



SAINT FRANCIS

UNIVERSITY

become that someone

Dear Red Flash Family,

We know this past spring semester has been one of the toughest times in everyone's lives. The outbreak of the Coronavirus has forced the Saint Francis Athletics program into an unforeseen direction that has affected all of us. But, our spirit, has brought us through it and we have achieved greatness despite the pitfalls that appeared before us. After reviewing the academic results from our 25 athletics programs, our student-athletes have broken more records for this past 2019-2020 school year.

For the 43rd consecutive semester, the St. Francis athletic department has achieved an overall GPA above a 3.0, with the official GPA standing at 3.457. This mark is the highest GPA mark ever for the athletics program for a single semester, beating the Spring 2018 semester mark of 3.409. This achievement does not go unnoticed for those who have had to take to complicated measures to make sure the athletes are getting the attention and tutoring necessary to succeed in the classroom. It also shows how much our athletes have put an emphasis in the classroom during such complicated times.

For individual programs, 11 programs have achieved their highest GPA marks in a single semester (men's basketball, women's basketball, football, men's golf, women's lacrosse, men's soccer, women's soccer, men's tennis, women's tennis, men's indoor and outdoor track and field, and women's volleyball). Along with these programs, all 25 squads finished the spring semester with a cumulative team GPA of over a 3.0 for the first time ever.

Individually, 406 student-athletes compiled a GPA of over a 3.0, which accounts for 82% of the total student-athletes at SFU. 269 students-athletes earned a 3.5 GPA or higher (54%) and 69 student-athletes produced a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Along with the GPA marks, Saint Francis University athletics also had a record-breaking day with the NCAA APR Public Recognition Awards. The athletics program tied a school-record with six sports teams earning the APR award, a feat accomplished back in the 2017-18 academic year.

To be awarded by the NCAA APR, a team must score between 987-1000, depending on the sport. The award is based on eligibility, retention, and graduation in the calculation and provides a clear picture of the academic culture in each individual sport. Each student-athlete who meets academic-eligibility standards and who remain with the institution earned two points towards their athletic program.

The six programs that earned this award for the 2018-19 academic year are: men's cross country, women's cross country, men's volleyball, women's volleyball, women's soccer, and women's tennis.

Of those programs listed, only women's soccer is a first-time winner among the group. Women's volleyball, meanwhile, has ran its streak to nine consecutive years of being recognized, which is the longest current active streak. Other teams on a streak include: men's cross country (five straight years), women's cross country (four straight years), women's tennis (four straight years), and men's volleyball (second straight year).

For comparison with other universities in the Northeast Conference, Saint Francis University was tied for the most recognized athletic programs with five (men's volleyball competes in the EIVA). Since the inception of the NCAA APR Public Recognition Awards program in 2004-05, St. Francis has had 36 sports programs recognized by the committee.