

Center for Athletic Academic Services (CAAS)
The University of Memphis
2007-08 ACADEMIC REPORT

4.0 Student-Athletes

***Bold** students had 4.0 for year

Tyler Roberts-MBA
Chad Zurcher-MBA
Chen Edri-WTI
Emily Malinowski-WCC/WTI
Brandon Hunt-MFB
Matt Reagan-MFB
Tarah Kerr-WSO
Kate Murphy-WSO
Janelle Valle-WSB
Benedikt Fischer-MTE
Christine Bach-VB
Gresh Gorman-VB
Becky Shaffer-VB
Emily Underwood-VB

Ryan Holland-MBA
Mark Jobe-MBA
Neil Schenk-MBA
Jessica Hall-WBB
Curtis Gibbs-MCC/MTI
Will Fruitt-MFB
Brandon Pearce-MFB
Andy Smith-MFB
Andrew Hahn-XRI
Tarah Kerr-WSO
Kate Murphy-WSO
Amanda Olszewski-WSO
Katie Sabet-WSO
Leila Dolfo-WSB
Melissa Nance-WSB
Benedikt Fischer-MTE
Amrit Narasimhan-MTE
Christine Bach-VB
Gresh Gorman-VB
Katlin Inglish-VB
Becky Shaffer-VB

Departmental Highlights

- Highest Team GPA in the entire department for the year: Women's Volleyball; Highest Team GPA among the men's teams: Men's Tennis. **TEN** teams achieved a 3.0 GPA for the year—Baseball, Women's Cross Country, Women's Golf, Men's Golf, Women's Soccer, Softball, Men's Tennis, Women's Tennis, Women's Track and Volleyball.
- Team GPA highlights: 1) Highest semester GPA's ever in Baseball, Men's Tennis, Women's Softball, Women's Cross Country; 2) 27 consecutive semesters of 3.0: Women's Tennis; 3) 22 consecutive semesters of 3.0: Volleyball; 4) 16 consecutive semesters of 3.0: Women's Soccer.
- 14 of the 17 teams have now posted their highest semester team GPA's in the last 6 years. Seven of those have occurred in the last two years. In addition, as a group, the women's sports posted their highest semester GPA ever with a 3.22 GPA during the fall, 2007.
- 71 student-athletes **GRADUATED** the last academic year, 13 in Aug' 07, 19 in Dec' 07, and 39 in May' 08 (Largest ever for one graduation ceremony).

C-USA Academic Awards

- *Neil Schenk—MBA* was the Memphis nominee and recipient for the **Conference USA Postgraduate Award** in 2007-08. These prestigious \$4000 postgraduate scholarships are awarded to one student-athlete from each conference institution.

- *Brad Benjamin—MGO* was named **Conference USA Scholar Athlete of the Year** for 2008. This award is based on academic and athletic achievement as well as service to the community. Other UM athletes nominated for the Conference USA Scholar Athlete of the Year were:

Neil Schenk—MBA	Jessica Hall—WBB	Jorgen Ekdahl—MCC
Emily Malinowski—WCC	Jake Kasser—MFB	Brad Benjamin—MGO
Rachel Larson—WGO	Jared Britcher—MSO	Kate Murphy—WSO
Amrit Narasimhan—MTE	Kristin Chamberlain—WTE	Lindsay Kelso—WSB
Steffen Nerdal—MTI	Sivan Aballi—WTI	Ashley Liford—VB Andrew Hahn—RI

- *150 student-athletes* were named to the **C-USA Commissioner's Honor Roll** for achieving a 3.00 cumulative GPA or above through the fall semester in a conference sponsored sport. Memphis previously had 144 in 06-07, 152, 126, 103, 109, 106, 112, 101, 115, 98, 55, and 58 in 1995-96.
- *38 student-athletes* received the **Conference USA Academic Medal**. Memphis had the 2nd highest total in the conference for the second straight year. This award is given for achieving a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher through the fall semester in a conference sponsored sport. Recent UM medal recipient numbers included 36, 38 (school record) in 05-06, 25, 24, 19, 23, 21, 26, 21, 15, 8, and 11 in 1995-1996.
- *The following student-athletes were named to their respective sport's C-USA All-Academic teams during 2007-08. Students must have earned a 3.2 cum GPA and participated in at least 50% of the contests.*

W Cross Country	*Emily Malinowski	M Soccer	*Jared Britcher, *Robert Sausaman
W Soccer	*Kate Murphy	Volleyball	Christine Bach, *Ashley Liford
Football	Jake Kasser, *Brandon Patterson		
M Golf	*Brad Benjamin	W Golf	*Rachel Larson
M Track	Steffen Nerdal	W Track	Sivan Aballi
Baseball	Neil Schenk, Trey Wiedman	Softball	*Lindsay Kelso
M Tennis	*Benedikt Fischer		<i>*Indicates a repeat member</i>

- Ten of sixteen UM sports achieved a 3.0 cumulative GPA or higher as submitted for the **2008 C-USA Sport Academic Award**. In fact, 12 of 16 teams earned at least a 2.9 cum GPA. The highest departmental GPA ever (2.785) was also submitted for the **2008 C-USA Institutional Academic Excellence Award**. Volleyball and Women's Cross Country posted the highest team GPA of all Conference USA for 2007-08 and received the **C-USA Sport Academic Award**.

STUDENT-ATHLETE Academic Awards

- **FOUR athletes were named to national Academic All-America teams in 2007-08.**
Kate Murphy—WSO was named 1st Team. Murphy is the second straight women's soccer player to receive national recognition and first-ever 1st team selection. *Benedikt Fischer*—MTE was the first-ever men's tennis player to receive national recognition with his First Team selection. *Brandon Patterson*—FB was selected for the first time to the Academic All-American Second team after making 2nd team all-district in 2006. *Jared Britcher*—MSO was selected for the 2nd time to the Academic All-America Third team.
- **Other Academic All-District IV awardees include:** *Robert Sausaman*—MSO was selected to the 1st team all-district for the 2nd consecutive year, *Kylie Hayes* —WSO (3rd Team), *Jake Kasser*—FB (1st Team), *Brandon Pearce*—FB (2nd Team), *Neil Schenk*—MBA (1st Team), *Ashley Liford*—VB (3rd Team), *Lindsay Kelso*—WSB (2nd Team), *Tori Gross*—WSB (3rd Team), *Sivan Aballi*—WTI (1st team-second time), and *Chen Edri*—WTI (2nd Team-second time). 12 other UM student-athletes were nominated for Academic All-America as these students had been at UM for over one year, had participated in over 50% of athletics contests and had posted a cumulative GPA above 3.25.
- *SIX student-athletes* were nominated for the **2007-08 NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship**. The NCAA awards a total of 174 postgraduate scholarships. *Halley Jo Sullivan*—WSO, *Jared Britcher*—MSO, *Adam Montgomery*—MSO, *Neil Schenk*—MBA, *Amrit Narasimhan*—MTE, and *Chen Edri*—WTI were nominated for the scholarship. To qualify, student-athletes must have an overall GPA of 3.2 or higher and perform with distinction as a member of the varsity sport.
- *Melissa Nance*—WSB was nominated as the University of Memphis candidate for **NCAA Woman of the Year**.
- Eight UM student-athletes received **2008 Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholar Awards**, honoring the contributions made by minority students to their respective institutions as both scholars and as athletes. The student-athletes are: *Jessica Hall*—WBB, *Brandon Patterson*—FB, *Brittany Gooch*—SB, *Tori Gross*—SB, *Kimmi Hayden*—SB, *Amrit Narasimhan*—MTE, *Sivan Aballi*—WTK, and *Chen Edri*—WTK. The Arthur Ashe Jr. Awards are given each year by Black Issues in Higher Education as a tribute to the legacy of humanitarian and tennis great Arthur Ashe.
- *Jake Kasser* and *Andy Smith* were named to the **2008 New Hampshire Honor Society** by the National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame (NFF). The society is comprised of football players who maintained a 3.2 GPA or better.
- *Neil Schenk*—MBA, *Chen Edri*—WTI and *Lindsay Kelso*—WSB were the 2007-08 recipients of the **M-Club Scholar-Athlete of the Year Awards**. These awards are given annually to senior athletes for outstanding achievement both on and off the field. These students also held the highest cumulative GPAs of all senior athletes.
- *Andrew Hahn* and *Greg Morton* were named to the 2008 **Collegiate Rifle Coaches Association All-Academic Honor List**. Students must be letter winners who have completed at least 12 hours during the fall semester, enrolled in 12 hours for the spring semester, a fall semester GPA of 3.2 or higher OR a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher.
- *Sivan Aballi* and *Steffen Nerdal* were recognized by the **U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA)** for their All-Academic team. Students had to achieve a 3.25 cum GPA or higher and had to post an NCAA automatic or provisional qualifying mark in the indoor/outdoor regional championships.
- In addition to the tennis team awards, four men and one woman were nominated as **2008 ITA Scholar-Athletes**. *Benedikt Fischer*, *Michael Gaerthoeffner*, *Spencer Heflin*, *Amrit Narasimhan*, and *Dara Toulch* were named as ITA Scholar-Athletes. These students have to be a varsity letter winner, achieve a 3.5 GPA or higher for the academic year, and must have spent at least two semesters at Memphis.
- *Kimmi Hayden*, *Tori Gross*, *Melissa Nance*, and *Janelle Valle* will be recognized as **NFCA Scholar-Athletes (National Fastpitch Coaches Association)** as they achieved a 3.5 or better average GPA for the 2007-08 academic year. This will be the second consecutive year being recognized for Nance.
- *Adam Montgomery* was selected to the **2007 NSCAA/addidas Men's Scholar All-America** second team. Montgomery was also named to the All-South Region team along with teammates, *Jared Britcher* and *Robert Sausaman*.
- *Kate Murphy* and *Halley Jo Sullivan* were honored by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America and named to the **2007 College Women Scholar All-South Region Team**.

TEAM Academic Awards

- Men's Tennis was recognized as an **ITA All-Academic Team** for 2008, posting a team GPA of 3.49 for the 2007-08 academic year (3.20 or higher is required for nomination).
- Women's Tennis was recognized as an **ITA All-Academic Team** for 2008, posting a team GPA of 3.24 for the 2007-08 academic year (3.20 or higher is required for nomination).
- Volleyball was named as a recipient of the **2007-08 AVCA Team Academic Award**. The AVCA Team Academic Award honors volleyball teams at the high school and college level that are successful in the classroom. Teams must have a 3.3 Team GPA for the academic year in order to be nominated.
- Women's Golf was nominated for the **NGCA All-Scholar Team GPA Award** for its 3.416 GPA for 2007-08. The award is based on the average GPA for all team members for the year and teams must have earned at least a 3.3 GPA in order to be nominated.
- Women's Soccer earned the **National Soccer Coaches' Association of America (NSCAA) Team Academic Award**. The team was recognized for a team cum GPA above 3.0 for 2007-08.

GRADUATION RATES

- 52 student-athletes exhausted their eligibility in 2008, 34 of whom have already graduated. For each class, those students who participated as **seniors** (exhausted their NCAA eligibility) are tracked for graduation purposes, including scholarship and non-scholarship students. The previous senior classes and their graduation rates are listed below. This particular data is a UM statistic only and is not formally reported to NCAA. Each rate listed below is based on graduation data as of **June 30, 2008**:

2007 Class	69-76 (91%)	2006 Class	53-59 (90%)	2005 Class	54-66 (82%)
2004 Class	40-46 (87%)	2003 Class	65-68 (96%)	2002 Class	49-56 (88%)
2001 Class	46-60 (77%)	2000 Class	52-59 (88%)	1999 Class	33-41 (80%)
1998 Class	44-57 (77%)	1997 Class	39-54 (72%)		

Graduates for August 2007, December 2007 and May 2008

- MBA:** Dusty Davis, Josh Irvin, Chris Kirkland, Joey Lieberman, Chris Newsom, Neil Schenk, Lance Scoggins, Philip Utley
- MBB:** Antonio Burks, Cedric Henderson, Jared Sandridge
- MFB:** Maurice Avery, Michael Denning, Joe Doss, Lakeitharun Ford, Jamarcus Gaither, Martin Hankins, Abraham Holloway, Van Houston, Brandon Hunt, Jake Kasser, Taz Knockum, Joseph Mack, Antonio McCoy, Corey Mills, Brandon Patterson, Brandon Pearce, Rubio Phillips, Mario Pratcher, Stephen Schuh, Michael Snyder, LaVale Washington
- MGO:** Kyle Ritchie
- MSO:** Jared Britcher, Kevin Walsh
- MTE:** Benedikt Fischer, Amrit Narasimhan, Garrison Pilant
- MTI:** Glenwood Edwards, Tyler Fraizer, Stephon Greenlee, Norby Gulyas, Amaechi Oselukwue, Brandon Winbush
- WBB:** Jessica Hall, Ashley Howard, Phyllis Vaughan
- WGO:** Cameron Barber, Dawn-Marie Conaty, Meghan Mahoney
- WSO:** Caroline Barrett, Isabel Briones, Melissa Savage, Elaine Sedgewick, Harumi Someya, Halley Jo Sullivan
- WSB:** Nicole Johnson, Lindsay Kelso, Bridgette McNulty, Christine Morrison, Lindsey Pridgen,
- WTI:** Sivan Aballi, Mary Claire Dake, Chen Edri, Cassandra Harding, Susan King, Gaylon Muhammad
- WVB:** Shelby Burton, Amie Hamilton, Ashley Liford, Melissa Nance (also WSB)