



WEEKLY NOTEBOOK

2021-22 MEN'S BASKETBALL

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PacWest Title Race Tightens With Five Weeks Left

MEN'S BASKETBALL STANDINGS

No.	Team	Conf.	Overall	Streak
1.	Hawai'i Hilo	6-2	10-5	Lost 1
2.	Biola (RV)	6-3	12-4	Won 1
3.	Azusa Pacific	4-2	7-6	Won 1
4.	Academy of Art	6-4	10-8	Lost 2
5.	Point Loma	6-4	10-8	Won 1
6.	Fresno Pacific	4-3	10-4	Won 3
7.	Chaminade	6-5	8-9	Lost 1
8.	Concordia	4-4	7-7	Lost 2
9.	Holy Names	3-4	5-10	Won 1
10.	Dominican	2-8	5-12	Lost 3
11.	Hawai'i Pacific	0-8	3-11	Lost 10

IRVINE, Calif. -- The battles for a spot in the PacWest Championships and the West Region along with the battle for the PacWest title all tightened following last week's results.

In the West Region, three CCAA teams have stood above the rest all year, but the remaining five spots in the regional tournament are still wide open, and any team with a winning record right now will be in contention for a regional ranking when they are announced by the NCAA next month.

The race for the PacWest Championships berths got more interesting with the tournament being expanded to eight teams. The PacWest has eight teams that are .500 or better in conference play and Holy Names is right on the bubble after winning at Dominican on Friday. At approximately the halfway point in the conference season, no berth has been clinched yet.

In the battle for the PacWest title, Hawai'i Hilo remains in the lead despite dropping its road contest against Azusa Pacific. There are now five teams with six conference wins this season, and Azusa Pacific and Fresno Pacific also have winning records in conference play. For now, only 2.5 games separate the top-9 teams.

This week, Hawai'i Hilo continues its trip through Southern California. The Vulcans will play at Concordia on Monday, Point Loma on Thursday and Biola on Saturday. Chaminade will be at Concordia on Thursday and Point Loma on Saturday in a rematch after Chaminade won a thriller in San Diego last week. Holy Names will play at Fresno Pacific on Friday and host Dominican on Sunday.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK



Jelani Watson-Gayle, Fresno Pacific G, Gr., 6-1 -- London, England

Watson-Gayle averaged 26 points per game last week as he led Fresno Pacific to a pair of conference victories, moving the Sunbirds to sixth place in the PacWest standings with a 4-3 conference record. Watson-Gayle scored 32 points in Fresno Pacific's win at Academy of Art, getting 15 of those points at the free-throw line without a single miss. That ties Watson-Gayle for the third-most free throws made without a miss in a single game in PacWest history. He also had for rebounds, two steals and two assists in the road win. Earlier in the week, the second-leading scorer in the PacWest recorded a double-double with 20 points and 11 rebounds against Concordia. He now has five-consecutive games with at least 20 points and has scored at least 13 points in every game this season for an average of 20.4 points per game.

DEFENDER OF THE WEEK



Klay Brown, Academy of Art G, Jr., 6-4 -- South Jamaica, New York

Make it three in a row for Brown, who continues to collect steals at a remarkable pace. The junior out of New York has tallied multiple steals in eight-consecutive games for the Urban Knights. Academy of Art wrapped up its trip to Hawai'i at Chaminade on Monday, where Brown tallied three steals and four defensive rebounds. Then on Saturday against Fresno Pacific, Brown equaled his season high of five steals. He also had one block and two defensive rebounds. Academy of Art continues to lead the PacWest in steals with a total of 196. Brown has collected 45 of those steals. He now ranks 11th nationally and second in the region in steals per game this season. As a team, Academy of Art ranks fourth in the nation and first in the West Region in total steals. Academy of Art will be on the road this week for a pair of games at Biola on Thursday and then at Azusa Pacific on Saturday. The Urban Knights are looking for their first win against Azusa Pacific since 2013.

PACWEST RECORD WATCH

INDIVIDUAL SINGLE SEASON RECORD TRACKER

Stat	Player	Team	No.	Top 10	Record
Points	Wayne Arnold	CUI	323	606	825
Field Goals	Wayne Arnold	CUI	109	220	263
3-Pointers	Wayne Arnold	CUI	46	90	109
FT Made	Aniwaniwa Tait-Jones	UHH	68	150	216
Rebounds	Latrell Williams	ART U	147	281	357
Assists	Darren Williams	UHH	78	160	296
Steals	Klay Brown	ART U	45	70	104
Blocks	Joseph Smoyer	CUH	25	57	107

TEAM RECORD TRACKER

Stat	Team	Number	Top 10	Record
Points	Point Loma	1432	2623	3085
Field Goals	Point Loma	496	921	1079
3-Pointers	Point Loma	191	284	336
FT Made	Academy of Art	243	558	614
Rebounds	Chaminade	658	1206	1394
Assists	Point Loma	293	501	597
Steals	Academy of Art	196	271	328
Blocks	Chaminade	49	130	159

PREVIOUS WEEKLY AWARD WINNERS

Date	Player	Defender
Nov. 15	Wayne Arnold, CUI	Christian Popoola, ART U
Nov. 22	Donald McHenry, UHH	Jelani Watson-Gayle, FPU
Nov. 29	Wayne Arnold, CUI	Jesse Elrod, BU
Dec. 6	Justin Hemsley, APU	Joshua Bagley, ART U
Dec. 13	Aniwaniwa Tait-Jones, UHH	Latrell Williams, ART U
Dec. 21	Kaden Anderson, PLNU	Wayne Arnold, CUI
Jan. 10	Chris Rossow, BU	Klay Brown, ART U
Jan. 17	Aniwaniwa Tait-Jones, UHH	Klay Brown, ART U

D2SIDA NATIONAL RANKINGS

Week 10 - January 18

Rank	Team	W-L	Prev.
1.	Lubbock Christian (9)	16-0	1
2.	NW Missouri State (5)	15-1	2
3.	Nova Southeastern (2)	15-0	3
4.	Indiana (Pa.)	13-1	8
5.	CSU San Marcos	12-0	10
6.	Minnesota Duluth	16-1	6
7.	West Texas A&M	16-2	7
8.	West Liberty	14-2	4
9.	Chico State	10-1	5
10.	CSU San Bernardino	13-1	12
11.	UNC Pembroke	13-1	16
12.	Lincoln Memorial	14-2	17
13.	Dominican (N.Y.)	10-2	14
14.	Upper Iowa	16-2	18
15.	Ferris State	12-3	15
16.	Queens (N.C.)	13-3	11
17.	Regis	13-1	21
18.	Charleston (W.Va.)	11-2	22
19.	Truman State	11-3	T19
20.	Mercyhurst	14-2	9
21.	Central Oklahoma	15-2	24
22.	Bentley	11-2	RV
23.	Fairmont State	13-2	RV
24.	Augusta	13-2	13
T25.	Grand Valley State	10-3	25
T25.	Embry-Riddle	14-4	NR

Receiving Votes: Union, Augustana, Flagler, St. Thomas Aquinas, Hillsdale

D2SIDA REGIONAL RANKINGS

Week 11 - January 24

Rank	Team	W-L	Prev.
1.	CSU San Bernardino	14-1	3
2.	Cal State San Marcos	13-1	2
3.	Chico State (6)	11-2	1
4.	Central Washington	9-3	10
T5.	Saint Martin's	11-4	4
T5.	Biola	12-4	5
7.	Alaska Anchorage	7-3	T7
8.	Cal State Monterey Bay	8-4	RV
9.	Fresno Pacific	10-4	RV
10.	Hawai'i Hilo	10-5	7

Receiving Votes: Cal Poly Pomona, Seattle Pacific, Point Loma, Academy of Art, Simon Fraser