



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 17, 2003

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2003 AVCA ALL-AMERICA TEAMS ANNOUNCED FOR DIVISION I WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

DALLAS (Dec. 17, 2003) -- The American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) is proud to announce the 23rd annual AVCA All-America teams for Division I women's volleyball. The awards will be presented Dec. 19, 2003, at the AVCA All-America/Player of the Year Banquet at the Dallas Wyndham Anatole Hotel.

Top-ranked USC placed three members on the first team (Emily Adams, Bibiana Candelas and April Ross) and one on the second team (Keao Burdine). Pacific's Jennifer Joines was selected AVCA All-American for the fourth time. Amber Holmquist is a three-time AVCA All-American and repeat first-team choice. Florida's Aury Cruz and Hawaii's Kim Willoughby were selected to the AVCA All-America First-Team for the third consecutive season. The three combined teams boast five players that also received CoSIDA Academic All-America honors in 2003. Each of the three AVCA All-America Teams is comprised of 12 athletes, while the AVCA Honorable Mention All-American category was added this season. The AVCA National Player of the Year will be announced on Dec. 19 at the AVCA All-America/Player of the Year Banquet.

The selections are made by the AVCA Division I All-America Committee: chair – Janice Kruger, Maryland; Pi'i Aiu, Colorado; John Dunning, Stanford; Burt Fuller, Utah State; Judy Green, Alabama; Jill Hirschinger, New Hampshire; Nancy Mueller, South Florida; Pete Waite, Wisconsin.

2003 AVCA DIVISION I ALL-AMERICA FIRST-TEAM

Player	Institution	Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Hometown
Emily Adams ^	University of Southern California	MB	Jr.	6-6	Phoenix, Arizona
Cassie Busse #	University of Minnesota	RS/Opp	Sr.	6-2	Prior Lake, Minnesota
Bibiana Candelas	University of Southern California	MB	So.	6-5	Torreon, Mexico
Aury Cruz ^*	University of Florida	OH	Sr.	5-11	Levittown, Toa Baja, Puerto Rico
Kele Eveland	Georgia Institute of Technology	S	Sr.	5-11	Grand Rapids, Michigan
Lauren Goehring	Kansas State University	MB	Sr.	6-0	Fort Worth, Texas
Jennifer Joines #&	University of the Pacific	MB	Sr.	6-3	Milpitas, California
Ogonna Nnamani #	Stanford University	OH	Jr.	6-1	Normal, Illinois
April Ross ^&	University of Southern California	OH	Sr.	6-2	Newport Beach, California
Cara Smith #	Penn State University	MB	Sr.	6-1	Lafayette, Indiana
Katie Wilkins #	Pepperdine University	OH	Sr.	6-4	Lakeside, California
Kim Willoughby ^*	University of Hawai'i	OH	Sr.	6-0	Napoleonville, Louisiana

2003 AVCA DIVISION I ALL-AMERICA SECOND-TEAM

Player	Institution	Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Hometown
Keao Burdine	University of Southern California	OH	Jr.	6-1	Pico Rivera, California
Melissa Elmer	University of Nebraska	MB	So.	6-2	Fort Wayne, Indiana
Paula Gentil @	University of Minnesota	Lib	So.	5-9	Fortaleza Ceara, Brazil
Stacey Gordon ^\$	The Ohio State University	OH	Jr.	5-11	Oshawa, Ontario, Canada
Jennifer Harvey	Stanford University	MB	Sr.	6-5	Denver, Colorado
Benavia Jenkins @\$	University of Florida	MB	Sr.	6-0	Ft. Pierce, Florida
Mia Jerkov @	University of California	OH	Jr.	6-3	Split, Croatia
Lily Kahumoku ^%	University of Hawai'i	OH	Sr.	6-2	Lubbock, Texas
Melissa Munsch	Texas A&M University	MB	Jr.	6-2	Columbus, Texas
Sanja Tomasevic	University of Washington	OH	Jr.	6-1	Uzice, Yugoslavia
Sam Tortorello	Penn State University	S	So.	5-11	Shorewood, Illinois
Sherri Williams	University of Florida	MB	Jr.	6-2	Orlando, Florida

(More)

ADD 1 – 2003 AVCA Division I All-America Teams

2003 AVCA DIVISION I ALL-AMERICA THIRD-TEAM

Player	Institution	Pos.	Yr.	Ht.	Hometown
Lisa Argabright	University of Illinois	MB	Sr.	6-5	Louisville, Kentucky
Julie DuPont	University of Cincinnati	OH	Jr.	6-0	Muskego, Wisconsin
Jennifer Fopma	Cal State Northridge	MB	Sr.	6-3	Bellflower, California
Kim Glass #	University of Arizona	OH	So.	6-3	Lancaster, Pennsylvania
Wendy Hatlestad	University of Pittsburgh	OH	Sr.	6-3	Roseville, Minnesota
Kanoe Kamana`o	University of Hawai`i	S	Fr.	5-8	Honolulu, Hawai`i
Erin Moore	University of Michigan	MB	Sr.	6-0	Tiffin, Ohio
Lynnette Moster #	Georgia Institute of Technology	OH	Jr.	5-10	Liberty, Indiana
Becky Potter #	Santa Clara University	MB	Sr.	6-0	Clovis, California
Kim Turner	University of Utah	MB	Sr.	6-2	Chandler, Arizona
Linette White	Southwest Missouri State	MB	Sr.	5-10	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Kelly Wing	University of California, Irvine	OH	Jr.	5-11	Murrieta, California

^ indicates 2002 AVCA First-Team All-America selection

* indicates 2001 AVCA First-Team All-America selection

% indicates 2000 AVCA First-Team All-America selection

indicates 2002 AVCA Second-Team All-America selection

\$ indicates 2001 AVCA Second-Team All-America selection

& indicates 2000 AVCA Second-Team All-America selection

@ indicates 2002 AVCA Third-Team All-America selection

2003 AVCA Division I Freshman of the Year: Kanoe Kamana`o (University of Hawai`i, Setter)

2003 AVCA Division I Player of the Year: Announced at AVCA All-America/Player of the Year Banquet on Dec. 19, 2003

AVCA Honorable Mention All-Americans

Jacqueline Ahlers (St. John`s, OH, So.)	Elisabeth Kwak-Hefferan (Pennsylvania, OH, Sr.)
Jill Arganbright (Northern Iowa, S, Sr.)	Laura Lauder (Cincinnati, S, Sr.)
Whitney Ashcraft (Virginia, DS/Lib, Sr.)	Josi Lima (Kansas, MB, So.)
Areal Bienemy (Butler, MB, Jr.)	Emily Loomis (Notre Dame, RS/Opp, Jr.)
Lauren Brewster (Notre Dame, MB, So.)	Corina Marginas (North Texas, OH, Sr.)
Erin Cartwright-Davis (Utah State, MB, Sr.)	Megan Miller (Pittsburgh, MB, Jr.)
Alyson Coler (New Hampshire, OH, Sr.)	Shameka Mitchell (South Florida, MB, Jr.)
Jane Collymore (Florida, OH, So.)	Kelli Nerison (Loyola Marymount, MB, Jr.)
Melissa Courtney (Colorado State, S, Jr.)	Molly O'Brien (Northern Iowa, MB, Sr.)
Trinia Cuseo (New Mexico State, MB, Sr.)	Jill Odenthal (Wisconsin, RS/Opp, Jr.)
Paige Davis (Virginia, RS/Opp, Sr.)	Sonja Percan (Louisville, OH, Sr.)
Kristen Fenton (Fresno State, OH, Jr.)	Aline Pereira (George Mason, OH, Sr.)
Leslie Finn (Clemson, OH, Jr.)	Alexandra Preiss (Georgia Tech, MB, Sr.)
Deva Fowler (Tulane, MB, Jr.)	Valerie Rydberg (Wake Forest, OH, So.)
Jenny Frank (UCF, S/H, Sr.)	Jennifer Saleaumua (Nebraska, OH, So.)
Monique Gerlach (Colorado, MB, Sr.)	Lauren Sauer (Georgia Tech, OH, Jr.)
Gabby Guerre (Kansas State, S, Jr.)	Kim Schram (Michigan State, OH, Jr.)
Laura Hageman (Ohio, MB, Sr.)	Katie Jo Shirley (Colorado State, MB, Jr.)
Anna Marie Hammond (Idaho, MB, Sr.)	Allie Smerz (Wright State, DS/Lib, Sr.)
Erin Heffner (Alabama, OH, Jr.)	Lindsey Spoden (Wisconsin-Milwaukee, S, Sr.)
Sarah Hokom (George Washington, RS/Opp, Sr.)	Bing Sun (Louisville, RS/Opp, Jr.)
Bethany Howden (Texas, OH, Jr.)	Paige Sun (Murray State, OH, So.)
Aimee Huddleston (Maryland, S, Jr.)	Roberta Tarnauskaite (Arkansas, S/H, Sr.)
Erin Iceman (Penn State, RS/Opp, Sr.)	Janelle Tomlinson (Wisconsin-Green Bay, OH, Sr.)
Lynnsy Jones (Maryland, RS/Opp, Sr.)	Mira Topic (Texas, OH, Jr.)
Lauren Kelbley (Notre Dame, MB, So.)	Erin Treadway (Dayton, OH, Sr.)
Sara Kincaid (Arkansas, MB, Sr.)	Lena Ustyomenko (Louisville, OH, So.)
Kristen Kinder (Notre Dame, S, Sr.)	Martina Veiglova (Georgia Southern, OH, Sr.)
Kari Krouse (Tennessee-Chattanooga, OH, Sr.)	Erin Virtue (Illinois, S, Jr.)
Karla Kucerkova (American, OH, Sr.)	Christy Williams (Wake Forest, MB, So.)

(for bios, see following pages)

ADD 2 – AVCA All-America Teams

AVCA Division I First-Team All-America Bios

Emily Adams, a 6-6 junior middle blocker for Southern California, has placed on the AVCA All-America First Team for the second straight year. She averages 3.40 kills and 1.41 blocks while ranking among the top five nationally in hitting at .447. Adams has helped USC build a 45-match winning streak dating back to 2002.

Cassie Busse, a 6-2 senior right side/opposite hitter for Minnesota, has led the Golden Gophers best-ever NCAA Tournament finish. She is a two-time AVCA All-American who has averaged 4.62 kills, 2.38 digs and 0.84 blocks per game while hitting .295 in 2003. Busse ranks sixth all-time at Minnesota in kills.

Bibiana Candelas, a 6-5 sophomore middle blocker for Southern California, contributes 1.25 blocks and 3.01 kills per game to the defending national champion's attack. She hits at a .435 percentage to be among the top six in hitting nationally. Candelas has been a primary reason the Trojans have been ranked first in the polls all season.

Aury Cruz, a 5-11 senior outside hitter for Florida, has earned her third AVCA All-America award after becoming the first SEC player to earn the league's Player of the Year three straight years. She averages 4.42 kills and 3.40 digs per game while hitting .314. Cruz has helped the Gators to two straight NCAA semifinal berths.

Kele Eveland, a 5-11 senior setter for Georgia Tech, led the nation in assists per game with a 14.93 average. She, the ACC Player of the Year in 2003, earned CoSIDA Academic All-America Third Team honors. Eveland directed the Georgia Tech offense to a .331 team attack percentage.

Lauren Goehring, a 6-foot senior middle blocker for Kansas State, helped the Wildcats to their highest ever ranking of number-five. She set a single-season record for hitting percentage with a .410 mark, along with a school-record .354 attack percentage. Goehring averaged 3.2 kills and 1.08 blocks per game.

Jennifer Joines, a 6-3 middle blocker for Pacific, becomes the first four-time AVCA All-American in the school's history. She recorded a .340 hitting percentage with 5.63 kills, 2.09 digs and 1.20 blocks per game as a senior. Joines was tabbed the Big West Player of the Year.

Ogonna Nnamani, a 6-1 junior outside hitter for Stanford, has earned her third straight AVCA All-America award as she averaged 6.06 points per game in 2003. She set a school record with 627 kills this season as part of a 5.45 kill average. Nnamani hit .309 on the season with 2.31 dig and 0.63 block averages.

April Ross, a 6-2 senior outside hitter for Southern California, has earned her third AVCA All-America honor. She has led the defending national champions back to the NCAA semifinals with averages of 3.65 kills, 3.11 digs, 0.70 blocks and 0.53 aces per game. Ross was tabbed the Pac-10 Player of the Year as USC has won 45 straight matches.

Cara Smith, a 6-1 senior middle blocker for Penn State, is a two-time AVCA All-America selection. She led the Big Ten in hitting percentage with a .381 mark and is one of only four players in school history to record 1,000 kills and 500 blocks. Smith averages 3.84 kills and 1.16 blocks per game.

Katie Wilkins, a 6-4 senior outside hitter for Pepperdine, is a three-time AVCA All-American and three-time West Coast Conference Player of the Year. She averaged 5.31 kills, 2.06 digs and 0.94 blocks per game as the Waves rode to its highest ever national ranking. Wilkins hit .309 on the season and ended her career with over 1,600 kills.

Kim Willoughby, a 6-foot senior outside hitter for Hawaii, earns her third AVCA All-America honors as the Rainbow Wahine reached the semifinals for the third time in her career. She ranks second nationally in kills per game with 6.65 and has over 2,000-career kills. Willoughby adds 2.99 digs and 0.58 blocks per game while hitting .385 in 2003.

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ADD 3 – AVCA All-America Teams

AVCA Division I Second-Team All-America Bios

Keao Burdine, a 6-1 junior outside hitter for Southern California, averages 3.35 kills and 2.95 digs per game for the defending national champion Trojan team. She has played a key role as USC has extended its win streak to 45 matches heading into the national semifinals. Burdine averages nearly four kills per game against national-ranked teams.

Melissa Elmer, a 6-2 sophomore middle blocker for Nebraska, posted 1.59 blocks and 3.09 kills per game while hitting .352 in 2003. She broke the single-match postseason school record for hitting percentage with a .737 mark against Dayton. Elmer tallied a career-high 15 blocks versus Kansas.

Paula Gentil, a 5-9 sophomore libero for Minnesota, claimed the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year award and All-Big Ten honors for the second straight year. She has a Big Ten record 646 digs this season for a 5.09 average. Gentil's back-row defense has helped the Gophers to a .244 team attack percentage.

Stacey Gordon, a 5-11 junior outside hitter for Ohio State, led the Buckeyes with 708 kills and averages of 6.62 kills and 3.61 digs per game. She set the all-time Big Ten record for kills in a game and ranks third nationally in the category in 2003. Gordon is a three-time AVCA All-American.

Jennifer Harvey, a 6-5 senior middle blocker for Stanford, led the Cardinal with 1.53 blocks per game. She helped Stanford reach the NCAA Region Semifinals as she collected 297 kills on the season. Harvey had seven or more blocks in 11 matches this season.

Benavia Jenkins, a 6-foot senior middle blocker, is a three-time AVCA All-American after contributing 3.16 kills and 1.46 blocks per game. During the season she set the school record for career blocks and is the second Gator to have 1,000 kills and 500 blocks. Jenkins has hit at a .465 clip in 2003.

Mia Jerkov, a 6-3 junior outside hitter for California, is a two-time AVCA All-American after last season's third-team selection. She averaged a league-leading 6.04 kills per game with a school-record 701 kills. Jerkov leads the Pac-10 in points with 785.5 and was named league player of the week four times.

Lily Kahumoku, a 6-2 senior outside hitter for Hawaii, is a three-time AVCA All-American and has led the Rainbow Wahine to a third NCAA semifinal berth in four years. She averages 4.49 kills, 3.47 digs and 0.59 digs per game. Kahumoku has charted a .297 hitting percentage in her final college season.

Melissa Munsch, a 6-2 junior middle blocker for Texas A&M, led the Aggies with 3.69 kills and 4.69 points per game. She recorded 18 double-double performances along with two triple-doubles. Munsch added 1.06 blocks and 2.98 digs per game in 2003.

Sanja Tomasevic, a 6-1 junior outside hitter for Washington, led the Huskies with 5.29 kills, 2.90 digs and 0.93 blocks per game. She helped the Huskies come within one game of the NCAA semifinals and a 23-9 overall record. Tomasevic tallied double-figure kills in all 32 matches in 2003.

Sam Tortorello, a 5-11 sophomore setter for Penn State, directed the Nittany Lion offense to a NCAA Region Final berth in 2003. She tallied 13.48 assists per game while leading Penn State to a .272 team attack percentage. Tortorello also averages 2.92 digs, 0.91 blocks and 0.89 kills per game.

Sherri Williams, a 6-2 junior middle blocker for Florida, leads the nation in attack percentage with a .470 mark. She averages 3.07 kills and 1.35 blocks per game in helping the Gators reach the NCAA semifinal round for the second straight year. Williams hit a league-high .498 in SEC matches.

(more)

ADD 4 – AVCA All-America Teams

AVCA Division I Third-Team All-America Bios

Lisa Argabright, a 6-5 senior middle blocker for Illinois, paced the Fighting Illini to the NCAA Region Semifinal round and 26-7 overall record. She averaged 3.72 kills and 1.28 blocks per game in 2003. Argabright completed her career as a two-time AVCA All-Mideast Region selection.

Julie DuPont, a 6-0 junior outside hitter for Cincinnati, was named Conference USA Player of the Year as she led the league in kills and points per game. She set a school-record with 5.43 kills per game, in addition to 0.90 blocks and 3.43 digs per game. DuPont was named CoSIDA Academic All-America Second Team.

Jennifer Fopma, a 6-3 senior middle blocker for Cal State Northridge, returned to competitive volleyball as an AVCA All-American after sitting out the 2001 and 2002 season. She averaged 5.42 kills, 2.32 digs and 1.21 blocks per game while hitting .272. Fopma helped the Matadors to a NCAA Tournament berth in 2003.

Kim Glass, a 6-3 sophomore outside hitter for Arizona, finished the 2003 season by shattering the school-record for kills with 650. She connected for 20 or more kills in 18 of 32 contests, including three 30-plus kill matches. Glass, a two-time AVCA All-American, added 2.9 digs and 0.71 blocks per game.

Wendy Hatlestad, a 6-3 senior outside hitter for Pittsburgh, was named the Big East Player of the Year for 2003. She broke the school record for kills in a season with 555 en route to finishing her career with 1,681. Hatlestad averaged 5.0 kills and 2.71 digs per game to lead the Panthers to the NCAA Second Round.

Kanoë Kamana'o, a 5-8 freshman setter for Hawaii, has quickly adapted to the NCAA game by leading the Rainbow Wahine to a .341 team attack percentage. She averages 13.70 assists and 2.17 digs per game as Hawaii has been ranked second all season. Kamana'o has led the Rainbow Wahine to their best NCAA finish among the current class of players.

Erin Moore, a 6-0 senior middle blocker for Michigan, contributed 4.28 kills and 1.32 blocks per game for the Wolverines. She hit a career-high .293 in 2003 to lead Michigan to the NCAA Tournament. Moore established school single-season records for kills and blocks.

Lynnette Moster, a 5-10 junior outside hitter for Georgia Tech, ranks third in the ACC in kills per game with 4.23. She is a two-time AVCA All-American after contributing a .315 hitting percentage in 2003. Moster helped the Yellow Jackets to a region final berth and a 34-4 overall record.

Becky Potter, a 6-foot senior middle blocker for Santa Clara, is a two-time AVCA All-American and three-time All-Big West selection. She led the Broncos with 4.31 kills, 1.15 blocks and 3.12 digs per game while hitting .302. Potter finished second all-time at Santa Clara in kills and fifth all-time in the West Coast Conference.

Kim Turner, a 6-2 senior middle blocker for Utah, was the co-Mountain West Conference Player of the Year after leading the league with a .434 hitting percentage. She added 4.53 kills and 1.47 blocks per game in 2003. Turner is Utah's all-time leader in kills, total blocks and attack percentage.

Linette White, a 5-10 senior middle blocker for Southwest Missouri State, is the school's first AVCA All-American. She was named co-Missouri Valley Conference Player of the Year after averaging 3.61 kills and 1.63 blocks per game. White set a conference season record with a .392 hitting percentage.

Kelly Wing, a 5-11 junior outside hitter for UC Irvine, averaged 5.74 kills and 3.07 digs per game in 2003. She was selected Big West Player of the Week four times and helped the Anteaters to their first NCAA Tournament victory. Wing is the school's all-time kill leader with 1,649.