



2019 BIG WEST MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

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Ensing, Knipe Honored From Big West Champion Long Beach State

Big West Unveils Men's Volleyball All-Conference Team

IRVINE, Calif. – Big West regular season champion Long Beach State collected two major awards to highlight the announcement of the 2019 men's volleyball all-conference team, as voted on by the head coaches. **KYLE ENSING** garnered Big West Player of the Year recognition while **ALAN KNIPE** received Coach of the Year recognition for the second straight season. UC Santa Barbara's **RYAN WILCOX** took home the third marquee award as the conference's Freshman of the Year.

KYLE ENSING, LONG BEACH STATE

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Senior • Opposite/Outside Hitter • Valencia, Calif. • Valencia HS

- Second consecutive Long Beach State representative to be selected Big West Player of the Year (2018, TJ DeFalco)
- In overall matches among conference players, ranked No. 5 in hitting percentage (.356), No. 4 in kills per set (3.53) and points per set (4.39), and No. 3 in service aces per set (0.52)
- In Big West play, helped Long Beach State finish 10-0 as the league leader in service aces per set (0.47) while ranking No. 2 in kills per set (3.84), and No. 5 in hitting percentage (.365) and blocks per set (0.95).
- Tallied career-high eight blocks in win over No. 11 CSUN on Mar. 2
- Recorded career-high 27 kills in victory at No. 3 UC Santa Barbara on Mar. 14
- Turned in 16-kill, 11-dig double-double on Mar. 29 win over No. 7 UC Irvine
- Posted 18 kills on .326 hitting to hand No. 1 Hawai'i its first loss of the season on Apr. 12
- Collected at least one ace in each of the last 15 regular season contests, and in 25 of 26 matches overall
- One of just four Big West players to amass 300 kills this season, has surpassed that benchmark in all four seasons with the Beach
- Hit .400 or better in 12 matches and .300 or better on 17 occasions
- Ranks No. 11 in LBSU career record book with 1,363 kills and tied for No. 4 with 130 service aces

ALAN KNIPE, LONG BEACH STATE

COACH OF THE YEAR

- Repeat recipient of Big West Coach of the Year accolades
- Guided Long Beach State to a 10-0 Big West record and the regular season league title
- Piloted the Beach to a No. 1 or No. 2 national ranking every week in the American Volleyball Coaches Association poll
- Kept the Beach No. 1 in the AVCA poll for the first 11 weeks of the season
- Led LBSU to 12-0 record at home, which extended school record Walter Pyramid winning streak to 41 straight
- Against previously unbeaten (25-0) and No. 1-ranked Hawai'i, coached LBSU to a pair of five-set comeback wins last week
- Beach rank No. 1 nationally in aces per set (1.98)
- LBSU program is 53-3 overall and 19-1 in conference in two seasons of Big West men's volleyball under Knipe
- LBSU is 19-1 in three-set matches, 3-0 in four-set matches and 3-0 in five-set matches during 25-1 regular season finish

RYAN WILCOX, UC SANTA BARBARA

FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR

Outside Hitter • Honolulu, Hawai'i • Punahou School

- Named Big West Freshman Player of the Week four times this season
- Played vital role in helping UC Santa Barbara achieve No. 3 national ranking
- Ranked No. 2 on the team in kills (232) and digs (109), and No. 3 in service aces (23)
- In Big West contests, ranked No. 8 in kills per set (2.92) and service aces per set (0.24)
- Recorded career-high 14 kills in wins over then-No. 5 Loyola-Chicago (Jan. 26) and then-No. 3 BYU (Feb. 2)
- Hit over .300 twice against No. 1 Hawai'i in Honolulu, including 13-kill performance in four-set loss that snapped UH's 74-set win streak

The 14-member All-Big West First Team featured 10 repeat selections from the 2018 edition. Hawai'i led the way with five players and Long Beach State had four. UC Irvine and UC Santa Barbara boasted two representatives apiece while CSUN had one.

The complete 2019 Big West men's volleyball all-conference team may be viewed on the following page.

2019 BIG WEST MEN'S VOLLEYBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

FIRST TEAM

Player	School	Ht.	Yr.	Pos.	Hometown
+Nick Amado	Long Beach State	6-6	Sr.	Middle Blocker	Aliso Niguel, Calif.
+Karl Apfelbach	UC Irvine	6-8	Sr.	Opposite	Shorewood, Wisc.
Hayden Boehle	UC Santa Barbara	6-1	Sr.	Libero	Westchester, Calif.
+Corey Chavers	UC Santa Barbara	6-4	Sr.	Outside Hitter	Downey, Calif.
+TJ DeFalco	Long Beach State	6-4	Sr.	Outside Hitter	Huntington Beach, Calif.
+Kyle Ensing	Long Beach State	6-7	Sr.	Opposite	Valencia, Calif.
+Patrick Gasman	Hawai'i	6-10	Jr.	Middle Blocker	Clovis, Calif.
+Dimitar Kalchev	CSUN	6-4	Sr.	Outside Hitter	Kardzhali, Bulgaria
Rado Parapunov	Hawai'i	6-9	Jr.	Opposite	Sofia, Bulgaria
Joel Schneidmiller	UC Irvine	6-6	Sr.	Outside Hitter	Saratoga, Calif.
+Josh Tuaniga	Long Beach State	6-3	Sr.	Setter	Long Beach, Calif.
+Stijn van Tilburg	Hawai'i	6-8	Sr.	Outside Hitter	Amsterdam, Netherlands
Gage Worsley	Hawai'i	6-1	So.	Libero	Moraga, Calif.
+Joe Worsley	Hawai'i	6-1	Sr.	Setter	Moraga, Calif.

HONORABLE MENTION

Player	School	Ht.	Yr.	Pos.	Hometown
Simon Andersen	Long Beach State	6-8	So.	Middle Blocker	Middelfart, Denmark
Scott Stadick	UC Irvine	7-0	Jr.	Middle Blocker	Watertown, Wisc.
Ryan Wilcox	UC Santa Barbara	6-2	Fr.	Outside Hitter	Honolulu, Hawai'i

ALL-FRESHMAN TEAM

Player	School	Ht.	Pos.	Hometown
Logan Clark	UC San Diego	6-6	Middle Blocker	Chula Vista, Calif.
Blake Crisp	UC San Diego	6-3	Setter	Westlake Village, Calif.
Brandon Hicks	UC Santa Barbara	6-4	Middle Blocker	Newport Beach, Calif.
Taylor Ittner	CSUN	6-4	Setter	Meadow Vista, Calif.
Alexandre Nsakanda	UC Irvine	6-4	Opposite	Ottawa, Canada
Daniel Wetter	CSUN	6-5	Middle Blocker	Camarillo, Calif.
Ryan Wilcox	UC Santa Barbara	6-2	Outside Hitter	Honolulu, Hawai'i

+ Two-time All-Big West First Team Selection

2019 BIG WEST PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Kyle Ensing, Long Beach State

2019 BIG WEST FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR

Ryan Wilcox, UC Santa Barbara

2019 BIG WEST COACH OF THE YEAR

Alan Knipe, Long Beach State