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## **Zack Whiting chosen Pac West Men's Basketball Player of the Year** *Alves gives BYU-Hawai'i Freshman of Year award; GCU's Mossman earns Coach of Year honor*

**GOLD CANYON, AZ** – Chaminade University senior guard *Zack Whiting (Chico, CA)* has been chosen the **2006-07 Pacific West Conference Player of the Year**, while **Brigham Young University Hawai'i** claimed the **Freshman of the Year** honor thanks to the outstanding rookie campaign of *Lucas Alves (Casa Branca, Brazil/Colegio Avanqo Ensino Prog.)*.

**Grand Canyon University** head coach *Scott Mossman*, who led the Antelopes to the NCAA Division II Championships and the Pacific West Conference crown during their inaugural year in the league, was named the **Pacific West Conference Coach of the Year**.

The honors were voted upon by the league's head coaches and announced by the conference information office in Gold Canyon, AZ, on Wednesday, March 14.

Athletes representing six of the league's seven schools were nominated for the coveted All-Conference accolades. Brigham Young University Hawai'i, Hawai'i Pacific, Hawai'i-Hilo, Chaminade, Notre Dame de Namur and Grand Canyon are all eligible for Pacific West honors this year, while Dixie State – which will compete in a full league schedule in 2007-08 – will be eligible next season.

Both Alves and Whiting landed on the **All-Pacific West Men's Basketball First Team** to go along with their individual awards.

The top five vote-getters in the weighted poll receive **First Team** rewards, while **Second Team** honors go to those who rank between 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>. The top vote-getter is named the **Player of the Year** and any athletes who receive votes but fail to crack the Top 10 are considered **Honorable Mention All-Conference**.

The Pac West does not vote for the Coach of the Year award, instead Mossman received the honor for leading Grand Canyon to a regular-season crown. The head coach of the league's championship team automatically receives the honor.

The Antelopes finished 13-2 in the Pac West this season to claim the title and wound up with a 21-8 overall record after splitting a pair of NCAA Division II West Regional playoff games at Humboldt State.

Mossman placed three of his players on the **All-Pac West Team**, including a pair of **First Team** members in seniors *Rich Davis (Glendale, AZ)* and *Bryan Lee (Antioch, CA/Deer Valley)*. Junior *Rudy Bogan (Glendale, AZ)* was chosen to the **Second Team**.

Chaminade and BYU-Hawai'i each placed four players on the All-Conference squad. In addition to Whiting, Silversword junior 7-foot center *Marko Kolaric (Novi Sad, Serbia)* was chosen **First Team**, while juniors *Stewart Kussler (Santa Maria, CA)* and *Hayden Heiber (Red Bluff, CA)* claimed Honorable Mention accolades.

After Alves, BYU-Hawaii saw senior *Eric Boyce (Folsom, CA/Folsom)* and sophomore *Wu Tai-hao (Chia-Yi, Taiwan/Tsai-Shin)* make the **Second Team** squad, and junior *Paul Peterson (Abilene, TX/Cooper)* received **Honorable Mention** honors.

In their first year in the Pac West Conference, **Notre Dame de Namur** junior *Ryan Cooper (San Jose, CA)* was chosen **Second Team** and junior *Chris Clock (Los Gatos, CA/Los Gatos)* landed on the **Honorable Mention** listing.

**Hawaii Pacific** outstanding rookie *Rishi Kakad (Pembroke Pines, FL)* and **Hawaii-Hilo** senior guard/forward *Justin Dobson (Spokane, WA/Mean)* each were listed as **Honorable Mention** by the conference. **Hawaii-Hilo** junior forward *Samuel Wilhoite (Kailua, HI)* rounded out the **All-Pac West Second Team**.

The following is the complete list of the Pacific West All-Conference Men's Basketball Team:

## 2006-07 All-Pacific West Conference Men's Basketball Team

*Player of the Year*

*Zack Whiting (Chaminade)*

*Freshman of the Year*

*Lucas Alves (BYU-Hawai'i)*

*Coach of the Year:*

*Scott Mossman (Grand Canyon)*

### First Team

<u>Athlete</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Wt.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Alves, Lucas	BYU-Hawai'i	F/C	Fr.	6-9	238	Casa Branca, Brazil/Colegio Avanqo Ensino Prog.
David, Richard	Grand Canyon	G	Sr.	6-2	205	Glendale, AZ
Kolaric, Marko	Chaminade	F/C	Jr.	7-0	230	Novi Sad, Serbia
Lee, Bryan	Grand Canyon	G/F	Sr.	6-8	215	Antioch, CA/Deer Valley
Whiting, Zack	Chaminade	G	Sr.	6-4	205	Chico, CA

### Second Team

<u>Athlete</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Ht.</u>	<u>Wt.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Bogan, Rudy	Grand Canyon	G/F	Jr.	6-5	200	Glendale, AZ
Boyce, Eric	BYU-Hawai'i	G	Sr.	6-0	179	Folsom, CA/Folsom
Cooper, Ryan	NDNU	G	Jr.	5-6		San Jose, CA
Tai-hao, Wu	BYU-Hawai'i	F	So.	6-9	260	CHia-Yi, Taiwan/Tsai-Shin
Wilhoite, Samuel	Hawaii-Hilo	F	Jr.	6-7	210	Kailua, HI

### **Honor Roll**

<b><u>Athlete</u></b>	<b><u>Team</u></b>	<b><u>P</u></b>	<b><u>Yr.</u></b>	<b><u>Ht.</u></b>	<b><u>Wt.</u></b>	<b><u>Hometown/High School</u></b>
Clock, Chris	NDNU	G	Jr.	6-4		Los Gatos, CA/Los Gatos
Heiber, Hayden	Chaminade	G	Jr.	6-2	190	Red Bluff, CA
Kakad, Rishi	Hawaii Pacific	G	Fr.	6-2	185	Pembroke Pines, FL
Kussler, Stewart	Chaminade	G/F	Jr.	6-5	215	Santa Maria, CA
Dobson, Justin	Hawaii-Hilo	G/F	Sr.	6-5	210	Spokane, WA/Mead
Peterson, Paul	BYU-Hawaii	G	Jr.	5-9	160	Abilene, TX/Cooper

For complete Pacific West Men's Basketball Conference Stats, click on -

<http://www.pacificwestsports.org/sports/mbkb/2006-07/stats/confstat.HTM>

On Thursday Pac West All-Conference Week continues with the women's cross country awards.

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