

NEWS RELEASE

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University of Saint Mary to Induct Three Former Spires Standouts into USM Athletic Hall of Fame

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—The University of Saint Mary will recognize the impressive athletic careers of three former students at the annual USM Athletic Hall of Fame dinner and induction ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 21, in USM’s Saint Joseph Dining Hall on the Leavenworth campus.

The three honorees will also be honored at a presentation held between the Spires Men’s and Women’s Basketball games against Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference opponent Tabor College on Saturday, Jan. 22, in USM’s Ryan’s Sports Center. The women’s game starts at 3 p.m. and the men’s game tips off at 5 p.m. Call Athletic Director Rob Miller at (913) 758-6160 for information.

This year’s student-athlete inductees are:

- Women’s Basketball player and 2003 graduate **Kelly Day** of Windermere, Fla. During her Spires career, Day was named USM Female Scholar Athlete of the Year for 2002. She also was twice honored as an NAIA Academic All-American and was named KCAC All-Conference Honorable Mention for the 2002-2003 season.
- **Dallas Thompson**, a 2005 grad, played on USM’s first ever varsity Football Team. During his time at Saint Mary—which saw him leave for a year to serve in the U.S. Army—Thompson, of Kansas City, Kan., was named KCAC All-Conference First Team in 2004, Second Team in 2003, and Honorable Mention in 2002.
- Men’s Basketball player and Danville, Calif., resident **Rob Williams**, from the class of 2002. Williams won a number of honors during his two seasons with the Spires, including NAIA Academic All-American and KCAC Academic All-Conference nods in 2001, and NAIA and Verizon Academic All-American awards in 2002. He was also named Saint Mary Male Student Athlete in the year in 2002.

USM Athletic Director Rob Miller praised this year’s class of inductees.

“These three student-athletes left a memorable mark on this institution during their times here,” Coach Miller said. “They were the ideal Saint Mary athlete—impressive both on the field and on the court and in the classroom, and they were great ambassadors for the university and its mission.”

The USM Athletic Hall of Fame Selection Committee, headed by Miller, evaluates candidates for induction based on several criteria. Inductees exemplify excellence in individual and team athletic performance, demonstrate leadership in both the program and college community, and show strength through self-improvement and fostering improvement in others.

Saint Mary has 12 varsity sports programs—football, volleyball, baseball, softball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's soccer, cross country, and track & field—along with co-ed cheerleading and dance. Visit www.gospires.com to learn more about USM athletics.

The University of Saint Mary is a Catholic co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations in Overland Park and Kansas City, Kan. Visit www.stmary.edu for more information.

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