

NEWS RELEASE

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University of Saint Mary Basketball Players Cap Strong Seasons with NAIA Honors *Spires Guard JEB Greenberg is All-American Honorable Mention*



(Leavenworth, Kan.)—University of Saint Mary Spires guard JEB Greenberg was one of two USM Basketball players honored by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) at the close of the 2011-2012 season, earning a place on the NAIA's Division II Honorable Mention All-American team.

Also earning honors this month: Lady Spires senior guard Michelle Chrisman was named a 2012 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete.

Greenberg, a 6'2" junior, helped lead the Spires to the best record in school history, going 25-6 overall with a 15-3 mark in the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC). Saint Mary was ranked 22nd in the final NAIA Division II coaches' poll and finished in second in the KCAC. The Spires made both the KCAC conference tournament championship game and the NAIA DII National Tournament this season.

"I'm excited that JEB received this national honor," said Jon Bishop, USM's head men's basketball coach. "He's truly a rare player, and exactly the kind of kid that coaches love to have in their program. Any recognition that comes his way is completely deserved."

In his third season at USM, Greenberg averaged 12.2 points, 5.8 rebounds, and 2.6 assists per game. He also shot 54.6 percent from the floor, good for second in the KCAC, and 81.2 percent from the free-throw line, good fourth in the conference. Greenberg scored his 1,000th career point this season and currently ranks third on USM's all-time scoring list.

Greenberg is the fourth Spire named an NAIA DII All-American during Coach Bishop's tenure.

Chrisman was one of only 162 DII women's basketball players nationwide to earn the Scholar-Athlete designation this year. To be considered, nominees must be in at least their junior year academically and maintain a GPA of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale.

Earlier in the year, the KCAC named her a Champion of Character.

Head Women's Basketball Coach Mike Basler praised Chrisman.



“I’m proud that Michelle was again named a Scholar-Athlete” he said. “Michelle has had a fine career at USM, and she’s been a joy to coach.”

The Lady Spires finished the season with a 5-13 conference record, good for the eight seed in the tourney, where USM lost a tightly-contested game to Friends University in the opening round.

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. Visit www.gospires.com to learn more about USM athletics.

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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