Scholar athletes honored: From the Desk of the Chancellor

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by Charles R. Bantz

IUPUI athletics scored several significant victories in June.

I am proud of the fact that more than 100 student-athletes were recognized by the Summit League being named to the Winter/Spring Academic Honor Roll. IUPUI had a total of 107 honorees -- with seven achieving perfect 4.0 marks.

The Summit League Academic Honor Roll requires that a student-athlete maintains a 3.0 or better grade point average in the semester in which they compete. Distinguished Scholars are student-athletes who achieve a 3.60 or higher GPA in the semester in which they compete.

Fifty IUPUI students were named to the league’s Distinguished Scholars from men’s and women’s basketball, men’s and women’s golf, softball, men’s and women’s swimming and diving, men’s and women’s tennis and men’s and women’s track & field.

IUPUI ranked fifth academically in the nine-school conference -- up from last year.

Finally, the Summit League recognized Team Academic Achievement in each sport based on the percentage of student-athletes on each team who made the Commissioner's List -- a 3.0 or better cumulative grade point average (GPA) in a year of eligibility.

Women's tennis head coach Yulia Smirnova and women's track and field coach Antonio McDaniel were recognized with Team Academic Achievement Awards as 100 percent of the eligible tennis players were honored and 92 percent of the women's track team met requirements.

These student-athletes enhance IUPUI by giving all that they've got both between the lines and in the classroom. Supporting faculty and staff -- particularly their coaches -- share in their success. They are role models.

I congratulate each honored student-athlete and thank them for setting the bar for others.

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