

CAMOSUN COLLEGE CHARGERS NEWS

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Chargers b-ballers make final push for PACWEST Provincial playoffs

With the PACWEST Provincial Championships just two weeks away, the Camosun College Chargers basketball teams are focused on their final games of the season this Friday and Saturday at PISE. The Chargers men and women will be banking on the home court advantage and perhaps a little luck to get them through the weekend which will determine if the teams will earn a berth to the playoffs and a shot at the Provincial title.

Tied for 6th in the conference standings, the Chargers women need to win both games this weekend to make it into the post season. "We have had plenty of opportunities to cement a playoff berth, but in crucial times, we have been our own worst enemy," comments Head Coach Brett Westcott. "On a number of occasions, we have been tied or ahead in the third quarter, only to fall back and lose, which is of course disappointing. There are no more second chances now ... it's a do or die situation."

It is a similar situation for the Camosun men who are also facing crunch time. "Simply, we need to win," states Head Coach Scot Cuachon. "Going into last weekend we were in a very good position, but the highly competitive level of the PACWEST combined with our recent back-to-back losses resulted in the team dropping to the last playoff spot with this weekend's opponents right on our tail. The season comes down to these games, and for us, Friday is the most important game of the season."

Adding another dimension to the Chargers' incentive to sweep the weekend and qualify is the fact that Camosun will be hosting this year's PACWEST Provincial Basketball Championships. "Being on the island, it isn't too often we get to showcase our facilities and this is a very good opportunity to do so," says Coach Cuachon. "Though the team is supremely focused on Friday's game, we have not lost sight of the significance of being able to play in a Provincial Championship in front of a hometown crowd on our court. We would love the opportunity to compete at home in this event."

For the first time in its 19-year history, Camosun Athletics will host the PACWEST Men's and Women's Provincial Basketball Championships, February 28 – March 2, 2013 at the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence. In 2010, Camosun played host to the BCCAA Volleyball Championships. At the event, the Chargers men's volleyball team won the Gold medal in a dramatic finish in front of a sell-out home crowd. "We're hoping for a repeat of the Volleyball Championships," comments Camosun's Director of Athletics Graham Matthews. "However, no matter who comes up the winner, the Top 6 intercollegiate men's and women's teams in BC will be competing and we anticipate a very exciting and entertaining event."

Information on participating teams as well as game results, re-caps and photos will be posted on the Official Championship website http://www.pacwestbc.ca/basketball2013

Catch the Chargers this weekend as they make their final push for the playoffs against the Kwantlen Eagles (Surrey) and Columbia Bible College Bearcats (Abbotsford). Games at the Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence and streamed live on SportsCanadaTV.

Fri, Feb. 15 Women 6pm Camosun (#T6) vs. Kwantlen (#5)
Men 8pm Camosun (#T5) vs. Kwantlen (#T7)

Sat, Feb. 16 Women 1pm Camosun (#T6) vs. CBC (#8)
Men 3pm Camosun (#5) vs. CBC (#77)

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