

St. Ambrose University Women's Basketball – Preseason Polls

2009-10 Midwest Collegiate Conference Preseason Coaches' Poll (Oct. 27, 2009)

The 2009-10 Midwest Collegiate Conference women's basketball preseason poll has been released, and St. Ambrose has been predicted as the top team in the conference based on the vote of league coaches. The Queen Bees finished first in a close race, receiving 74 points and three first-place votes. SAU edged out Mount Mercy, which received 73 points and four first-place votes. Grand View was third with 67 points and two first-place votes, while defending conference champion Iowa Wesleyan was fourth.

	2008-09 Record	Total points (1 st -place votes)		2008-09 Record	Total points (1 st -place votes)
1. <i>St. Ambrose</i>	20-11, 11-5	74 (3)	6.	Viterbo 9-22, 3-13	35
2. Mount Mercy	24-9, 13-3	73 (4)	7.	William Penn 10-22, 2-14	29
3. Grand View	23-9, 13-3	67 (2)	8.	Ashford 11-20, 4-12	26
4. Iowa Wesleyan	22-10, 14-2	48	9.	Clarke 4-26, 3-13	12
5. Waldorf	14-17, 9-7	41			

2009-10 NAIA Division II Top 25 Coaches' Poll (Oct. 26, 2009)

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Coming off a national title in 2009, Morningside College (Iowa) has been tabbed as the No. 1 team in the NAIA Division II Women's Basketball Coaches' Top 25 Preseason Poll, the NAIA announced Monday. The Mustangs tallied 15 first-place votes to earn 436 points. Fellow Great Plains Athletic Conference foe, Northwestern College (Iowa) is No. 2, followed by No. 3 Davenport University (Mich.), No. 4 Hastings College (Neb.) and No. 5 Shawnee State University (Ohio).

Morningside has spent the past 13 polls as the nation's top-ranked team, dating back to the 2008-09 preseason poll. Heading into the 2009-10 season, the Mustangs bring back three starters from last year's undefeated national championship team.

After a semifinal appearance, Northwestern lands as No. 2 in the preseason poll with 413 points. The Red Raiders were forced to rebuild during the 2008-09 season after losing five seniors off of 2008's national championship team. Last season Northwestern opened at No. 14 in the preseason poll and finished at No. 6 with a 26-8 record.

Davenport earned 409 points and one first-place vote to come in at No. 3. The Panthers advanced to the quarterfinals of the national tournament in 2009, falling to Northwestern 76-66. Davenport returns all five starters from a year ago after a 31-3 campaign.

Last season's national runner-up, Hastings enters 2009-10 ranked fourth with 389 points. The Broncos return all but two key players from a 27-8 squad and bring three starters back to the court. Hastings entered the national tournament ranked No. 18 after starting out as No. 2 in the preseason poll.

Shawnee State rounds out the top-five teams with 381 points. After closing out 2008-09 ranked second, the Bears were only able to advance to the second round of the national tournament before losing to Hastings, 77-69 in overtime. The loss was the only one of the season for Shawnee State, closing out the season with a 31-1 mark.

The poll was voted upon by a panel of head coaches representing each of the conferences. The first regular-season poll will be announced on Nov. 30.

	Total Points (1 st -place votes)
1. Morningside (Iowa)	436 (15)
2. Northwestern (Iowa)	413
3. Davenport (Mich.)	409 (1)
4. Hastings (Neb.)	384
5. Shawnee State (Ohio)	381
6. Jamestown (N.D.)	368
7. College of the Ozarks (Mo.)	337
8. Bethel (Ind.)	323
9. Black Hills State (S.D.)	312
10. Dickinson State (N.D.)	308
11. Cedarville (Ohio)	294
12. College of Idaho	290
13. Sterling (Kan.)	278
14. Indiana Wesleyan	233
15. Sioux Falls (S.D.)	227
16. Saint Francis (Ind.)	216
17. Aquinas (Mich.)	215
18. Southern Oregon	213
19. Southwestern (Kan.)	197
20. St. Ambrose (Iowa)	142
21. Concordia (Ore.)	141
22. Concordia (Neb.)	121
23. Taylor (Ind.)	115
24. Cardinal Stritch (Wis.)	84
25. Haskell Indian Nations (Kan.)	77

Others receiving votes: Holy Names (Calif.) 71; Huntington (Ind.) 61; Valley City State (N.D.) 59; Mt. Mercy (Iowa) 54; Milligan (Tenn.) 42; Walsh (Ohio) 35; Mount Marty (S.D.) 25; Florida Mem. 19; Menlo (Calif.) 14; Indiana SE 13; Madonna (Mich.) 13; Union (Ky.) 11; Daemen (N.Y.) 4; Grand View (Iowa) 1; Friends (Kan.) 1; St. Thomas (Fla.) 1; Minot State (N.D.) 1; Cornerstone (Mich.) 1; Mt. Vernon Nazarene (Ohio) 1; Northwood (Fla.) 1; Philander Smith (Ark.) 1