

# WVC VIBE



"The official newsletter of the Wisconsin Volleyball Conference"

The 23rd season of the Wisconsin Volleyball Conference begins on January 22<sup>nd</sup> with an early season showdown as Marquette University travels to UW-Oshkosh. There will be plenty of action all season long leading up to the 2014 WVC State Championships which will be held March 28 & 29 at the Wisconsin Dells Center and the Chula Vista Resort. This season's NCVF National Tournament will be in Reno, NV on April 3-5, with many WVC teams poised to attend and contend!

2014 Preview

## Men's Division I

**Marquette** brings back '13 WVC Libero of the Year Rob Fishman along with 1<sup>st</sup> team All-Conference selection Mark Carioscio and Junior opposite, Greg Torvik (HM All WVC). President Daniel Redd hopes to lead the Golden Eagles back to the top of the WVC... **UW-Eau Claire** enters the WVC for the first time this season after a very successful run in the Northern Intercollegiate Volleyball Conference. The Blugolds are led by Tommy Moriarty and have nice size in 6'4" JT Eichman and 6'6" Brandon Miller... **UW-La Crosse** figures to be near the top of the standings all season, but will need to rely heavily on a talented trio of players; John Joblonowski lead the offensive attack from the outside, Nick Korom will be relied upon at the net in the middle both as a blocker and attacker, and Riley Stone will once again set up the offense. The Eagles also figure to get solid contributions from junior Libero Beau Rath and 3 incoming freshman (Zach Gesteland, Garrett Schilling, and Jake Boehm) ... **UW-Oshkosh** will look a bit different this season but still promises to have plenty of firepower. Zach Johnson ('11 NCVF All-American) returns to give the Titans some serious size on the left side. In the middle they return the strong presence of Jake Ahnert ('12 NCVF All-American). Travis Hudson ('13 WVC Newcomer of the Year and 1<sup>st</sup> Team WVC) could be asked to hit in addition to his setting duties. Shane Heyrman, Wesley Morioka, and Steve Bruenlli are also poised to be regulars in the lineup as the Titans look to continue their dominance over the WVC and the nation... **UW-Stout** might be one of the most experienced team this season returning 9 members from last year's team. Ryan Grimm will be at the helm of the offense and will look often to Ryan Foster, last year's team leader in kills, on the outside. Greg Ratzburg and Christian Morrissey will anchor the defensive effort for the Blue Devils. David Sperling, a right side hitter, is returning to the

team after taking classes in South Africa with the study abroad program during last year's season... **UW-Whitewater** will once again rely heavily on the all-around play of perennial All WVC performer Daniel Wittke. Jonathan McGinely is the lone newcomer on the Warhawks squad... **Wheaton** joins the WVC for their inaugural season in 2014 after competing in the Midwest Plains Volleyball Conference a year ago. The Thunder are led by libero, Kalei Hosaka ('13 MVP of MPVC), but also expect key contributions from transfer Benajmin Dickey (OPP) and first year setter, Jeremy Vischer. **UW-Platteville** and **UW Stevens Point** round out the Division I field for 2014.

### Men's Division 2

**Northland International University** returns only 5 players from last year's team led by Min Shik Park a Jr. OH/MH who will captain this year's team efforts. The Pioneers will also look for contributions from Jared Kimbrough, Jay Hale, and Ethan Miller. Coach Dave Herron is confident his team has the tools needed to compete, but they will need to learn how to use them. He looks forward to watching their improvement throughout the '14 campaign... **UW-Oshkosh II** will be in the hunt with Andrew Nett (2x NCVF All-American) and Mitch Lahmann leading the attack. Erik Harke one last year's outside hitters moves to the setter spot after off-season shoulder surgery. Beyond the WVC, the Titans will look to advance in the gold bracket of the national tournament for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive season... **UW-Oshkosh III** gets Braeden Melton and Stuart Burkart back after significant ankle injuries sidelined them in 2013. The team features nine newcomers with many of them coming from top high school teams in the Milwaukee area... **Concordia University-Wisconsin, Marquette II, UW-Milwaukee II, UW-Parkside, UW-Platteville II, and UW-Whitewater II** will also be competing in the JV division.

### Women's Division

**Carroll University** returns 5 players led by rightside hitter Amanda Tschan. They also add two promising newcomers in outside hitter Mackenzie Kinney and middle blocker Serena Wagner. The Pioneers look forward to playing the full WVC schedule this season... **UW-Eau Claire** will again be bringing 2 teams to the WVC. With seven returners they are hoping to continue to have a strong presence in the conference. The Blugolds look forward to hosting a WVC playdate and attending the state championships and nationals in Reno... **UW-La Crosse** will once again field two teams headlined by returners Holly Vogelsang, Laura Neubert, Katie McCarthy and Ally Thompson, but will need to replace a number of key contributors including last year's Libero of the Year. ... **UW-Oshkosh** will also field two teams this season. The A team will be led by outside hitter Sarah Petermann (1<sup>st</sup> Team WVC) and libero Deneil Hotson (HM WVC). The Titans will be also be aided by the addition of middle blocker Presley Neuman formerly of their NCAA team. The B Team figures to be led by Libero Kristin Williams. **UW-Platteville** returns three starters from a year ago in Megan Dorner, Natalie Braun, and Christine LoMonaco. The Pioneers welcome 11 freshman to the squad and have already received solid contributions at the setter and middle blocker positions. UWP hopes to compete near the top throughout the entire WVC slate... **UW-Superior** will join the WVC as a first year club. They will rely on contributions from everyone as they are playing together for the first time. Emily Wilbur will serve as Club President... **UW-Green Bay, UW- River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout, and UW-Whitewater** will also compete in the 14 team division.