



ACADEMIC SUCCESS

ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICANS ALL SPORTS AS OF AUGUST 2012

	299
	223
	183
	175

The success of Nebraska student-athletes reaches far beyond athletic competition. More Husker student-athletes have been selected to CoSIDA Academic All-America teams (299) than any other school in the nation, and Nebraska has produced more NCAA Top Eight Award winners (16) than any other school. As it enters its second season of Big Ten Conference competition in 2012-13, Nebraska continues to set the standard for the approximately 1,400 NCAA member institutions.

The Husker football team leads

all individual sport programs in the nation with 102 all-time CoSIDA Academic All-America awards. The Penn State football program ranks second among all sports nationally with 60 all-time academic All-Americans. In fact, Nebraska's 102 football academic All-Americans would rank among the top 25 schools (all sports, all divisions) in the nation in the number of CoSIDA Academic All-Americans. The NU volleyball program has captured more academic All-America awards (36) than any other women's team in the nation, while the Husker softball program ranks second on that list with 29 selections. Nebraska also ranks among the top 10 schools in the nation in CoSIDA Academic All-Americans in baseball, women's basketball and men's and women's track and field/cross country. Over the past two years, the men's and women's track and field programs have produced 10 CoSIDA Academic All-Americans - the most in the nation during that span.

HUSKERS BUILD ON ACADEMIC TRADITION IN 2011-12

Husker student-athletes produced another stellar year at the University of Nebraska, continuing NU's tradition of academic success. Nebraska increased its nation-leading total of CoSIDA Academic All-Americans across all sports to 299 with a Big Ten Conference-

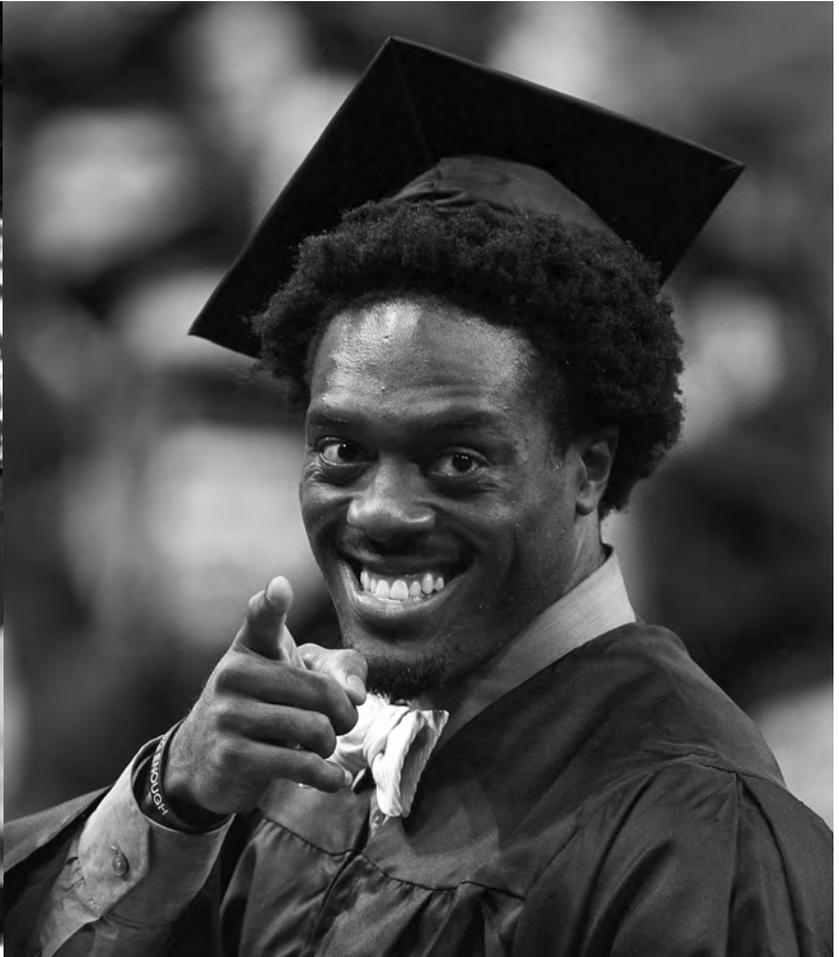
leading eight honorees in 2011-12. A total of 190 Husker student-athletes captured academic All-Big Ten honors, while Huskers earned 667 spots on the Nebraska Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll during the fall and spring semesters.

The Nebraska football team led an impressive showing in the classroom for the Huskers, as Austin Cassidy, Rex Burkhead and Sean Fisher all claimed CoSIDA Academic All-America honors. Cassidy, who became the 24th Husker football player in history to be a two-time academic All-American, earned first-team honors as a senior safety. Cassidy was joined on the first team by Burkhead, who rolled to 1,357 rushing yards as a junior I-back in 2011. Fisher, a junior linebacker, added second-team CoSIDA Academic All-America accolades. A total of 47 Husker football players earned bachelor's degrees in 2011-12, while 27 Huskers earned academic All-Big Ten awards.

Track and field All-Americans Tyler Hitchler and Ashley Miller led an impressive season for Coach Gary Pepin's program. Hitchler, an All-American on and off the track during his career, claimed Nebraska's Male Student-Athlete-of-the-Year award. A first-team All-American in the discus in 2012, Hitchler was also NU's male recipient of the Big Ten Medal of Honor. A two-time Nebraska Student-Athlete HERO Leadership Award winner and a four-time member of the Nebraska Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Hitchler was accepted into medical school at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Miller, a three-time All-American on the track, was a co-captain of both the NU women's cross country and track and field teams in 2011-12. The 2011 CoSIDA Academic All-American was NU's female recipient of the Big Ten Medal of Honor and the women's track and field team's Big Ten Sportsmanship Award winner. The track and field program added a trio of 2012 CoSIDA Academic All-Americans, led by senior Bjorn Barrefors who became just the 13th Husker in history across all sports to be a three-time academic All-American. The multi-eventer from Stockholm, Sweden, was joined on the 2012 first team by senior Nate Polacek, who earned a spot on the academic All-America team for the second straight season. Junior distance runner Brett Grieb added a third-team CoSIDA Academic All-America award.

The Nebraska wrestling team also produced a pair of CoSIDA Academic All-Americans for the first time in program history. Heavyweight Tucker Lane claimed first-team honors to close his career as a two-time CoSIDA Academic All-American. Lane, who also earned a prestigious NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship worth \$7,500, was joined by second-team academic All-American Josh Ihnen. The junior added All-America honors on the mat as well for the Huskers in 2012.

Across all sports, Nebraska student-athletes claimed 190 academic All-Big Ten selections,



just two shy of its Big 12-record-setting total of 192 in 2010-11. The Husker baseball (17), women's tennis (7), bowling (4) and women's rifle (4) teams all led the Big Ten in academic All-Big Ten selections, while the NU football (27), softball (10) and men's golf teams (6) all ranked second among conference schools.

Over the past four years, Nebraska has claimed nearly 740 academic all-conference certificates across all sports. Huskers also earned 667 spots on the first Nebraska Scholar-Athlete Honor Roll, which recognizes student-athletes who produce 3.0 or better grade-point averages in the fall or spring semesters. Husker student-athletes also produced 92 perfect 4.0 GPA semesters during the 2011-12 academic year.

The hard work, dedication and commitment of Nebraska's student-athletes in the classroom resulted in a record-setting 155 current or former student-athletes earning degrees from August of 2011 through May of 2012.

Each spring Nebraska hosts its annual Student-Athlete Recognition Banquet to honor Huskers who have earned either a 3.0 or higher cumulative GPA or have earned a 3.0 or higher GPA in the previous calendar year. In the spring of 2012, Husker student-athletes earned 321 academic honors medallions.

NEBRASKA'S 2011-12 ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

- 299 All-Time CoSIDA Academic All-Americans across all sports (leads nation)
- 102 Football Academic All-Americans (leads all sports, all time)
- 36 Volleyball Academic All-Americans (leads all women's sports, all time)
- 29 Softball Academic All-Americans (No. 2 among all women's sports, all time)
- Eight CoSIDA Academic All-Americans (5 first-team, 2 second-team, 1 third-team)
 - First-Team: Rex Burkhead (Football), Austin Cassidy (Football), Tucker Lane (Wrestling), Bjorn Barrefors (Men's Track & Field), Nate Polacek (Men's Track & Field)
 - Second-Team: Sean Fisher (Football), Josh Ihnen (Wrestling)
 - Third-Team: Brett Grieb (Men's Track & Field)
- One NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Winners (\$7,500) Tucker Lane (Wrestling)
- 190 Academic All-Big Ten Selections Across All Sports (3.0 GPA)
- 667 Student-Athletes Honored on the Nebraska Scholar-Athlete Fall and Spring Honor Rolls (3.0 GPA or above)
- 92 Student-Athletes Earned Perfect 4.0 GPAs in either the Fall or Spring Semester
- School-Record 155 Student-Athletes Earned Degrees from August 2011 through May 2012 (August 2011-16; December 2011-57; May 2012-82)
- Male Student-Athlete of the Year- Tyler Hitchler, Men's Track & Field (Nutrition Science)
- Female Student-Athlete of the Year- Ashley Miller, Women's Track & Field/Cross Country (Dietetics)
- Men's Herman Award Winner - Men's Golf (3.509 GPA in 2011)
- Women's Herman Award Winner - Women's Tennis (3.644 GPA in 2011)
- Life Skills Team Award Winners - Football, Women's Swimming & Diving



Opposite page: Offensive lineman Marcel Jones earned his bachelor's degree from Nebraska in December of 2011 before playing in the Capital One Bowl on New Year's Day. Jones went on to be chosen in the seventh round of the 2012 NFL Draft.

Top left: Nebraska Student-Athletes of the Year Ashley Miller (left) and Tyler Hitchler (right) earned multiple All-America awards for the Husker track and field program.

Bottom left: Defensive tackle Baker Steinkuhler received his diploma in December of 2011 before concluding his junior season on the field in the Capital One Bowl. Steinkuhler will play his senior season with degree in hand.

Top right: Curenski Gilleylen claimed his bachelor's degree as a civil engineering major from Nebraska in May of 2012. A Texas native, Gilleylen appeared in 30 games as a receiver and running back for the Huskers.

Bottom right: Two-time first-team CoSIDA Academic All-American Austin Cassidy competed as a graduate student during his senior season in 2011 at Nebraska after earning his bachelor's degree in psychology in May of 2011. Cassidy was also a standout on the field for the Huskers, starting all 13 games at safety as a senior. Cassidy notched 70 tackles as a senior and finished his career with 128 total tackles and a pair of defensive touchdowns.

THE NEBRASKA ACAD



From the day student-athletes decide the University of Nebraska is the right place to be, the athletic academic counseling unit provides personal and academic support to ensure that student-athletes will get the most out of their years as Huskers. Featuring one of the most innovative and comprehensive academic support systems in the country, Nebraska is dedicated to helping its student-athletes become outstanding leaders in their chosen fields. The academic support team is comprised of 13 full-time staff members and a tutorial staff of approximately 75 tutors addressing all subject areas.

ACADEMIC COUNSELING

Eight academic counselors and three assistant academic counselors are in place to monitor daily academic progress, receive consistent course feedback, assist with the advising/registration process and monitor continuing eligibility and progress toward graduation. Essentially, academic counselors assist student-athletes in navigating the University of Nebraska system.

TUTORIAL SUPPORT

A tremendous resource for all academic abilities, unlimited tutorial support is available from day one up to college graduation. Subject and mentor tutors help provide academic support and study strategies to be successful. Supplemental Instruction, a sub-component of the tutorial program, provides targeted group review sessions to help ease the transition to college academics while improving study strategies and building academic self-esteem.

STUDY HALL

Nebraska's study hall program is housed in the D.J. Sokol Enrichment Center within the Student Life Complex. Student-athletes attend a supervised, flex-time study hall that features day, evening and weekend hours. Each student-athlete is required to complete a specific number of study hours each week as determined by their academic counselor and/or coach. In addition, weekly study hall reports are provided to the coaching staff. Additional performance-based or tutor-based study hall may also be determined by the academic counselor.

MENTORING

Many student-athletes meet with a mentor on a weekly basis to assist in making a smooth transition from high school to college. Mentors collect syllabi, gather and report academic progress information and teach academic success strategies.

EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

Assessments are administered upon the request of the student-athlete, academic counselor, or coach to determine student strengths and areas for improvement. Results allow academic counselors to develop a personalized academic support program and to determine if more in-depth testing is warranted. When additional assessments are necessary, referrals are made to a consulting psychologist who conducts the assessments. If it is determined that a student-athlete has a learning disability, appropriate accommodations are made through the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities.

EMIC EXPERIENCE



STUDENT-ATHLETE ORIENTATION

The academic staff coordinates New Student-Athlete Orientation to help newcomers adjust to the multiple demands of being a college student-athlete. Presentations are made by academic counselors, compliance officials, NU faculty and administrators, business/community professionals and student-athletes.

PERSONAL COUNSELING

Student-athletes will find a supportive and caring environment at Nebraska. Transitional issues, stress management, time management, academic focus and problem resolution are all addressed in a proactive manner throughout the year. If necessary, counseling referrals are also made to designated practitioners.

COMPUTER RESOURCES

Student-athletes enjoy a new state-of-the-art computer lab and technology center with 58 computers and professional supervision. Laptops are also available during team travel. Student-athletes have the benefit of ongoing education and assistance from a full-time computer technician.

Left: Columns in the Hewit and Boekel Academic Center display the names of every Husker student-athlete who has lettered in a varsity sport and graduated from the University of Nebraska, while portraits honor each of Nebraska's nation-leading CoSIDA Academic All-Americans.

Right: Construction was completed in the fall of 2010 on Nebraska Student Life Complex, which nearly tripled the size of NU's previous academic space. The Student Life Complex also features a new technology center and a dedicated Life Skills area.