



Feb. 1, 2007

Western State named Division II All-Academic Men's Cross Country Team of the Year

The combination of a third-place finish at the 2006 NCAA Division II Men's Cross Country Championships and cumulative team grade-point average of 3.347 earned Western State College designation as the Division II All-Academic Men's Cross Country Team of the Year.

The Mountaineers were one of 57 Division II men's cross country programs to have at least a 3.0 team GPA during the 2006 season, the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association announced Thursday. For schools to qualify as an All-Academic Team, the student-athletes on their NCAA eligibility list must have a cumulative team GPA of 3.0 or higher.

The All-Academic Team of the Year is awarded to the highest-finishing school at the NCAA Championships meet that meet All-Academic team qualifications.

Western State's cross country team consisted of Andrew Abdella, Zach Butler, Lance Bettsw, John Butkey, Jesse Chettle, Aaron Clark, Zach Cordel, Scott Dahlberg, Aaron Flower, Lucas Gerlock, Jason Graham, Andrew Hoffman, Kim Hogarth, Cole Murch, Andy Mauk and Ryan Wilbur.

The Mountaineers are coached by Duane Vandebusch. Vandebusch has won a record seven NCAA Division II men's cross country titles during his 36 years at the Gunnison, Colo., school.

Of the 57 schools named being honored as All-Academic Teams for Division II men's cross country, Concordia University (St. Paul) had the highest cumulative GPA at 3.560. Christian Brothers University (Memphis, Tenn.) had a 3.540 grade-point average.

Adams State College was named the Division II All-Academic Women's Cross Country Team of the Year. For more information, see www.ustfccca.org.

**USTFCCCA Division II All-Academic Teams, Men's Cross Country
(cumulative GPAs in parentheses)**

Coach:

Duane Vandenbusche

Team Roster:

Andrew Abdella

Zach Bauer

Lance Betts

John Butkey

Jesse Chettle

Aaron Clark

Zach Cordel

Scott Dahlberg

Aaron Flower

Lucas Gerlock

Jason Graham

Andrew Hoffman

Kim Hogarth

Cole Murch

Andy Mauk

Ryan Wilbur

Augustana College (3.380)

Bentley College (3.480)

California State University Stanislaus (3.080)

California University of Pennsylvania (3.390)

Central Missouri, University of (3.050)

Central Washington University (3.130)

Christian Brothers University (3.540)

Clarion University (3.320)

College of Saint Rose (3.310)

Colorado School of Mines (3.175)

Colorado, Colorado Springs, University of (3.094)

Concordia University - Saint Paul (3.560)

Drury University (3.265)

East Central University (3.240)

East Stroudsburg University (3.040)

Eastern New Mexico University (3.040)

Edinboro University (3.210)

Ferris State University (3.050)

Findlay, University of (3.392)

Florida Gulf Coast University (3.050)

Florida Southern College (3.010)

Francis Marion University (3.138)

Gannon University (3.217)

Grand Valley State University (3.090)

Harding University (3.330)

Hillsdale College (3.009)

Lake Superior State University (3.011)

Lewis University (3.320)

Limestone College (3.420)

Lock Haven University (3.080)

Mercyhurst College (3.020)

Merrimack College (3.191)

Michigan Tech University (3.260)

Millersville University (3.030)

Minnesota Duluth, University of (3.229)

Minnesota State University Mankato (3.370)

Missouri Southern State University (3.130)

Montana State University Billings (3.160)

North Dakota, University of (3.424)

Northern Kentucky University (3.230)

Nova Southeastern University (3.020)

Saginaw Valley State University (3.231)

Seattle University (3.148)

Slippery Rock University (3.422)

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (3.306)

Southwest Baptist University (3.395)

Stonehill College (3.120)

Tiffin University (3.000)

Truman State University (3.260)

University of Massachusetts Lowell (3.108)

University of Missouri Rolla (3.300)

West Chester University (3.113)

West Florida University of (3.110)

Western Washington University (3.040)

Wingate University (3.267)

Winona State University (3.050)