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BIG SKY ANNOUNCES MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS AND AWARD WINNERS

OGDEN, Utah, (May 1, 2014) - Montana's Haley Driver was named the Big Sky Conference women's tennis MVP. Montana's Andrew Warren was named the Big Sky Conference men's tennis MVP.

The All-Conference selections and individual awards were voted by the league's head coaches and released by the league office on Thursday.

Driver is the second Grizzly to receive the honor as Montana's Vanessa Castellano was named MVP in 1996 and 1997. Driver, a junior from Scottsdale, Ariz., went 15-8 overall, at the No. 1 singles spot, and went undefeated in conference play. She helped the Grizzlies snap Sacramento State's 112-match unbeaten streak vs. conference opponents and led Montana to an undefeated conference season, going 9-0. This is the first time since 2002 that a player from a school other than Sacramento State has been named the women's tennis MVP. Earlier this week, the Hornets won their 13th-straight Big Sky championship after defeating Montana, 4-3. On May 9, Sacramento State will face fifth-ranked UCLA in the first round of the NCAA Tennis Championship.

Driver teamed up with Precious Gbadamosi at No. 1 doubles. The pair recorded a 16-6 overall record and an 8-1 conference record. Driver is one of three Grizzlies named to the league's first team. She is joined by senior Ashley Mackey and junior Sasha Carter, who went 9-0 and 8-1 in conference respectively.

Eastern Washington junior Moira Hedberg was named to the first team and is the only two-time first-team selection. Northern Arizona junior Johanna Vang and Portland State junior Dané Vorster were named to the first team, along with Sacramento State sophomore Daria Savchenko and Sacramento State senior Sophie Lohscheidt.

Warren is the first Grizzly in program history to claim the honor. Warren, a senior from Idaho Falls, Idaho, was named to the first team for the second straight season. Warren went 7-2 in conference and 12-9 overall at the No. 2 singles spot. This season, Warren helped the Grizzlies win their first ever Big Sky championship. For the first time in program history, Montana will be heading to the NCAA Tennis Championship. On May 10, the Grizzlies will face No. 2 Oklahoma in the first round.

Warren was one of two Grizzlies named to the league's first team. He is joined by sophomore Semion Branzburg, who went 9-1 in league play.

Montana State sophomore Niklas Brandes was named to the first team for the third straight season. Weber State sophomore Jakub Gewert and UM's Warren are the only two-time first-team selections. Eastern Washington freshman Robert Dula and Weber State sophomore Todd Fought were named to the first team, along with Sacramento State junior Roy Brandys and Sacramento State sophomore Niranjana Ram.

2014 WOMEN'S BIG SKY ALL-CONFERENCE TENNIS TEAM

First Team

<u>Player</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Haley Driver (MVP)	Montana	Jr.	Scottsdale, Ariz.
\$Maira Hedberg	Eastern Washington	Jr.	Oxnard, Calif.
Ashley Mackey	Montana	Sr.	Murrieta, Calif.
Sasha Carter	Montana	Jr.	Bainbridge Island, Wash.
Johanna Vang	Northern Arizona	Jr.	Sollentuna, Sweden
Dané Vorster	Portland State	Jr.	Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
Daria Savchenko	Sacramento State	So.	Uta, Russia
Sophie Lohscheidt	Sacramento State	Sr.	Landsberg, Germany

\$Two-Time First Team Selection

Second Team

<u>Player</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Laurence Pelchat	Montana	Jr.	Repentigny, Quebec
Paulina Lopez	Montana State	Sr.	Naucalpan, Mexico
Callie Ronkowski	North Dakota	Jr.	Grand Forks, N.D.
Alina Soltanici	Sacramento State	Fr.	Chisinau, Moldova

Honorable Mention

Laura Middel - Montana State; Hailey Rochin - Northern Arizona; Laura Wehner - Northern Colorado; Beth Coton - Northern Colorado; Megan Govi - Portland State; Olivia Boija - Sacramento State; Agata Bachanek - Weber State

2014 MEN'S BIG SKY ALL-CONFERENCE TENNIS TEAM

First Team

<u>Player</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
\$Andrew Warren (MVP)	Montana	Sr.	Idaho Falls, Idaho
Robert Dula	Eastern Washington	Fr.	Rijeka, Croatia
Semion Branzburg	Montana	So.	Ashdod, Israel
@Niklas Brandes	Montana State	Jr.	Nordenham, Germany
Roy Brandys	Sacramento State	Jr.	Random, Poland
Niranjan Ram	Sacramento State	So.	Tamil Nadu, India
\$Jakub Gewert	Weber State	So.	Gnlezno, Poland
Todd Fought	Weber State	So.	West Vancouver, B.C.

\$Two-Time First Team Selection; @ Three-Time First Team Selection

Second Team

<u>Player</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Krzysztof Stempien	Idaho State	Jr.	Lodz, Poland
Tomasz Soltyka	Montana	So.	Gdynia, Poland
Ben Gendron	Northern Colorado	Jr.	Flower Mound, Texas
Oliver Good	Weber State	Sr.	Melbourne, Australia

Honorable Mention

Jamey Swiggart - Idaho State; Ethan Vaughn - Montana; Harry James - Montana State; Kester Black - Northern Arizona; Fabio Tomasetti - Northern Arizona; Alex Locci - Northern Arizona; Jordan Gobatie - Northern Arizona; Sanjay Goswami - Weber State