



# 2014 GULF SOUTH CONFERENCE VOLLEYBALL

Preseason Release | August 8, 2014



Contact: Michael Stagno, Director of Media Relations | michaelstagno@gscsports.org  
Phone: (205) 991-9880 | Fax: (205) 437-0505 | Twitter: @GulfSouth | Facebook: The Gulf South Conference | Instagram: @gscsports

## WEST FLORIDA SELECTED AS PRESEASON FAVORITE

**Birmingham, Ala.** — The GSC volleyball coaches decided, yet again, that West Florida will be the favorite to win the conference in 2014.

Since 2011, West Florida, who will again enter 2014 as the coaches' preseason favorite, has been tabbed to win it all. Last season UWF posted a 28-8 record, including a 16-2 conference record. The Argos also led the GSC in six statistical percentage/season and per-game categories: hitting percentage (0.219), opponent hitting percentage (.147), assists (12.36), kills (13.15), blocks (2.28) and digs (16.52).

Both Shorter and Union, now official members of the Gulf South, will step into the ranks. SU had an impressive season last year, going 26-11. Their 13-5 mark spotted them for a second place finish in the GSC. Also competing in the GSC, Lee, who will join the conference in 2015-16, and Mississippi College, who is slated for a 2016-17 membership.

The lone coaching change in the GSC came with the resignation by Gary Lee at West Georgia. Trina Braden, a former multisport student-athlete at Maryvale, steps in as the interim head coach.

The 2014 Preseason All-GSC Team features eight-total student-athletes this year. West Florida, Christian Brothers and Valdosta State all turned in two players each. For UWF, **Autumn Duyn** and **Sarah Scott**. For CBU, **Brinsley Cooper**, who led the GSC in 2013 with a .347 hitting percentage, and **Alexis Gillis**, with a 3.78 kill average, also led the GSC. **Jessica Codato** and **Jenna Kirkwood** both earned spots for VSU, while North Alabama and Shorter both had one player each in **Megan Gorey** and **Jasmine Crook**, respectively.

## 2014 GSC VOLLEYBALL PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

**West Florida** (garnered 64 points) will enter the 2014 season as the coaches' favorite. **Shorter**, in its first season as an official member of the conference, was picked to finish second. **Valdosta State** chimes in at third place, just two points shy of second, with 48 points, while **Christian Brothers** was fourth (41 points) and **Alabama Huntsville** rounded out the Top 5. **West Georgia** came in at six, followed by No. 7 **North Alabama**, No. 8 **West Alabama** and No. 9 **Union**.

SCHOOL	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	TOTAL
West Florida	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	64
Shorter	—	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	50
Valdosta State	1	2	2	2	1	—	—	—	48
Christian Brothers	—	3	—	3	—	1	1	—	41
Alabama Huntsville	—	—	3	1	1	2	—	1	34
West Georgia	—	—	1	2	2	2	1	—	32
North Alabama	—	—	—	1	3	2	2	—	27
West Alabama	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	—	20
Union	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8

*NOTE: The GSC Preseason Volleyball Team was selected by the head coaches. Balloting that ended in a tie was not broken. Coaches were not allowed to vote for their own players.*

## 2014 PRESEASON ALL-GSC TEAM

<u>POS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>HOMETOWN</u>
OH	Alexis Gillis	Christian Brothers	Jr.	Corpus Christi, Texas
MH	Brinsley Cooper	Christian Brothers	So.	Rossville, Ind.
OH/MH	Megan Gorey	North Alabama	Sr.	Fort Walton Beach, Fla.
RS	Jasmine Crook	Shorter	Sr.	Ohatchee, Ala.
S	Jessica Codato	Valdosta State	Sr.	São Paulo, Brazil
OH	Jenna Kirkwood	Valdosta State	Sr.	Seminole, Fla.
OH	Autumn Duyen	West Florida	Sr.	Venice, Fla.
MH	Sarah Scott	West Florida	Sr.	Plainfield, Ill.

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## 2014 TOP NEWCOMERS TO THE GSC

<u>POS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>HOMETOWN / LAST SCHOOL</u>
OH	Anna Claire Johnson	UAH	Fr.	Birmingham, Ala./Hoover High School
RS	Jordan Morrison	UAH	Fr.	Grain Valley, Mo./Grain Valley High School
MB	Mary Kathryn Miller	CBU	Fr.	Fulton, Ky./Fulton City High School
L	Hannah Sholtis	CBU	Fr.	Bloomington, Ill./Normal Community High School
OH/RH	Marija Martinovic	LU	Fr.	Belgrade, Serbia/Deveta Gimnazija Mihailo
S	Sadie Johnson	LU	Fr.	Larkspur, Colo./Castle Rock High School
OH	Madison Frazier	MC	Fr.	Pascagoula, Miss./Resurrection Catholic
S	Sydney Chandler	MC	Fr.	Silverhill, Ala./Bayside Academy
S	Andrea De Leon	UNA	Jr.	San Juan, Puerto Rico/Georgia State
OH/RS	Peyton Lang	UNA	So.	Commerce Township, Mich./Oakland Community College
DS	Cheyenne McLemore	SU	Fr.	Eva, Ala./Brewer High School
MB	Tiffani Estep	SU	Fr.	Chattanooga, Tenn./Central High School
OH	Ceciley Blanchard	UU	Fr.	Huntsville, Ala./Madison Academy
OH/DS	Courtney Masters	UU	Fr.	Muncie, Ind./Wapahani High School
MB	Nicole Higgins	VSU	Jr.	Valrico, Fla./Hillsborough Community College
OH	Lea Jaklen	VSU	Jr.	Nickenich, Germany/Aachen
MB	Sydney Lerille	UWA	Fr.	Raceland, La./Vanderbilt Catholic High School
OH/MB	Briana Sandifer	UWA	Fr.	Huntsville, Ala./Huntsville High School
OH	Carol Siqueira	UWF	Jr.	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil/Northeastern Junior College
MH	Michelle Bulnes	UWF	Jr.	Miami, Fla./Pasco Hernando State College
OH	Nicole McDaniel	UWG	Jr.	Deland, Fla./Gulf Coast Community College
S	Tessa Watson	UWG	Fr.	Knoxville, Tenn./Farragut High School

*NOTE: Top Newcomers are submitted by the head coaches during the Preseason All-GSC nomination process. Players from both Lee and Mississippi College will be recognized, as games against both count toward the GSC standings, but neither school is eligible for the GSC Tournament.*