



Spire Sportswire

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

NEWS

Five University of Saint Mary soccer players—including four from the Women's Soccer Team and one from the Men's Soccer Team—have been named 2009 Scholar-Athletes by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA).

The honored Lady Spires were senior Emily Owen, a forward from Tulsa, Okla., senior Theresa Baumstark, a midfielder from Hermann, Mo., junior Michelle Lighton, a midfielder from Lewisville, Texas, and junior Jessalyn Sadler, a defender from Bondurant, Iowa. This is the second consecutive year Owen and Baumstark have been named as NAIA Scholar-Athletes.

From the men's team, junior Theo Daniels, a defender from Lansing, Kan., made the cut. To be considered for the scholar-athlete award, players must be at least juniors and have a 3.5 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale.

The Lady Spires led the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) in NAIA women's soccer Scholar-Athletes.

Besides the NAIA honors, Owen and Sadler were also named to the KCAC All-Conference Second Team for their play this season.

BASKETBALL

The Spires Men's Basketball Team lost twice last week in conference games. The team resumes play in January.

On Thursday, Dec. 10, the Spires lost 71-66 to Friends University. On Saturday, Dec. 12, the team fell 62-58 to Sterling College.

With the losses, the men's team record now sits at 7-5 overall and 1-3 in KCAC play. The men's team next plays at 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 2, at Benedictine College.

The women's team, meanwhile, split their two conference games last week.

On Thursday, Dec. 10, the Lady Spires upended Friends 59-51. The team dropped its next game against Sterling 70-52 on Saturday, Dec. 12.

The Lady Spires record is now 3-10 overall and 1-3 in KCAC play. They play again at Johnson & Wales University on Monday, Jan. 4.

