



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 6, 2019

Contact: Russell Luna
469.524.1009 / russell@Big12Sports.com

2019 Spring Scholar-Athletes of the Year Announced

Irving, Texas - The Big 12 Conference has announced its 2019 Spring Scholar-Athletes of the Year. The following student-athletes have been selected as award winners for their respective sports based on the votes of each sport's respective head coaches.

2019 BIG 12 BASEBALL SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Kyle Hill, Baylor, Sr., Corpus Christi, Texas

- Finance major with a 3.45 grade-point average and 47 percent participation (relief pitcher).
- A three-time Academic All-Big 12 First Team honoree (2017-19) and a unanimous 2019 All-Big 12 First Team selection.
- Did not surrender a run in 29.1 innings pitched and collected seven saves en route to Collegiate Baseball All-America accolades.

2019 CO-BIG 12 MEN'S GOLF SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Colin Kober, Baylor, Jr., Southlake, Texas

- Accounting major with a 4.00 grade-point average and 100 percent participation.
- Posted a 73.86 career stroke average across 28 rounds, including 12 rounds at par or better.
- Three-time Big 12 Academic Team honoree, earning Academic All-Big 12 First Team recognition in 2018 and 2019, while also earning rookie team honors in 2017.

2019 CO-BIG 12 MEN'S GOLF SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Hayden Springer, TCU, Sr., Trophy Club, Texas

- Entrepreneurial Management major with a 3.539 grade-point average and 83.3 percent participation.
- Won the 2019 Big 12 Men's Golf Championship after shooting 8-under 202.
- Named to the 2019 All-Big 12 Men's Golf Team and the Academic All-Big 12 First Team.

2019 BIG 12 WOMEN'S GOLF SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Annika Clark, TCU, Sr., Highlands, Texas

- Journalism major with a 3.717 grade-point average and 100 percent participation.
- Collected nine top-10 finishes, as part of 15 top-20 results.
- A three-time WGCA All-America Scholar and a four-time All-Big 12 Academic Team honoree; earning Academic All-Big 12 First Team recognition (2017-19) and rookie team honors in 2016.

2019 CO-BIG 12 ROWING SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Molly Ross, Kansas State, Sr., Westwood, Kan.

- Earning a PhD in Nuclear Engineering with a 3.625 grade-point average and 100 percent participation.
- Part of the second varsity four boat and guided the Wildcats to two first place finishes during the 2019 season.
- A three-time Academic All-Big 12 First Team honoree.

2019 CO-BIG 12 ROWING SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Louise Kuehster, Oklahoma, Sr., Castle Rock, Colo.

- Chemical Engineering - Biotechnology major with a 3.99 grade-point average and 100 percent participation.
- Consistently rowed in the Sooners' second varsity eight boat.
- Earned multiple academic awards including a two-time Academic All-Big 12 First Team honoree, a Google Cloud CoSIDA Academic All-District First Team selection and a 2018 Dr. Gerald Lage Award winner.

-more-

2019 BIG 12 SOFTBALL SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Sami Williams, Iowa State, Jr., Laguna Niguel, Calif.

- Software engineering major with a 3.96 grade-point average and 100 percent participation.
- Two-time All-Big 12 First Team (2018, 2019) and three-time All-Big 12 Academic Team honoree, earning Academic All-Big 12 First Team recognition (2018, 2019) and rookie team honors in 2017.
- Set single-season program records for hits (82), doubles (25), home runs (17) and runs scored (59) en route to All-America Honorable Mention from Softball America.

2019 BIG 12 MEN'S TENNIS SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Jimmy Bendeck, Baylor, Sr., Hollywood, Fla.

- Finance, Entrepreneurship and Corporate Innovation major with a 3.91 grade-point average and 100 percent participation.
- As part of the No. 1 doubles tandem in the country for nine weeks, earned All-America honors with teammate Sven Lah.
- Recorded a near-perfect record in Conference doubles action at the No. 1 Doubles spot, 4-1, and earned All-Big 12 First Team honors.

2019 BIG 12 WOMEN'S TENNIS SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Katarina Stresnakova, Oklahoma State, Sr., Nova Dedinka, Slovakia

- Psychology major with a 3.915 grade-point average and 93 percent participation.
- Capped off the 2019 season with a 6-3 record in Big 12 singles play, earning All-Big 12 First Team honors.
- The three-time Academic All-Big 12 First Team (2017-19) honoree was named an ITA Singles All-American.

2019 BIG 12 MEN'S TRACK & FIELD SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Brett Neelly, Kansas State, Sr., Gallatin, Tenn.

- Majoring in mechanical engineering with a 3.723 grade-point average and 100 percent participation.
- Earned Second Team All-America honors at the NCAA Indoor Championships by placing 10th in the shot put.
- A two-time Big 12 Scholar-Athlete of the Year recipient and a three-time Academic All-Big 12 First Team honoree (2017-19).

2019 BIG 12 WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Ranae McKenzie, Kansas State, Sr., Mandeville, Jamaica

- Nutrition and Kinesiology major with a 3.495 grade-point average and 100 percent participation.
- Won back-to-back Big 12 Outdoor Track & Field 400-meter hurdle individual titles (2018-19).
- A three-time Academic All-Big 12 First Team honoree (2017-19).

The Big 12 Conference established its Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award in 2012-13. A recipient is named in each conference-sponsored sport. Every Big 12 institution and affiliate members nominate one individual per sport with the winners selected by a vote of the league head coaches for that sport, who are not allowed to vote for their own student-athletes. Scholar-Athlete of the Year nominees must be a junior or senior (academic standing), have a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 or higher, participate in at least 20 percent of the team's scheduled contests and have a minimum of one year in residence at the institution.