



Mountain West Conference

Craig Thompson, Commissioner (719) 488-4040

Javan Hedlund, Assistant Commissioner for Communications (719) 488-4051

Ron Christian, Director of Communications (719) 488-4050

Marlon Edge, Assistant Director of Communications (719) 488-4052

www.TheMWC.com

Air Force • BYU • Colorado State • New Mexico • San Diego State • UNLV • Utah • Wyoming

For Immediate Use: Monday, August 16, 2004
Women's Soccer Preseason Coaches Poll

MWC Women's Soccer Contact:
Marlon Edge (719) 488-4052

UTAH PICKED TO REPEAT AS MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE WOMEN'S SOCCER CHAMPION

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – Utah was selected to repeat as Mountain West Conference women's soccer regular-season champion in a vote by the league's coaches released today.

The Utes collected a total of 35 points (five first-place votes) to capture the top position in the poll. BYU, which collected two first-place votes (32 total points), was picked to finish second in the ballot, followed by San Diego State (25), UNLV (21) and Wyoming (14). New Mexico (11) and Air Force (9) rounded out the voting as they were picked to finish sixth and seventh, respectively.

Utah is picked to win its second consecutive MWC crown after finishing undefeated in league play (6-0-0) and 16-2-2 overall last season, winning its first-ever Mountain West Conference Tournament title and advancing to its second NCAA Tournament appearance in school history. The Utes, led by head coach Rich Manning, return 12 letterwinners and seven starters from the 2003 squad, including league Freshman of the Year Amanda Feigt. BYU (16-7-3 overall, 4-2-0 in MWC play) returns 16 letterwinners (six starters) from last year's Elite Eight team.

San Diego State finished 2003 with a 7-10-2 overall record (2-3-1 conference record) and will return eight starters, while UNLV has seven starters returning this season after finishing 9-9-3 overall in 2003. Wyoming, which had its best conference finish in school history last season at 4-2-0 (tied for second with BYU), returns six starters (14 letterwinners overall) for the 2004 season. New Mexico and Air Force will return seven and eight starters this season, respectively.

Preseason Women's Soccer Coaches' Poll

<u>Pl.</u>	<u>Team (1st place votes)</u>	<u>Points</u>
1.	Utah (5)	35
2.	BYU (2)	32
3.	San Diego State	25
4.	UNLV	21
5.	Wyoming	14
6.	New Mexico	11
7.	Air Force	9