

L-R Women's Picked Second In SAC Poll

Written by Staff Reports

Wednesday, 20 August 2014 12:08

The Lenoir-Rhyne University Women's Soccer Team, the four-time defending league regular season champions, was voted second in the 2014 South Atlantic Conference Preseason Coaches Poll.

Wingate, last year's conference tournament and Southeast Regional Champion, was picked to win after receiving seven first-place votes and 117 total points.

Lenoir-Rhyne totaled 110 points with four first-place votes from the 12 conference head coaches. In addition, five players earned preseason first-team all-league honors for the Bears.

The selections were junior forwards Garcelle Alequine (Wilmington, Del.) and Leah Mullins (Kissimmee, Fla.), junior midfielders Emmi Dunn (Reading, Pa.) and Hanna Kiebel (Parker, Colo.) and junior defender Amber Madriaga (Wailuku, Hawaii).

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Alequine, an All-Southeast Region and All-American last year, led Lenoir-Rhyne in goals scored (nine) and total points (23) in 2013 while Mullins finished with seven goals, a team-high six assists and 20 points. Mullins is a two-time first-team all-conference selection and was the 2012 SAC Freshman Of The Year.

Dunn was an all-region pick as well and finished with six goals and 13 points in addition to a hat trick on October 9, 2013, in a 6-1 victory over Mars Hill.

Kiebel, the 2011 SAC Freshman Of The Year, tallied four goals and two assists last season while Madriaga finished with two goals and two assists and anchored a defense which limited its opponents to a 0.96 goals-against average and six shutouts. Both Kiebel and Madriaga have been All-Southeast Region honorees the last two seasons.

Lenoir-Rhyne finished the year with a 14-4-2 mark including a 9-1-1 record in conference play in 2013 and hosted the NCAA Division II Southeast Regional Tournament for the second time in three seasons.

Lenoir-Rhyne, ranked No. 22 in NCAA Division II, opens the season against No. 16 Rollins on Friday, September 5, in Winter Park, Fla., at 7:00 p.m. The Bears are under first-year Head Coach Tammy DeCesare.

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2014 South Atlantic Conference

Women's Soccer Preseason Coaches Poll

1. Wingate (7) 117

2. Lenoir-Rhyne (4) 110

3. Lincoln Memorial (1) 93

4. Catawba 83

5. Queens 78

6. Tusculum 77

7. Carson-Newman 70

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8. Newberry 50

9. Anderson 44

10. Mars Hill 31

11. Coker 24

12. Brevard 16

South Atlantic Conference

Preseason Women's Soccer Teams

FIRST TEAM

Forwards

Jade Montgomery, Wingate

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Garcelle Alequine, Lenoir-Rhyne

Leah Mullins, Lenoir-Rhyne

Mary Kirkman, Catawba

Midfielders

Gabriell Brodie, Newberry

Hanna Kiebel, Lenoir-Rhyne

Caitlyn Rodrigues, Queens

Emmi Dunn, Lenoir-Rhyne

Defenders

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Amber Madriaga, Lenoir-Rhyne

Brayden Miller, Newberry

Macy Franklin, Wingate

Ashley Osiecki, Queens

Goalkeeper

Liz Morris, Coker

SECOND TEAM

Forwards

Michelle Hunter, Lincoln Memorial

Breanna Naranjo, Newberry

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Kelli Gottry, Queens

Brooke Howell, Wingate

Midfielders

Sophie Waller, Catawba

Kaitlyn Brunworth, Wingate

Olivia Thompson, Lincoln Memorial

Nikki Arthur, Tusculum

Defenders

Jordan Roy, Coker

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Faith Johannes, Anderson

Alex Hulse, Catawba

Olivia Kilgore, Tusculum

Goalkeeper

Ashlyn Hardie, Wingate