



Area colleges: Fields set for GLVC Final Four at UIS

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Two teams ranked in the NABC NCAA Division II national poll and the defending league champion have advanced to the semifinals of the Great Lakes Valley Conference Men's Basketball Tournament set for Saturday at The Recreation and Athletic Center at the University of Illinois Springfield.

No. 4 Kentucky Wesleyan (28-3) and 2009 GLVC champion Northern Kentucky (17-12) face each other in the first men's semifinal at 6 p.m. No. 22 Drury (23-5) and Bellarmine (20-8) play in the 8:30 p.m. semifinal.

The semifinalists in the GLVC Women's Basketball Tournament will take the court at TRAC prior to their male counterparts.

The opening semifinal pits 26-2 Indianapolis — No. 3 in the USA Today ESPN Division II Coaches Poll — against Wisconsin-Parkside (22-6) at noon Saturday. Drury (24-6) and Lewis (18-11) play in the 2:30 p.m. semifinal.

Saturday's winners advance to championship games Sunday. The women's title contest is at 1 p.m. The men's championship game tips off at 3:30 p.m. The GLVC champions receive automatic berths to the NCAA Division II national tournaments.

Men's basketball

Slagle gets SLIAC honor

ST. LOUIS — MacMurray College's Brady Slagle was named St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Newcomer of the Year.

The Winchester West Central High School graduate, Honorary Captain of last year's State Journal-Register All-Area team, averaged 14.1 points per game in conference play while shooting .524 from the floor and grabbing 4.5 rebounds per game.

Michael Zasada of Eureka was named Player of the Year, and he was joined on the first team by LaPhonso Ellis of Greenville, DeWhon McAfee of Spalding, Drew Moore of Webster and Jake Vislay of Westminster.

Westminster's Matt Mitchell and MacMurray's Todd Creal were named co-Coaches of the Year. Creal is in his third year as the head of the Highlanders' program and led his team to an 11-5 conference record and a second-place regular-season.

Rod Sykes of Blackburn College and C.J. McClellan of MacMurray were named to the All-SLIAC second team. Marc Randle and Ryan Sighting of MacMurray were honorable mention, and Randle was named to the All-Defensive team.

Women's basketball

Williams co-Coach of the Year

ST. LOUIS — Mike Williams, who led Blackburn College to a 12-4 record in the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, has been SLIAC co-Coach of the Year.

Williams, in his third season at Blackburn, shared the award with Fontbonne's Keith Quigley. It is the second time Williams has earned the honor and it is the sixth time for Quigley.

Fontbonne's Kaitlin Bramel was named Player of the Year, and she's joined on the first team by teammate Callie Collier, Lindsay Sydness of Principia, Kelly Harrod of Spalding and Rachel Backes of Westminster.

Blackburn's Kariann Hill was named second-team All-SLIAC, and MacMurray's Ashley Jenkins was honorable mention.

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