

Sports Information

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Eagles Set for A-Sun Conference Tournament

FORT MYERS, Fla. - The Florida Gulf Coast University volleyball team opens postseason play tomorrow, Nov. 19, against Campbell in the Atlantic Sun Tournament Quarterfinal. The No. 3 seed Eagles (16-12, 15-5 A-Sun) will battle the No. 6 seed Camels (17-14, 10-10 A-Sun) at 7:30 p.m., in Alico Arena.

Voted as the Preseason favorite to win the conference championship, FGCU heads into the 25th Atlantic Sun Tournament winning five of their last seven matches. The Eagles are led by All-Conference selections Jelena Simic and Chandra Lefever.

Simic started and played in 27 of FGCU's 28 matches. For the season, the middle hitter ranked third overall in the conference with 364 kills (3.68 per set) and 398.5 points (4.03 per set). In A-Sun matches, Simic finished second with 288 kills (3.79 per set) and 314.0 points (4.13 per set). The Lazarevac, Serbia native led the Eagles in total attacks, kills, and kills per set, recorded 19 or more kills in six matches this season, racking up a noteworthy season-high 25 kills at Jacksonville on Sept. 25.

Lefever, a senior setter, started all 28 matches for the Eagles this season. This season the Fort Morgan, Col. native ranked fourth and eighth overall in the conference with 1,035 assists and 34 service aces.

FGCU and Campbell are meeting for just the sixth time overall and for the first time in A-Sun Tournament action. Prior to the Eagles joining the conference in 2007 the two teams had never played. FGCU leads the all-time series 5-0, with the Blue and Green sweeping the Camels in North Carolina (9/11/09) and defeating Campbell 3-1 in Alico Arena (10/31/09).

Defending champion No. 4 Belmont (17-14, 13-7 A-Sun) will face No. 5 Kennesaw State (17-11, 11-9 A-Sun) in the first quarterfinal match at 5:00 pm on Thursday.

The winner between Belmont and Kennesaw State will face top-seeded Lipscomb on Friday at 5:00 p.m. in one semifinal. The other semifinal will have the winner

between FGCU and Campbell meeting No. 2 Jacksonville at 7:30 p.m.

The championship match is set for 3 p.m. on Saturday.

Belmont is the defending tournament champion, but the Lipscomb Bisons are the heavy favorite after finishing with a perfect 20-0 conference record, making them the first team in Atlantic Sun history to ever go undefeated in double round-robin play.

The winner of the tournament receives an automatic bid into the NCAA Division I Volleyball Championship tournament.

Tickets for the tournament are still on available at the FGCU Ticket Office. For information on All-Tournament passes or to purchase session/day passes please call the FGCU ticket office at 239-590-7145 or visit the website at <http://www.fgcuathletics.com/tickets/default/> .