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## **Amato, Dru, Earle, Kruggel and Danielson Garner Top NorPac Honors**

**STANFORD, Calif.** – Davidson junior **Finley Amato** was named NorPac East Player of the Year for the second straight season, while Stanford junior **Becky Dru** and California sophomore **Andrea Earle** were tabbed the West Division's Co-Players of the Year announced Wednesday evening at the league's annual awards banquet held at Stanford University's Arrillaga Family Sports Center.

California's **Lara Kruggel** was named the Maria Whitehead Rookie of the Year and **Tara Danielson** of the host and sixth-ranked Cardinal garnered coach of the year honors.

Other awards were handed out as well. In the East, Amato was also named Offensive Player of the Year, and Longwood's junior goalkeeper **Kaye Goulding** was named Defensive Player of the Year. In the West, Earle and Dru took home the offensive and defensive accolades, respectively.

**Sarah Schneider** of UC Davis and Davidson's **Christine Rua** were recognized as the Sheryl Johnson academic award recipients and Aggie **Mattie Maloney** was presented with the Julie Nagel Extraordinary Teammate Award.

Amato, a two-time recipient of this award and all-conference selection, ranks third in the league and tops in the east in points (33), points per game (1.94) and goals per game (0.76). She has found the cage 13 times and recorded her first collegiate hat trick this season. Always a goal-scoring threat, Amato dished out a career-best seven assists which also topped the Wildcats. A Lake Forest, Ill. native, Amato garnered East Offensive Player of the Week honors three times.

Dru anchors a Cardinal defense that posts a 1.52 GAA average and has allowed a league-low 26 goals against some of the NCAA's toughest competition in 2011. Always a stalwart on defense, the junior is also a scoring threat on Stanford corners. A three-time all-conference selection, Dru is tied for the league lead with 35 points (14 goals, 7 assists) and is second in goals and in the top 10 in assists. Her 2.18 points per contest is 22<sup>nd</sup> in the NCAA.

Earle leads all players in points-per-game (2.19, No. 21 NCAA), goals (15) and goals-per-game (0.94, No. 16 NCAA), and is tied on top with 35 points. As a sophomore, she garnered West Offensive Player of the Week honors three times and is known for her late game heroics which have helped the Golden Bears to their No. 16 ranking. On two separate occasions this season, she scored the equalizer in the final minute sending the Golden Bears into overtime against Virginia and UC Davis, both California victories.

Kruggel is the top rookie in the league in scoring as she is ranked eighth in points (21), while also sitting in the top 10 with seven goals and seven assists. She dished four of those helpers out in a win at Pacific, which is tied for the top assist performance in the NCAA. Her eight points in that contest is tied for the fifth best in the NCAA.

Danielson is in her second season at the helm of the Cardinal and has guided Stanford to sixth in the most recent Kookaburra / NFHCA Division I National Coaches Poll, returning to that position which it obtained earlier in the season. Along with the highest ranking in recent NorPac history, the Cardinal posted a 15-2 regular season record (5-2 against top 20 opponents), including a perfect 6-0 in the West Division, and reached as high as fourth in the RPI.

Schneider, a senior applied chemistry major with an emphasis on pharmaceutical chemistry, holds a 3.94 overall GPA, which ranks her in the top one percent (28<sup>th</sup>/2,393) of her class. Garnering the award for the second straight year, she presented research (Title: Cytotoxicity of Silicon Nanoparticles in Hepatocytes) at the UC Davis Undergraduate Research Conference in April and at the 2011 UC Systemwide Bioengineering Symposium where her project was one of just 76 accepted. Schneider, who is currently applying to medical school, also received the 2010-11 UC Davis Community Service Award for her volunteer work at the Davis Sutter Hospital Emergency Room.

Rua is a senior English major, who has recorded a 3.535 GPA, including a 3.85 last school year. She is a 2011-12 English honors candidate, who was part of a selective Davidson program targeted at the interdisciplinary study of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century British history and literature at Cambridge University over the summer of 2011. During her time, she received a Level 1 Star (highest) for her 20-page research paper. Currently researching and composing a 40-page thesis, Rua has applied for a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Indonesia as well as various other English teaching opportunities in Asia.

Maloney, a Corning Calif. native, was honored for exhibiting extraordinary care and support of her teammates, while demonstrating a genuine love for the sport and her academic institution. This award, which recognizes a NorPac sophomore, was established in 2005 by Appalachian State University in memory of former Mountaineer Julie Nagel.

**East Defensive Player of the Year: Junior Kaye Goulding (Longwood):** Played all but 105 minutes of the season in goal. Ranked fourth nationally in save percentage (.808), 17th in goals against average (1.62) and 18th in saves per game (through 10.23). She posted three shutouts this season and was the East's Defensive Player of the Week a league-best four times.

Longwood led all teams with five all-conference selections. Stanford and California each had four players named to their respective division all-conference squads. Davidson and Pacific each garnered three all-league distinctions. Radford was represented with two honors. UC Davis and Appalachian State each had one representative.

## 2011 NorPac Accolades

### East Division All-Conference

Finley Amato (Davidson), Jr., Forward  
Sarah Bietsch (Longwood), Sr., Midfielder  
Lynsey Daughtrey (Radford), Sr., Back  
Stacey de Grandhomme (Longwood), So. Midfielder  
Brittany Diaz (Longwood), Jr., Midfielder  
Kaye Goulding (Longwood), Jr., Goalkeeper  
Olga Knop (Longwood), Sr., Defender  
Steph Meador (Davidson), Sr., Defender  
Christine Rua (Davidson), Sr., Forward  
Brooklyn Shearer (Appalachian State), So., Forward  
Madonna Wadolowski (Radford), Sr., Midfielder

### West Division All-Conference

Stephanie Byrne (Stanford), Sr., Forward  
Becky Dru (Stanford), Jr., Defender  
Andrea Earle (California), So., Forward  
Shannon Elmitt (California), So., Midfielder  
Lara Kruggel (California), Fr., Forward  
Erin Magill (California), Sr., Defender  
Alex McCawley (Stanford), Fr., Midfielder  
Ale Moss (Stanford), R-Sr., Goalkeeper (tie)  
Ashlee Schlesier (Pacific), Jr., Goalkeeper (tie)  
Amanda Spellman (Pacific), Junior, Back  
Emily Tregoning (Pacific), So., Midfielder/Back  
Casey Wollbrinck (UC Davis), Jr., Defender

### East Player of the Year

Finley Amato (Davidson)

### West Co-Player of the Year

Becky Dru (Stanford)  
Andrea Earle (California)

### East Offensive Player of the Year

Finley Amato (Davidson)

### West Offensive Player of the Year

Andrea Earle (California)

### East Defensive Player of the Year

Kaye Goulding (Longwood)

### West Defensive Player of the Year

Becky Dru (Stanford)

### Coach of the Year

Tara Danielson (Stanford)

### Maria Whitehead Rookie of the Year

Lara Kruggel (California)

### Sheryl Johnson Academic Award

Sarah Schneider (UC Davis)  
Christine Rua (Davidson)

### Julie Nagel Extraordinary Teammate Award

Mattie Maloney (UC Davis)