

12 Minnesota Crookston Student-Athletes Earn Nistic Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award

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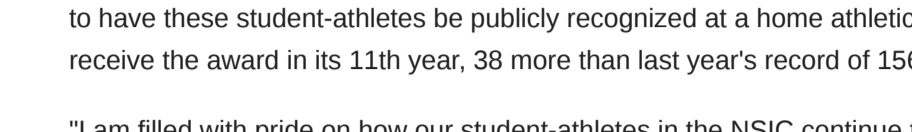
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Minnesota Crookston Earns Presidents' Award for Academic Excellence
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By: **Shawn D. Smith, Director of Athletic Communication**



BURNSVILLE, Minn.—The University of Minnesota Crookston had 12 student-athletes who received the prestigious Nistic Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award. The honor, named for the late NCAA President Dr. Myles Brand, is bestowed to senior NSIC student-athletes who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.75 or higher, are enhancing their eligibility and are on track to graduate. The 12 student-athletes in an honor from 2023 for the Golden Eagle.

Minnesota Crookston was represented on the list by two football student-athletes, one baseball student-athlete, one soccer student-athlete, one women's basketball student-athlete, two softball student-athletes, two cross country student-athletes, and four volleyball student-athletes. The following were recipients of the award: Jacqueline Burke (Anchorage, Alaska), Benny Chu (Redwood City, Calif.), Will Cross (Egan, Minn.), Logan Huso (Egan, Minn.), Tara Lawson (Hawley, Minn.), Sabrina Lauer (Hamel, Minn.), Stephanie McWilliams (Grand Forks, N.D.), Paige Pisk (Jordan, Minn.), Meli Rodriguez (San Jose, Costa Rica), Kaitlin Skink (St. Charles, Minn.), Kayla Stangland (Wheat, S.D.), and Alyssa Thomas (Marion, Iowa).

Each student-athlete will be recognized by the NSIC with a certificate of achievement and a winstach. Furthermore, each institution is highly encouraged to honor their student-athletes for publicly recognizing it at a home athletic event. A record number 116 student-athletes from the NSIC's 10 institutions will receive the award in its 11th year, 38 more than last year's record of 105.

"I am filled with pride in how our student-athletes in the NSIC continue to excel in the classroom, in the community and on the playing field. We continue to increase the number of student-athletes that have earned the Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award, which is a testament to the dedication of the student-athletes, coaches and administrators in our league. These are characteristics in which Dr. Myles Brand emphasized: I am extremely proud of all these student-athletes for their devotion to their universities, the NSIC and to their personal academic and athletic goals. I have no doubt these student-athletes will continue to achieve success in life well beyond the classroom and the competition venue," said Lind.

Dr. Myles B. Brand, visionary leader, educator and reformer, served as the President of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) from 2003-2008. He passed away in September 2009 at the age of 67 after a battle with pancreatic cancer. Brand presided over passage of the most comprehensive academic reform package for intercollegiate athletics in recent history—a package that rebalanced the attention of student-athletes, coaches and administrators on the education of student-athletes. Brand also changed the national dialog on college sports to emphasize the educational value of athletics participation and the integration of intercollegiate athletics with the academic mission of higher education. His impact on Division II ran deep by engineering an identity campaign and a major restructuring program to help struggling programs meet its specific classroom attributes. He challenged Division II to continue to game environment and community engagement focus, and improve academic success rates.

The NSIC is a 16-team, 18-sport, NCAA Division II conference with teams located in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. The mission of the NSIC is to be a model Division II conference that uses high-level athletics competition to develop champions in the classroom and community while empowering student-athletes to be impactful and positive leaders.

Augustana (7)	Name	Sport	Hometown	Major
	Grace Bender	Soccer	Brandon, S.D.	Nursing
	Hana (Metowen) Beyer	Basketball	Apple Valley, Minn.	Communication Disorders
	Jared Campbell	Baseball	Rochester, Minn.	Computer Science
	Kendall Cornick	Softball	Mason City, Iowa	Biology
	Jonathan Gubrud	Football	St. Paul, Minn.	Biology
	Hannah Hankinson	Golf	Edina, Minn.	Nursing
	Abby Hora	Basketball	Viborg, S.D.	Nursing
	Alak Keegan	Football	Black Hawk, S.D.	Biology
	Benjamin Kelington	Wrestling	Jordan, Minn.	Biochemistry
	Emma Miller	Swimming	Dapillon, Neb.	Biology
	Bailey Nilsson	Wrestling	Howard, S.D.	Athletic Training
	Matthew Potlmann	Track & Field	Harrisburg, S.D.	Biology
	Mckayla Poppens	Golf	Tea, S.D.	Biology
	Morgan Rothschild	Track & Field	Tabor, S.D.	Biochemistry
	Charles Schwartz	Football	Marquette, Minn.	Physics
	Sydney Weber	Golf	Parkeston, S.D.	Biology
	Melomae Zilverberg	Basketball	Highmore, S.D.	Biology
	Berni (State 16)			
	Matthew Gross	Football	Napoleon, N.D.	Business Administration
	Jared Henning	Football	Jackson, Wis.	Business Administration
	Emily Kos	Soccer	Coon Rapids, Minn.	Psychology & Spanish
	Kristen Petron	Track/CC	Rice, Minn.	Accounting
	Lukas Ruse	Football	Bern, Switzerland	Business Administration
	Rebekah Schroeder	Volleyball	Fremont, Wis.	Business Administration
	Concordia St. Paul (8)			
	Hannah Carlson	Softball	Buffalo, Minn.	Exercise Science
	Lydia Carr	Track/CC	Elk River, Minn.	Sports Management
	Hannah Gustafson	Track & Field	West St. Paul, Minn.	Psychology & Biology
	Lauren Magnuson	Track & Field	Forbors, Wis.	Exercise Science
	Kris McIntyre	Softball	Sunnyvale, Calif.	Exercise Science
	Cole Olson	Track/CC	Mora, Minn.	Secondary Ed & History
	Hannah Pavsek	Soccer	Esgan, Minn.	Biology
	Brian Scurkowskii	Football, T&F	Wittenberg, Wis.	Business Management
	University of Mary (9)			
	Cassie Askvig	Basketball	Minot, N.D.	Exercise Science
	Cabriela Castillo	Volleyball	Austin, Texas	Communication Sciences & Disorders
	Brianna Donarski	Volleyball	Powell, Wyo.	Communication Sciences & Disorders
	Madison Zahner	Softball	Dickinson, N.D.	Radiologic Technology
	Patricia Martin	Soccer	Helena, Mont.	Exercise Science
	Joseph Monsumith	Baseball	Ankeny, Iowa	Ph Ed/Coaching & Sport Studies
	Kate Murphy	Swim/Dive	Jefferson City, Mont.	Respiratory Therapy
	Ida Narbuvioll	Track/CC	Narbuvioll, Norway	Engineering Science
	Erin Neiderick	Swim/Dive	Morrison, Colo.	Criminal Justice/Social Work
	Anna Nierfeld	Volleyball	St. Michael, Minn.	Exercise Science
	Jackson Penner	Track & Field	The Pas, Manitoba, Canada	Civil Engineering
	Taylor Pettigrew	Soccer	Anvada, Colo.	Marketing/Business Admin
	Rachel Riedel	Swim/Dive	Frederick, Md.	Mathematics
	Johnnie Turner III	Basketball	Minneapolis, Minn.	Biology
	Sanhual Wilke	Track/CC	Bismarck, ND	Biology
	Danielle Wolf	Tennis	Brooklyn Park, Minn.	Criminal Justice
	Minnesota Crookston (2)			
	Jacqueline Burke	Soccer	Anchorage, Alaska	Business Management
	Bobby Chu	Baseball	Redwood City, Calif.	Exercise Science & Wellness
	Will Cross	Football	Turtle Lake, Wis.	Business Management
	Logan Huso	Football	Egan, Minn.	Criminal Justice
	Tyia Lawson	Softball	Hawley, Minn.	Finance
	Sabrina Lauer	Volleyball	Hamel, Minn.	Agronomy
	Stephanie McWilliams	Basketball	Grand Forks, N.D.	Elementary Education
	Paige Pisk	Softball/CC	Jordan, Minn.	Health Sciences
	Meli Rodriguez	Volleyball	San Jose, Costa Rica	Elementary Education
	Kaitlin Skink	Volleyball	St. Charles, Minn.	Biology/Health Sciences
	Kayla Stangland	Cross Country	Mitchell, S.D.	Elementary Education
	Alyssa Thomas	Volleyball	Marion, Iowa	Health Management
	Minnesota Duluth (6)			
	Name	Sport	Hometown	Major
	Anna Hall	Track & Field	Evleth, Minn.	Biology
	Kendall Hill	Track/CC	Duluth, Minn.	Civil Engineering
	Alyssa Kavayetz	Track & Field	Port Wing, Wis.	Accounting
	Bailey Rarnich	Volleyball	Neenah, Wis.	Psychology
	Elizabeth Schafke	Track/CC	Armadale, Minn.	Integrated Elementary & Special Ed
	Keena Seifert	Volleyball	Chaska, Minn.	Marketing Analytics
	Minnesota State (2)			
	Bri Cicciolo	Soccer	Loves Park, Ill.	Communication Disorders
	Taylor Drost	Basketball	Menomonee Falls, Wis.	Exercise Science
	Alex Goettl	Football	North-Maple, Minn.	Biology
	Anissa Janoty	Volleyball	Wells, Minn.	Communication Studies; French
	Maggie Knier	Swim/Dive	Big Lake, Minn.	Mass Media; Marketing
	Anna Mison	Soccer	Eden Prairie, Minn.	Family Consumer Science
	Teddy Petersen	Baseball	Clencoe, Minn.	Exercise Science
	Isiah Rabata	Track/CC	Beaver Dam, Wis.	Biochemistry
	Logan Saitou	Wrestling	Rochester, Minn.	Management
	Ryan Schlichte	Football	Marquette, Minn.	Social Studies Teaching
	Tyler Schmidt	Football	Cedar Falls, Iowa	Biology
	Dakota Wendell	Soccer	Castle Rock, Colo.	Law Enforcement/Alcohol & Drug Studies
	MSU Moorhead (7)			
	Briah Anderson	Swim/Dive	Fargo, N.D.	Elementary Inclusive Education
	Nathaniel Belton	Football	Athens, Wis.	Accounting & Finance
	Jenna Elbertson	Track & Field	Vadnais Heights, Minn.	Criminal Justice
	Leticia Esteves Roberto	Swim/Dive	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Accounting
	Plyton Gaber	Softball	Stevens Point, Wis.	Project Management
	Megan Gates	Swim/Dive	Duluth, Minn.	Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
	Ali Grinde	Swim/Dive	Woodbury, Minn.	Psychology
	Megan Hintz	Basketball	Rochester, Minn.	Speech, Language, Hearing Science
	Alexis Konecne	Tennis	Berni (State 16)	Mathematics Education
	Maren Soupar	Soccer	Omaha, Neb.	Accounting & Finance
	McKenna Tognstad	Swim/Dive	Chaska, Minn.	Economics
	Missouri State (3)			
	Kaitlyn Hill	Golf	Boonville, N.D.	Corporate Fitness/Wellness Mgmt
	Ellis Parr	Football	Portland, Ore.	Corporate Fitness/Wellness Mgmt
	Shae Pedersen	Volleyball	Calgary, Alberta	Management
	Northern State (2)			
	Preston Drossler	Football	Cuba City, Wis.	Human Performance
	Osia Gillund	Swimming	Minot, N.D.	Elementary Education
	Landon Hoeftin	Football	Aberdeen, S.D.	Business Mgmt & Marketing
	Alyssa Johnson	Basketball	Daniel, Minn.	Elementary Education
	Anna Jonas	Softball	Brookings, S.D.	Human Performance
	Nicolette Kneeland	Track & Field	Summit, S.D.	Business Management
	Brianna Kuster	Basketball	Aberdeen, S.D.	Human Performance
	Cabe King	Basketball	Irene, S.D.	Business Marketing
	Kaitlyn King	Softball	Rapid City, S.D.	Biology
	Jordan Langille	Volleyball	Fargo, N.D.	Chemistry
	Madison Leopoldt	Track & Field	Bond, Ore.	Medical Laboratory Science
	Jessica Marti	Basketball	Cuba City, Wis.	Human Performance
	Gracelyn Miller	Track & Field	Orlando, Wash.	Human Performance
	Zach Mohs	Football	Heron, N.D.	Biology
	Catherine Nakao	Soccer	Torrance, Calif.	Education
	Jenna Reiff	Volleyball	Chester, S.D.	Elementary Education
	Shianne Rossell	Soccer	Corona, Calif.	Marketing
	Ashley Rozell	Volleyball	Warner, S.D.	Marketing
	Madison Rutter	Softball	Lakeville, Minn.	Biology
	Shyla Skeeney	Softball	Lakeville, Minn.	Biology
	Mich Tschakert	Football	Watertown, S.D.	Biology
	Sara Tveit	Basketball	Brookings, S.D.	Marketing
	Bryce Zawatke	Football	Lincoln Falls, Minn.	Business Management
	Souix Falls (3)			
	Name	Sport	Hometown	Major
	Montana Bedford	Cross Country	Ravalli, Wyo.	Biology
	Jonathan Cooney	Golf	Pickstown, S.D.	Business Administration
	Abby Fygeresen	Volleyball	Minneapolis, Minn.	Elementary Education
	Jessie Ceer	Basketball	Gillette, Wyo.	Exercise Science
	Alexa Hanson	Golf	Chanhausen, Minn.	Criminal Justice
	Katy Hummel	Basketball	Cherokee, Iowa	Business Administration
	Lindsey Mossman	Softball	Belleville, Ill.	Exercise Science
	Sydney Nieven	Softball	Hallam, Neb.	Business Administration
	Erin O'Tool	Soccer	Clear Lake, Iowa	Exercise Science
	Clara Paul	Track & Field	Maplewood, Minn.	Math/Secondary Ed
	Jack Schelhaas	Football	Souix Falls, S.D.	Business Administration
	Gabriel Watson	Football	Redmont, Calif.	Exercise Science
	Julia Zantz	Swim/Dive	New Hope, Minn.	Exercise Science
	Southwest Minnesota State (6)			
	Boyer Bouman	Football	Holland, Minn.	Education
	Erin Corrigan	Volleyball	Hutchinson, Minn.	Management
	Emma Grote	Softball	Blair, Neb.	Exercise Science
	Kali Tomlinson	Softball	Las Vegas, Nev.	Education
	Jenna Walczek	Volleyball	Wadsworth, Ill.	Exercise Science
	Kelli Wentz	Soccer	Scottsbluff, Neb.	Education
	St. Cloud State (7)			
	Andrija Batanovic	Basketball	Bergen, Norway	Liberal Studies
	Bridget Brown	Track & Field	Elk River, Minn.	Athletic Training
	Cassandra Francosconi	Softball	Schomberg, Ontario	Sports Management
	Lauren Classenonnet	Swim/Dive	Eau Claire, Wis.	Communication Studies
	Bren Gutschow	Football	Amherst Junction, Wis.	Biomedical Sciences
	Maya Kostang	Softball	Wheaton, Ill.	Elementary Education
	Christine Lafgren	Track/CC	Stewartville, Minn.	Nursing
	Hannah Marjon	Soccer	Inver Grove Heights, Minn.	Marketing
	Mph Mubo	Volleyball	Marshall, Minn.	Biology
	Kassidy Steen	Basketball	Cloquet, Minn.	Biomedical Sciences
	Kathryn Stoper	Swim/Dive	Stevens Point, Wis.	Community Psychology
	Upper Iowa (2)			
	Ashley Brady	Track & Field	Central City, Iowa	Biology
	Molly Doran	Soccer	Whitson, Ill.	Accounting
	Nolan Friedrichs	Baseball	Edina, Minn.	Public Administration
	Breyanna Hill	Track & Field	Oskaloosa, Iowa	Elementary Education
	Caitlin Himes	Track & Field	Tipton, Iowa	Athletic Training
	Gabby Himes	Volleyball	Algona, Iowa	Biology
	Catie Hutchum	Volleyball	Manchester, Iowa	Elementary Education
	Conner Klossmann	Baseball	Dyersville, Iowa	Secondary Education
	Parker Kray	Baseball	Monticello, Iowa	Agricultural Business
	Kirstyn Lieb	Baseball	Pearl City, Ill.	Business Administration
	Kortney Lightfoot	Track & Field	Dubuque, Iowa	Criminal Justice
	Jayna Morikawa	Soccer	Millini, Hawaii	Business
	Kennedy Newell	Softball	Stater, Iowa	Business Management
	Billy O'Neill	Football	Mason City, Iowa	Environmental Science
	Bekka Pierson	Basketball	Shell Rock, Iowa	Elementary Education
	Logan Schweinefus	Golf	Ostlin, Iowa	Agricultural Business
	Michaela Schumacher	Softball	Whitewater, Wis.	Exercise Science
	MaKenzie Speken	Track & Field	Ely, Iowa	Physical Education/Health
	Dakota Steere	Baseball	Waverly, Iowa	Finance/Business Management
	Julia Stepieniec	Golf	Eau Claire, Wis.	Chemistry
	Jack Thode	Baseball	Cedar Falls, Iowa	Marketing/Exercise & Sports Studies
	Haley Weeple	Volleyball	Fairbank, Iowa	Elementary Education
	Anna Wisner	Volleyball	Rochester, Minn.	Chemistry/Math
	Wayne State (5)			
	Name	Sport	Hometown	Major
	Morgan Alexander	Volleyball	Orin, Neb.	Elementary Education
	Tami Belter	Soccer	Lincoln, Neb.	Exercise Science
	Madison Burgard	Volleyball	Brantley, N.D.	Chemistry/Pre Med
	Kolbie Foster	Football	Omaha, Neb.	Family Consumer Science
	Rachel Grisham	Soccer	Columbus, Neb.	Criminal Justice
	Kimberly Johnson	Track & Field	Auxa, Neb.	Human Services Counseling
	Tia Jones	Track & Field	Elkhorn, Neb.	Sport Management
	Jacob Lemar	Baseball	Urbanshals, Iowa	Computer Science
	Dylan Klapp		Track & Field	

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