

# ***THE*** ***SUMMIT*** ***LEAGUE***

## ***2017-18*** ***YEAR*** ***IN*** ***REVIEW***



## SUMMIT LEAGUE ALL-SPORT AWARDS

**COMMISSIONER'S CUP**



**DR. WILLIAM  
STEINBRECHER AWARD**












**DR. HELEN SMILEY AWARD**



**SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD**



## SUMMIT LEAGUE TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS

<b>MEN</b>	<b>BASEBALL ..... ORAL ROBERTS</b>		<b>BASKETBALL..... SOUTH DAKOTA STATE</b>	
	<b>BASKETBALL..... SOUTH DAKOTA STATE</b>		<b>CROSS COUNTRY ..... SOUTH DAKOTA</b>	
	<b>CROSS COUNTRY ..... SOUTH DAKOTA STATE</b>		<b>GOLF ..... NORTH DAKOTA STATE</b>	
	<b>GOLF ..... NORTH DAKOTA STATE</b>		<b>SOCCER ..... DENVER</b>	
	<b>SOCCER ..... OMAHA</b>		<b>SOFTBALL ..... NORTH DAKOTA STATE</b>	
<b>WOMEN</b>	<b>SWIMMING &amp; DIVING ..... DENVER</b>		<b>SWIMMING &amp; DIVING ..... DENVER</b>	
	<b>TENNIS ..... DRAKE</b>		<b>TENNIS ..... DENVER</b>	
	<b>INDOOR TRACK &amp; FIELD ..... NORTH DAKOTA STATE</b>		<b>INDOOR TRACK &amp; FIELD ..... NORTH DAKOTA STATE</b>	
	<b>OUTDOOR TRACK &amp; FIELD ... NORTH DAKOTA STATE</b>		<b>OUTDOOR TRACK &amp; FIELD .....</b>	
			<b>NORTH DAKOTA STATE &amp; SOUTH DAKOTA</b>	
			<b>VOLLEYBALL ..... DENVER</b>	

## ALL-AMERICA HONORS

Name	School	Organization	Team	Sport
Cameron Auchinachie	Denver	CSCAA	HM	Men's S/D
Stephen Calkins	Denver	CSCAA	HM	Men's S/D
Sid Farber	Denver	CSCAA	HM	Men's S/D
Anton Loncar	Denver	CSCAA	HM	Men's S/D
Bailey Anderson	Denver	CSCAA	HM	Women's S/D
Maddy Nilles	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	1st Team	W-Hammer/Outdoor
Alyssa Olin	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	1st Team	W-Javelin/Outdoor
Payton Otterdahl	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	2nd Team	M-Shot Put/Outdoor
Payton Otterdahl	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	2nd Team	M-Discus/Outdoor
Jacob McBride	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	HM	M-Hammer/Outdoor
Stephanie Ahrens	Omaha	USTFCCCA	1st Team	W-High Jump/Outdoor
Israel Nelson	Oral Roberts	USTFCCCA	2nd Team	M-110 Meter Hurdles
Mercy Abire	Oral Roberts	USTFCCCA	2nd Team	W-Long Jump
Chris Nilsen	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	1st Team	M-Pole Vault/Indoor
Shanice Cannigan	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	2nd Team	W-Pentathlon/Indoor
Helen Falda	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	2nd Team	W-Pole Vault/Indoor
Chris Nilsen	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	1st Team	M-Pole Vault/Outdoor
Zack Anderson	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	2nd Team	M-High Jump/Outdoor
Helen Falda	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	2nd Team	W-Pole Vault/Outdoor
Jake David	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	HM	M-Pole Vault/Outdoor
Ben Hammer	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	HM	M-Discus/Outdoor
Lara Boman	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	HM	W-Hammer/Outdoor
Rachel King	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	HM	W-Steeplechase/Outdoor
Mike Daum	South Dakota State	AP	HM	Men's Basketball

## NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPION



### 2018 Outdoor Track & Field Pole Vault Champion

*South Dakota's Chris Nilsen followed up his 2017 Indoor National Title with an Outdoor title in 2018. His winning pole vault of 19-1 1/2 broke a 22-year-old NCAA Championship meet record*

*This is the league's 12th national championship*

**Winning Height**  
**19' 1.50"**



### **COSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA**

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Sport</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Major</b>	<b>GPA</b>
Jayse McLean	North Dakota State	Baseball	First	Mechanical Engineering	4.00
Elliott Stone	North Dakota State	Track and Field/XC	First	Mechanical Engineering	4.00
Lara Boman	South Dakota	Track and Field/XC	First	Physic	4.00
Ciara Duffy	South Dakota	Women's Basketball	Third	Political Science	4.00
Halie Mechels	South Dakota State	Track and Field/XC	First	Human Biology	4.00
Fernando Pacheco	Western Illinois	Men's Soccer	First	Business Administration	4.00

### **COSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT**

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Sport</b>	<b>Team</b>
Graham Smith	Denver	Men's Soccer	First
Alex Underwood	Denver	Men's Soccer	First
Andre Shinyashiki	Denver	Men's Soccer	First
Taylor Nadler	North Dakota	Softball	First
Brianna Rasmusson	North Dakota State	Volleyball	First
A.J. Jacobson	North Dakota State	Men's Basketball	First
Paul Miller	North Dakota State	Men's Basketball	First
Jayse McLean	North Dakota State	Baseball	First
Elliott Stone	North Dakota State	Track/XC	First
Tyler LaCourse	Oral Roberts	Men's Soccer	First
Alexia Herrera	Oral Roberts	Women's Soccer	Second
Ciara Duffy	South Dakota	Women's Basketball	First
Lara Boman	South Dakota	Track/XC	First
Taylor Steinfeldt	South Dakota	Softball	First
Kolton Michalski	South Dakota State	Baseball	First
Anthony Schneider	South Dakota State	Baseball	First
Halie Mechels	South Dakota State	Track/XC	First
Hailey Duwa	Western Illinois	Softball	First
Jacquelyn Sertic	Western Illinois	Softball	First
Steve Fishman	Eastern Illinois	Swimming & Diving	First



In order to be eligible for Academic All-District and All-American honors, a player must have completed at least one academic year, must be a starter or significant reserve, must have a 3.3 cumulative grade-point average and must have completed at least one full academic year at their institution. Voting is done by members of CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America).

### **ALL-DISTRICT / ALL-REGION**

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Sport</b>
Andre Shinyashiki	Denver	USCA	First	Men's Soccer
Graham Smith	Denver	NSCAA	Second	Men's Soccer
Alex Underwood	Denver	NSCAA	Third	Men's Soccer
Rebecca LAtham	Denver	AVCA	HM	Volleyball
Laura Milos	Oral Roberts	AVCA	First	Volleyball
Jacquelyn Sertic	North Dakota State	NFCA	First	Softball
Paul Miller	North Dakota State	NABC	Second	Men's Basketball
Zoe Stavrou	North Dakota State	NFCA	Third	Softball
Matt Mooney	South Dakota	NABC	First	Men's Basketball
Jessica Rogers	South Dakota	NFCA	Second	Softball
Kyle Burdick	South Dakota State	USTFCCCA	First	Cross Country
Rachel King	South Dakota State	USTFCCA	First	Cross Country
Mike Daum	South Dakota State	NABC / USBWA	First	Men's Basketball
Ali Herdliska	South Dakota State	NFCA	First	Softball
Brittney Morse	South Dakota State	NFCA	First	Softball
Abbey Murphy	South Dakota State	NFCA	Second	Softball
Julia Andersen	South Dakota State	NFCA	Second	Softball

### **AWARDS WATCH LISTS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Sport</b>
Reagan Dunk	Denver	MAC Hermann Trophy	Semifinalist	Men's Soccer
Sam Hamilton	Denver	Senior CLASS Award	Candidate	Men's Soccer
Mark Moulton	Omaha	Senior CLASS Award	Candidate	Men's Soccer
Kyler Stout	Oral Roberts	Stopper of the Year	Midseason	Baseball
Matt Whatley	Oral Roberts	Johnny Bench Award	Recipient	Baseball
Brady Womacks	Oral Roberts	Stopper of the Year	Preseason	Baseball
Natalie Fenske	North Dakota State	Senior CLASS Award	Candidate	Women's Soccer
Chris Nilsen	South Dakota	Bowerman Award	Candidate	Indoor Track & Field
Adam McGinnis	Western Illinois	Johnny Bench Award	Semifinalist	Baseball

### NATIONAL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Name	School	Organization	Date	Sport
Chris Nilsen	South Dakota	USTFCCA	April 3, 2018	Track
Chris Nilsen	South Dakota	USTFCCA	May 8, 2018	Track
Jacquelyn Sertic	North Dakota State	NFCA Pitcher	March 21, 2018	Softball



### COACHING AWARDS

Award	Recipient	School	Organization	Sport
Thirty Under 30	Kayla Tetschlag	South Dakota	WBCA	Women's Basketball



**BASEBALL**

- Oral Roberts had six MLB Draft Picks
- ORU won its 19th Summit League Baseball Championship with its 11-3 win over South Dakota State
- Player of the Year: Noah Cummings - ORU
- Pitcher of the Year: Miguel Ausua - ORU
- Newcomer of the Year: Riley Keizer - ORU
- Coach of the Year: Ryan Folmer - ORU

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

- The Summit League had three All-Americans: Mike Daum, SDSU (AP/Lou Henson), Matt Mooney, USD (Lou Henson), John Konchar, PFW (Lou Henson)
- Player of the Year: Mike Daum - SDSU
- Transfer of the Year: Austin Ruder - ORU
- Freshman of the Year: David Jenkins - SDSU
- Sixth Man of the Year: Albert Ownes - ORU
- Defensive Player of the Year: Brandon Gilbeck - WIU
- Coach of the Year: T.J. Otzelberger - SDSU
- SDSU ended the season with the nations longest DI home winning streak at 20 games
- The Summit League peaked at No. 12 in RPI Rankings
- For the third straight season a Summit League team has defeated a Big Ten team

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

- Player of the Year: Macy Miller - SDSU
- Defensive Player of the Year: Jasmine Trimboli - USD
- Sixth Woman of the Year: Jasmine Trimboli - USD
- Freshman of the Year: Claire Gritt - Denver
- Transfer of the Year: Tagyn Larson - SDSU
- Coach of the Year: Dawn Plitzuweit - USD
- The Summit League earned two wins over Top-25 programs
- Final RPI ranking of 12
- Three teams qualified for NCAA Postseason

**CROSS COUNTRY**

- Rachel King of SDSU was named the Woman's Athlete of the Year
- Chase Cayo of SDSU was named the Men's Athlete of the Year
- USD finished fifth at the NCAA Regional Meet
- King and Kyle Burdick both placed in the top-16 at the regional meet

**GOLF**

- Men's Golfer of the Year: Tommy Vining - USD
- Women's Golfer of the Year: Natalie Roth - NDSU
- Men's Newcomer of the Year: Van Holmgren - NDSU
- Women's Newcomer of the Year: Mary Weinstein - Denver
- Men's Coach of the Year: Steve Kennedy - NDSU
- Women's Coach of the Year: Matt Johnson - NDSU
- Roth won two tournaments and finished top-five in eight events

**MEN'S SOCCER**

- Two student-athletes were drafted to the MLS
- Denver and Omaha made the NCAA Tournament
- Offensive Player of the Year: Andre Shinyashiki - Denver
- Defensive Player of the Year: Scott DeVoss - Denver
- Goalkeeper of the Year: Mike Novotny - EIU
- Newcomer of the Year: Jacob Stensson - Denver
- Coach of the Year: Jamie Franks - Denver
- Omaha won its first ever Summit League Championship with a 9-8 advantage in a shootout over Denver



### **WOMEN'S SOCCER**

- Offensive Player of the Year: Jessie Dancy - Denver
- Defensive Player of the Year: Annie Williams - SDSU
- Goalkeeper of the Year: Maggie Smither - SDSU
- Freshman of the Year: Meg Halvorson - Denver
- Coach of the Year: Brock Thompson - SDSU
- Denver won its first Summit League Championship with a 2-1 win over North Dakota State

### **SOFTBALL**

- Player of the Year: Brittney Morse - SDSU
- Pitcher of the Year: Jacquelyn Sertic - NDSU
- Freshman of the Year: Aubrey Hacke - Omaha
- Coach of the Year: Krista Wood - SDSU
- North Dakota State won its ninth Summit League Championship in the last 10 years
- NDSU advanced to the Tuscon Regional and earned a win over Mississippi State

### **SWIMMING & DIVING**

- Male Swimmer of the Year: Anton Loncar - Denver
- Female Swimmer of the Year: Bailey Andison - Denver
- Male Diver of the Year: Isaac Morris - USD
- Female Diver of the Year: Monica Houck - Omaha

### **TENNIS**

- Men's Player of the Year: Igor Kolaric - Illinois State
- Men's Newcomer of the Year: Igor Kolaric - Illinois State
- Women's Player of the Year: Bianca Mok - Denver
- Women's Newcomer of the Year: Hada Chang - Denver
- Men's Coach of the Year: Davidson Kozlowski - Drake
- Women's Coach of the Year: Christian Thompson - Denver
- The Drake men won their first Summit League Championship
- The Denver women won their fifth straight Summit League Title

### **INDOOR TRACK & FIELD**

- Male Field Athlete of the Year: Chris Nilsen - USD
- Male Track Athlete of the Year: Omeiza Akerele - ORU
- Female Field Athlete of the Year: Helen Falda - USD
- Female Track Athlete of the Year: Shanice Cannigan - USD
- North Dakota State swept the Indoor Titles for the third straight season

### **OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD**

- Men's Field Athlete of the Year: Chris Nilsen - USD
- Women's Field Athlete of the Year: Alyssa Olin - NDSU
- Men's Track Athlete of the Year: Gawain Williams - USD
- Women's Track Athlete of the Year: Shanice Cannigan - USD
- USD and NDSU Tied for the women's championship. This was USD's first ever title and NDSU's 11th straight
- The NDSU men won the title, their ninth straight
- USD's Chris Nilsen won the pole vault national title

### **VOLLEYBALL**

- Player of the Year: Laura Milos - ORU
- Setter of the Year: Brittany Jessen - USD
- Defensive Player of the Year: Mikaela Purnell - NDSU
- Freshman of the Year: Bella Sade - UNO
- Coach of the Year: Tom Hogan - Denver
- Denver defeated Oral Roberts 3-1 to win the Summit League Championship





**3,500+**  
**STUDENT-ATHLETES**

**7**  
**STATES**

The Summit League, in its 36th season of Division I athletics, offers 17 championship sports and has a combined enrollment of over 120,000 across nine institutions, including four that are located in top 60 U.S. metro populations. Our nine member institutions include the University of Denver, University of North Dakota, North Dakota State University, University of Nebraska Omaha, Oral Roberts University, Purdue Fort Wayne University, University of South Dakota, South Dakota State University and Western Illinois University. The Summit League was previously known as the Mid-Continent Conference before undergoing a rebrand in 2007. The Summit League has produced 12 NCAA National Champions with over 125 All-Americans and 100 Academic All-Americans including numerous student-athletes competing at the highest professional level.

### **ACADEMIC PROGRESS RATE (APR)**

22 Summit League teams from our nine institutions posted perfect scores in the NCAA's Academic Progress Rates (APR). The most recent APR scores are multi-year rates based on scores from the 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 academic years

A total of 23 Summit League teams earned the NCAA Public Recognition Award, an honor given to teams whose most recent multi-year Academic Progress Rates (APR) are among the top 10 percent in each sport. Institutions receive a congratulatory letter from the NCAA for their honored teams.

### **TEAMS WITH A PERFECT APR RATING IN 2017-18**

#### **North Dakota State**

Men's Cross Country  
Men's Golf  
Women's Golf

#### **University of South Dakota**

Men's Cross Country  
Softball  
Women's Golf  
Volleyball

#### **Oral Roberts University**

Men's Golf  
Women's Golf  
Volleyball

#### **Purdue Fort Wayne**

Men's Golf  
Women's Golf

#### **South Dakota State**

Men's Golf  
Women's Golf

#### **University of Denver**

Men's Golf  
Men's Swimming and Diving

#### **University of North Dakota**

Men's Golf  
Women's Cross Country

#### **University of Nebraska Omaha**

Women's Basketball  
Women's Tennis  
Volleyball

#### **Eastern Illinois**

Women's Swimming and Diving

## SUMMIT LEAGUE HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2018



### ANDRETTI BAIN 2004-08 // ORAL ROBERTS (MEN'S TRACK & FIELD)

The first Summit League student-athlete to win multiple national championships in the same year, Andretti Bain stands among the league's most decorated athletes. An 11-time league champion, Bain captured the 400m crown at the 2008 NCAA Indoor Track & Field Championships. Just four months later, he added the 400m outdoor national championship by recording the world's fifth-fastest time entering the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. In Beijing, Bain won a silver medal as a member of the Bahamas' 4x400-meter men's relay team. He won the league's 400m titles, both indoor and outdoor, in each of

his four years at Oral Roberts. Bain won three additional league outdoor championships, including a pair of 400m hurdles crowns and a 200m title. He was ORU's first national champion and initial Olympic medalist.



### KEVIN DUCKWORTH 1982-86 // EASTERN ILLINOIS (MEN'S BASKETBALL)

The league's first two-time professional all-star selection in any sport, Kevin Duckworth played 11 NBA seasons. As a collegian, Duckworth led Eastern Illinois to the 1985 league championship as tournament MVP. As a senior, Duckworth became the school's career leader in rebounds and blocked shots and earned first team all-league honors before a second-round selection in the 1986 NBA Draft. In his second pro season, Duckworth earned the NBA's Most Improved Player Award. As a member of the Portland Trail Blazers, he was selected to the NBA All-Star Game twice (1989 and 1991). Duckworth helped his team to a pair of Western Conference titles and NBA Finals appearances (1990 and 1992). He scored over 8,000 points and totaled nearly 4,000 rebounds, averaging 11.8 points and 5.8 rebounds per game during his pro career. After his passing in 2008, the Trail Blazers and the Oregon Community Foundation established a college scholarship in Duckworth's name.



### E.C. HILL 1992-94 // NORTHERN ILLINOIS (WOMEN'S BASKETBALL)

The first All-America selection in league history, E.C. Hill was a pioneer for the sport of women's basketball. During her senior season in 1993-94, Hill earned first team All-America from the United States Basketball Writers Association (USBWA), becoming the league's initial student-athlete in any sport to achieve the feat. That year, she set the single-season standard in four statistical categories, including scoring average, on her way to league Player of the Year honors. Hill also earned an honorable mention All-America selection in 1992-93. She played professionally in the American Basketball League and became the first league alumnae to compete in the WNBA. Hill embarked on a coaching career, including stints as a Division I assistant, following her playing career.



### DR. HELEN SMILEY 1985-2001 // WESTERN ILLINOIS (ADMINISTRATOR)

Dr. Helen Smiley was one of the most influential administrators in league history with a career that spanned across three decades. The Dr. Helen Smiley Women's All-Sports Award is annually presented to the school with the most combined points in all league-sponsored women's sports. In 2000, Smiley earned the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA)/Continental Airlines Athletic Director of the Year award. Smiley was named Western Illinois' Director of Women's Athletics in 1985 before assuming the role as Director of Athletics from 1994 through her retirement in 2001. Throughout her tenure, Smiley helped guide the league and served on several committees for the NCAA, including the Mideast Advisory Committee from 1996-99, and NACDA.

