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Jan. 28, 2015

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New Mexico State Picked to Win 2015 WAC Softball Title

DENVER – New Mexico State is the preseason favorite to win the 2015 Western Athletic Conference softball title in a vote of the league's six head coaches, who could not vote for their own team.

The coaches also voted preseason award winners and Aggie **Staci Rodriguez** was selected as the Preseason Player of the Year and Missouri-Kansas City's **Katie Kelley** was selected as the Preseason Pitcher of the Year.

The Aggies took the top spot in the preseason poll with 23 points and three first-place votes, edging out Grand Canyon in second place with 22 points and the other three first-place votes. Seattle U was third with 14 points, while Utah Valley and UMKC tied for fourth place with 13 points each. Bakersfield rounded out the poll with five points.

New Mexico State placed the most players on the Preseason All-WAC team with four, while Grand Canyon and Seattle U had three apiece and UMKC had two.

The 2015 season begins Thursday, Feb. 5. The 2015 WAC Softball Tournament will be held May 7-9, at the New Mexico State Softball Complex, and will include all five eligible teams.

2015 WAC Preseason Softball Coaches Poll

Rank	Teams (1st-Place Votes)	Points
1.	New Mexico State (3)	23
2.	Grand Canyon (3)	22
3.	Seattle U	14
T-4.	UMKC	13
T-4.	Utah Valley	13
6.	Bakersfield	5

2015 Preseason Softball All-WAC Team

Player	School	Yr.	Pos.
Emma Adams	New Mexico State	Jr.	3B
Kelsey Barak	Grand Canyon	Sr.	SS
Fiana Finau	New Mexico State	Jr.	1B/DP
Izzy Geronimo	Seattle U	Jr.	OF
Kayla Henry	Grand Canyon	Sr.	OF
Katie Kelley	UMKC	Jr.	P/1B
Lisa Maulden	Seattle U	Sr.	1B
Bubba Morrow	Seattle U	Sr.	C
Nicole Newbury	Grand Canyon	Jr.	3B
Cinda Ramos	UMKC	Sr.	P/1B
Staci Rodriguez	New Mexico State	Sr.	OF
Lacey Rother	New Mexico State	Sr.	C/OF
Brittney Vansway	Utah Valley	So.	IF

Preseason Player of the Year: Staci Rodriguez, New Mexico State

Preseason Pitcher of the Year: Katie Kelley, UMKC