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QUINCY'S KELLER EARNS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR NOD

SENIOR GUARD HEADLINES FIVE-MEMBER ALL-GLVC FIRST TEAM

INDIANAPOLIS – Quincy University's Jessica Keller is the 2008-09 Great Lakes Valley Conference Women's Basketball Player of the Year. The senior guard from Belle, Missouri led the Lady Hawks to a 24-3 regular season record and 16-1 league mark.

Keller, who was selected the Player of the Year in a vote of the league's 13 head coaches, headlines the five-member All-GLVC Women's Basketball First Team. Joining Keller with first-team honors are Drury's Lindsay Ballweg, Indianapolis' Samantha Meissel, Northern Kentucky's Jessie Slack and UW-Parkside's Amanda Gibson.

In addition to the five first-team selections, a five-member second team has been selected. The members of the All-GLVC Women's Basketball Second Team include Bellarmine's Taylor Kopple, Indianapolis' Jessica Canary, Lewis' Jenny Turpel, Missouri S&T's Tamara McCaskill and Northern Kentucky's Cassie Brannen.

Keller led the GLVC in scoring this season with 20.3 points per game. She is also averaging 3.9 steals per game which places her in the top ten in the country. Keller added 6.7 rebounds and 4.5 assists per game during the season and was named the GLVC Player of the Week three times during the year. She is shooting 51.5 percent from the field, 42.9 percent from the three-point line and 74.5 percent from the free throw line.

Guiding Keller and her teammates this season has been head coach J.D. Gravina. The second-year head coach of the Lady Hawks has been named the GLVC Women's Basketball 'Chuck Mallender' Coach of the Year. Gravina led the Lady Hawks to a 16-1 league mark and the top seed in the GLVC Tournament. It marks the first GLVC Coach of the Year Award for Gravina. He has posted a 64-46 record as a head coach and a 44-13 record with Quincy.

The GLVC has also announced UW-Parkside's Jadee Rooney as the GLVC Women's Basketball Freshman of the Year. Rooney helped the Rangers to a second-place finish in the GLVC East Division this season with a 14-4 league record. She is averaging 12.3 points, 2.9 rebounds and 2.3 assists per game this season and upped her scoring output to 13.9 points per game in 18 league contests. Rooney was also selected to the GLVC Women's Basketball Third Team.

Joining Rooney on the All-GLVC Third Team is Bellarmine's Dana Beaven and Shawna Nicols, Drury's Melanie Oliver, Missouri S&T's Katie McElrath, Northern Kentucky's Brandi Rayburn,

Quincy's Courtney Shuman and Lindsay Stellflue, Rockhurst's Amy Hake and Southern Indiana's Ellen Young.

The complete All-GLVC Teams follow:

GLVC PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Jessica Keller, Quincy, Sr., Guard

GLVC FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR: Jadee Rooney, UW-Parkside, Fr., Guard

GLVC 'CHUCK MALLENDER' COACH OF THE YEAR: J.D. Gravina, Quincy

First Team

Lindsay Ballweg, Jr., Drury
Amanda Gibson, Jr., UW-Parkside
Jessica Keller, Sr., Quincy
Samantha Meissel, So., Indianapolis
Jessie Slack, Sr, Northern Kentucky

Second Team

Cassie Brannen, Sr., Northern Kentucky
Jessica Canary, Jr., Indianapolis
Taylor Kopple, Sr., Bellarmine
Tamara McCaskill, Sr., Missouri S&T
Jenny Turpel, So., Lewis

Third Team

Dana Beaven, Sr., Bellarmine
Amy Hake, Sr., Rockhurst
Katie McElrath, Sr., Missouri S&T
Shawna Nicols, Sr., Bellarmine
Melanie Oliver, Jr., Drury
Brandi Rayburn, Jr., Northern Kentucky
Jadee Rooney, Fr., UW-Parkside
Courtney Shuman, So., Quincy
Lindsay Stellflue, Jr., Quincy
Ellen Young, So., Southern Indiana

For more information about the GLVC and each conference member, please visit www.glvcsports.org.