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## **All-Conference Week begins for the Pacific West Conference** *Karen Weatherby, Hope Siffert share Women's Soccer Player of the Year honors*

**GOLD CANYON, AZ** – It is an exciting time for the Pacific West Conference as the *2006-07 All-Conference Week* begins.

Over the course of the next week, All-Pacific West Conference Teams will be announced in the sports of men's and women's basketball, volleyball and, for the first time, in the sports of men's and women's soccer. In addition, a freshman of the year and most valuable player in each sport will be announced.

Athletes representing six of the league's seven schools have been nominated for the coveted All-Conference honors. In 2006-07, 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 complete league schedule for all sports in 2007-08 – will be eligible next year.

After a one-year hiatus as an unofficial league, the four new Hawaiian-based institutions teamed up with the three mainland schools to reform the Pacific West Conference. Men's soccer, women's soccer and women's basketball were added as conference sports in the league's new configuration.

The first of the Pacific West All-Conference Teams to be announced is women's soccer. NDNU senior forward **Hope Siffert (Bayfield, CO/Bayfield)** and Hawai'i-Hilo junior forward **Karen Weatherby (Arroyo Grande, CA/Arroyo Grande)** share the first **Player of the Year** award presented in the sport.

The All-Conference awards are nominated and voted upon by the league coaches. The Pacific West Coach of the Year honor is presented to the head coach of the league's first-place team.

Siffert helped lead NDNU to the Pacific West Championship as the Argos rolled to a 9-0-1 Pac West record. She posted 13 points on five goals and three assists.

Weatherby led Hawai'i-Hilo with 13 goals and four assists for a grand total of 30 points this year. She scored the first goal in Vulcans' history and recorded the program's first and only hat trick. She also scored against each of the Pac West schools with the exception of Grand Canyon.

**Freshman of the Year** went to rookie **Emily Mearns (San Ramon, CA/California)** who guided BYU-Hawai'i to a terrific 12-4 overall mark and an 8-2 record in the Pac West. She scored 31 points on 13 goals and five assists. Mearns, Siffert and Weatherby each were selected **All-Pacific West Conference First Team**.

Former NDNU head coach **Joe Silveira** was named the **Pacific West Women's Coach of the Year**. NDNU finished with six All-Conference selections, while BYU-Hawai'i totaled five. Grand Canyon and Hawai'i Pacific each posted four total selections and Hawai'i-Hilo earned three selections. Chaminade finished with a pair of All-Pac West Second Team choices.

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

## **2006 All-Pacific West Conference Women's Soccer Team**

### **Co - Players of the Year**

Hope Siffert	NDNU	F	Sr.	5-7	Bayfield, CO/Bayfield
Karen Weatherby	Hawaii-Hilo	F	Jr.	5-5	Arroyo Grande, CA/ Arroyo Grande

### **Freshman of the Year**

Emily Mearns	BYU-Hawaii	F	Fr.	5-5	San Ramon, CA/California
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### **Coach of the Year**

Joe Silveira	NDNU	<b><i>Led Argos to Pacific West Women's Championship</i></b>			
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### **First Team**

<b><u>Player</u></b>	<b><u>Institution</u></b>	<b><u>Pos.</u></b>	<b><u>Yr.</u></b>	<b><u>Ht.</u></b>	<b><u>Hometown/High School</u></b>
Emilee Ashby	Grand Canyon	D/M	Sr.	5-4	Port Orchard, WA
Shana Chibidakis	NDNU	D	Sr.	5-7	San Mateo, CA/Aragon
Jill Harr	BYU-Hawaii	F	Jr.	5-3	Diamond Bar, CA/Walnut
Emily Mearns	BYU-Hawaii	F	Fr.	5-5	San Ramon, CA/California
Melissa Naeole	Hawaii Pacific	GK	Jr.	5-7	Kahului, HI/St. Anthony
Kerianne Pascua	Hawaii Pacific	D	Sr.	5-2	Kaneohe, HI/Maryknoll
Hope Siffert	NDNU	F	Sr.	5-7	Bayfield, CO/Bayfield
Karen Weatherby	Hawaii-Hilo	F	Jr.	5-5	Arroyo Grande, CA/Arroyo Grande
Kelly White	Hawaii-Hilo	M	Fr.	5-6	Santa Barbara/San Marcos
Vanessa Young	Grand Canyon	F	So.	5-9	San Diego, CA
Yang Zhou	NDNU	D	Sr.	5-9	Da Lian, China/Da Lian Soccer Academy

### **Second Team**

<b><u>Player</u></b>	<b><u>Institution</u></b>	<b><u>Pos.</u></b>	<b><u>Yr.</u></b>	<b><u>Ht.</u></b>	<b><u>Hometown/High School</u></b>
Malu Afong	Chaminade	D	Sr.	5-3	Waimanalo, HI
Amy Armijo	NDNU	M/F	Fr.	5-8	Castro Valley, CA/Castro Valley
Kristi Astin	BYU-Hawaii	M	So.	5-3	Hayden, ID/Coeur d'Alene
Kelli Brackinreed	NDNU	M/F	Sr.	5-6	Tualaton, OR/Tualaton
Tessa Chesser	Grand Canyon	D	So.	5-6	Phoenix, AZ
Michelle Halloran	Chaminade	GK		5-7	
Malia Kane	Hawaii Pacific	D/MF	Sr.	5-4	Kaneohe, HI/Maryknoll
Healani Leite-Ah Yo	Hawaii-Hilo	D	Jr.	5-8	Hilo, HI/Kamehameha
Kristina Nibley	BYU-Hawaii	M/D	Fr.	5-8	Provo, UT/Timpview
Sarah Norton	BYU-Hawaii	D	Jr.	5-7	Cedar City, UT/Cedar City
Kaia Wakamiya	NDNU	D/M	Sr.	5-3	Fair Oaks, CA/Bella Vista

***Honorable Mention***

<b><i><u>Player</u></i></b>	<b><i><u>Institution</u></i></b>	<b><i><u>Pos.</u></i></b>	<b><i><u>Yr.</u></i></b>	<b><i><u>Ht.</u></i></b>	<b><i><u>Hometown/High School</u></i></b>
Jessica Clement	BYU-Hawaii	GK	So.	5-8	Kent, WA/Kentridge
Jamie Hirai	Hawaii Pacific	MF	Fr.	5-3	Cook, HI/Konawaena
Shela Robertson	Grand Canyon	GK	Jr.	5-9	Blaine, WA

(Friday: – All-Pacific West Volleyball Team to be announced.)

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