

WAC MEN'S BASKETBALL **November 4, 2023**

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2023-24 STANDINGS			WAC	WAC Games				All Games					
School	w	L	Pct.	Hm	Rd	Stk	w	L	Pct.	Hm	Rd	Neu	Stk
Abilene Christian	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	-
California Baptist	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	-
Grand Canyon	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	-
Seattle U	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	-
Southern Utah	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	-
Stephen F. Austin	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	-
Tarleton State	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	-
UT Arlington	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	-
UTRGV	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	-
Utah Tech	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	-
Utah Valley	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	-	0	0	.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	-

Schedule: Week 1

Monday, November 6

North American at Stephen F. Austin	11:30 a.m.
Carroll College at Utah Valley	5 p.m.
Southwestern Adventist at UTRGV	6:30 p.m.
Tarleton State at Virginia	7 p.m.
Southern Utah at CUSB	7 p.m.
San Francisco State at California Baptist	7 p.m.
Oral Roberts at UT Arlington	7 p.m.
Southeast Missouri St, at Grand Canyon	7 p.m.
Abilene Christian at Oklahoma St.	8 p.m.

Wednesday, November 8

Utah Tech at Santa Clara 7 p.m. Prairie View A&M at Seattle U 7 p.m.

Thursday, November 9

Utah Valley at Sam Houston	6:30 p.m.
Life Pacific at Southern Utah	6:30 p.m.
Stephen F. Austin at Middle Tennessee	6:30 p.m.
Tarleton State at FIU	7 p.m.

Friday, November 10

UTRGV at South Dakota	7 p.m.
Abilene Christian at NC State	7 p.m.
Jackson St. at California Baptist	7 p.m.

Saturday, November 11

Utah Tech at Jacksonville St.	2 p.m.
Montana St. at Seattle U	2 p.m.
UT Tyler at UT Arlington	5 p.m.
UNT Dallas at Tarleton State	7 p.m.

Sunday, November 12

Northern Arizona at Grand Canyon 3:30 p.m.

Monday, November 13

Stephen F. Austin at Northwestern St. 6:30 p.m.

All times local to playing sites

DRIBBLING AROUND THE WAC

IT IS TIME FOR SOME BASKETBALL!

The 2023-24 NCAA men's basketball season officially kicks off this upcoming week, with nine WAC members in action on opening day Nov. 6. The top eight teams in the WAC standings at season's end will earn the right to compete in the Hercules Tires WAC Basketball Tournament at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas in March.

WAC SEEDING SYSTEM ENJOYS SUCCESSFUL DEBUT

The 2022-23 campaign marked the debut of the revolutionary WAC Résumé Seeding System that is used to seed the WAC Basketball Tournaments. Developed by WAC Commissioner Brian Thornton, Associate Commissioner of Basketball Drew Speraw and Ken Pomeroy of www.Kenpom.com, the seeding system employs an algorithm that is based on performance throughout an entire regular season and rewards WAC members who face stronger schedules. The system is responsible for seeding the top eight teams for the conference tournament after those teams qualify for the field based on the final regular-season WAC standings.

The WAC finished last season 11th in the Kenpom rankings of all 32 NCAA Division I basketball conferences and Independents, its best finish since the 2006-07 season. A pair of WAC teams finished in the top 75 of the NCAA NET rankings, the key metric that helps select at-large entries and seed the NCAA Tournament.

DEFENDING CHAMPION GRAND CANYON REPEATS PRESEASON WAC FAVORITE AHEAD OF NEW SEASON

Grand Canyon returned to the top spot of the preseason WAC Men's Basketball Coaches Poll for

2023-24 WAC PRESEASON HONORS

Preseason Coaches' Poll

Rank	Team (1st-Place)	Points
1.	Grand Canyon (9)	99
2.	Stephen F. Austin (2)	87
3.	Seattle U	86
4.	Utah Valley	61
5.	Abilene Christian	60
6.	Tarleton State	49
7.	California Baptist	47
8.	UT Arlington	43
9.	Southern Utah	26
	UTRGV	26
11.	Utah Tech	21

2023-24 WAC Preseason Player of the Year:

Ray Harrison, Jr., G, Grand Canyon

2023-24 Preseason All-WAC Team

Ray Harrison, Jr., G, Grand Canyon Gabe McGlothan, R-Sr., F, Grand Canyon Cameron Tyson, R-Sr., G, Seattle U Sadaidriene Hall, Jr., F, Stephen F. Austin Drake Allen, Jr., G, Utah Valley

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the second straight season. All 11 WAC head coaches cast votes for the preseason predicted order of finish and all-conference awards.

Grand Canyon, the defending WAC Men's Basketball Tournament champion, claimed nine first-place votes and 99 voting points to finish ahead of Stephen F. Austin, who secured the final two first-place votes and 87 voting points in the preseason coaches poll. Seattle U (86 voting points), Utah Valley (61 voting points) and Abilene Christian (60 voting points) rounded out the top five teams in the preseason rankings.

HARRISON NAMED WAC PRESEASON PLAYER OF THE YEAR BY THE CONFERENCE HEAD COACHES

Grand Canyon junior guard **Ray Harrison** was named the 2023-24 WAC Preseason Player of the Year by the coaches after landing on the all-conference first team as a sophomore transfer last season. Harrison averaged 21.1 points and 3.6 assists per game in 17 conference starts for the Lopes in 2022-23, guiding GCU to a WAC Tournament title as the championship's Most Outstanding Player (20.0 PPG, 5.5 APG in four tournament starts).

Harrison was joined on the 2023-24 preseason all-conference team by GCU redshirt senior forward **Gabe McGlothan** (12.8 PPG, 7.5 RPG in conference play in 2022-23), Seattle U redshirt senior guard **Cameron Tyson** (17.0 PPG, .851 FT% in conference play in 2022-23), Stephen F. Austin junior forward **Sadaidriene Hall** (12.8 PPG 7.0 RPG in conference play in 2022-23) and Utah Valley junior guard **Drake Allen** (12.3 PPG, 4.2 APG in conference play with Southern Utah in 2022-23).

WAC 2022-23 SEASON IN REVIEW

Picked as the preseason favorite entering the 2022-23 campaign, No. 5 seed Grand Canyon won four games at the 2023 Hercules Tires WAC Basketball Tournament on its way to a conference championship and NCAA Tournament automatic bid. The Lopes were one of four WAC men's basketball teams to reach the postseason, with Utah Valley reaching the semifinal round of the postseason men's NIT at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas.

ABILENE CHRISTIAN, SFA NATIONALLY ELITE AT TURNING OPPONENTS OVER ON DEFENSE

Stephen F. Austin ranked third in NCAA Division I with 18.06 turnovers forced per game in 2022-23. WAC foe Abilene Christian was just behind the Lumberjacks ranked fifth with 17.67 turnovers forced per contest. ACU was also fifth in turnover margin at an even 5.0 last season.

COMMISSIONER THORNTON NAMED CHAIR OF NCAA MBB COMPETITION COMMITTEE

WAC Commissioner **Brian Thornton** was appointed the chair of the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Competition Committee in October of 2023. The 12-member committee reports directly to the NCAA DI Men's Basketball Oversight Committee in an advisory role, with a focus on student-athlete health and safety, sportsmanship and integrity, game operations and presentation, technology and statistical trends.

HERCULES TIRES, WAC AGREE TO BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT NAMING RIGHTS EXTENSION

The WAC and Hercules Tires have agreed to a multi-year renewal for the title sponsorship rights of the annual WAC Basketball Tournament. The 2024 edition of the Hercules Tires WAC Basketball Tournament is slated for March 13-16 at the Orleans Arena in Las Vegas.

Hercules Tires has served as the title sponsor of the WAC Basketball Tournament for the past three seasons, a partnership that has featured 51 tournament games contested between both the men's and women's championships during that span. The top eight finishers in the conference standings will be seeded based on the WAC Résumé Seeding System in each gender at the end of the 2023-24 regular season and will compete for the conference tournament hardware and automatic bids into the 2024 NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament during the four-day basketball showcase at the Orleans Arena.

WATCH THE WAC ON LINEAR TV

A pair of WAC men's basketball conference matchups will air on ESPN linear networks during the 2023-24 regular season. Utah Valley will travel to Seattle U on Jan. 26 for a showdown on ESPNU, while Grand Canyon will welcome Stephen F. Austin to Phoenix on March 2 on ESPNU. GCU will additionally compete on the ESPN networks at home against San Diego State on Dec. 5 (ESPNU) and at Liberty on Dec. 9 (ESPNU) in nonconference play.

WAC teams will also appear on the CBS Sports Network (Grand Canyon vs. San Francisco and DePaul/South Carolina, Nov. 17 and 19 at the Arizona Tip-Off in Glendale, Ariz.), the Longhorn Network (UT Arlington at Texas, Jan. 1), the Pac-12 Networks (UT Arlington at Arizona, Nov. 19 on Pac-12 Arizona; Utah Tech at Washington State, Nov. 24 on Pac-12 Washington; Southern Utah at Utah, Dec. 5 on Pac-12 Mountain; Utah Valley at Oregon State, Dec. 9 on Pac-12 Oregon; California Baptist at Oregon, Dec. 12 on Pac-12 Oregon; Utah Valley at Utah, Dec. 16 on Pac-12 Mountain; Utah Tech at Colorado, Dec. 21 on Pac-12 Mountain), and the SEC Network (Abilene Christian at Arkansas, Dec. 21).

2023-24 TicketSmarter WAC Players of the Week

Nov. 13 Stats: Nov. 20 Stats: Nov. Stats: Dec. Stats: Dec. 11 Stats: Dec. 18 Stats: Dec. 26 Stats: Jan. Stats: Jan. 8 Stats: Jan. 15 Stats: Jan. 22 Stats: Jan. 29 Stats: Feb. Stats: Feb. 12 Stats: Feb. 19 Stats: Feb. 26 Stats: March Stats: March

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Stats:

2023-24 TicketSmarter WAC Freshman of the Week

2023
Fre
Nov. 13 Stats:
Nov. 20 Stats:
Nov. 27 Stats:
Dec. 4 Stats:
Dec. 11 Stats:
Dec. 18 Stats:
Dec. 26 Stats:
Jan. 2 Stats:
Jan. 8 Stats:
Jan. 15 Stats:
Jan. 22 Stats:
Jan. 29 Stats:
Feb. 5 Stats:
Feb. 12 Stats:
Feb. 19 Stats:
Feb. 26 Stats:

March

March

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Stats:

Stats:

Current WAC Head Coaching Records (Through 2022-23)

Brette Tanner – Abilene Christian Overall38-28 (.576), third season Schoolsame WAC18-18 (.500), third season
Rick Croy – California Baptist Overall 217-96 (.693), 11th season Schoolsame WAC38-42 (.475), sixth season
Bryce Drew – Grand Canyon Overall 228-135 (.628), 11th season School64-27 (.703), fourth season WAC32-15 (.724), fourth season
Chris Victor – Seattle U Overall43-21 (.672), third season Schoolsame WAC25-11 (.694), third season
Rob Jeter – Southern Utah Overall 223-115 (.509), 15th season School 0-0 (.000), first season WAC 0-0 (.000), first season
Kyle Keller – Stephen F. Austin Overall 85-68 (.556), eighth season Schoolsame WAC25-11 (.694), third season
Billy Gillispie – Tarleton State Overall 189-152 (.554), 12th season School41-44 (.482), fourth season WAC39-45 (.464), sixth season
KT Turner – UT Arlington Overall
Matt Figger – UT Rio Grande Valley Overall 99-91 (.521), seventh season School 23-40 (.365), third season WAC 9-27 (.250), third season
Jon Judkins – Utah Tech Overall 300-171 (.637), 18th season Schoolsame WAC 15-35 (.300), fourth season
Todd Phillips – Utah ValleyOverall0-0 (.000), first seasonSchoolSameWAC0-0 (.000), first season

USA Today Coaches' Poll Preseason Rk School (1st) Rec. Pts. Pvs. 1. Kansas (23) 0-0 785 0-0 742 2. Purdue (5) 3. Duke (3) 0-0 716 4. Michigan State 0-0 667 5. UConn (1) 0-0 626 6. Houston 0-0 615 7. Marquette 0-0 614 8. Creighton 0-0 552 9. Florida Atlantic 0-0 548 10. Tennessee 0-0 496 11. Arizona 0-0 449 0-0 407 12. Gonzaga 0-0 390 13. Miami 0-0 315 14. Arkansas 15. San Diego State 0-0 277 16. Kentucky 0-0 261 0-0 258 17. Baylor 0-0 18. Texas 251 19. Texas A&M 0-0 231 20. Villanova 0-0 217 0-0 21. North Carolina 197 22. USC 0-0 176 23. Saint Mary's 0-0 147 24. Alabama 0-0 142 25. UCLA 0-0 52

WAC schools receiving votes: None

WAC vs. Other Confere	nces
Conference	'23-24
America East	0-0
American	
Atlantic Coast	0-0
ASUN	
Atlantic 10	
Big East	
Big Sky	
Big South	
Big Ten	
Big 12	
Big West	
Colonial	0-0
Conference USA	
Horizon	
Ivy League	
MAAC	
MEAC	
Missouri Valley	
Mountain West	
Northeast	
Ohio Valley	
Pac-12	
Patriot	
SEC	0-0
Southern	0-0
Southland	0-0
SWAC	
Summit	0-0
Sun Belt	
West Coast	
Non-Division I	
Total	
	(.000)

Computer Ratings 2022-23 Final			
	'22-23 NET	KP	
WAC	N/A	11	
ACU	204	193	
CBU	171	155	
GCU	106	108	
SU	142	141	
SUU	113	111	
SFA	136	132	
TSU	165	163	
UTA	249	241	
UTRGV	259	246	
UT	158	146	
UVU	58	64	
NET – NCAA rankings KP – KenPom rankings			

WAC vs. Ranked Teams			
Date	Game	Result	
	Rankings are listed as Coaches/AP		

Associated Press Poll Preseason				
Rk	School (1st)	Rec.	Pts.	Pvs.
1.	Kansas (46)	0-0	1548	_
2.	Duke (11)	0-0	1466	-
3.	Purdue (3)	0-0	1436	-
4.	Michigan State (1)	0-0	1346	-
5.	Marquette	0-0	1283	-
6.	UConn (2)	0-0	1243	-
7.	Houston	0-0	1117	-
8.	Creighton	0-0	1099	-
9.	Tennessee	0-0	1032	-
10.	Florida Atlantic	0-0	1011	-
11.	Gonzaga	0-0	830	-
12.	Arizona	0-0	776	-
13.	Miami	0-0	750	-
14.	Arkansas	0-0	685	-
15.	Texas A&M	0-0	597	-
16.	Kentucky	0-0	530	-
17.	San Diego State	0-0	529	-
18.	Texas	0-0	493	-
19.	North Carolina	0-0	474	-
20.	Baylor	0-0	431	-
21.	USC	0-0	427	-
22.	Villanova	0-0	395	-
23.	Saint Mary's	0-0	335	-
24.	Alabama	0-0	163	-
25.	Illinois	0-0	104	-
WAC schools receiving votes: None				

CollegeInsider.com Mid-Major Top 25 Poll					
DI.	Calcard (1-4)	Decemb		December	Conforme
<u>Rk</u> 1.	School (1st) Gonzaga (21)	Record 0-0	Points 765	Previous	Conference West Coast
2.	Saint Mary's (10)	0-0	765 754	-	West Coast
3.	Northern Iowa	0-0	576	-	Missouri Valley
3. 4.	Akron	0-0	542	-	Mid-American
4. 5.	Drake	0-0	542 518	-	
				-	Missouri Valley
6.	Liberty	0-0	499	-	CUSA
7.	UNCW	0-0	494	-	Coastal Athletic
8.	Grand Canyon	0-0	482	-	Western Athletic
9.	Yale	0-0	389	-	Ivy League
10.	South Dakota State	0-0	386	-	Summit
11.	Furman	0-0	262	-	Southern
12.	Kent State	0-0	255	-	Mid-American
13.	UC Santa Barbara	0-0	243	-	Big West
14.	Bradley	0-0	241	-	Missouri Valley
15.	Loyola Marymount	0-0	232	-	West Coast
16.	Charleston	0-0	230	-	Coastal Athletic
17.	UNC Asheville	0-0	212	-	Big South
18.	San Francisco	0-0	208	-	West Coast
19.	Appalachian State	0-0	204	-	Sun Belt
20.	Eastern Kentucky	0-0	194	-	ASUN
21.	Ohio	0-0	183	-	Mid-American
22.	Wright State	0-0	182	-	Horizon
23.	Colgate	0-0	144	-	Patriot
24.	Toledo	0-0	137	-	Mid-American
25.	UNCG	0-0	134	-	Southern
WAC schools receiving votes (points): Stephen F. Austin (95), Utah Valley (15)					