





















THE **SUMMIT** **LEAGUE**

2016-17 *YEAR* *IN* *REVIEW*



SUMMIT LEAGUE TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS

MEN	BASEBALL	ORAL ROBERTS		WOMEN	BASKETBALL.....	WESTERN ILLINOIS	
	BASKETBALL.....	SOUTH DAKOTA STATE			CROSS COUNTRY	SOUTH DAKOTA	
	CROSS COUNTRY	SOUTH DAKOTA STATE			GOLF	DENVER	
	GOLF	SOUTH DAKOTA STATE			SOCCER	SOUTH DAKOTA STATE	
	SOCCER	DENVER			SOFTBALL	NORTH DAKOTA STATE	
	SWIMMING & DIVING	DENVER			SWIMMING & DIVING	DENVER	
	TENNIS	DENVER			TENNIS	DENVER	
	INDOOR TRACK & FIELD	NORTH DAKOTA STATE			INDOOR TRACK & FIELD	NORTH DAKOTA STATE	
	OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD ...	NORTH DAKOTA STATE			OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD ...	NORTH DAKOTA STATE	
	OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD ...	NORTH DAKOTA STATE			VOLLEYBALL	DENVER	

COMMISSIONER'S CUP



DR. WILLIAM STEINBRECHER AWARD



DR. HELEN SMILEY AWARD



SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD



NCAA FINAL FOUR

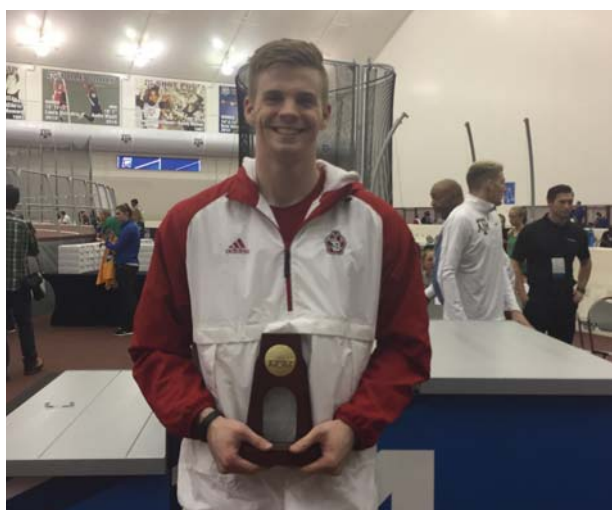
STARTING LINEUP VS. WAKE FOREST



Denver became the first league team to reach an NCAA Final Four in any sport and achieved the highest national ranking (No. 3) of any league sport in history.



NCAA NATIONAL CHAMPION



ALL-AMERICA HONORS

The Summit League had 11 student-athletes earn All-America accolades

Name	School	Organization	Team	Sport
Reagan Dunk	Denver	NSCAA	First	Men's Soccer
Drue Galassi	Western Illinois	Collegiate Baseball	First	Baseball
Rose Jackson	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	First	Indoor Track & Field
Matti Mortimore	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	First	Outdoor Track & Field
Chris Nilsen	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	First	Indoor Track & Field
Chris Nilsen	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	First	Outdoor Track & Field
Joel Reichow	South Dakota State	USTFCCCA	First	Cross Country
Alex Renner	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	First	Outdoor Track & Field
Miguel Ausua	Oral Roberts	NCBWA	Second	Baseball
Kyle Burdick	South Dakota State	USTFCCCA	Second	Outdoor Track & Field
Emily Grove	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	Second	Outdoor Track & Field
Rose Jackson	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	Second-LJ/ HM-4x400	Outdoor Track & Field
Alyssa Olin	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	Second	Outdoor Track & Field
Alex Renner	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	Second	Indoor Track & Field
Samara Spencer	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	Second	Indoor Track & Field
Danielle Waldner	South Dakota	USTFCCCA	Second	Outdoor Track & Field
Bailey Andison	Denver	CSCAA	First-200IM/ HM-400IM	Swimming & Diving
Anton Loncar	Denver	CSCAA	First-200BK/ HM-100BK	Swimming & Diving
Noah Cummings	Oral Roberts	NCBWA	Third	Baseball
Amy Andrushko	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	Honorable Mention	Outdoor Track & Field
Mike Daum	South Dakota State	AP	Honorable Mention	Men's Basketball
Taylor Janssen	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	Honorable Mention	Outdoor Track & Field
Morgan Milbrath	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	Honorable Mention	Outdoor Track & Field
Robert Murphy	IUPUI	USTFCCCA	Honorable Mention	Outdoor Track & Field
Jaden Purnell	Oral Roberts	USTFCCCA	Honorable Mention	Outdoor Track & Field
Amanda Sanders	Denver	CSCAA	Honorable Mention	Swimming & Diving
Katelyn Weimerskirch	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	Honorable Mention	Outdoor Track & Field
Alexis Woods	North Dakota State	USTFCCCA	Honorable Mention	Outdoor Track & Field
Brady Womacks	Oral Roberts	NCBWA	Preseason	Baseball

COSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA

The Summit League had four student-athletes earn CoSIDA Academic All-America honors

Name	School	Sport	Team
Emily Grove	South Dakota	Outdoor Track & Field	First
A.J. Jacobson	North Dakota State	Men's Basketball	First
Matti Mortimore	North Dakota State	Outdoor Track & Field	First
Mark Moulton	Omaha	Men's Soccer	First
Sam Hamilton	Denver	Men's Soccer	Second
Morgan Milbrath	North Dakota State	Outdoor Track & Field	Second
Amy Andrushko	North Dakota State	Outdoor Track & Field	Third
Amber Eichkorn	South Dakota	Outdoor Track & Field	Third
Matt O'Leary	IUPUI	Men's Basketball	Third



MARK MOULTON

COSIDA ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT

The Summit League had 16 student-athletes earn CoSIDA Academic All-District honors

Name	School	Sport	Team
Phillip Jacobson	South Dakota State	Baseball	First
Anthony Schneider	South Dakota State	Baseball	First
Matt O'Leary	IUPUI	Men's Basketball	First
A.J. Jacobson	North Dakota State	Men's Basketball	First
Allison Arens	South Dakota	Women's Basketball	First
Sam Hamilton	Denver	Men's Soccer	First
Mark Moulton	Omaha	Men's Soccer	First
Matthew Rogers	Oral Roberts	Men's Soccer	First
Natalie Fenske	North Dakota State	Women's Soccer	First
Amy Andrushko	North Dakota State	Outdoor Track & Field	First
Amber Eichkorn	South Dakota	Outdoor Track & Field	First
Ryan Enerson	North Dakota State	Outdoor Track & Field	First
Emily Grove	South Dakota	Outdoor Track & Field	First
Morgan Milbrath	North Dakota State	Outdoor Track & Field	First
Matti Mortimore	North Dakota State	Outdoor Track & Field	First
Silvia Zanini	South Dakota State	Outdoor Track & Field	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).

OTHER NATIONAL ACADEMIC HONORS

Name	School	Sport	Honor
Sam Hamilton	Denver	Men's Soccer	NSCAA First Team Selection
Kortne Ford	Denver	Men's Soccer	NSCAA Second Team Selection
Albert Owens	Oral Roberts	Men's Basketball	DI-AAA Scholar-Athlete Team
Jacqlyn Poss	Denver	Women's Basketball	DI-AAA Scholar Athlete Team

ALL-DISTRICT / ALL-REGION

The Summit League had 18 student-athletes earn All-District or All-Region Status

Name	School	Organization	Team	Sport
Mike Daum	South Dakota State	NABC / USBWA	First	Men's Basketball
Matt Mooney	South Dakota	NABC	First	Men's Basketball
Reagan Dunk	Denver	NSCAA	First	Men's Soccer
Kortne Ford	Denver	NSCAA	First	Men's Soccer
Sam Hamilton	Denver	NSCAA	First	Men's Soccer
Emily Donnay	South Dakota State	USTFCCCA	First	Cross Country
Joel Reichow	South Dakota State	USTFCCCA	First	Cross Country
Laura Milos	Oral Roberts	AVCA	First	Volleyball
Mo Evans	Fort Wayne	NABC	Second	Men's Basketball
John Konchar	Fort Wayne	NABC	Second	Men's Basketball
Paul Miller	North Dakota State	NABC	Second	Men's Basketball
Fazlo Alihodzic	Omaha	NSCAA	Second	Men's Soccer
Jacob Bevan	Western Illinois	NSCAA	Second	Men's Soccer
Karsten Hanlin	Denver	NSCAA	Second	Men's Soccer
Seth Rinderknecht	Omaha	NSCAA	Second	Men's Soccer
Jacquelyn Sertic	North Dakota State	NFCA	Second	Softball
Maggie Good	IUPUI	NFCA	Third	Softball
Emily Ira	Western Illinois	NFCA	Third	Softball

AWARDS WATCH LISTS

Name	School	Organization	Team	Sport
Adam McGinnis	Western Illinios	Johnny Bench Award	Semifinalist	Baseball
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
Reagan Dunk	Denver	MAC Hermann Trophy	Semifinalist	Men's Soccer
Mark Moulton	Omaha	Senior CLASS Award	Candidate	Men's Soccer
Sam Hamilton	Denver	Senior CLASS Award	Candidate	Men's Soccer
Natalie Fenske	North Dakota State	Senior CLASS Award	Candidate	Women's Soccer
Chris Nilsen	South Dakota	Bowerman Award	Candidate	Indoor Track & Field

MATT WHATLEY (L) / JOHNNY BENCH (R)



REAGAN DUNK



NATIONAL PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

The Summit League had seven student-athletes earn National Players of the Week

Name	School	Organization	Date	Sport
Kortne Ford	Denver	NSCAA	Sept. 20	Men's Soccer
Allison Arens	South Dakota	ESPNW.com	Jan. 4	Women's Basketball
Allison Arens	South Dakota	NCAA "Starting Five"	Jan. 4	Women's Basketball
Taylor Higginbotham	Western Illinois	NCAA "Starting Five"	Jan. 11	Women's Basketball
Emily Clemens	Western Illinois	NCAA "Starting Five"	Feb. 8	Women's Basketball
Mike Daum	South Dakota State	USBWA/Oscar Robertson Trophy	Feb. 21	Men's Basketball
Drue Galassi	Western Illinois	Collegiate Baseball	April 25	Baseball
Luke Lind	North Dakota State	Collegiate Baseball	May 1	Baseball
Maggie Good	IUPUI	USA Softball	May 9	Softball

MIKE DAUM



MAGGIE GOOD



TAYLOR HIGGINBOTHAM



COACHING AWARDS

Award	Recipient	School	Organization	Sport
National Coaching Staff of the Year	Denver	Denver	NSCAA	Men's Soccer
District Coach of the Year	Craig Smith	South Dakota	NABC	Men's Basketball
District Coach of the Year	Christian Thompson	Denver	ITA	Women's Tennis
District Assistant Coach of the Year	David Loewenthal	Denver	ITA	Women's Tennis
Thirty Under 30	Aaron Horn	South Dakota	WBAC	Women's Basketball

DENVER MEN'S SOCCER COACHING STAFF



CRAIG SMITH



NOTEWORTHY INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- **MBB:** South Dakota State's **Mike Daum** became just the second Division I player in the last 20 seasons to score 50 points and pull down 15 rebounds in a game when he posted a 51/15 line on Feb. 18. He was also the only D-I player to have 40 points, 10 rebounds and 10 three-pointers in a 2016-17 game, when he did so on Jan. 21.
- **WBB:** Western Illinois' **Emily Clemens** set a new single-season record with 241 assists.
- **MSOC:** Denver's **Reagan Dunk** (No. 13 overall) and **Sam Hamilton** (No. 15) were selected in the MLS SuperDraft.
- **MTEN:** Omaha's **Razvan Grigorescu** qualified for the NCAA Singles Championship.
- **WTEN:** Denver's team of **Maureen Slattery** and **Julia O'Loughlin** qualified for the NCAA Doubles Championship and advanced to the Elite Eight with a pair of victories.
- **MTF:** South Dakota's **Chris Nilsen** won the NCAA Indoor Pole Vault Championship, was named the USTFCCCA Midwest Field Athlete of the Year, and was ranked No. 1 in the nation, both indoor and outdoor, and No. 4 in the world. Nilsen also claimed third place at NCAA Outdoor Championship.
- **MTF:** North Dakota State's **Matti Mortimore** claims men's League-record three All-American honors.
- **WTF:** South Dakota's **Emily Grove** finished with a No. 1 national ranking in the pole vault and was No. 9 in the world ranking and claims women's League-record fourth All-American honor.
- **WTF:** North Dakota State's **Katelyn Weimerskirch** became the first female athlete to capture four league championship discus titles.
- **WTF:** South Dakota's **Amber Eichkorn** becomes first female student-athlete in League history to win three 10,000-meter run titles at League Outdoor Championship.
- **MTF & WTF:** South Dakota's **Nilsen** and **Grove** advance to IAAF World Championships in London, England.
- **MXC:** South Dakota State's **Joel Reichow** earned the second All-America honor of his career.
- **VB:** Oral Roberts' **Laura Milos** led the NCAA in aces and aces per set while also ranking among the top five nationally in seven other categories.
- **ADMIN:** Denver's **Peg Bradley-Doppes** was selected as the recipient of the DI-AAA Athletics Directors Association 2017 Builders' Award.

SUMMIT LEAGUE

- Announced the addition of the **University of North Dakota** as a full-time member starting with the 2018-19 academic year.
- Added **Drake University** and **Illinois State University** as affiliate members for men's tennis beginning in 2017-18.
- Boasted 15 teams from nine institutions with perfect NCAA Academic Progress Rate (APR) scores.
- Had 16 teams publicly recognized for posting multi-year APR scores in the top 10 percent nationally for their sport.
- Saw two presidents appointed to NCAA roles beginning with the 2017-18 academic year (North Dakota State's **Dr. Dean Bresciani**/Division I Board of Directors and Western Illinois' **Dr. Jack Thomas**/Division I Presidential Forum.)
- Raised over 105,800 pounds of food in league-wide "Food Fight" initiative that spanned 18 games during the basketball season and championships. South Dakota State captured institution "Food Fight" title by raising over 43,800 pounds of food.
- Drew over 61,000 fans to the Basketball Championships and approximately 4,000 fans to the inaugural two-day Fan Fest in Sioux Falls, S.D.



BASEBALL

- Oral Roberts junior **Matt Whatley** selected as the Johnny Bench Award winner given annual to the top catcher in collegiate baseball.
- **Oral Roberts** defeated two nationally-ranked opponents, No. 10 Oklahoma and No. 16 Dallas Baptist.
- Produced two Academic All-District selections, a National Player of the Week and five players on national award watch lists.
- **Oral Roberts** secured the league's first baseball postseason win since 2012 with its 14-6 victory over Oklahoma State.
- **Matt Whatley, Dylan Snypes, Bryce Howe and Josh McMinn** of Oral Roberts and **Luke Ringhofer** of South Dakota State were selected in the MLB Draft.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

- Finished No. 14, a new all-time high mark, among 32 D-I leagues in the *USA Today* Jeff Sagarin Rankings.
- Produced a pair of Academic All-America honorees for the second consecutive season and third time in the past four years and had a sixth player named to the five-man Athletic Directors Association (ADA) Division I-AAA Scholar-Athlete team in past eight seasons.
- Sent at least three teams to postseason play for the sixth consecutive season, advanced at least one team in a national postseason tournament for the third time in past four seasons, and recorded the deepest postseason run since 2012.
- Set records for overall attendance (39,912) and individual session (11,235) at the Men's Basketball Championship.
- Led the nation in six KenPom statistical analytics, including the best three-point field goal percentage and free throw percentage.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- Achieved an all-time best RPI, finishing at No. 11, five better than the previous high mark.
- Had three players combined for four National Player of the Week honors.
- Four teams recorded 20-win seasons, a league first, and finished among the top 80 in the final RPI rankings.
- Recorded the second-best overall women's tournament attendance figure with 21,092.
- Posted the highest winning percentage (.559) in league history against traditional mid-major opponents.
- Advanced at least three teams to national postseason tournaments for the ninth consecutive season.

CROSS COUNTRY

- Achieved a men's All-America honor following the fourth-highest NCAA Championship finish in league history.
- Collected an all-region accolade on both the men's and women's sides.

GOLF

- Had a pair of teams finish the regular season with top-75 rankings – **Denver** (No. 51 in Golfstat, 52 in Golfweek) and **South Dakota State** (71 Golfweek, 73 Golfstat).
- **Denver** tied the nation's No. 1 (Alabama) and defeated No. 2 (Southern California) teams in match play at the Liz Murphey Collegiate Classic.



MEN'S SOCCER

- **Denver** became the first league team to reach an NCAA Final Four in any sport and achieved the highest national ranking (No. 3) for any sport.
- Totaled four wins and three ties against nationally-ranked non-league opponents during the season.



- Had two players selected in the top 15 picks of the MLS SuperDraft **Reagan Dunk** (left) and **Sam Hamilton** (right).
- Collected Seven All-Region awards and both a first team All-American and National Player of the Week honor.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

- Saw five teams earn NSCAA team academic awards

SOFTBALL

- Compiled six victories over "Power Five" opponents, including two each over Big 12 and Pac-12 foes and one each against Big Ten and SEC squads.
- **North Dakota State** defeated No. 10 Oklahoma, 3-2 in the opening round of regionals. The win marks the first time since 1985 that the defending National Champion has lost in the opening round.
- Had the National Player of the Week (IUPUI's Maggie Good) in season's final week.

SWIMMING & DIVING

- Held a pair of top-50 world rankings (Denver's **Bailey Anderson**/No. 39 in 200 IM and DU's **Anton Loncar**/No. 45 in 200 back).
- Saw 17 new records set at league championship meet.
- Swam the first 100 IM in NCAA Championships history.

TENNIS

- Secured first NCAA Tournament victory in history when **Denver** defeated No. 25 Southern California, 4-2, in first round match.
- Had national-ranked women's team, women's doubles team and men's singles player during season.
- Represented by qualifiers at both NCAA Women's Doubles Championship and at NCAA Men's Singles Championship.
- Reached the Elite Eight after two victories in NCAA Women's Doubles Tournament.

TRACK & FIELD

- Won the league's 11th individual national championship and first ever by a freshman (South Dakota's **Chris Nilsen**/indoor pole vault).
- Held three No.1 national rankings combined during indoor and outdoor seasons (South Dakota's **Chris Nilsen**/indoor and outdoor pole vault and USD's **Emily Grove**/outdoor pole vault) and a No. 3 national ranking (North Dakota State's **Matti Mortimore**/javelin throw).
- Achieved three world rankings, including a top-five and top-ten, during the outdoor season.
- Saw 12 championship records broken at league's outdoor meet and 11 fall at indoor.
- League-record 15 student athletes qualify for NCAA Outdoor Championships.
- South Dakota's **Chris Nilsen** claims third place at NCAA Outdoor Championships.

VOLLEYBALL

- Had the NCAA statistical champion (Oral Roberts' **Laura Milos**) in Aces (total and per game)
- Defeated a "Power Five" team (**Oral Roberts** over Arkansas) and a nationally-ranked opponent (**Denver** over No. 20 Loyola Marymount) during the season.

LAURA MILOS





3,500+
STUDENT-ATHLETES

7
STATES

Celebrating its 35th season of Division I athletics, The Summit League offers 19 championship sports and has a combined enrollment of over 120,000 at nine institutions, including four located in top 60 U.S. metro populations and two land-grant universities. Member institutions include: Denver (University of Denver), Fort Wayne (Indiana University-Purdue University-Fort Wayne), IUPUI (Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis), North Dakota State University, Omaha (University of Nebraska Omaha), Oral Roberts University, the University of South Dakota, South Dakota State University and Western Illinois University. Previously known as the Mid-Continent Conference, The Summit League rebranded in 2007 and has since produced eight NCAA Champions, and over 80 Academic All-Americans, 75 All-America selections and numerous former student-athletes competing at the highest professional level.

ACADEMIC PROGRESS RATE (APR)

Fifteen Summit League affiliated teams from nine institutions posted perfect scores in the NCAA's latest Academic Progress Rates (APR). The most recent APR scores are multiyear rates based on scores from the 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 academic years.

A total of 16 Summit League teams were bestowed with 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 squad(s).

	W	W	W	W
	MGF	WSOC	WTN	VB
	W	W	W	W
	BSB	MTN	WTN	VB
	W	W		
	MGF	WGF		
	W	W		
	WTN	VB		
	W			
	WGF			
	W			
	WGF			
	W			
	SB			

W	W	W	W	
MGF	WSOC	WTN	VB	
W	W	W	W	
BSB	MTN	WTN	VB	
		W	W	
		MBB	WGF	
		W	W	
		MGF	WGF	
		W	W	
		WTN	VB	
			W	
			WGF	
		W		
			SB	

Within their respective sport APR scores, 66 Summit League teams equaled or exceeded the national APR average. Within that total was 34 women's teams across nine sports and 32 men's squads over eight sports.



2016-17 SUMMIT LEAGUE HIGHLIGHTS

THESUMMITLEAGUE.ORG

SUMMIT LEAGUE HALL OF FAME INAUGURAL CLASS OF 2017

The Summit League announced its inaugural Hall of Fame class ahead of the 2017 Basketball Championships and honored eight decorated individuals who have combined for 17 league Player or Coach of the Year awards, eight All-America honors, an Olympic Gold medal, and a World Series title. The Class of 2017 consists of **Brian Anderson** (baseball), **Tony Bennett** (men's basketball), **Bryce Drew** (men's basketball), **Dr. Homer Drew** (men's basketball), **F.L. "Frosty" Ferzacca** (administrator), **Caleb Green** (men's basketball), **Krista Ragan-Binam** (women's basketball), and **Anita Rapp** (women's soccer). The Summit League Hall of Fame features its own branding with a logo that incorporates the present and past. The current "peak" logo is amalgamated with elements from the iconic logo used when the league was known as the Mid-Continent Conference in a nod to the previous era. A webpage devoted to The Summit League Hall of Fame will be housed at www.thesummitleague.org/halloffame and includes detailed information on each inductee. Future plans include a "virtual museum" of league artifacts, including publications and photos.



SOCIAL MEDIA EXPOSURE

