



Spire Sportswire

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The *Spire SportsWire* is a weekly overview of USM Athletics, published every Monday

NEWS

The Saint Mary athletics department will induct four into USM's Athletic Hall of Fame this week, recognizing the inspired efforts of three Spires athletes as well as the continued generosity of local business owner Bill Geiger.

The induction dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 22, in Saint Joseph Dining Hall. The awardees will be further honored at an induction ceremony between the men's and women's home basketball games against conference opponent Southwestern College on Saturday, Jan. 23, in Ryan Sports Center. The women's game starts at 5 p.m. and the men's game starts at 7 p.m.

The student athletes being honored are:

- Softball player and Great Falls, Mont., native Alena (Nardinger) Prosser, a 2003 grad.
- Hoopster Amber (Seevers) Bode, class of 2005. Amber is from St. Joseph, Mo.
- Baseball star and Leavenworth native Dustin Brown, also class of 2005.

Geiger, owner of Geiger Ready-Mix, will receive a meritorious service award for his frequent material donations to Saint Mary construction projects.

BASKETBALL

The Spires Men's Basketball Team notched a pair of conference victories last week.

On Thursday, Jan. 14, USM took a 55-54 road nail-biter over Ottawa University that ended on sophomore guard Eric Avant's buzzer-beater. The Spires followed that one up with a 74-71 win over Tabor College at home on Saturday, Jan. 16.

With the wins, the Spires record improves to 10-7 overall and 4-4 in Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) play.

Two more conference games are on tap for this week, starting with a road game against Bethany College at 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21.

The Lady Spires, meanwhile, lost their two conference games last week.

USM fell 71-43 at Ottawa on Thursday, Jan. 14, and lost 63-58 to Tabor on Saturday, Jan. 21.

The women's team record now stands at 5-13 overall and 2-6 in KCAC play.

The Lady Spires continue with conference play this week, next traveling to Bethany for a game at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21.

