Four SBU teams recognized by NCAA for academic marks

Four of St. Bonaventure’s 14 intercollegiate sports teams have been recognized by the NCAA for their latest Academic Progress Rate (APR) scores.

St. Bonaventure’s golf, men’s cross country and men’s tennis teams all have perfect scores of 1,000, while women’s soccer has a score of 995 in the multi-year APR released by the NCAA on Thursday. Those figures rank among the top 10 percent of all Division I teams in their respective sports.

Nationwide, a total of 839 teams are included in the top 10 percent of the APR.
“These teams prove once again that student-athletes are students first, and many of them are excellent students,” NCAA President Myles Brand said about the teams in the top 10 percent. “I want to personally congratulate these teams and their student-athletes who are working hard in their sport and in the classroom and setting a great example for all students.”

This week, the NCAA released the teams who rank among the top 10 percent in their sports in the multi-year rate, which includes the academic years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06.

More comprehensive data on all Division I teams will be released on May 2.

The APR measures both retention of student-athletes and progress toward degree completion.

SBU announces new focus on aging studies

Addressing our national need to educate professionals in careers that focus on an aging population, a new bachelor of arts program in aging studies with a holistic approach has been added to the curriculum at St. Bonaventure University.

This interdisciplinary degree program in aging studies (more formally termed gerontology) with a palliative approach is part of the newly founded Bogoni Center at St. Bonaventure.

“Palliative medicine is whole-patient centered, moving beyond the common medical model of diagnosis/ prescription/cure to an approach that views the patient holistically,” said James Moor, Ph.D., director of the Bogoni Center. “That is, the patient’s spirituality, philosophy, psychological and social condition, ethnicity, race, family and friends are all considered as being central to the healing and aging process.”

The development of the major is the direct result of the generosity of Paul and Irene Bogoni enabling the creation of the Bogoni Center on campus. The center is dedicated to academics, research and outreach for students, healthcare providers and caregivers within the field of aging. Rooted in the Franciscan tradition, the center seeks to enhance a values-based understanding of the human aging experience.

“St. Bonaventure is responding to this change in the demographics of our population with the support of a benefactor who has the insight to realize the relevance of our program,” Moor said. “We are ahead of the curve in terms of encouraging the strong social consciousness of our students by educating them in rewarding professional careers in this field.”

“With the aging studies major, the University is now in a position to educate our students to serve the
ever increasing aging population in the United States,” said Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T.D., president of the University. “I am grateful to Paul and Irene Bogoni and their commitment to the University without which all of the good works of the center, including the new major, would not be possible.”

Faculty will offer courses in the major from the departments of Sociology, Psychology, Philosophy, Theology and Modern Languages.

The bachelor’s degree in aging studies requires 48 hours of coursework, which will examine the psychology of adult development and aging, philosophy of science and medicine, and independent research in adult development and aging under the supervision of a faculty member.

Approved by the University’s Faculty Senate, the major was approved this spring by the New York State Department of Education. More information about the major and the aging studies program is available by contacting Dr. James Moor at jmoor@sbu.edu or online at www.sbu.edu/bogoni.

Phone upgrade to enhance wireless Internet access on campus

Most of the St. Bonaventure University campus will have wireless Internet access by this time next year, said Mike Hoffman, executive director of information technology.

Technology Services received approval for the project and plans to begin implementation this summer. Hoffman said the cost of the project is bundled together with Voiceover Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone upgrades on campus, keeping costs of the wireless enhancement to a minimum.

When complete, the University will have more than 200 wireless access points, eight times more than current access, Hoffman said. The wireless plan includes the townhouses on the east side of campus and the athletic fields, he said.

“The coverage would be in dorms, academic buildings and even green spaces,” Hoffman said. “Basically, all the main areas of congregation. … The vast majority of campus will be covered.”

Even though wireless access would cover most of campus, there will still be hardline Internet access in the residence halls, Hoffman said.

Hoffman said the project will be done in phases and that students might be able to take advantage of some new wireless access points by the fall semester, with completion expected by spring 2008.
"A year from now, it will be done," he said. "Hopefully sooner, but that's what we are planning on."

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SBU offering summer institute for teachers

Middle and high school teachers of mathematics, earth science, general science and physics in the state of New York are invited to attend a weeklong summer institute to be held July 16-20 on the St. Bonaventure University campus.

The Mathematics Institute will offer a range of topics designed to facilitate teacher transition to the new course sequence in secondary mathematics.

The Earth Science/Physics Institute will focus on a broad view of the standards with specific projects focused on the participant’s area of instruction.

Classes will meet six hours a day for five days and can be taken as a three-credit graduate course in the School of Education or three units of continuing education credits.

Dr. Peggy Yehl Burke, dean of the School of Education and the School of Graduate Studies at St. Bonaventure, said participants will have the opportunity to connect with colleagues from other districts and will enjoy hands-on work with new technology for science and math.

“We are delighted to be able to offer this program to area teachers,” said Burke, adding that registration forms will include a needs-assessment inventory that will allow shaping of the workshops to provide for the individual needs of the participants.

There is no enrollment fee. Cost of the program is being underwritten by a grant from the New York State Education Department and the University.

Lunch will be provided daily, with speakers and other topical guests. On-campus lodging is available at a modest fee, with courtesy access to campus facilities.

Enrollment is limited and grant support will be applied on a first come-first served basis. Registration deadline is May 15.

To register, or for more information, please contact Dr. Burke at pyburke@sbu.edu or call (716) 375-2313.
Brickman joins political science faculty

Danette Brickman, Ph.D., has joined the St. Bonaventure University Department of Political Science, announced Stephen D. Stahl, Ph.D., dean of the School of Arts and Sciences.

Brickman comes to St. Bonaventure from the Department of Government at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City, where she has been an assistant professor since 2003. While there, she served as the adviser for the John Jay Law Society, John Jay Political Association, and the Moot Court Competition.


“We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Brickman to our faculty,” said Josiah “Bart” Lambert, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Political Science. “In addition to her expertise in constitutional law and research methods, Dr. Brickman will also bring to the department her experience and skill in advising students interested in going to law school.”

Brickman graduated summa cum laude from Niagara University with a bachelor’s degree in political science and received her Ph.D. in political science from Texas A&M University in 2003. She is the co-author of Independent Counsel: The Law and the Investigations (CQ Press 2001) as well as “Public Opinion Reaction to Repeated Events: Citizen Response to Multiple Supreme Court Abortion Decisions,” published in Political Behavior (2006).

Brickman is working on major research projects, one involving public opinion and the U.S. Supreme Court and another involving corruption in the U.S. Congress.

A member of the American Political Science Association, she had served as a manuscript reviewer for the American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, Policy Studies Journal and Political Behavior.

Online aging studies course includes week at Chautauqua Institution

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St. Bonaventure University professor Russell Woodruff, Ph.D., is offering a four-week online summer course in aging studies that includes a fifth week in August exploring the grounds of Chautauqua Institution.

Students during the fifth week (Aug. 20-24) will participate in a weeklong series called Healing and Healthy Aging: Nurture and Nature.

The Chautauqua series will feature experts and authors in the fields of gerontology and aging addressing topics about nutrition, maintaining cognitive abilities and sexuality, including Dr. Dharma Singh Khalsa, one of the world’s leading experts in integrative or complementary medicine, Alzheimer’s disease and memory loss; and Dr. Ruth Westheimer, who helped pioneer the field of media psychology with her radio program, “Sexually Speaking.”

“The week at Chautauqua will begin with students attending a selected author’s lecture in the morning, which will be the focus of our online course,” said Woodruff. “What we read and discuss in our four weeks online will depend on the topics of the specific speakers. My goal is to expose the students to a number of experts from all sorts of different backgrounds on aging and engage the authors one-on-one with our students after their presentations. We’ll also have a daily review and debrief in the evening and conduct a preview of upcoming authors and events.”

The four-week, three-credit online course will serve as an elective for a student who chooses the new aging studies major, Aging Studies 491—Aging Studies Special Topics.

“It will be the first of our special topics courses to be offered,” said Woodruff. The class will communicate online through a discussion board posting questions and thoughts for each other to think about and react and respond to from reading assignments over the course of the four weeks.

“I did an online course last summer and I found the discussion board to be a tremendously exciting tool pedagogically because the students have time to think about and compose answers, whereas, in class there is the pressure of the moment, the pressure of everybody else around them,” he said. “When the students posted to the discussion board, ideas were well developed and more thought out providing me with more resources, more ways of tying in their responses to the things we read.

“I am excited to conduct this course in a similar manner, not only because of the flexibility but also what can be gleaned from our online discussions. There is always something lost when you are not face-to-face, but I think there is also something gained in terms of the students ability to be more thoughtful and less intimidated.”

At the end of the total five-week session, students will be required to write a 12- to 16-page paper that integrates one or more of the topics with their own particular interests. “This will be a major portion of their grade,” said Woodruff.
The online approach gives students flexibility of not having to be on campus. “They will have to dedicate a few hours each day to online communication and they’ll have to read and complete assignments,” he said.

Woodruff’s summer course is open to anyone on campus.

“Ideally,” he said, “12 students are desired who have interests in the issues of aging, which is a broad topic. There may also be insights for students to gather that may be very useful from a very practical standpoint, independent of profession or course work. Depending on a student’s academic interest, it could pique their interest in aging studies or related fields that they may want to explore as a major or a minor. There are a lot of career opportunities in this field.”

As an added bonus, St. Bonaventure’s Bogoni Center will be paying for students’ accommodations during the week at Chautauqua. Parents of students are invited for a private, personal tour of the Institution on Sunday, Aug. 19.

Students interested in the course must be able to understand and navigate the Internet and possess the ability to communicate online.

For more information, contact Dr. Russell Woodruff at (716) 375-2470 or woodruff@sbu.edu.

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Arts and Sciences students show off research and creative endeavors

ST. BONAVENTURE, N.Y., May 2, 2007 — The School of Arts and Sciences presented the Student Research and Creative Endeavors Exposition 2007 Wednesday, April 25, through Friday, April 27, in the Robert R. Jones Board of Trustees Room.

Posters and paintings summarizing the wonderful work of students in the School of Arts and Sciences were on display and students were present during a reception Friday to talk with faculty, staff and student visitors about their work.

The following is a list of students who completed their project during the 2006-2007 academic year and their supervising faculty mentor:

- Timothy Mulholland ’09: Napoleon the Professor? Napoleon Bonaparte and the Reform of French Education. Mentor: Dr. Thomas Schaeper, Department of History.
- Courtney Sullivan ’08: The Escalation of Violence in the French Reign of Terror. Mentor: Dr. Thomas
Schaeper, Department of History.
- Allison Caffrey ’07, Stacy Frisbee ’07, Megan McQuillen ’07, & Dr. Charles Walker: Comments on Teaching Posted at RateMyProfessors: Idle Gossip or Potential News? Mentor: Dr. Charles Walker, Department of Psychology. (This project will be presented at the Association for Psychological Science’s May 2007 meeting in Washington, D.C.)
- Stacy Frisbee ’07: Enhancing Well-Being by Building Upon Student Strengths. Mentor: Dr. Charles Walker, Department of Psychology.
- Jennifer Harmon ’07: Good in Evil: The Strengths of Character and Individual Well-Being of Serial Killers. Mentor: Dr. Charles Walker, Department of Psychology.
- Peter Ferdinand ’07: Peer Understanding and Victimization of Students with Unique Needs: Disabilities, Social Norms, and the Rates of Bullying. Mentor: Dr. Joyce A. Joyce, Department of Sociology.
- Caitlin Dalton ’09: Homage to El Greco: An Expressive Paraphrase Painting Project. Mentor: Professor Constance Pierce, Department of Visual and Performing Arts.
- Rita Romani ’08: Homage to Magritte: An Expressive Paraphrase Painting Project. Mentor: Professor Constance Pierce, Department of Visual and Performing Arts.
- Richard Zuber ’07: SoundQ: Software for Theatrical Sound Cue Playback. (Honors project) Mentors: Dr. David Levine, Department of Computer Science; Dr. Ed Simone, Department of Visual and Performing Arts.
- Dan Eisemann ’10: Making Unit Testing Accessible to Novice Programmers. Mentors: Dr. David Levine & Dr. Steven Andrianoff, Department of Computer Science.
- Jeff Rathmann ’07: Identifying Community Business Deficiencies Through Technical Consulting. Mentor: Dr. Steven Andrianoff, Department of Computer Science.
- Angela Burdick ’08, Erin Roche ’08, & Emily Soule ’07: Latina Testimonios: Write to Share (A Project Between SBU’s Modern Languages Department and Dunkirk High School). Mentor: Dr. Zennia Hancock, Department of Modern Languages.
- Vanessa Close ’07: Odor Gene Covariance: The Relationship Between Perceived Differences and Chemical Differences of Odors. (Honors project) Mentor: Dr. Darryl Mayeaux, Department of Psychology.
- Jacqueline Butera ’08, Vanessa Close ’07, & Kristin Sotak ’08: Norway Rats (Rattus norvegicus) and Syrian Hamsters (Mesocricetus auratus) Differ in Motivation to Work for Food: Do Cheek Pouches Make Easy Hoarding Rewarding? Mentor: Dr. Darryl Mayeaux, Department of Psychology.
- Sean Cilano ’08, Matt Fitzharris ’09, & Sarah Veeder ’06: Role of Estrogen and Progesterone in Aversive Escape Learning in Rats (Rattus norvegicus): Implications for an Animal Model of Depression. Mentor: Dr. Darryl Mayeaux, Department of Psychology.
- Adam Deisinger ’07, Jessica Killion ’08, Meagan Saile ’08, Amy Sturzenbecker ’07, & Dr. Robin Valeri: Examining Reciprocal Helping Using the Lost Letter Technique. Mentor: Dr. Robin Valeri, Department of Psychology. (This project will be presented at the Association for Psychological Science’s May 2007 meeting in Washington, D.C.)
Adam Deisinger ’07, Jessica Killion ’08, Meagan Saile ’08, Amy Sturzenbecker ’07, & Dr. Robin Valeri: Replicating Milgram’s Lost Letter Research. Mentor: Dr. Robin Valeri, Department of Psychology. (This project was presented at the Eastern Psychological Association’s March 2007 meeting in Philadelphia, Pa.)

Advertising students place sixth at competition

Newsmakers

Dr. Robert P. Amico, professor of philosophy, has had two proposals accepted for presentation at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education in San Francisco, Calif., May 29 to June 3, 2007. For the first presentation, Amico will co-present with Drs. Susan Shaw and Donna Champeau of Oregon State University on “Curriculum Transformation: The Difference, Power and Discrimination Model.” His second presentation is titled: “Teaching White Privilege At A Predominantly White Institution: Challenges and Opportunities.”

Dr. Charles Walker recently presented research on student well-being at the Noel Academy on Human Strengths at Azusa Pacific University in Los Angeles. He has been invited to give a talk on positive psychology in higher education at the Global Summit on Positive Psychology to be held this October in Washington, D.C. St. Bonaventure is one of the first universities in the United States to monitor the well-being of its students. "There is considerable interest in the applied research we are doing here," said Walker.

Join us for this week's FRIDAY FORUM
All SBU faculty, staff and administrators are welcome to all the Friday Forums.

Date: May 4, 2007  
Speaker: Leigh Simone  
Time: Lunch starts at noon; Forum goes from 12:35 to 1:30 p.m., including Q & A  
Place: University Club (Above Hickey)  
Title: “Namaste: How Yoga Has Changed My Life”  
Abstract: The story of one woman's journey and search for physical, spiritual and emotional fitness.

Career Center news...

Check out details concerning skill-building video workshops, on-campus recruiting and more. For more information visit our Web site.

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