

CVU.com National Player of the Week

November 20: Gwen Rucker, Louisville

The Collegiate Volleyball Update (CVU.com) is pleased to announce that Louisville senior Gwen Rucker has been selected as the CVU.com National



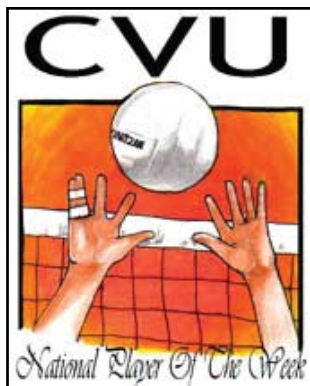
photos courtesy Louisville Sports Information

Player of the Week for Nov. 12 through Nov. 18.

A 6-2 middle blocker from Lexington, Ky., Rucker came through with three matches of stellar play to help Louisville become the first team since 2007 to win both the BIG EAST regular season title and the conference tournament championship.

To open the tournament, the senior posted a BIG EAST record hitting percentage, drilling 13 kills on only 15 swings without an error to hit .867. That was complemented by a big defensive outing as Rucker just missed a double-double with nine blocks in the sweep of St. John's.

In the next round versus Cincinnati, the middle again missed converting on just



two swings, knocked down 15 kills on 17 attempts to hit .765 for the match. That went with three more blocks as the Cardinals picked up another sweep.

Finally, in the title tilt versus Marquette, Rucker again was solid all around and the result was the same:

another sweep. The senior picked up 10 more kills on .400 hitting, chipping in defensively with six digs and five blocks en route to tournament MVP honors.

For the nine sets of the championship, Rucker committed only two errors, averaging 4.22 kills and 1.89 blocks per set all while hitting a scorching .654. The middle is the second Louisville player to receive the CVU.com Weekly Honor. The other was Lena Ustymenko in 2005.

—CVU.COM

Gwen Rucker

School: Louisville

Year: Senior

Position: Middle blocker

Height: 6-2

Major: Math and actuarial science

Hometown: Lexington, Ky.



Gwen Rucker

- Aug. 28: Megan Bober, Sr., S, Creighton
- Sept. 4: Kelsie Wills, So., OH, Hofstra
- Sept. 11: Kaitlynn Pelger, Jr., MB, Kansas State
- Sept. 18: Melanie Stutsman, Jr., S, Western Kentucky
- Sept. 25: Jessica Adams, Sr., L, Tulsa
- Oct. 2: Dalas Dodd, RFr., S, Saint Mary's
- Oct. 9: Samantha Bricio, Fr., OH, Southern California
- Oct. 16: Ellie Roberson, Sr., RS, Morehead State
- Oct. 23: Emani Sims, So., MB, Miami
- Oct. 30: Carly Thomas, Jr., S, Missouri State
- Nov. 6: Holly Mertens, Sr., RS, Marquette
- Nov. 13: Vendula Strakova, So., RS, Hampton
- Nov. 20: Gwen Rucker, Sr., MB, Louisville
- Nov. 27:
- Dec. 4:
- Dec. 11:



Accomplishments: Recorded a BIG EAST record as she hit .867 in the first round of the conference tournament. Earned BIG EAST tournament MVP honors as she averaged 4.22 kills and 1.89 blocks per set on .654 hitting as Louisville claimed the regular season and tournament titles.

College and conference SIDs are welcome to make Player of the Week nominations. Nominations are due to pr@cvu.com every Monday by 1 p.m. Pacific time.