

# **JUNE ISSUE CONTENTS**

- **Additions to CPOA**
- **NCAA News**
- **Financial Aid News**
- **Contact Sheets**
- **Internet Updates**
- **Referral Program**
- **Season End Updates**
- **Monthly Meetings**
- **Seminars**

## **IMPORTANT JUNE RECRUITING DATES**

4: SAT Test

11: ACT Test

15: NCAA Div. II coaches may begin making telephone calls to 2012 graduates

15: Div. I Ice Hockey coaches may begin calling 2013 grads once per month

15: NCAA Div. I Men's Basketball coaches may begin calling 2013 grads once per month.

## **RECENT ADDITIONS TO CPOA Pennsylvania**

Lisa Kissell – Greensburg Salem – Volleyball

Rachel Ott – Greensburg Salem - Soccer

Alex Craine – Derry Area – Soccer

Ali Dimoff – Ringgold – Soccer

Lindsey Leddon – Seneca Valley - Lacrosse

## **CPOA College Signings**

**The following CPOA athletes have signed letters of intent to continue their athletic & academic careers.**

Matt Walbert – South Park HS – Soccer – University of Pittsburgh

Drew Ohm – South Park HS – Track & Field – Monmouth University

Ryan Uhl – St. Marys HS – Baseball – Indiana University of PA

T.J. Matrascia – Thomas Jefferson HS – Football – Robert Morris University

Ian Ball – Valley Forge Military Academy – Football – Robert Morris University

Chris Kish – Fairmont HS – Football – Fairmont State University

Cory Broughton – Elkins HS – Football – Shepherd University

Devon Locher – Ambridge HS – Baseball – Keuka College

David Theishen – Bethel Park HS – Swimming – Lake Erie College

Garrett Miller – Leechburg HS – Football – Allegheny College

Steve Schmitt – Hempfield HS – Football – St. Francis University

Aryn Zimmerman – Franklin Regional HS – Swimming - Misericordia University

Anthony May – Connellsville HS – Football – St. Vincent College

Chad Zalewski – Baldwin HS – Football - Duquense University

Ross Montanti – Pine Richland HS – Golf – Westminster College

Ben Wilt – Hampton HS – Soccer - SUNY Brockport

Kayla Hoffay – Montour HS – Soccer - Florida Gulf Coast University

Brandi Krizan – Quaker Valley HS – Soccer – Clarion University

Ryan Luffey – South Park HS – Soccer – LaRoche College

Jake Reed – Saint Mary's HS – Soccer – Geneva College

Seth Jonczak – Greater Latrobe HS – Soccer – University of Pittsburgh @ Greensburg

Conor Fungaroli – Chestnut Ridge HS – Soccer Potomac State University

Angelo Bortoluzzi – Kiski Prep – Wrestling – Binghamton University

Anthony Williams – Knoch HS – Track & Field – Wittenburg University

Marguax Krahe – Bethel Park HS – Track & Field – University of Colorado

Justine Damico – Burrell HS – Softball – Penn State Behrend

Mitchell Kalning – Greater Latrobe HS – Track & Field – Mount Union

Mitch Martin – Deer Lakes – Track & Field – Slippery Rock University

Anthony Deni – Jeannette – Football – Robert Morris University

## **NCAA News**

### **NCAA Penalizes 103 Teams for APR Failings**

The University of Connecticut men's basketball team may be the reigning NCAA champions, but it is also one of a handful of marquee basketball and football programs to receive penalties from the NCAA for poor academic performance.

The Huskies' score of 893 out of 1,000 points on the NCAA's annual academic-progress report, released on May 24<sup>th</sup>, was well below the cutoff point drawing a penalty of reduced scholarships for the team. Five other basketball and football programs in major athletic conferences scored below the NCAA's benchmark of 925 out of a possible 1,000. Last year there were 12.

In basketball the penalized teams included Arkansas (892), Georgia Tech (915), and Louisiana State (905). Both Arkansas and Georgia Tech's men's basketball programs received penalties two years ago. The elite football teams receiving penalties this year for their low academic-progress rates were Louisville (908) and Maryland (922).

NCAA officials credited the reduced number of teams receiving penalties to a willingness among most athletic departments to make athletes' academic performance a priority. Overall, 350 of the NCAA's roughly 6,400 Division I

teams did not meet the academic mark, but just 103 were penalized. The scores represent a four-year average of teams' academic-progress rates from the 2006-7 to 2009-10 academic years.

The NCAA dealt the harshest punishment, a one-year restriction on postseason competition, to eight teams at seven institutions this year. Last year only one program received that penalty.) All were men's basketball and football programs. In basketball the penalty went to California State University at Northridge (871), Chicago State (823), Grambling State (873), and the University of Louisiana at Monroe (852). In football the teams suffering a championship ban were Idaho State (888) and Jackson State (879). Southern University at Baton Rouge received such a ban in both football (899) and men's basketball (852).

Though pleased by the increased number of teams meeting the NCAA's benchmark score, Mark A. Emmert, the association's president, says he is "very concerned" about the prevalence of historically black colleges among the low-scoring programs. The NCAA, he told reporters on a conference call, has a "special obligation" to work with, and possibly provide additional resources to, the historically black colleges and other institutions with limited financial resources that garnered many of this year's stiffest sanctions.

The NCAA's annual analysis of the academic performance of Division I athletes, now in its seventh year, looks at athletes' real-time progress toward degrees. This year the average academic-progress rate for all NCAA sports increased by two points, to 970. Baseball, men's basketball, and football—the three sports that NCAA officials have singled out as their top priority in improving academic performance—all posted increases in their rates from last year.

Despite the overall improvement, the report also highlighted many challenges that remain—particularly at institutions where resources are strained. The vast majority of the 350 Division I teams that posted scores below the NCAA's benchmark for acceptable academic progress are at regional public institutions, many of them historically black colleges, that are not members of major athletic conferences and do not enjoy the robust revenue streams that, at larger programs, help to pay for extensive academic-support services for athletes. NCAA officials say the academic-progress rate has become a key academic-management tool for athletics departments and university administrators as they pinpoint academic trouble spots in their sports programs. Teams with scores below 925—which correlates roughly to a 50-percent success rate in graduating players within six years—can lose scholarships. Scores below 900 can trigger stricter sanctions, like restrictions on practice time and postseason play.

As in the past, only a fraction of the teams posting low scores were penalized. The NCAA does not punish institutions it deems to have limited resources, and some colleges with low scores are able to avoid penalties by working with the association to create "academic improvement plans." Compared

with the 103 teams that were penalized this week, 137 teams received penalties last year, while 177 did two years ago.

Of the marquee sports, baseball and men's basketball posted the largest increases in scores from last year, both increasing by five points, to 959 and 945, respectively. Football's improvement was more modest, rising two points, to 946.

Women's sports performed better than men's sports, with nearly all squads posting four-year averages well above the cutoff. Of all teams that scored below 925, less than a third were women's. Women's bowling, with a four-year average of 952, lagged far behind all other women's teams.

## **CPOA Client Toughs It Out at Golf Regional**

Golfers may not have the reputation of being tough athletes that hockey or football players do, but one player can make a strong case for fighting through some tough circumstances to compete for her college team.

Our Ottawa, Ontario representative, Diana Baird, copied our office on a story that appeared in the *Erie (PA) Times News* on women's golfer Kiersten Klekner-Alt, a client of Diana's now competing for Gannon University located in Erie.

Here's the story from *Times News* writer John Dudley. Pay attention to her **coach's comments (in bold)** late in the article:

History will show that Kiersten Klekner-Alt didn't play up to her own high expectations at this year's NCAA Division II golf regional. Someone should be sure to attach a set of X-rays to that page in the record books.

Specifically, the ones that show the two fractures, one beneath her chin and one near her ear, she suffered four days before the start of the tournament, forcing her to play four rounds with her jaw wired shut.

Klekner-Alt, a freshman at Gannon, failed to stamp her first collegiate season with a storybook ending, but she earned big props all around from her coach, her teammates and just about anyone who heard her story two weekends ago at the regional tournament in California, PA. "If she had won they would have turned it into 'Hoosiers,'" Gannon coach Jason Willow said. "I was just proud she was even competing."

Part of an outstanding recruiting class that carried Gannon to the first NCAA appearance in the program's 16-year existence, Klekner-Alt had just finished a breakout rookie regular season and was preparing for regionals when her hopes, literally, came crashing down.

Two days after returning to Erie from spring break at home in Ottawa, Ontario, Klekner-Alt stepped out of the shower and fainted, falling face-first onto her dorm room floor. She awoke, by her estimation, about a minute later, only to collapse again.

Her roommates were out, so Klekner-Alt collected herself and called home to her mother, who phoned Gannon's security office, which dispatched officers to her room. She spent the next several hours in an emergency room, where doctors performed tests that eventually led them to diagnose a circulation condition known as suspect vasovagal syncope. The Mayo Clinic defines it as "a brief loss of consciousness caused by a sudden drop in your heart rate and blood pressure, which reduces blood flow to your brain." The good news was it didn't require hospitalization. The bad news was Klekner-Alt needed jaw surgery on the eve of the most important tournament of her season.

Klekner-Alt, who posted an 80.1 scoring average and played in the No. 1 spot for Gannon several times during the regular season, shot 87-94-88 for a 269 total and, remarkably, felt she let down her teammates. "I thought I could break 85, no problem, and at least help the team," Klekner-Alt said. "If I thought I was going to shoot 94, I probably wouldn't have played."

Willow says no one shared that feeling.

"I told her even before the practice round not to feel she had to do this," Willow said. "I said, 'I'm not going to be disappointed. What you're asking of yourself is beyond the limits of what you should be asking of yourself.' "

That's not surprising considering she's part of a freshman class that added a dose of horsepower with the arrival of Klekner-Alt, fellow Canadian standout Bhanisha Nagindas and Amanda Teodorsson of Sweden, who led Gannon with a 21st-place overall finish at the regional. **Willow recruited them the new-fashioned way, largely over the Internet, promising the chance to come to Gannon and help elevate the program.**

**"The days of getting in a car and driving to watch an athlete play, at least in sports like women's golf, are just about over," Willow said. "Now with all the recruiting services out there I can get stats on anyone, and in most cases I can see their swing videos.**

"They (the freshmen) took a chance on Gannon by coming here and believing in the opportunity I was presenting them. They were the backbone of the team, and they elevated the other girls who were already here."

Klekner-Alt is expected to make a full recovery and is already practicing for next season, which will bring the first of three more shots at a regional title.

## Luke Donald is World's #1

Former CPOA client [Luke Donald](#) secured the world No. 1 golf ranking by winning the BMW [PGA Championship](#) on May 29<sup>th</sup>, beating countryman Lee Westwood in a playoff in what was a duel for top spot between the two players.

"Sounds pretty good, doesn't it," said Donald. "It's an amazing accomplishment. It's something I will be very proud of when I look back. I will savor this moment; it's very special. I think I will stay the same person, I hope I do. I'm looking forward to the challenge of staying No. 1. I know Lee and Martin (Kaymer) will be chasing me very hard."

Even though the Northwestern University alum and former NCAA champion has won only two stroke-play events in five years, he has been a model of consistency and is regarded as one of the top major tournament and match-play players in the world. Luke has always supported our program and our long-time U. K. representative Marva Hall. Congratulations, Luke!

### Sports Sponsorships

**Cleveland State Univ.**, NCAA Division I in Cleveland, Ohio, is dropping its baseball program immediately.

**Campbell University**, NCAA Division I in Buies Creek, NC, will add women's lacrosse for 2012-13.

The **University of Michigan** is elevating its lacrosse programs to Division I varsity. The men's team will begin competing in 2011-12 and the women's team will begin play in 2012-13.

**Dixie State College**, NCAA Division II in St. George, Utah, adds women's golf to begin competition in 2012-13.

**Arcadia University**, NCAA Division III in Glenside, PA, will make men's lacrosse a varsity sport beginning in 2012-13.

The **University of Mount Union** in Alliance, Ohio, will bump its men's and women's lacrosse teams from club to varsity beginning in 2012-13.

**Eastern University**, NCAA Division III in St. Davids, PA, adds a women's golf team to begin play in the fall of 2011.

**Rhode Island College**, NCAA Division III in Providence, RI, is reinstating women's gymnastics for a minimum of two years beginning this fall. The school will re-evaluate the program in 2013 to determine whether funds are sufficient to allow it to continue.

Finally, **St. Paul's College**, NCAA Division II in Lawrenceville, Virginia, is discontinuing its athletics program in total effective July 1<sup>st</sup> for budgetary reasons.

## **CONTACT SHEETS**

Remember to keep track of all questionnaires, calls, etc from college coaches with the contact sheets found in your **STUDENT PACKET**. Email me at [martin.rock@cpoapa.com](mailto:martin.rock@cpoapa.com) if you need additional copies!

## **INTERNET UPDATES**

If you have update information for your Internet profile, please forward to [martin.rock@cpoapa.com](mailto:martin.rock@cpoapa.com). Remember that you automatically receive (2) two free updates per year. If you've upgraded your program to receive unlimited updates you can send updates every day/week if you'd like. Updates take approximately 72 hours to be made online.

## **Season End Updates**

Attention all spring sport athletes, your season end update forms which were mailed to you are now due. There are hundreds of coaches out there awaiting an update on your stats, awards and accomplishments from the past season. Please complete these and return to your CPOA representative immediately.

## **RECRUITING SEMINARS**

**CPOA Pennsylvania is planning to conduct several recruiting training sessions over the next few months. These sessions will include the basics of the recruiting process, how to choose the right college, review of NCAA rules and regulations, and how to best navigate this important process of college selection. Please let us know if you have interest in hosting one of these sessions for your teammates (students/parents) or teams/booster clubs (coaches).**