



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Rebecca Scharmann, Director of Communications
(925) 472-8299 • Email: rscharmann@goccaa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UC San Diego Favorite in 2016 Women's Soccer Coaches Preseason Poll

SAN RAMON – According to a poll of league coaches the reigning California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) Tournament Champion UC San Diego is this year's favorite to claim the 2016 women's soccer title.

The Tritons edged defending CCAA Regular-Season Champion Sonoma State with 136 points and six first-place votes. The Seawolves garnered 132 points and five first-place votes. Cal State LA, which was picked to finish third with 117 points, snagged two first-place votes.

Chico State was selected fourth with 111 points, while 2015 CCAA tournament runner-up Stanislaus State was fifth with 104 points. Cal Poly Pomona rounded out the predicted six-team tournament field with a total of 87 points.

San Francisco State (66) topped the second half of the standings, followed by Cal State San Bernardino (65), Humboldt State (64), Cal State Monterey Bay (40), Cal State San Marcos (39), Cal State East Bay (38), and Cal State Dominguez Hills (15).

UC San Diego concluded the 2015 season with records of 15-6-1, 7-4-1 in CCAA play, which included the program's Conference-best ninth tournament title and bid to its 13th NCAA Division II Championship appearance. The Tritons return four CCAA First Team selections in junior forward Katie O'Laughlin, junior midfielder Jordyn McNutt, senior defender, Meghan Berry, and the 2015 CCAA Freshman of the Year, forward Mary Reilly.

During her rookie season Reilly led the Conference in goals (11), points (28), game-winning goals (4), shots (80), and shots on goal (52). O'Laughlin was second in the CCAA with 10 goals, while McNutt led with a career-best 10 assists.

Sonoma State, which was predicted to finish fourth in last year's standings, snagged the programs first-ever regular-season title after compiling an outstanding 14-3-3 record, which included an undefeated 10-0-2 CCAA record. Despite the loss of last year's CCAA Defensive Player of the Year Carolyn Greco and four-year standout Margi Osmundson, SSU brings back key offensive starters in

Bella Amyx, Mariam Bloom, Krystal Luna, and Sara Van Wagoner as well as top defenders Cecilia Sifuentes and Taylor Enzler.

After a 0-5-2 start to the 2015 season, Cal State LA went 7-1-2 over its next 10 games to finish third in the CCAA and host a first-round tournament game as the No. 3 seed. The Golden Eagles bring back nearly a full veteran roster after graduating just three seniors from last year's squad.

Chico State also returns some key playmakers to this year's team and will look to the defending CCAA Offensive Player of the Year Pooja Patel as well as 2015 CCAA Newcomer of the Year Erin Woods, and First Team selection Lindsay Dias to lead this year's Wildcat lineup.

The 2016 Women's Soccer Tournament will continue its six-team format with first round contests played at campus sites. Play is schedule to begin Tuesday, Nov. 1 at campus sites. Semifinal and Final rounds return to Warrior Stadium after a one year hiatus and are set for Friday, Nov. 4 and Sunday, Nov. 6, respectively. The winner of the Women's Soccer Tournament will earn the Conference's automatic bid to the 2016 NCAA Division II West Regional.

Sonoma State begins its 2016 campaign ranked 24th in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) NCAA Division II Preseason national rankings.

Regular-season play begins on Thurs., Sept. 1 with 12-of-13 teams in action. Cal State Monterey Bay and San Francisco State will kickoff CCAA play on Wed., Sept. 14 in San Francisco.

2016 CCAA WOMEN'S SOCCER PRESEASON COACHES' POLL

1. UC San Diego	136
2. Sonoma State	132
3. Cal State LA	117
4. Chico State	111
5. Stanislaus State	104
6. Cal Poly Pomona	87
7. San Francisco State	66
8. Cal State San Bernardino	65
9. Humboldt State	64
10. Cal State Monterey Bay	40
11. Cal State San Marcos	39
12. Cal State East Bay	38
13. Cal State Dominguez Hills	15