

Five Great Falls volleyball players recognized as 2011 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes

The University of Great Falls Volleyball Team placed five student-athletes on the NAIA Scholar-Athlete list. The NAIA announced Friday that 392 volleyball student-athletes have been named 2011 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes. Student-athletes are nominated by their institution's head coach and must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale and must have achieved a junior academic status in order to qualify for the honor.

Kila Adams from Camas, Wash., Jessica Birgenheier from Highwood, Mont., Kali Idol from Whitefish, Mont., Tosha Nunes from Fallon, Nev. and Jessika Weber of Idaho Falls, Idaho were recognized as 2011 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes. The Lady Argonauts enjoyed their second best season under Coach Arunas Duda finishing 22-10. "I am extremely proud of the academic accomplishments of our girls." Head Coach Arunas Duda said.

Of the five Frontier Conference institutions recognized, Great Falls had the most scholar-athletes with 5 just ahead of Rocky Mountain College with 4, Montana Tech 3, Westminster 2, and Lewis-Clark State College 1. "This recognition demonstrates what the student-athlete is all about." Athletic Director Gary Ehnes said. "This is exactly what we ask from our athletes, to perform in the classroom as well as in their given athletic discipline." Ehnes added. "We are very proud of our student-athletes." Ehnes concluded.