

# D2

## SMALL COLLEGE REPORT: NCAA DIVISION 2



### ➤ DIVISION 2 PRESEASON TOP 10

- 1. Northwest Missouri State
- 2. Queens (N.C.)
- 3. Indiana (Pa.)
- 4. Bellarmine (Ky.)
- 5. Barry (Fla.)
- 6. Lincoln Memorial (Tenn.)
- 7. Texas-Permian Basin
- 8. California Baptist
- 9. Ferris State (Mich.)
- 10. Chico State

### ➤ DIVISION 2 ALL-AMERICA TEAM

#### FIRST TEAM

##### NAME/SCHOOL/HT./YEAR

**Daeshon Francis** TX-Permian Basin, 6-4, Sr.  
**Dan Monteroso** West Liberty (W.Va.), 6-3, Sr.  
**Justin Pitts** NW Missouri State, 5-9, Sr.  
**Justin Reyes** St. Thomas Aquinas (N.Y.), 6-4, Sr.  
**Dustin Sleva** Shippensburg (Pa.), 6-8, Sr.

#### SECOND TEAM

##### NAME/SCHOOL/HT./YEAR

**David Chavlovich** West Texas A&M, 5-11, Sr.  
**Charles Clark** Carson-Newman (Tenn.), 6-2, Sr.  
**Elvar Fridriksson** Barry (Fla.), 6-0, Sr.  
**Zach Hankins** Ferris State (Mich.), 6-10, Jr.  
**Jordan Spencer** Augustana (S.D.), 6-2, Sr.

#### HONORABLE MENTION

##### NAME/SCHOOL/HT./YEAR

**Jalin Alexander** Queens (N.C.), 6-3, Sr.  
**Preston Beverly** Point Loma (Calif.), 6-7, Jr.  
**Wendell Davis** Ashland (Ohio), 6-6, Sr.  
**Gage Davis** St. Cloud State (Minn.), 6-4, Jr.  
**Jacobo Diaz** Indiana (Pa.), 6-9, Jr.  
**Adam Dieball** Christian Bros. (Tenn.), 6-8, Jr.  
**Kalidou Diouf** California Baptist, 6-9, Sr.  
**Adam Eberhard** Bellarmine (Ky.), 6-8, Jr.  
**Juvaris Hayes** Merrimack (Mass.), 6-0, So.  
**Warren Jackson** San Francisco St., 6-0, Sr.  
**Trey Lamsman** Nebraska-Kearney, 6-7, Sr.  
**Dante Lombardi** Indiana (Pa.), 6-0, Jr.  
**Kendale McCullum** Wisc.-Parkside, 6-1, Sr.  
**Dorian Pinson** Lincoln Memorial, 6-5, Sr.  
**Brady Skeens** Washburn (Kan.), 6-7, Sr.  
**Alex Stein** Southern Indiana, 6-3, Jr.  
**Taren Sullivan** Findlay (Ohio), 6-6, Sr.  
**Gabe Taylor** California Baptist, 6-8, Sr.  
**Will Vorhees** Notre Dame (Ohio), 6-8, Sr.

### BY CHUCK MISTOVICH

*Basketball Times*

**1 NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE:** It's a difficult task but the Bearcats (35-1 record last season) would love to be the first NCAA Division 2 program to win back-to-back national championships since Cal State Bakersfield pulled off the feat in 1993 and '94. That achievement could very well come to pass with the return of 5-9 All-America speedster Justin Pitts, who slashed his way to 20.9 points and 5.1 assists per game last year. Coach Ben McCollum has plenty more fireworks in reserve with 6-7 starting forwards Chris-Ebou Ndow (12.5 ppg, 6.7 rpg) and Brett Dougherty back.

**2 QUEENS (N.C.):** The Royals (30-4) reached the NCAA Sweet 16 last year and look poised to improve on that. The four senior starters returning are 6-3 Jalin Alexander (13.3 ppg), 6-8 Todd Withers (13.6 ppg, 7.0 rpg), 6-4 Mike Davis (13.4 ppg) and 5-11 Ike Agusi (10.7 ppg, 4.5 apg). Coach Bart Lundy also welcomes back eight reserves, led by 6-2 Darryl White, 6-0 Daniel Carr and 6-4 Josh Van Weezep, a trio that combined to average 15.5 points last year. The 87.3 point-per-game offense will get a charge from 6-7 juco transfers Lewis Diankulu and DeVarte Watson.

**3 INDIANA (PA.):** Four starters and three lettermen brighten the outlook for the Crimson Hawks (28-4), who lost to national runner-up Fairmont State in the Sweet 16. Coach Joe Lombardi's defense-minded team (68.2 ppg) brings back four starters: 6-9 Jacobo Diaz (14.4 ppg, 10.0 rpg), 6-0 Dante Lombardi (13.5 ppg, 5.5 apg), 6-1 Anthony Glover (13.6 ppg) and 6-3 Ayron Hutton. Help off the bench comes from 6-7 Blake Danielak and 6-4 Malik Miller. Two 6-8 transfers, Anthony White (Siena) and Dom Keyes (Harford CC), add size.

**4 BELLARMINE:** Balance, depth and defense (65.3 ppg) are major assets for the Knights (32-4), who are coming off their fourth Final Four in the last seven years. Coach Scott Davenport returns only two starters in 6-8 Adam Eberhard (17.0 ppg, 7.6 rpg) and 6-2 Tyler Jenkins (8.3 ppg), but the cupboard is far from empty with nine other lettermen back. Those players include 6-1 Brent Bach, 6-1 Jarek Coles, 6-6 Alex Cook and 6-7 Ben Weyer. Division 1 transfer Parker Chitty, a 6-2 guard from Eastern Kentucky, provides instant help.

**5 BARRY:** The Bucs (23-7) are quite the international team, with players from eight different countries. No matter what the nationality, though, all eight guys can play. Coach Butch Estes returns three starters in 6-0

All-America guard Elvar Fridriksson (17.4 ppg, 4.3 rpg, 7.7 apg) and 6-8 forwards Daniel Mortensen (11.1 ppg, 6.2 rpg) and Kenan Guzonjic. The top reserve back is 6-4 Sawyer Glick (10.9 ppg). Two DI transfers—6-9 Johannes Dolven (Drake) and 6-6 Kyle Carey (Northern Colorado)—provide an immediate boost.

**6 LINCOLN MEMORIAL:** The Railsplitters (30-6) are looking to return to the Final Four for the third straight year. Coach Josh Schertz's balanced attack is led by four returning starters—6-5 Dorian Pinson (12.5 ppg, 8.1 rpg), 6-2 Trevon Shaw (11.4 ppg), 6-0 Cornelius Taylor (10.7) and 6-9 Emanuel Terry (10.1), plus top reserve Deshawn Patterson.

**7 TEXAS-PERMIAN BASIN:** The Falcons (26-6) have seven of their top eight scorers back from a team that was the school's first ever to go to the NCAA Tournament. They'll be led by first-team All-American Daeshon Francis, a 6-4 senior guard who averaged 18.2 points and 6.6 rebounds last season. Other returning starters are 6-2 rebounder supreme Sammy Allen (6.9 ppg, 11.3 rpg), 6-7 Josh Morris (10.7, 5.1) and 6-1 James McPherson (14.5 ppg). Jevon Thomas, a 6-1 transfer who played at Seton Hall and Kansas State and started 25 games for the Wildcats, was a big addition at point guard.

**8 CALIFORNIA BAPTIST:** The Lancers (26-5) are pumped to make a long run in their last season in Division 2 before moving up a level to join the WAC. Coach Rick Croy has plenty of veterans on hand, plus one of the best newcomers in D2 this year in 6-8 Gabe Taylor, who averaged 11.6 points and 5.5 rebounds at Division 1 Portland last season. Starters returning are 6-9 Kalidou Diouf (15.8 ppg, 6.9 rpg), 6-5 Jason Todd and 6-2 Jordan Heading.

**9 FERRIS STATE:** The Bulldogs (28-5) return 10 of their 11 players from an NCAA Tournament team, and are counting heavily on 6-10 All-American Zach Hankins (14.6 ppg, 10.5 rpg). His 3.9 blocked shots per game helped Ferris State lead the country in that category last season. Other starters back are 6-2 Drew Cushingberry (12.1 ppg, 3.6 apg), 6-3 Peter Firlik (10.8 ppg) and 6-4 Noah King. Division 1 transfer DeShaun Thrower, a 6-2 guard arriving at Ferris via Stony Brook, is the top recruit.

**10 CHICO STATE:** Coach Greg Clink's team (26-8) has grabbed two Elite Eight finishes over the last four years, and more is expected. The Wildcats return four starters: 6-8 Isaiah Ellis (13.3 ppg), 6-5 Corey Silverstrom (12.9), 5-10 Jalen McFerren and 6-9 Marvin Timothy.