

NEWS RELEASE

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Eleven University of Saint Mary Spires Recognized as 'Scholar-Athletes' by the KCAC

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—The Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) has announced their “Scholar-Athletes” for 2011-2012 fall sports and 11 University of Saint Mary students are among the honorees.

In order to receive the KCAC scholar-athlete award, students must have sophomore standing at the beginning of their sport’s season and maintain a minimum GPA of 3.33 on a 4.0 scale.

The 11 recognized Spires student-athletes come from a variety of Saint Mary sports: three from football, five from men’s soccer, two from women’s soccer, and one from volleyball.

The award-winners from the Spires Football Team are quarterback **Mike Keese**, a senior from Olathe, Kan.; offensive lineman **Evan Osborne**, a senior from Conroe, Texas; and offensive lineman **Derek Bauman**, a junior from Atchison, Kan.

The honorees from the USM Men’s Soccer Team are goalkeeper **Preston Becker**, a senior from Hays, Kan.; defenseman **Michael Bille**, a senior from Bonner Springs, Kan.; midfielder **Nick Alford**, a junior from Topeka, Kan.; midfielder **Nick Stevenson**, a senior from Lansing, Kan.; and goalkeeper **Alex Waite**, a senior from Blue Springs, Mo.

Winning the Scholar-Athlete designation from the Lady Spires Women’s Soccer team were midfielder **Kathleen Hermes**, a senior from Lawrence, Kan.; and midfielder **Claire Beebe**, a junior from Wichita, Kan.

Junior Setter **Shelby Titus** from Ottawa, Kan., earned distinction from the USM Volleyball Team.

“Our athletes work as hard in the classroom as they do on the field and court,” said university Athletic Director Rob Miller. “Spires student-athletes are known for their high character, and these awards attest to that.”

Saint Mary has 12 varsity sports programs—football, volleyball, baseball, softball, men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s soccer, cross country, and track & field—along with co-ed cheerleading and dance. Go to www.GoSpires.com for more information on USM sports.

The University of Saint Mary is a Catholic co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations in Overland Park and Kansas City, Kan. Visit www.stmary.edu for more information.

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