

Eastern Kentucky University Athletics



EKU Soccer Places Three on All-OVC Second Team, Two on OVC All-Newcomer Team Soccer

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CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo. – Eastern Kentucky University soccer players [Deja Tennon](#), [Lauren Fant](#) and [Annie Wickett](#) were named second team All-Ohio Valley Conference, while Wickett and [Paige Larkin](#) were named to the OVC All-Newcomer Team on Wednesday night at the league's postseason awards banquet.

All four players honored hail from a formidable EKU defense that has not allowed multiple goals in a game since Sept. 9, a streak that led the Colonels to five conference wins (tied for the most in program history) and a No. 2 seed and crucial first-round bye in their fourth-consecutive OVC Tournament appearance.

EKU will play the winner of No. 3 UT Martin and No. 6 Eastern Illinois in the semifinals of the OVC Tournament on Friday at 5:00 p.m. EST.

It is the second straight year Tennon has been named second team All-OVC. The junior from Centerville, Ohio played in the attack her freshman year, but moved to the backline as a sophomore. This year, she used her speed and athleticism to solidify a role as a hybrid player who plays all over the field. She thrived in that role, as she took 14 shots, five of which were on goal, and dished out two assists, both of which came against conference foes, during the regular season.

Fant was a leader and a presence on the EKU backline this season, as she led all Colonels in minutes played (1,717). Like Tennon, however, the sophomore from just outside Detroit was an aggressive defender, using her athleticism to get forward, as she dished out an assist in the upset of then-regionally ranked Miami (Ohio) on Aug. 28 and scored a goal in the Colonels' 4-0 upending of UNC Asheville on Sept 2.

In just her first season of collegiate soccer, Wickett proved to be one of the top goalkeepers in the OVC. The freshman from Frederick, Md. started all but the first game of the season for the Colonels and recorded 80 saves, three shutouts and was third in the OVC with a 0.75 goals-against-average during conference play. The EKU

soccer program has now had All-OVC goalkeepers in four of its seven years of existence, as Wickett adds to a strong tradition started by Christina Graul (2005) and Stephanie Lynch (2008-09).

EKU has now had 10 second team All-OVC players in only seven years of existence, as Tennon, Fant and Wickett join the likes of Graul, Lynch, Carly Muller (2007), Jessica Goshert (2007), Laura Caldon (2008), Kayla Swearingen (2008) and Ashley Green (2009) in a line of decorated Colonels.

Wickett was also named to the OVC All-Newcomer Team along with Larkin. Larkin, a freshman from Cerritos, Calif., started all 19 games on the backline and played the second most minutes of any non-goalskeeper on the team (behind Fant). She also dished out an assist in the win over UNC Asheville and scored the game-winning goal in a crucial conference matchup at home against UT Martin on Oct. 7.

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