



News Release

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UNO's Danielle McCawley and USD's Frank Leibfarth Named Recipients of NCC Scholar-Athlete Award

Sioux Falls, S.D. -- Danielle McCawley of Nebraska-Omaha and Frank Leibfarth of South Dakota were named recipients of the 2008 NCC Scholar-Athlete Award as part of the NCC Celebration Dinner at Ramkota Hotel in Sioux Falls, S.D. Saturday evening.

The award is given annually to one male and one female senior student-athlete who distinguish themselves through academic performance, athletic ability and community activities.

The recipients of the NCC Scholar-Athlete Award are selected by the league's institutional representatives from the NCC Honor Athletes announced in May. Each school selects one male and one female student-athlete for the Honor Athlete recognition.

Here is a summary of the recipients' achievements:

Danielle McCawley, Nebraska-Omaha, Soccer, Ralston, Neb. - Honors and Awards: Third-team NSCAA/adidas All-American...2006 & 2007 All-North Central Conference; 2007 NCC MVP; 2006 & 2007 NCC All-Academic Team; 2007 CoSIDA Academic All-District...2005, 2006 & 2007 NCC Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll...2006 Second Team NSCAA College Scholar All-American...2006 First Team, NSCAA All-Central Region...2007: Named to the NSCAA/adidas Division II third-team All-America squad...Was the North Central Conference MVP after scoring eight goals and three assists for 19 points...Also named to the first-team all-region team...Made the Academic All-NCC team for the third year in a row, as well as first-team all-region honors, with a 3.997 GPA...2006: Starting defender in all 22 games...Helped lead the Maverick defense to 15 shutouts...Recorded two assists on the season...Tallied an assist in the Mavericks' 5-0 shutout over NCAA Tournament qualifier Missouri Southern on 9-3-06...Earned All-North Central Conference and first team NSCAA All-Central Region honors...Named to the NCC Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll...Earned second team NSCAA College Scholar All-American honors as well as first team Academic All-NCC accolades...2005: Played in and started all 22 games as a sophomore midfielder...Named to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District VII second team, the Academic All-North Central Conference team and the NCC Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll with a perfect 4.00 GPA...Finished the season with four points off a goal and two assists...Assisted on the game-tying goal against Franklin Pierce in the NCAA semifinal on 12-1-05...2004: Played and started in 25 games as a freshman defender...scored a goal and added an assist 9-12-04 in a Maverick 4-1 win over Central Missouri...Finished the year with one goal and three assists for five points...Personal: Full name is Danielle Lee McCawley...Born on November 16, 1985...parents are John and Laura McCawley...Majoring in mathematics with a 3.997 GPA.

Frank Leibfarth, South Dakota, Football, Yankton, S.D. - Has a 3.949 GPA in chemistry and physics...One of the leaders for the Coyote Football Team, which had a 6-5 record in 2007...Named to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America first team for two straight years...Also been named to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District VII College Division first team and he is a two-time Academic All-NCC selection...Was selected to the 2006 USA Today All-USA College Academic Team, a squad that is composed of 20 students from all colleges and universities across the nation...Two-time selection on the NCC All-Academic Football Team, he scored 75 points for USD...Finished his career tied for the USD career record for points scored. He tied Jason Leber's (1993-96) record of 236 career points...Made 12 field goals this season and was a perfect 39-of-39 on extra point attempts...Against Winona State this season, made a career-best 52-yard field goal...Has been named to the NCC Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll for three straight years...A Goldwater Scholar, he is the only Coyote student athlete (just seventh USD student overall) to ever earn that honor...In 2005, completed a summer National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates at Columbia University...Named the USD Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year this spring.

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Other female Honor Athletes considered for the award were Danielle Beckstrand, Minnesota Duluth (volleyball); Lynndi Decker, Minnesota State (softball); Heidi Evans, North Dakota (cross country/track & field); Ashley Homan, St. Cloud State (softball); Becky Schulz, Augustana (track & field); Jill Smolczyk, South Dakota (diving).

Other male Honor Athletes considered for the award were Jared Clementson, Minnesota Duluth (cross country/track & field); David Dreas, St. Cloud State (basketball); Weston Dressler, North Dakota (football); Ben Hochstein, Nebraska-Omaha (football); Frank Leibfarth, South Dakota (football); Jason Rhoten, Minnesota State (wrestling); Ian Thomas, Augustana (basketball).

McCawley, the second UNO female honoree, is the 27th female overall honoree while Leibfarth, the fourth male USD honoree, is the 30th male honoree overall. The only other UNO female student-athlete to claim the award was softball player Tara Buzzell in 1999. The last male recipient for USD was basketball player Jeremy Kudera in 2001.

Here is a look at the previous NCC Scholar-Athlete Award recipients:

Male Honorees

1982	Jon Lundberg, Augustana, wrestling
1983	Jerus Campbell, South Dakota, football
1984	Kirk Hutton, Nebraska-Omaha, football
1985	Brian Bachmeier, North Dakota State, baseball
1986	John Kelzenberg, Morningside, basketball/baseball
1987	Paul Limburg, Augustana, baseball
1988	Dan Sonneck, South Dakota State, football
1989	Joe Regnier, North Dakota State, basketball
1990	David Gubbrud, Augustana, football
1991	Kris Presler, North Dakota, wrestling
1992	Kevin Tetzlaff, South Dakota State, football
1993	Tim Gelinske, North Dakota, football
1994	Arden Beachy, North Dakota State, football/track & field
1995	Bryan Schwartz, Augustana, football
1996	Tim Tibesar, North Dakota, football
1997	Jason Sempsrott, South Dakota State, basketball
1998	Sean Fredericks, North Dakota State, football
1999	Matt Hoyt, South Dakota, cross country/track & field
	Ryan Marx, St. Cloud State, wrestling
2000	Corte McGuffey, Northern Colorado, football
2001	Jeremy Kudera, South Dakota, basketball
2002	Josh Ranek, South Dakota State, football
2003	Tyler Bryant, South Dakota State, wrestling
	Kelby Klosterman, North Dakota, football
2004	Sebastian Andersson, North Dakota, swimming
	Alex Carlson, St. Cloud State, basketball
2005	Aaron Graumann, Augustana, wrestling
2006	Ryan Koch, St. Cloud State, football/track & field
2007	Michael Greenwood, North Dakota, football
2008	Frank Leibfarth, South Dakota, football

Female Honorees

1983	Lori Bocklund, South Dakota State, track & field/x-c
1984	Karrin Wallen, South Dakota, basketball
1985	Kim Edwards, North Dakota, swimming & diving
1986	Janie Owens, North Dakota, swimming & diving
1987	Jean Misterek, South Dakota, basketball
1988	Lisa Walters, Minnesota State, Mankato, basketball
1989	Kristi Kremer, North Dakota State, basketball
1990	Julie Eisenchenk, St. Cloud State, track & field
1991	Bridget Lindquist, Augustana, basketball
1992	Lisa Ristau, North Dakota State, track & field
1993	Dana Nielsen, Augustana, basketball
1994	Heidi Morlock, Augustana, basketball
1995	Diane Klein, Augustana, volleyball/basketball
1996	Jeree Carlson, Morningside, softball
1997	Ann Sieckert, Augustana, volleyball
1998	Andrea Jeseritz, North Dakota State, track & field
1999	Tara Buzzell, Nebraska-Omaha, softball
2000	Jane Even, North Dakota State, basketball
2001	Jennifer Higgins, St. Cloud State, track & field/basketball
2002	Jill Theeler, North Dakota State, track & field
2003	Julia Frie, South Dakota, basketball
2004	Jackie Hingst, Augustana, volleyball
	Mandy Koupal, South Dakota, basketball
2005	Heather Hamilton, Minnesota Duluth, track & field/x-c
2006	Lindsey Dietz, Minnesota Duluth, basketball
2007	Mara McGill, South Dakota, track & field
2008	Danielle McCawley, Nebraska-Omaha, soccer

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