A note from Mike Whalen ’83, Frank V. Sica Director of Athletics:
This fall was one of our best starts to the academic year since I have taken over at the helm of Athletics. Collectively, we won a trio of Little Three titles, had two teams qualify for the NESCAC Tournament and our cross country teams competed at the Conference Championship. The Cardinals also had two teams advance to the NCAA Tournament. Postseason awards poured in for our teams, as we recorded 19 All-NESCAC honorees, had six athletes named to All-Region squads, and as of December 1st, we had two All-American selections. Our student-athletes’ successes in the classroom shined as well. We placed 59 student-athletes on the Fall NESCAC All-Academic squad, led by 14 honorees from women’s soccer, while seven were tabbed to the Fall NESCAC All-Sportsmanship Team. Nationally, we had four athletes earn CoSIDA Academic All-District praise, and as of December 1st, senior Julia Meehan of the women’s soccer team was named to the CoSIDA Academic All-America team. In addition to our athletic and academic successes, we also unveiled our new Cardinal, which was met with support from our loyal fans. I am excited to carry the momentum of the fall into our winter and spring seasons, and look forward to seeing you at our home events over the next few months. As we close out first semester, I want to thank you for your support and wish you a happy holiday season. I am looking forward to the new year and I am eager to see the new heights that our teams reach. As always, Go Wes!

The football team finished 8-1 for the first time in school history, while the squad claimed the Little Three title outright for the third time in seven years. Both wins over Amherst and Williams came down to the wire, as the Cardinals came from behind to top both rivals in overtime. First-year Nick Helbig was named NESCAC Co-Rookie of the Year, while the team earned a conference-high 13 All-NESCAC selections. Additionally, senior Ben Thaw was named to the All-Region team.

The women’s cross country team finished 23rd at the 2019 NCAA Division III Cross Country Championship in the program’s fourth appearance. The squad was one of 16 teams in the nation to earn an at-large bid following a sixth-place finish at the NCAA New England Regional. Senior Sara Pinsonault guided the team to its best finish since 2009 at the Regional Championship, finishing 32nd to garner All-New England honors.
The women's tennis team had a program-best six athletes qualify for the ITA Cup after the ITA Regionals saw an All-Wesleyan finals in both singles and doubles. Kristina Yu '22 paired with sophomore transfer Sophia Henderson to win the ITA Regional doubles, before the duo placed second at the ITA Cup. Venia Yeung '22 and rookie Catlyn Ferrante advanced to the semifinals at the ITA Cup after placing second at the ITA Regional. In singles action, rookie Serim Jin won the ITA Regional singles title, before advancing to the ITA Cup semifinals. First-year Katie Fleischman was second in the ITA Regional singles and knocked off the top seed in the first round of the ITA Cup. The men's tennis team saw Zach Fleischman '21 and Noah Lilienthal '22 advance to the semifinals in the ITA Regional singles competition, while Princeton Carter '20 and Lilienthal advanced to the quarterfinals.

The volleyball team earned an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament for the third-straight season and advanced to the Second Round. The Cardinals won at least 20 matches for the third consecutive year and their five losses were the fewest in program history. Wesleyan finished 9-1 in NESCAC play, tying the program-record for most conference wins while winning their third-straight Little Three title. Throughout the season, the Cardinals were ranked in the top-25 every week. Junior Phia Belluzzi was named to the AVCA All-America Second Team, the Northeast All-Region team, and was named NESCAC Defensive Player of the Year, while earning a spot on the First Team. Nicole Hilton '20 was tabbed an All-America Honorable Mention, earned All-Region honors, and was also named to the All-NESCAC First Team. Kara Muraoka-Roberston '20 was named an All-Region Honorable Mention and earned a spot on the All-NESCAC Second Team, while Bella Ahearn was tabbed the NESCAC Rookie of the Year for her strong performance in her first year.

The men's crew Varsity 8 opened the season by claiming the Riverfront Regatta in a field of 14. At the prestigious Head of the Charles, the squad placed 13th out of 38, before concluding the non-traditional season with a runner-up finish out of 17 boats at the Quinsigamond Fall Rowing Festival. The women's crew Varsity 8 opened the 2019-20 campaign with a fifth-place finish in a 25-team field at the Riverfront Regatta, before wrapping up the fall with a runner-up finish out of 21 at the Quinsigamond Fall Rowing Festival. The men's cross country team won the College White 8K at the 46th Annual Paul Short Run in a field of 43 teams. At the NCAA Regional, the varsity squad placed ninth in a field of 54 as senior Kevin McMorrow earned All-Region accolades with his 33rd-place finish. The men's soccer team opened the season posting six shutouts in the first seven games with rookie Liam Devanny in goal. The women's golf team debuted in its first-ever season this fall under the guidance of head coach Jon Wilson. He held a roster of five athletes for the inaugural season, which was led by senior veteran Saada Naeem who was a member of the co-ed golf team the past three years. The men's golf team wrapped up the fall season with an eighth-place finish at the NESCAC Championship Qualifier.

The men's tennis team rewrote history during the 2019 campaign. The squad recorded a program-record for longest unbeaten streak in a season with eight (6-0-2), en route to its first Little Three title since 1982. The Cardinals qualified for the NESCAC Tournament for the second-straight year and eighth time overall. Throughout the season, Wesleyan gained national attention, earning the program’s first-ever ranking (No. 21) in week five. Grace Devanny made a big impact during her first season with the Cardinals, as she was named NESCAC Rookie of the Year and earned Second Team honors. She finished the season tied for first in the conference in goals (10) and tied for second in points (22). Devanny scored a pair of goals in four different contests this year and led all Cardinals in goals and points. Mackenzie Mitchell '20 earned All-NESCAC Second Team honors for her strong performances anchoring the defensive unit this year. She started in all 16 contests, guiding her team to a 0.84 goals-against average which ranked fourth in the conference.

The women's soccer team the past three years. The head coach Christine Kemp took over at the helm of the field hockey program in 2019 and guided the Cardinals to their best season since 2013. Wesleyan was led by sophomore Olivia Baglieri who earned All-Region and All-NESCAC honors for her stellar performance anchoring the defense. She concluded the season with a conference-high six defensive saves, placing her second on Wesleyan's all-time list with 13 in just her second year on the team. As a defender, she also recorded a season-high three goals. Her most notable tally was the lone-goal in a 1-0 triumph over then-No. 5 Tufts when she converted a penalty stroke. Diana Schwarz recorded a team-high six goals during her rookie campaign, and senior goaltender Delaney Wood finished the season with the most saves in the NESCAC (141), recorded a .786 save percentage and wrapped up the season playing in the NFHCA Senior Game. Throughout the season, Wesleyan gained national attention, earning the program's first-ever ranking (No. 21) in week five. Grace Devanny made a big impact during her first season with the Cardinals, as she was named NESCAC Rookie of the Year and earned Second Team honors, while Bella Ahearn was tabbed the NESCAC Rookie of the Year for her strong performance in her first year.