



The Blue Ribbon

Winter 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Happy New Year! Athletic Academic Advising and the Department of Athletics are proud to share our Blue Ribbon Newsletter. This annual publication highlights the academic achievements of DePaul student-athletes, and this edition reflects achievements during the 2018-2019 academic year, as well as fall 2019:

- The program as a whole recorded a 3.462 GPA
- Two teams earned the highest GPA in the BIG EAST Conference—Softball and Women's Tennis
- A record 177 student-athletes (83.1%) were named to the 2018-2019 BIG EAST All-Academic Team

In addition to last year's achievement, student-athletes have continued academic excellence in the 2019-2020 fall quarter:

- 172 student-athletes (81.9%) earned over a 3.0
- 128 student-athletes (61.0%) earned over a 3.5
- 31 student-athletes (14.8%) earned a perfect 4.0

Student-athletes work hard to balance the rigors of academics and the demands of their sport. The assistance they receive from faculty and staff is greatly appreciated, and we wish to thank you for your support. We are very proud of these accomplishments and know that you play an important role in the academic success of our student-athletes.

We ask that you join us in honoring our BIG EAST All-Academic Team at a halftime ceremony during the men's basketball game versus Xavier on Tuesday, February 4th at 8 p.m. at Wintrust Arena. The first 50 faculty or staff to RSVP will receive two complimentary tickets and dinner prior to the game at Pizano's Pizza and Pasta starting at 6 p.m. [RSVP Here](#).

For those faculty and staff who do not attend dinner or receive tickets, discounted game tickets will be available for purchase online with the discount promo code "AAANIGHT." All faculty and staff in attendance will be invited to the court at halftime to participate in our recognition ceremony.

We work hard each day to make DePaul Athletics something of which the university community can be proud, and thank you in advance for your continued support of our student-athletes. We look forward to seeing you on February 4 or at another athletic event in the near future--our student-athletes would love to see you at one of their competitions.

If we can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jean Lenti Ponsetto".

Jean Lenti Ponsetto
Director of Athletics

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kate O'Brien".

Kate O'Brien, Ph.D.
Associate Athletic Director
Academic Advising and Student-Athlete Development

Athletic Director's Honor Roll and Dean's List Fall 2019

Athletic Director's honor roll must earn a term GPA of 3.0 or greater. Dean's List must earn a term GPA of 3.5 or higher.

*Dean's List honorees appear in bold



Men's Basketball

Flynn Cameron
Brendan Favre
Darios Hall
Jason Malonga
Sullivan Menard
Romeo Weems
Pantelis Xidias



Golf

Perry Chong
Nik Gatmaytan
Conor Glennon
Ronnie Griggs
Noah Kolar
Campbell Wolf



Men's Soccer

Michael Anderson
Cameron Beezley
Justin Bohlig
Josh Bowser
Matthew Brickman
Brayden Callipari
Max de Bruijne
McRay Drong
Zachary El-Shafei
David Gripman
Grant Herbek
Daniel Iskra
Timmy Iskra
Joseph McGee
Drew Nuelle
Eddie Perry
Youssef Ramadan
Robert Rao
John Richards
Brian Schwake
Jacob Seeto
Kyle Smith



Men's Tennis

Chris Casati
Lars Minsaas
Boris Spanjaard
Fran Tonejc
Vito Tonejc
Tripp Tuff
Luuk Wassenaar
Tamas Zador



Men's Cross Country/Track & Field

Chris Ahlers
Kyle Casper
Joe Davies
Zachary Debelak
Noah Deck
Jaylen Grigsby
Jules Gueguen
Henry Harper
Scott Jonske
Shane Knanishu
Henry Larkin
Benjamin Lee
Benjamin Litwin
Dominic Marshall
Kyle Mastrangeli
Paul Monteleone
Alex Murray
Adam Nelson
Michael Parry
Antonio Pavloski
Josh Pearson
Anthony Perry
Ryan Taylor
Jarel Terry
Brendan Van Voorhis



Softball

Erin Andris
Pearl Barroso
Jessica Cothorn
Madison Fisher
Grace Frazier
Maranda Gutierrez
Skylor Hilger
Erin Hocker
Riley Holmgren
Cara Jimenez
Brooke Johnson
Payton Lundberg
Tori Meyer
Gabrielle O'Riley
Kate Polucha
Angela Scalzitti
Taylor Young



Volleyball

Claire Anderson
Isabelle Banez
Sasha Bolla
Donna Brown
Elana Brueggemann
Isabell De La Rosa
Katie Dolan
Avarie Evans-Allen
Mireya Garcia
Natalie Hayward
Brittany Maxwell
Bailey Nelson
Mattison Norris
Emma Price
Mariah Robinson
Mackenzie Savage



Women's Basketball

Dee Bekelja
Kelly Campbell
Kayla Caudle
Deja Church
Joli Daninger
Alexa Held
Sonya-Ann Morris
Hannah Purcell
Keimari Rimmer
Chante Stonewall
Marisa Warren



Women's Soccer

Jackie Batliner
Kristin Boos
Sarah Cohen
Jade Eriksen-Russo
Mollie Eriksson
Avery Hay
Sydney Hunt
Jessica Lazo
Nathalia Lopez
Megan Malecha
Samantha McKibben
Elena Milam
Ellie Mink
Maria Nordness
Sydney Parker
Kayla Petroskey
Bina Saipi
Jadyn Scholler

Mary Tierney
Morgan Turner
Adrian Walker
Gwen Walker
Brooke Weitzel



Women's Tennis

Layo Adelakun
Lenka Antonijevic
Aspasia Avgeri
Hristina Dokic
Marija Jovicic
Yuliya Kizelbasheva
Alina Kuzmenkova
Madelyn Yergler



Women's Cross Country/Track & Field

Esther Aldana
Charlotte Anderson
Sandra Bitashimwa
Olivia Borowiak
Terece Brown
Ericka Burgess
Tori Carroll
Lorie Cashdollar
Rutendo Chimbaru
Rebecca Chouinard
Kaitlen Crawford
Ariel Davis
Noelle DeJaynes
Lizzie DeJoie
Maret Elgren
Jade Gates
Violet Harper
Jessica Harris
Margaret Hastings
Alexa Havon
Isabel Ingram
Chasady Johnson
Alicia Jones
Siarah Jones
Mackenzie Mescher
Kindle Miles
Kiara Pauli
Courtney Pickering
Talia Saleh
Isabella Uscila
Kiersten Walker

Reverend John R. Cortelyou Award Winners

Awarded to the male and female student-athlete who earned the highest GPA in the senior class:

Emily Eller

Female student-athlete from [Women's Track and Field](#)



- 3.862 Cumulative GPA
- B.A. in Journalism
- DePaul University Athletic Director's Honor Roll Every Quarter
- DePaul University Dean's List Every Quarter
- BIG EAST All-Academic Team in 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019

Kyle Decker

Male student-athlete from [Men's Track and Field](#)



- 3.992 Cumulative GPA
- B.S. in Biological Sciences with a concentration in Medicine and Health and a minor in Chemistry
- DePaul University Athletic Director's Honor Roll Every Quarter
- DePaul University Dean's List Every Quarter
- BIG EAST All-Academic Team in 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019
- DePaul University Athletics 4.0 Club 9 out of 11 Quarters
- Attending Medical School at Loyola University Chicago

NCAA Public Recognition Award

Awarded to teams by the NCAA for having multi-year Academic Performance Rate (APR) scores in the top 10 percent of all squads in their respective sports. For 2018-2019 five teams were recognized:

- Women's Basketball
- Men's Golf
- Men's Tennis
- Women's Cross Country
- Softball

4.0 Club Fall 2019

- **Chris Ahlers**—Men's Cross Country/Track & Field
- **Michael Anderson**—Men's Soccer
- **Aspasia Avgeri**—Women's Tennis
- **Jackie Batliner**—Women's Soccer
- **Brayden Callipari**—Men's Soccer
- **Tori Carroll**—Women's Track & Field
- **Kyle Casper**—Men's Track & Field
- **Ariel Davis**—Women's Track & Field
- **Jade Eriksen-Russo**—Women's Soccer
- **Jaylen Grigsby**—Men's Track & Field
- **Maranda Gutierrez**—Softball
- **Jessica Harris**—Women's Cross Country/Track & Field
- **Grant Herbek**—Men's Soccer
- **Sydney Hunt**—Women's Soccer
- **Timmy Iskra**—Men's Soccer
- **Isabel Ingram**—Women's Track & Field
- **Marija Jovicic**—Women's Tennis
- **Yuliya Kizelbasheva**—Women's Tennis
- **Alina Kuzmenkova**—Women's Tennis
- **Lars Minsaas**—Men's Tennis
- **Paul Monteleone**—Men's Track & Field
- **Bailey Nelson**—Volleyball
- **Maria Nordness**—Women's Soccer
- **Joshua Pearson**—Men's Track & Field
- **Anthony Perry**—Men's Cross Country/Track & Field
- **Hannah Purcell**—Women's Basketball
- **Robert Rao**—Men's Soccer
- **Angela Scalzitti**—Softball
- **Fran Tonejc**—Men's Tennis
- **Tripp Tuff**—Men's Tennis
- **Morgan Turner**—Women's Soccer

2018-2019 BIG EAST All-Academic Team

A record-setting 177 DePaul University student-athletes were named to the 2018-2019 BIG EAST All-Academic Team. This total surpassed the previous high of 172 in 2017-2018.

Men's Basketball

Flynn Cameron
John Diener
Jason Malonga
Paul Reed
Lyrik Shreiner
Max Strus
Pantelis Xidias

Men's Cross

Country/Track & Field

Christopher Ahlers
Babajide Bamgbose
Chris Cadet
Kyle Casper
Joseph Davies
Noah Deck
Kyle Decker
Conor Fagan
Matthew Gagen
Henry Harper
Scott Jonske
John Korte
Shane Knanishu
Eamon Kuhne
Henry Larkin
Benjamin Litwin
Jeremy Lozano
Alexander Lucking
Dominic Marshall
Kyle Mastrangeli
Paul Monteleone
Alex Murray
Adam Nelson
Antonio Pavloski
Joshua Pearson
Anthony Perry
Daniel Peterson
Andrew Rocco
Ryan Taylor
Brendan Van Voorhis

Men's Golf

Grant Boyson
Perry Chong
Carlo Gatmaytan
Ronald Griggs
Joseph McCarthy
Charles Spencer-White
Robert Thomas
Campbell Wolf

Men's Soccer

Justin Bohlig
Matthew Brickman
Brayden Callipari
Max de Bruijne
Sadra Golzarian
Harry Hilling
Timothy Iskra
Michael Mojarrro
Andrew Nuelle
Edwin Perry
Robert Rao
John Richards
Anton Sell
Bryan Simons
Kyle Smith
Matthew Solem
Patrick Watkins

Men's Tennis

Christopher Casati
Conor O'Meara
Boris Spanjaard
Vito Tonejc
Fran Tonejc
Tripp Tuff
Luuk Wassenaar
Tamas Zador

Softball

Erin Andris
Pearl Barroso
Jessica Cothorn
Krista Dalgarn
Madison Fisher
Morgan Greenwood
Maranda Gutierrez
Natalie Halvorson
Skylor Hilger
Riley Holmgren
Cara Jimenez
Gabrielle O'Riley
Katherine Polucha
Alysia Rodriguez
Angela Scalzitti
Brianna Viles
Taylor Young

Volleyball

Claire Anderson
Isabelle Banez
Donna Brown
Isabell De La Rosa
Kathleen Dolan
Avarie Evans-Allen
Mireya Garcia
Natalie Hayward
Dominika Kowalska
Ashley Marshall
Brittany Maxwell
Mattison Norris
Emma Price
Mariah Robinson
Mackenzie Savage
Madeline Torti

Women's Basketball

Tanita Allen
Kyra Bekelja
Kelly Campbell
Rebekah Dahlman
Jolene Daninger
Marte Grays
Alexa Held
Nadege Jean
Courtney Krol
Ashton Millender
Sonya Morris
Chante Stonewall
Amaya Stovall

Women's Cross

Country/Track & Field

Esther Aldana
Dylan Armstrong
Alexia Brooks
Terece Brown
Ericka Burgess
Lorie Cashdollar
Rutendo Chimbaru
Rebecca Chouinard
Kaitlen Crawford
Ariel Davis
Laura Edwards
Maret Elgren
Emily Eller
Jade Gates
Jessica Harris
Margaret Hastings
Isabel Ingram
Kate Jacobs
Siarah Jones
Caroline Kurdej
Mackenzie Mescher
Caroline Muller
Halle Nash
Courtney Pickering

Miranda Rea

Talia Saleh
Emma Stephens
Isabella Uscila
Kiersten Walker
Jessica Watkins

Women's Soccer

Kristina Barczak
Jacqueline Batliner
Franny Cerny
Sarah Cohen
Jade Eriksen-Russo
Mollie Eriksson
Madeline Frick
Avery Hay
Chelsey Henry
Mikaela Hoard
Sydney Hunt
Jessica Lazo
Ellie Mink
Mira Nepomuceno
Vanessa Nigg
Sydney Parker
Elizabeth Parrilli
Blerina Saiqi
Mary Tierney
Morgan Turner
Gwendolyn Walker
Adrian Walker
Brooke Weitzel

Women's Tennis

Lenka Antonijevic
Aspasia Avgeri
Keisha Clousing
Hristina Dokic
Marija Jovicic
Alina Kuzmenkova
Milica Tesic
Madelyn Yergler

The 2019-2020 Captains' Council



from left to right

Rutendo Chimbaru,
Women's Track & Field | President
Fran Tonejc, Men's Tennis | Vice President
Sasa Labovic, Men's Soccer | Secretary
Avery Hay, Women's Soccer | Treasurer

Representatives from all 15 teams meet monthly to discuss issues in intercollegiate athletics and provide feedback to the athletic administration. This group provides input into the decision-making process on campus, within the conference and nationwide. In addition to their leadership, Captains' Council spearheads community service activities for student-athletes.

2018-2019 Academic Accomplishments by Team



Men's Basketball

- 4th Consecutive National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) Team Academic Award
- Max Strus:
 - Division I-AAA Athletics Directors Association (DI-AAA ADA) Scholar-Athlete Team presented by ARMS Software
 - First team Google Cloud Academic All-District honoree
- Jason Malonga:
 - National Association of Basketball Honors Court



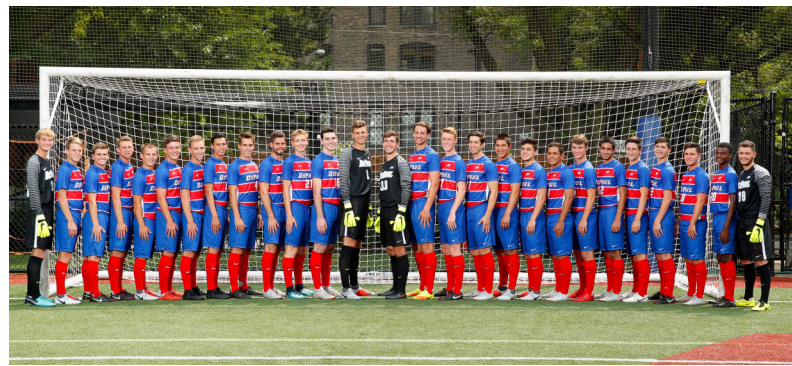
Women's Basketball

- Recorded a perfect Academic Progress Rate (APR)
- Women's Basketball Coaches Association Top 25 Academic Poll (13 out of the last 14 years)
 - #17 with a team GPA of 3.561
- Marte Grays:
 - BIG EAST Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence Award
 - DI-AAA ADA Scholar-Athlete Team presented by ARMS Software
 - Senior CLASS Award Candidate: Recognizes achievements in four areas of excellence: community, classroom, character and competition



Women's Soccer

- 17th Consecutive United Soccer Coaches Academic Team Award
- Franny Cerny:
 - BIG EAST Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence Award
 - Senior CLASS Award Candidate: Recognizes achievements in four areas of excellence: community, classroom, character and competition
- Morgan Turner:
 - United Soccer Coaches All-Scholar First Team for North/Central Region
 - 2018 Google Cloud Academic All-District Women's Soccer Team



Men's Soccer

- 12th Consecutive United Soccer Coaches Academic Award

2018-2019 Academic Accomplishments by Team (continued)



Women's Tennis

- Highest GPA in the BIG EAST Conference
- 12th Consecutive Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) All-Academic Team Award
- ITA Academic Scholar-Athletes
 - Lenka Antonijevic
 - Aspasia Avgeri
 - Marija Jovicic
 - Alina Kuzmenkova
 - Milica Tesic
- Recorded a perfect Academic Progress Rate (APR)
- 12th Consecutive Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) All-Academic Team Award
- Keisha Clousing
 - Midwest Region's ITA Cissie Leary Sportsmanship Award



Volleyball

- 12th Consecutive American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award



Men's Tennis

- Recorded a perfect Academic Progress Rate (APR)
- ITA All-Academic Team Award (10 out of the last 11 years)
- ITA Academic Scholar-Athletes
 - Christopher Casati
 - Fran Tonejc
 - Luuk Wassenaar
 - Conor O'Meara
 - Tripp Tuff
 - Tamas Zador



Golf

- Earned 11th Consecutive Golf Coaches Association of America All-Academic Team Honors
- Recorded a perfect Academic Progress Rate (APR)
- Charlie Spencer-White
 - Srixon/Cleveland Golf All-America Scholar



Men's Cross Country/Track & Field

- 10th consecutive U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) All-Academic Team
- Kyle Decker
 - BIG EAST Postgraduate Leadership Award (unanimously selected by the BIG EAST Conference Academic Affairs Committee)
 - BIG EAST Institutional Scholar-Athlete
 - BIG EAST Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence Award
- Noah Deck
 - BIG EAST Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence Award

Women's Cross Country/Track & Field

- Women's Cross Country recorded a perfect Academic Progress Rate (APR)
- 10th consecutive U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) All-Academic Team
- USTFCCCA All-Academic:
 - Jade Gates
 - Caroline Muller
 - Kiersten Walker
- Caroline Kurdej
 - BIG EAST Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence Award



Softball

- 7th Consecutive NFCA academic team GPA award
- Ranked #11 in the nation with a team GPA of 3.760
- Highest GPA in the BIG EAST Conference
- Recorded a perfect Academic Progress Rate (APR)
- NFCA All-America Scholar Athletes:
 - Erin Andris
 - Jessica Cothorn
 - Madison Fisher
 - Morgan Greenwood
 - Maranda Gutierrez
 - Natalie Halvorson
 - Skylor Hilger
 - Gabby O'Riley
 - Alysia Rodriguez
 - Angela Scalzitti
 - Brianna Viles

Letter from the Captains' Council

Dear DePaul Community,

DePaul student-athletes strive to embody the saying, “Here, we do.” We continually strive for excellence in our various sports, in academics and in upholding DePaul’s Vincentian values. In all our endeavors, we aim to respect and preserve human dignity, serve underprivileged populations and continuously amplify the voices of those who have not traditionally been heard.

As Captain’s Council members, we continually strive to improve the college experiences of our fellow student-athlete peers. We are a student-led organization of team captains who meet monthly to discuss and initiate community service projects, serve as student-advisories on administrative matters and partake in social justice initiatives. We participate in various community service events all year round as the entire student-athlete body and as individual teams. During our fall quarter orientation, the student-athlete body made hundreds of blankets to be distributed to the children at the Saint Vincent de Paul center. A few of the events our teams volunteer at include the Chicago Marathon, Lakeview Pantry, DEMONthon and Vincentian Service Day. In addition, student-athletes utilize their talents by facilitating sports clinics for children from various backgrounds.

During the fall quarter, as part of our social justice initiatives, Captain’s Council participated in the NCAA Diversity and Inclusion Social Media campaign. The focus of the campaign was to highlight the core values and multiple identities of student-athletes, creating connections across campuses and committing to take action in furthering inclusive excellence. As part of the campaign, members of Captain’s Council created videos with students and student organizations around campus to showcase what diversity and inclusion meant to them as well as the action they planned on taking to be intentionally inclusive in their spheres of influence.

As the school year progresses, Captain’s Council will continue leading service initiatives and will strive to uphold our Vincentian values to ensure the betterment of our community. We will be hosting a competitive dodgeball event for charity in collaboration with various student organizations during winter quarter.

Sincerely,

Rutendo Chimbaru
Captain’s Council President
Women’s Track and Field

2018-2019 Quick Statistics

100%

100% of our teams earned a 3.0+ GPA for the academic year

80%

80% of our student-athletes earned a 3.0 or greater each quarter and were named to the DePaul University Athletic Director’s Honor Roll

53.7%

53.7% of our student-athletes earned a 3.5 or greater each quarter and were named to the DePaul University Dean’s List

10.6%

10.6% of our student-athletes earned a perfect 4.0 each quarter

3.462 2018-2019 Athletic Department GPA



Our 2019-2020 Student-Athletes

29 States and 17 Countries

Our student-athletes come to DePaul from 29 states and 17 countries.

6 Colleges and 53 Majors

Our student-athletes are enrolled in six of DePaul’s ten colleges and are pursuing 53 different majors.

- 28.6% College of Science and Health
- 27.6% Driehaus College of Business
- 14.3% College of Communication
- 12.4% College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences
- 11.9% College of Computing & Digital Media
- 5.2% College of Education

The Blue Ribbon is an annual publication of Athletic Academic Advising

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Pictures and some content courtesy of DePaul University Athletics Communication.