

CAMOSUN COLLEGE CHARGERS NEWS

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Chargers volleyball teams bound for PACWEST playoffs

Early this morning, the Camosun College Chargers men's and women's volleyball teams boarded the bus bound for the 2012-13 PACWEST Championships hosted by the College of the Rockies in Cranbrook, February 21-23.

Having qualified for the program's 16th Provincial playoff, the Chargers men enter this year's event as the conference's No. 3 seed. "Going into last week's final matches of the season, we knew we would finish either second or third," states Head Coach Charles Parkinson. "It's exactly the way we wanted it to go because it means that we will not have to face the No. 1 team until the finals, which is important in a single elimination format."

Completing the season with a record of 15-9, the Chargers have made great strides in overcoming challenges that made the Fall semester a struggle. "In the first half of the year we were unstoppable on the first night of the weekend and then a bit lackadaisical on the second night," explains Coach Parkinson. "We have worked hard to overcome this and our second half play has been really good, with only the occasional stumble. Heading into the Championships, the athletes are on the final climb to the peak and we expect their performance to be consistent and inspired and to reflect the hundreds of hours of training that they have been through since we started in September. To win the title will require us to perform at a higher level than anyone else, be injury and illness free, be bold in our execution and fearless in our determination to succeed."

On the women's side of the draw, Camosun is 9-15 and No. 5 in the Final Standings. It is the third consecutive year that the Chargers have landed the #4 vs #5 quarterfinal and this year, the team gets set to face off against the Capilano University Blues.

"Having split the season with our opponent, we expect a hard fought battle in this match," comments Chargers Head Coach Chris Dahl. "Our recent performance against this team was error-filled with 43 and 49 unforced errors, but we still managed to split the weekend with them. We recognize that we really only need to reduce that number by a little to gain better control over the situation, although we'd love it if we reduced those numbers by a lot!"

Despite losing several key players over the course of the season, the Chargers women have proven themselves to be a talented and adaptable group of athletes and the squad has developed into a program with a purpose. "Due to missing personnel, we've had to shuffle bodies a little and make lineup changes," states Coach Dahl. "In doing so, we have been able to recognize the versatility and specific skill sets of our athletes, which has helped us work towards a vision of putting athletes in a role where we are best set up for success. We now feel that the program is on the verge of accomplishing a great break through ... it is a powerful and emotional time!"

Catch the Chargers as they head into the stretch for this year's PACWEST title. Quarter final action begins Thursday, February 21st. The men take on Fraser Valley (#6) at 3pm and the women face off against Capilano (#4) at 6pm.

WOMEN'S SEEDING		MEN'S SEEDING	
1	University of the Fraser Valley Cascades	1	Douglas College Royals
2	Vancouver Island University Mariners	2	Vancouver Island University Mariners
3	Columbia Bible College Bearcats	3	Camosun College Chargers
4	Capilano University Blues	4	Capilano University Blues
5	Camosun College Chargers	5	College of the Rockies Avalanche
6	Douglas College Royals	6	University of the Fraser Valley Cascades

For more information, visit the Official PACWEST Provincial Volleyball Championships website: <u>http://www.pacwestbc.ca/volleyball2013/</u>

All matches will be streamed live via College of the Rockies on SportsCanadaTV