

### 12 January 2005 - Jim McLaughlin Joins Gold Medal Squared Advisory Staff

Gold Medal Squared is proud to welcome Jim McLaughlin to our Advisory Staff.

Jim begins his fifth year as head coach of the University of Washington volleyball team and has helped catapult it from the bottom of the Pacific-10 Conference to a top-10 program and national championship contender. After inheriting a program that finished last in the Pac-10 standings in 2000, McLaughlin has taken the Huskies to the postseason in each of the last three seasons, leading UW to a Final Four appearance last year. UW's record has improved in each season under McLaughlin's direction and the Huskies have reintroduced themselves as one of the country's top volleyball programs.

A 15-year veteran head coach, McLaughlin has proven his ability to recruit talented student-athletes and cultivate championship programs. He has made 14 appearances in the NCAA postseason, including four with Kansas State, which advanced to the Sweet 16 in 2000. He also spent seven seasons as the men's head coach at USC, where he won a national championship in 1990 and finished as runner-up a year later.

Last year, Jim was named the NCAA National Coach of the Year for his efforts in leading UW to the final four and a #1 ranking in the polls for seven weeks. He led Washington to its first-ever Pacific-10 Conference title with a 16-2 record this season and garnered Pac-10 Coach of the Year honors for the second time in three years. The Huskies opened 2004 with a school-record 22-match win streak.

McLaughlin spent four seasons at Kansas State (1997-2000), compiling an 82-43 record and advancing to the NCAA tournament four straight years. In 2000, he coached KSU to a 22-9 record, a program-best No. 16 national ranking and its first-ever trip to the NCAA Sweet 16. The Wildcats also placed second in the Big 12 Conference, the school's best-ever finish.

Prior to that, McLaughlin was the head men's coach at USC for seven seasons, leading the Trojans to the NCAA title in 1990 (his first season as head coach) and a runner-up finish in 1991.

A member of the 1981 U.S. World University Games team, he earned first team all-state honors and was named SMC's Athlete of the Year. In 1982, McLaughlin transferred to UC Santa Barbara (1982-83), where he was the Gauchos' starting setter for two seasons, earning honorable mention All-America honors as a senior.

While finishing his bachelor's degree in film studies and economics, the 1985 graduate served as a student assistant coach for both the UCSB men's and women's squads, under legendary coaches Kathy Gregory and Ken Preston. He also captained the 1985 U.S. World University Games team and was an USVBA First Team All-American. McLaughlin's first full-time college coaching job took him to Pepperdine University (1986-89), where he helped coach the Waves to a combined record of 74-41 and the 1986 NCAA men's title.

At Pepperdine, McLaughlin once again got the benefits of working with two of the best coaches in the nation, alongside Wilde, an assistant with the 1996 and 2000 men's U.S. Olympic teams, and Marv Dunphy, the head coach of the 1988 gold medal-winning U.S. men's squad.

The Malibu, Calif., native also has had experience coaching on the international level as a three-time head coach at the World University Games (1991, 1993, 1995), in addition to being the head coach of the 1991 Pan Am team and a consultant for the men's U.S. Olympic teams in 1992 and 1996.

