



# SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE ATHLETICS

## Men's Volleyball

### 2012

### Fast Facts:

- ▼ The Springfield College men's volleyball team has captured six Molten Division III national championships.
- ▼ Head coach **Charlie Sullivan**, who enters his 14th season in 2012, was named the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Division III National Coach of the Year in 2010.
- ▼ The Pride has finished the season ranked No. 1 seven times in the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Division III national poll, and holds the most No. 1 rankings nationally, since the AVCA began the poll in 1996.
- ▼ Affiliations: NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Division III
- ▼ Home Court: Blake Arena



*Junior*  
**Greg Falcone**



## SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE

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# HEAD COACH

## Charlie Sullivan

### ▼ Education

- Springfield College '91, G'97

### ▼ Memberships

- EIVA Executive Committee
- AVCA Division III Representative
- Division III National Poll voter
- Volleyball Hall of Fame Board of Directors

### ▼ Coaching Experience

- Assistant coach, U.S. National Team, 2007 FIVB World Cup, 2008 World League Tournament, 2006 World Championships, and 2009 NORCECA Championship
- Director, USA High Performance Camp ('06, '07, '08, '09)
- Assistant coach, USA Junior National Team, Norceca Championship ('02 and '04)
- Internship with the USA Men's National Team, Colorado Springs, Colo.
- Head boys and girls volleyball coach, Marymount International School, Rome, Italy
- 2001 U.S. National Team, Arafura Games, Darwin, Australia (bronze medal)

**Charlie Sullivan** will enter his 14th season as head coach of the men's volleyball team at his *alma mater* in 2012. In 13 previous years at the helm, Sullivan has an overall record of 191-150 (.560).

Sullivan's coaching career in the college ranks began in 1997 as an assistant on the Springfield College team that won the inaugural Molten Championship. In 1998, Sullivan became the head coach at Marycrest International University in Davenport, Iowa, and was instrumental in the development of the first National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Men's Volleyball Championship that was held at Marycrest. During that year, Sullivan headed the NAIA National Championship Committee and chaired the Midwest Intercollegiate Volleyball Association (MIVA) Conference.

During the fall of 2005, Sullivan coached with Feffe DeGiorgi and the Marcerata Volleyball Club, a top professional

league in Italy. He had the opportunity to work with some of the top international players such as Ivan Miljkovic of Serbia, Angel Dennis of Cuba, and Rodrigo Santana of Brazil.

Sullivan has worked extensively with USA Volleyball as he has had an active role in running USA Volleyball High Performance camps for the past several years.

Sullivan has participated in the NCAA Youth Education Through Sports (YES) clinics held in conjunction with NCAA Men's Volleyball Championships. He has also presented at AVCA clinics, and published articles in *Coaching Volleyball* and *Volleyball* magazines. He is an assistant professor in sports psychology at Springfield College, and co-wrote the curriculum for sports physics for physical education majors.

## Contributions to the Game

William G. Morgan graduated from Springfield College in 1894 and invented the sport of volleyball one year later. Morgan, the physical education director of the city of Holyoke YMCA, who developed the game as a less-strenuous alternative to basketball, originally called the sport "mintonette." In 1896, Springfield College professor A.T. Halstead observed an exhibition match at the College and suggested "volleyball" as a more appropriate name.

In 1995, Springfield College was the host institution for the NCAA Division I tournament that took place at the Springfield Civic Center and was televised nationally on both ESPN and ESPN2. In 1996,

the Volleyball Hall of Fame selected Springfield College as the recipient of its Court of Honor Award, recognizing the College for its significant contributions and longtime commitment to volleyball. Previous winners of the Court of Honor Award include the 1980 USA Women's and 1984 USA Men's Olympic teams, the YMCA, the American and United States Volleyball Associations, the Federal Internationale de Volleyball, and Special Olympics International.

# 2011 Honors

▼ **AVCA Division III National Player of the Year:** Cal Palumbo, senior ▼ **AVCA Division III First Team All-American:** Cal Palumbo, senior; Alberto Bravo, senior; Nick Ferry, freshman ▼ **AVCA Division III Second Team All-America:** Greg Falcone, sophomore ▼ **EIVA All-East First Team:** Cal Palumbo, senior; Alberto Bravo, senior; Greg Falcone, sophomore ▼ **EIVA All-Academic Team:** Mike Pelletier, sophomore ▼ **Volleyball Hall of Fame-Morgan Classic All-Tournament Team:** Cal Palumbo, senior ▼ **Volleyball Hall of Fame-Morgan Classic Sportsmanship Award:** Mike Becker, sophomore ▼ **EIVA Tait Division Player of the Week:** April 11-Mike Becker, sophomore ▼ **Maroon Club Athletes of the Week:** Feb. 7-Cal Palumbo, senior; April 11-Alberto Bravo, senior

## 2012 Roster of Returning Players

Name	Cl.	Pos.	Ht.	Hometown/Club
Evan Acanfora	Jr.	OH	6-2	Lakeview, N.Y./Eden
Cory Bair	So.	MB	6-4	Mount Wolf, Pa./Northeastern
Mike Becker	Jr.	S	6-2	Hempfield, Pa./Damons
John Coen	Jr.	OH	6-3	Chicago, Ill./Rollin Thunder
Tommy Crow	So.	OH	6-2	Alamo, Calif./Bay to Bay
Greg Falcone	Jr.	MB	6-7	Lindenhurst, N.Y./Long Island
Nick Ferry	So.	L	5-10	Valencia, Calif./SMBC
Mike Freytag	Jr.	MB	6-7	Syracuse, N.Y./Cicero-North Syracuse
Jeff Gutmann	Sr.	OH	6-3	Cheektowaga, N.Y./P. Station
Ryan Lilley	So.	S	5-11	Stony Brook, N.Y./Long Island
Alistair Matthews	Jr.	OP	6-3	Freehold, N.J./Warren
Scott McMahan	So.	OH	6-3	Forestville, Calif./Bay to Bay
James O'Leary	So.	MB	6-6	Reading, Pa./Governor Mifflin
Mike Pelletier	Jr.	OH	6-3	Burnt Hills, N.Y./Lakeview
Jordan Robinson	So.	L	5-9	Mertztown, Pa./Lehigh
Tyler Tanaka	So.	OH	6-2	Kailua, Hawaii/Kuikahi
Ryan Wheeler	So.	S	5-10	Manhattan Beach, Calif./SCVC

**Head Coach:** Charlie Sullivan '91 G'97 (14th season)

**Assistant Coaches:** Kevin Burch, Sam Zapatka



*junior*  
**Mike Becker**

## 2011 Results

### January

14	at Cal Baptist	L, 0-3
14	at Hope International University	W, 3-0
15	at Pierce College - Exhibition	W, 3-2
15	at Cal Baptist	L, 0-3
21	at George Mason*	L, 0-3
22	at Penn State*	L, 0-3
28	<b>Emmanuel</b>	W, 3-1

### February

04	<b>Pacific</b> ^	L, 0-3
05	<b>Grand Canyon</b> ^	W, 3-0
08	at Sacred Heart	L, 0-3
11	<b>George Mason</b> *	L, 2-3
12	<b>Philadelphia Biblical</b>	L, 2-3
14	at Harvard	L, 1-3
18	at Juniata	W, 3-0
19	at St. Francis*	L, 1-3
24	<b>NJIT</b>	W, 3-0
26	at Princeton*	W, 3-1

### March

01	<b>Vassar</b>	W, 3-0
04	<b>Princeton</b> *	W, 3-1
05	<b>Penn State</b> *	L, 1-3

### March (continued)

08	at Rutgers*	W, 3-0
10	<b>Baruch</b>	W, 3-0
22	<b>Sacred Heart</b>	W, 3-1
23	<b>Harvard</b>	W, 3-0
27	<b>NYU</b>	L, 2-3

### April

01	<b>Juniata</b>	W, 3-2
02	<b>St. Francis</b> *	L, 0-3
06	at NYU	W, 3-1
09	<b>Rutgers</b> *	W, 3-1
15	vs. Baruch%	W, 3-1
16	at Nazareth%	L, 1-3
23	<b>Juniata</b> &	W, 3-2
28	vs. George Mason&	W, 3-1
30	at Penn State&	L, 0-3

\* EIVA Tait Match

^Volleyball Hall of Fame/Morgan Classic

% Molten Division III Men's Invitational

Volleyball Championship

& EIVA Division I Championship

Home matches in **bold**



The men's volleyball team plays home competitions in Blake Arena, on the main level of the domed three-level Physical Education Complex. The floor is covered by Connor Neo-Shock maple wood that allows for a variety of activities such as athletic contests, classes, lectures, and shows. Roll-out bleachers accommodate more than 2,000 spectators. With the bleachers closed, it has room for two regulation-size basketball courts. Blake Arena has served as the host site of the 2006 and 2007 NCAA Division III Women's Basketball Championship (Final Four). Numerous regional and national tournaments have taken place in Blake Arena as it serves as the home facility to the women's volleyball team, the wrestling team, and both basketball teams.

## Facilities



sophomore  
**Nick Ferry**

## 2012 Season Preview

The Springfield College men's volleyball team has plenty to look forward to when thinking about its 2012 campaign. Returning all but two players from last season, in which it reached the national championship match, the Pride's upcoming season looks promising.

Springfield College's season will have a pair of historic events serving as bookends. The Pride will kick off the year by becoming just the first Division III program ever to compete in the Outrigger Invitational hosted by the University of Hawaii. The Pride then hope to cap of the year as national champions after serving as host for the inaugural NCAA Division III Men's Volleyball Championship on April 27-29.

Entering their junior seasons, **Greg Falcone** and **Mike Pelletier**, along with sophomore **Nick Ferry**, will lead the Pride. Falcone, a two-time All-America selection, had 240 kills and 123 blocks while setting a program single-season record with a .524 hitting percentage. Pelletier posted 261 kills and 162 digs last season, while Ferry earned All-America First Team honors after totaling a team-best 262 digs as Springfield College's libero.

## 2012 Schedule

### January

12	Thu.	at Outrigger Invitational (Univ. of Hawaii)	TBA
13	Fri.	at Outrigger Invitational (Univ. of Hawaii)	TBA
14	Sat.	at Outrigger Invitational (Univ. of Hawaii)	TBA
24	Tue.	<b>Sacred Heart</b>	7:00 pm
27	Fri.	<b>Endicott</b>	7:00 pm
28	Sat.	at Harvard	7:00 pm

### February

1	Wed.	at Emmanuel	7:00 pm
4	Sat.	<b>Johnson and Wales</b>	2:30 pm
4	Sat.	<b>Emmanuel</b>	7:00 pm
7	Tue.	<b>MIT</b>	7:00 pm
10	Fri.	<b>UC Santa Cruz</b> <sup>^</sup>	8:00 pm
11	Sat.	<b>Lees-McCrea/Cal Baptist</b> <sup>^</sup>	TBA
18	Sat.	<b>Hunter</b>	2:30 pm
18	Sat.	<b>Newbury</b>	7:30 pm
24	Fri.	at Juniata Invitational	TBA
25	Sat.	at Juniata Invitational	TBA

### March

3	Sat.	at Baruch	TBA
7	Wed.	<b>NYU</b>	7:00 pm
8	Thu.	at Endicott	7:00 pm
23	Fri.	<b>Springfield Tournament</b>	TBA
24	Sat.	<b>Springfield Tournament</b>	TBA
30	Fri.	at Vassar Invitational	TBA
31	Sat.	at Vassar Invitational	TBA

### April

6	Fri.	at MIT Invitational	TBA
7	Sat.	at MIT Invitational	TBA
12	Thu.	<b>St. Francis</b>	7:00 pm
14	Sat.	at MIT	7:00 pm
27	Fri.	<b>NCAA Division III Championship</b>	TBA
28	Sat.	<b>NCAA Division III Championship</b>	TBA
29	Sun.	<b>NCAA Division III Championship</b>	TBA

<sup>^</sup> Volleyball Hall of Fame/Morgan Classic  
Home matches in **Bold**  
All times subject to change