

2016 Division II Conference Commissioners Association (D2CCA) Men's Soccer All-West Region Team Announced

Simon Fraser's Adam Jones Named Region's Player of the Year; Clan Leads Region With Five Selections



November 16, 2016

For Immediate Release

ROHNERT PARK, Calif. – Simon Fraser junior midfielder Adam Jones has been voted as the West Region Player of the Year, highlighting Wednesday's release of the 2016 Division II Conference Commissioners Association (D2CCA) Men's Soccer All-West Region Team.

Simon Fraser produced a region-best five selections and UC San Diego garnered four selections to lead the West Region in the annual postseason awards program sponsored by the Division II Conference Commissioners Association (D2CCA) and voted on by the region's Sports Information Directors. In total, 15 different West Region institutions featured at least one All-Region player this season in 2016.

Jones, a Canadian native of Coquitlam, British Columbia, was named the 2016 Great Northwest Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Year and was an All-GNAC First Team selection after leading the conference in points (29) and assists (9), in addition to being Simon Fraser's top goal scorer with 10. He was the most dangerous threat for the Clan, who finished the regular season with a 14-1-2 record and a GNAC title, their fifth since joining the conference in 2010.

Simon Fraser, which entered the NCAA Division II Championships last week as the third-ranked team in the nation and the No. 1 seed in the West Region, tied No. 5 seed Cal Poly Pomona, 0-0, in the Second Round on Saturday, only to lose 4-3 in penalty kicks and see its season come to an end. The Clan, however, saw three of its players garner First Team All-Region accolades – Jones, senior midfielder Ryan Dhillon (North Delta, British Columbia) and junior defender Magnus Kristensen (Stavanger, Norway) – to go along with two Second Team selections in senior goalkeeper Brandon Watson (Victoria, British Columbia) and sophomore midfielder Mamadi Camara (Montreal, Quebec). All five honorees were key to the success of Simon Fraser, which led the West Region (and was 13th in the nation) in scoring offense with 2.59 goals per game, as well as the region's second-best goals against average with a mark of 0.63, the eighth-best output in the nation.

UC San Diego, the 10th-ranked team in Division II and the No. 2 seed in the NCAA West Region Tournament, had four players selected to this year's All-West Region team, featuring a pair of First Teamers – senior goalkeeper Cameron McElfresh (Palo Alto, Calif.) and senior defender Kuba Waligorski (Szczecin, Poland) – and two Second Teamers – senior forward Sam Palano (Lafayette, Calif.) and senior midfielder Riley Harbour (Loomis, Calif.). The Tritons, who will battle Cal Poly Pomona for the West Region title on Friday in La Jolla, feature the third-best defense in the country with a miniscule 0.48 goals against average, led by McElfresh, who ranks second in the nation in save percentage (.853) and fourth in goals against average (0.493).

Rounding out the First Team selections are senior forward Jorge Chedraui (Fresno Pacific), sophomore forward Sven Koenig (Hawai'i Pacific), junior forward Sergi Monso (Cal Poly Pomona), senior forward Omar Nuño (Chico State), junior midfielder Esteban Berumen (Notre Dame de Namur), junior midfielder Joey Chica (Cal State Dominguez Hills), junior defender Bryan Baugh (Dixie State), and sophomore defender Nadeer Gbantous (Cal Poly Pomona).

All 13 D2CCA All-West Region First Team honorees will now be included on the All-America ballot. The 2016 D2CCA All-America Team will be announced on Nov. 30.

The Division II Conference Commissioners Association (D2CCA) encourages and promotes Division II athletics and high standards of sportsmanship as important elements of higher education. The CCA is a key communications link among the conferences as they discuss views, policies and regulations that impact Division II intercollegiate athletics and works closely with the NCAA as a communications channel to NCAA Division II member colleges and universities.

(Cont. on next page)

2016 Division II Conference Commissioners Association (D2CCA) Men's Soccer All-West Region Team

First Team

| Pos | Name | School | Yr | Hometown |
|-----|--|---------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| GK | Cameron McElfresh | UC San Diego | Sr. | Palo Alto, Calif. |
| F | Jorge Chedraui ^(2015-1, 2014-2) | Fresno Pacific | Sr. | Guayaquil, Ecuador |
| F | Sven Koenig | Hawai'i Pacific | So. | Schuerte, Germany |
| F | Sergi Monso | Cal Poly Pomona | Jr. | Barcelona, Spain |
| F | Omar Nuño ⁽²⁰¹⁵⁻²⁾ | Chico State | Sr. | Healdsburg, Calif. |
| MF | Esteban Berumen | Notre Dame de Namur | Jr. | Pittsburg, Calif. |
| MF | Joey Chica ⁽²⁰¹⁵⁻²⁾ | Cal State Dominguez Hills | Jr. | Visalia, Calif. |
| MF | Ryan Dhillon ⁽²⁰¹²⁻¹⁾ | Simon Fraser | Sr. | North Delta, British Columbia |
| MF | Adam Jones ⁽²⁰¹⁵⁻²⁾ | Simon Fraser | Jr. | Coquitlam, British Columbia |
| D | Bryan Baugh | Dixie State | Jr. | Henderson, Nev. |
| D | Nadeer Ghantous | Cal Poly Pomona | So. | Hifa, Israel |
| D | Magnus Kristensen ⁽²⁰¹³⁻¹⁾ | Simon Fraser | Jr. | Stavanger, Norway |
| D | Kuba Waligorski ⁽²⁰¹⁴⁻²⁾ | UC San Diego | Sr. | Szczecin, Poland |

Second Team

| Pos | Name | School | Yr | Hometown |
|-----|---|------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| GK | Brandon Watson | Simon Fraser | Sr. | Victoria, British Columbia |
| F | Aidan Apodaca | California Baptist | Jr. | Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. |
| F | Julien Dragomir | Montana State Billings | Sr. | Scottsdale, Ariz. |
| F | Moises Medina | Dixie State | Fr. | Mesquite, Nev. |
| F | Sam Palano | UC San Diego | Sr. | Lafayette, Calif. |
| MF | Braden Bailey | BYU-Hawaii | Fr. | Highland, Utah |
| MF | Mamadi Camara | Simon Fraser | So. | Montreal, Quebec |
| MF | Riley Harbour | UC San Diego | Sr. | Loomis, Calif. |
| MF | Erik Kemsies ⁽²⁰¹³⁻²⁾ | Hawai'i Pacific | Sr. | Velgast, Germany |
| D | Eric Alvarado | Sonoma State | Jr. | Escondido, Calif. |
| D | Ihsan Kalkan | Cal State L.A. | Jr. | Bielefeld, Germany |
| D | Davis Karaica ^(2015-1, 2014-1) | Seattle Pacific | Sr. | Snoqualmie, Wash. |
| D | Baptiste Marec | California Baptist | So. | Baye, France |

West Region Player of the Year: Adam Jones (Jr., MF, Simon Fraser)

(Numbers in parentheses indicate previous D2CCA All-West Region selections)

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