBCA-member head coach. A team must have a 3.000 or better GPA to be nominated.

NCAA Division I

The University of Missouri-Kansas City topped the NCAA Division I Academic Top 25 with a 3.726 GPA. The Kangaroos finished the 2014-15 season with a 6-24 record, ending their season in the Western Athletic Conference tournament to Texas-Pan American by a score of 61-50.

Seven of the top 25 teams on the Division I WBCA Academic Top 25 Honor Roll presented by AT&T earned a berth in the 2015 NCAA tournament.

Here is the complete 2014-15 WBCA Academic Top 25 presented for AT&T for NCAA Division I (**NCAA tournament; *-left after season):

Rank	Institution	2014-15 Head Coach	Team GPA
1	University of Missouri-Kansas City	Marsha Frese	3.726
2	St. Francis College	John Thurson	3.656
3	DePaul University	Douglas Bruno	3.622
4	Drake University	Jennie Baranczyk	3.599
5	Bowling Green State University	Jennifer Roos	3.594
6	Saint Louis University	Lisa Stone	3.564
7	Arizona State University	Charli Turner Thorne	3.558
8	Eastern Washington University	Wendy Schuller	3.554
9	Florida Gulf Coast University	Karl Smesko	3.552
T10	Western Illinois University	JD Gravina	3.530
T10	University of Wisconsin-Green Bay	Kevin Borseth	3.530
12	University of Northern Iowa	Tanya Warren	3.519
13	University of North Dakota	J. Travis Brewster	3.517
14	Jacksonville State University	Rick Pietri	3.511
15	Belmont University	Cameron Newbauer	3.501
16	Northwestern State University	Brooke Stoehr	3.461
17	Houston Baptist University	Donna Finnie	3.445
18	University of Toledo	Tricia Cullop	3.443
19	Northern Illinois University	Kathi Bennett	3.438

20	University of Northern Colorado	Kamie Ethridge	3.431
21	South Dakota State University	Aaron Johnston	3.427
22	Youngstown State University	John Barnes	3.422
23	St. Bonaventure University	Jim Crowley	3.406
24	University of Maine	Richard Barron	3.399
25	Lehigh University	Susan Troyan	3.396

NCAA Division II

Ohio Dominican University led all NCAA Division II institutions with a 3.842 GPA. The Panthers ended the season with an 11-17 record, winning their final three games of the regular season.

Seven of the 25 teams that earned a spot on the honor roll advanced to the NCAA Division II tournament.

Below is the complete 2014-15 WBCA Academic Top 25 presented for AT&T for NCAA Division II (** - NCAA tournament; * - left after season):

Rank	Institution	2014-15 Head Coach	Team GPA
1	Ohio Dominican University	Lynsey Warren	3.842
2	Minnesota State University, Mankato	Emilee Thiesse	3.749
3	Upper Iowa University	Carol Russell	3.740
4	Lubbock Christian University	Steve Gomez	3.696
5	Drury University	Molly Miller	3.651
6	Seton Hill University	Mark Katarski	3.647
T7	Ashland University	Sue Ramsey	3.644
T7	Augustana College	Dave Krauth	3.644
9	University of the Sciences	Jackie Hartzell	3.637
10	University of Minnesota - Duluth	Annette Wiles	3.616
11	University of Sioux Falls	Travis Traphagen	3.605
12	Holy Family University	Mark Miller	3.599
13	Winona State University	Scott Ballard	3.598
T14	Southern New Hampshire University	Karen Pinkos	3.595
T14	Texas Woman's University	Beth Jillson	3.595
16	Lee University	Marty Rowe	3.588
T17	Philadelphia University	Tom Shirley	3.559
T17	Saginaw Valley State University	Jamie Pewinski	3.559
19	Merrimack College	Monique LeBlanc	3.557
T20	Gannon University	Jim Brunelli	3.550
T20	Seattle Pacific University	Julie Heisey	3.550
22	University of North Alabama	Melissa Tiber	3.540
23	Fort Hays State University	Tony Hobson	3.536
24	Northeastern State University	Randy Gipson	3.521
	University of California San		

Division III

Nebraska Wesleyan University captured the top spot for NCAA Division III institutions with a 3.650 GPA. The Prairie Wolves closed out the season with a 72–65 loss to Mount Mary College to go 2–23 on the year.

Two programs making the WBCA Academic Top 25 Team Honor Rolls presented by AT&T participated in the NCAA Division III tournament.

Below is the complete 2014–15 WBCA Academic Top 25 presented for AT&T for NCAA Division III (** – NCAA tournament; * – left after season):

Rank	Institutions	2014–15 Head Coach	Team GPA
1	Nebraska Wesleyan University	Britni Fett	3.650
2	Kalamazoo College	Katie Miller	3.619
3	University of Dubuque	Mark Noll	3.605
4	Washington & Lee University	Christine Clancy	3.602
5	Chatham University	Sandra Rectenwald	3.598
6	Emerson College	William Gould	3.586
7	California Institute of Technology	Sandra Marbut	3.584
8	Haverford College	Bobbi Morgan	3.565
9	University of New England	Antthony Ewing	3.553
10	Milwaukee School of Engineering	Jessica Ott	3.544
11	Millikin University	Lori Kerans	3.535
12	Ithaca College	Dan Raymond	3.533
13	Hardin–Simmons University	Melanie Chonko	3.526
14	Immaculata University	Patricia Canterino	3.524
15	University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire	Tonja Englund	3.518
T16	Middlebury College	KJ Krasco	3.507
T16	Westminster College (MO)	Tracey Braden	3.507
18	Waynesburg University	Samuel Jones	3.504
19	Utica College	Michele Davis	3.502
20	York College of Pennsylvania	Betsy Witman	3.501
21	Case Western Reserve University	Jennifer Reimer	3.486
22	Ohio Northern University	Michele Durand	3.473
23	St. Joseph's College–Maine	Mike McDevitt	3.471
24	King's College	Brian Donoghue	3.469
25	Westminster College (Pa.)	Rosanne Scott	3.467

NAIA

Valley City State University landed the top spot for NAIA institutions on the Academic Top 25 Honor Rolls presented by AT&T with a 3.692 GPA. The Vikings advanced to the North Star Athletic Association championship game where they dropped a 65–48

decision to the University of Jamestown to post a 22–9 record on the season.

Fourteen of the 25 programs that made the 2014 Academic Top 25 Honor Roll presented by AT&T also played in either the NAIA Division I or Division II tournament.

Below is the complete 2014–15 WBCA Academic Top 25 presented for AT&T for the NAIA (** – NAIA tournament; * – left after season):

Rank	Institution	14–15 HC First Name	Team GPA
1	Valley City State University	Jill DeVries	3.692
2	Southeastern University	Jody Martinez	3.668
3	University of Great Falls	William Himmelberg	3.661
4	Northwestern College	Chris Yaw	3.615
5	Kansas Wesleyan University	Ryan Showman	3.601
6	Mount Marty College	Tom Schlimgen	3.578
7	St. Ambrose University	Krista Van Hauen	3.575
8	Huntington University	Lori Culler	3.572
T9	Cardinal Stritch University	John Pfaffl	3.554
T9	Clarke University	Don Adams	3.554
11	Saint Xavier University	Bob Hallberg	3.533
12	Lewis–Clark State College	Brian Orr	3.446
13	Freed–Hardeman University	Dale Neal	3.431
14	Indiana University South Bend	Steve Bruce	3.428
15	Menlo College	Shannon Osborne	3.350
16	Carroll College	Rachelle Sayers	3.344
17	Blue Mountain College	Lavon Driskell	3.337
18	University of St. Francis	Samantha Quigley	3.324
19	Grand View University	Garey Smith	3.312
20	Central Methodist University	James Arnold	3.306
21	Davenport University	Mike Williams	3.300
22	Loyola University	Kellie Kennedy	3.267
23	Purdue University Calumet	Tom Megyesi	3.244
24	Montana State University–Northern	Chris Mouat	3.243
25	William Woods University	Dan Chapla	3.220

Junior/Community College

Snow College secured the top spot on the Junior/Community College Academic Top 25 Honor Roll presented by AT&T with a 3.626 GPA. The Badgers concluded the 2014–15 season with an 82–44 victory against Colorado Northwestern Community College in the Scenic West Athletic Conference postseason tournament to finish with a 21–8 overall record.

One team advanced to the NJCAA Tournament that qualified for the J/CC WBCA Academic Top 25 Honor Roll presented by AT&T.

Below is the complete 2014-15 WBCA Academic Top 25 presented by AT&T for Junior/Community College (** - NJCAA Division I *** - NJCAA Division II tournament):

Rank	Institution	2014-15 Head Coach	Team GPA
1	Snow College	Natalie Visger	3.626
2	Sheridan College	Frank McCarthy	3.547
T3	Wabash Valley College	Zach Loll	3.478
T3	Northwest Mississippi CC	Don Edwards	3.478
5	Northwest College	Janis Beal	3.426
6	Lincoln College	Carol Wilson	3.406
7	Ventura College	Ned Mircetic	3.405
8	Minnesota West Community and Technical College	Mike Fury	3.400
9	Ellsworth Community College	Ed Geitz	3.315
10	Mesa Community College	Kori Stephenson	3.225
11	Umpqua Community College	David Stricklin	3.179
12	McHenry County College	Karen Wiley	3.058
13	Indian River State College	Diana Couch	3.019
14	Frank Phillips College	Eric Rodewald	3.005

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About the WBCA

Founded in 1981, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association promotes women's basketball by unifying coaches at all levels to develop a reputable identity for the sport and to foster and promote the development of the game as a sport for women and girls. For more information on the WBCA, visit wbca.org.

– Visit www.wbca.org/pages/NEWS_downloads for WBCA logo and WBCA Academic Top 25 logo.

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