



NORTHEAST CONFERENCE • 399 CAMPUS DR. • SOMERSET, NJ 08873 • PH: (732) 469-0440 • FAX: (732) 469-0744 • WWW.NORTHEASTCONFERENCE.ORG

For Immediate Release
June 19, 2014



www.twitter.com/NECsports
www.facebook.com/NECsports
www.youtube.com/NECsports

Robert Morris Captures 2013-14 Northeast Conference Institutional Academic Award NEC Student-Athletes Combine For 3.16 Overall GPA

Somerset, NJ -- As Northeast Conference (NEC) student-athletes continued to excel in the classroom, a tight race developed for the 2013-14 NEC Institutional Academic Award. When the dust settled and the final numbers were tabulated following the spring season, Robert Morris student-athletes posted a combined 3.295 grade point average in 19 sports to win the coveted honor for the second time in three years. The Colonials edged out LIU Brooklyn (3.248) and Wagner (3.245) for the top spot.

Overall, the 4,000+ NEC student-athletes averaged a 3.158 GPA for the 2013-14 academic year and all 10 core member institutions finished the year with at least a 3.0 GPA. Similarly, 75.7 percent of NEC teams finished with a 3.0 or better GPA.

Robert Morris won Team GPA awards in nine different sports, a new NEC calendar year record.

"I'm extremely proud of the efforts put in by our student-athletes here at Robert Morris in earning the 2014 NEC Institutional Academic Award," said Craig Coleman, Robert Morris Director of Athletics. "Our student-athletes exemplify the true collegiate athletics model thanks to the great assistance of our outstanding faculty, academic advisors and coaches, who reinforce the importance of academics."

The Institutional Academic Award is presented annually to the NEC member who attains the highest overall institutional grade-point average amongst student-athletes competing in sports sponsored by the NCAA Division I conference. The NEC currently sponsors 22 sports: baseball, men's and women's basketball, women's bowling, men's and women's cross country, football, men's and women's golf, men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's indoor and outdoor track and field, men's and women's soccer, softball, women's swimming, men's and women's tennis and women's volleyball.

"Once again, I am truly impressed with the ability of NEC student-athletes to balance their academic workload with their athletic pursuits," said Noreen Morris, NEC Commissioner. "Highlighted by the incredible achievements of Institutional Academic Award winner Robert Morris, all 10 NEC institutions finished the year with at least a 3.0 GPA, which once again showcases the NEC Council of Presidents' commitment to building the total student-athlete, one that places an equal emphasis on academic advancement and athletic success."

Robert Morris not only improved on its 3.271 GPA from a year ago, but the 3.295 figure represented the second-highest GPA for an institution since the award was first established during the 2006-07 academic year. The Colonials only trailed Wagner's 3.305 mark from the 2012-13 academic year. The Colonials had 17 of their 20 teams record a GPA in excess of 3.0, led by the women's tennis team with a program-best 3.722. Likewise, 15 RMU teams posted a least a 3.20 GPA on the year.

(Robert Morris Captures 2013-14 Northeast Conference Institutional Academic Award • Page 1-of-3)

“The entire Robert Morris community can take pride in this achievement, given the important contributions our student-athletes make to campus life, community service and, of course, our academic reputation,” said Dr. Greg Dell’Omo, Robert Morris President. “Division I athletics at Robert Morris University builds character and develops leadership skills in our students that serve them well in their future endeavors.”

2013-14 School-By-School GPAs

School	NEC Sports	Overall GPA
Bryant	21	3.080
Central Connecticut	18	3.026
Fairleigh Dickinson	18	3.108
LIU Brooklyn	16	3.248
Mount St. Mary’s	16	3.076
Robert Morris	19	3.295
Sacred Heart	20	3.221
St. Francis Brooklyn	16	3.069
Saint Francis U	20	3.184
Wagner	19	3.245

The NEC also recognized those teams that compiled the best GPA in their respective sports. Along with Robert Morris claiming an NEC-best nine Team GPA awards, Fairleigh Dickinson, Sacred Heart and Wagner won three apiece.

NEC women’s golf student-athletes posted the highest overall grades of any sport in the Conference, combining for a 3.541 GPA. Likewise, the Saint Francis U women’s cross country team’s 3.742 grade point average was the best mark for a single program on the year.

Wagner women’s swimming and diving not only won its first NEC championship, but also compiled the highest team GPA in the sport.

2013-14 NEC Team GPA Awards

Sport	School	GPA
Baseball	Sacred Heart	3.224
Men’s Basketball	Sacred Heart	2.849
Women’s Basketball	St. Francis Brooklyn	3.537
Women’s Bowling	Adelphi	3.641
Men’s Cross Country	Robert Morris	3.337
Women’s Cross Country	Saint Francis U	3.742
Football	Wagner	2.969
Men’s Golf	Fairleigh Dickinson	3.517
Women’s Golf	Saint Francis U	3.738
Men’s Indoor Track & Field	Robert Morris	3.240
Women’s Indoor Track & Field	Robert Morris	3.428
Men’s Lacrosse	Wagner	3.221
Women’s Lacrosse	Sacred Heart	3.470
Men’s Outdoor Track & Field	Robert Morris	3.240
Women’s Outdoor Track & Field	Robert Morris	3.428
Men’s Soccer	Fairleigh Dickinson	3.350
Women’s Soccer	Robert Morris	3.450
Softball	Robert Morris	3.505
Women’s Swimming & Diving	Wagner	3.537
Men’s Tennis	Fairleigh Dickinson	3.470
Women’s Tennis	Robert Morris	3.722
Women’s Volleyball	Robert Morris	3.564

NEC Institutional Academic Award Winners

Year	School	GPA
2013-14	Robert Morris	3.295
2012-13	Wagner	3.305
2011-12	Robert Morris	3.279
2010-11	Saint Francis U	3.270
2009-10	Fairleigh Dickinson/Saint Francis U	3.239
2008-09	Saint Francis U	3.234
2007-08	Wagner	3.186
2006-07	Wagner	3.147

About The Northeast Conference

Now in its 33rd year, the Northeast Conference is an NCAA Division I collegiate athletic association consisting of 10 institutions of higher learning located throughout six states. Media coverage of the NEC extends to four of the largest markets in the United States - New York (#1), Pittsburgh (#23), Baltimore (#27), and Hartford/New Haven (#30). Founded in 1981 as the basketball-only ECAC Metro Conference, the NEC has grown to sponsor 22 championship sports for men and women and now enjoys automatic access to 14 different NCAA Championships. NEC member institutions include Bryant, Central Connecticut, Fairleigh Dickinson, LIU Brooklyn, Mount St. Mary's, Robert Morris, Sacred Heart, St. Francis Brooklyn, Saint Francis U and Wagner. For more information on the NEC, visit the league's official website (www.northeastconference.org) and digital network (www.necfrontrow.com), or follow the league on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Google+, all @NECsports.