

A photograph of a soccer field with a goal in the foreground and trees in the background under a cloudy sky.

Athletics

Media Guide **2013-14**





Dear family, friends, and prospective student-athletes,

“Follow your passions and discover your potential.” This is the positioning statement of the NCAA Division III Identity Initiative. As a member of Division III, Saint Mary’s College has a wonderful forum to share our student-athlete stories.

There are so many misconceptions about NCAA Division III. All that some people know about Division III is that it is the branch of the NCAA that cannot give athletic scholarships. Others refer to the NCAA’s third branch as the “lowest division.” These statements could not be further from the truth!



While it is true that we do not offer financial assistance based on athletic ability, Division III institutions offer need- and merit-based aid that many times matches or exceeds the amounts offered through athletic scholarships. Students choose to participate in NCAA Division III athletics purely for the love of their sport. They are freed from the pressures that athletic scholarships often unintentionally place on student-athletes. Division III encourages full immersion in the college experience and does not limit student-athletes to their competitive arena to experience success. Our student-athletes know that we encourage and expect them to have a life outside of athletics.

Saint Mary’s College has been a proud member of NCAA Division III since 1990. Our membership in Division III offers our student-athletes the full range of the college experience.

Membership on a varsity athletic team does not limit our student-athletes’ choices—it allows them to fully integrate themselves in the campus experience. Our women participate in study abroad programs. They are leaders in clubs and organizations outside of athletics. They make a strong impact through their community service activities. And finally, Saint Mary’s student-athletes achieve at the highest levels in both the competitive arena as well as in the classroom. Division III is hardly the “lowest division” of the NCAA. I would argue that it is the “fullest division,” allowing students the full college experience along with the opportunity to compete within their sport or sports.

Explore this media guide along with our website to learn more about the experiences of our Division III student-athletes at Saint Mary’s College.

Julie Schroeder-Biek '88
Director of Athletics and Recreation

“Follow your passions and discover your potential.”

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US News ranks Saint Mary’s College among the top 100 “Best National Liberal Arts Colleges” in *The Best Colleges 2013* guidebook.

Excelling in Academics and Athletics

Quick Look

at Saint Mary's College

Academic Achievements 2012–13

Total number of student-athletes: **122**

Athletic Department cumulative GPA (8 sports): **3.28**

Athletic Department cumulative GPA for sport captains: **3.53**

Number of student-athletes above a 3.0 cumulative GPA: **93** Fall Semester,
91 Spring Semester

Teams earning MIAA Academic Honor Roll (minimum 3.3 GPA required): **Three**

Number of times in 2012–13 student-athletes earned Dean's List honors: **76**

Student-athletes on MIAA Honor Roll (minimum 3.5 GPA required): **49**

Basketball

- School record 18 overall wins in 2011
- Highest MIAA finish in program history in 2009 with second place
- Three MIAA Players of the Year since 2004

Cross Country

- Eleven-time MIAA Team GPA Award recipients
- Highest MIAA finish in program history in 2010 with third place
- Over 60 personal record times set in the last three seasons

Golf

- Four consecutive MIAA Championships from 2002–05
- Seven NCAA Division III Championship appearances
- Seven MIAA Season Medalists and one individual NCAA national champion

Lacrosse

- First varsity season - Spring 2014

Soccer

- College record 13 victories in 2012
- Twelve consecutive seasons with an All-MIAA honoree
- Eight-time NSCAA Team Academic Award winners since 2004

Softball

- Eight consecutive winning seasons
- Four MIAA Most Valuable Players since 2004
- 2004 MIAA Tournament Champions

Tennis

- Four consecutive MIAA Tournament Championships from 2001–04
- NCAA Division III Tournament appearance in 2002
- At least one All-MIAA honoree every year since joining the MIAA

Volleyball

- Two MIAA Players of the Year since 2006
- College record 11 MIAA victories and third-place finish in first season of conference membership
- Eleven-time MIAA Team GPA Award recipients

Catholic women's college in Notre Dame, Indiana, established in 1844 by the Sisters of the Holy Cross

An academic program that requires a senior comprehensive project, focuses on writing proficiency, and underscores the importance of women's voices, social responsibility, and intercultural competence

95 percent of students receive financial aid

A nationally recognized study abroad program that offers learning opportunities in 20 countries

Volunteering/service work participation of 80 percent compared to national average of 55 percent

NCAA Division III varsity athletic teams and a wide range of club and intramural sports through Saint Mary's College

A connection with Notre Dame that allows students to take classes, participate in clubs, and cheer in the student section at Irish football games

AND: Pets in a senior residence hall, a Quidditch club, a picturesque island, a lake perfect for canoe races, a medieval-looking tower, a tunnel, and lifelong friendships with intelligent, confident women leaders committed to changing the world

Schedule your Saint Mary's campus visit today at saintmarys.edu/visit



Cross Country



Colette Curtis '14



Samee Chittenden '15



Allie Danhof '16

A year after picking up their first U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCA) Regional Pre-Season ranking, head coach Jackie Bauters and the Saint Mary's cross country team have their sights set on repeating that ranking and moving back toward the top of the MIAA in 2013.

With the graduation of six seniors, the Belles look to a core of experienced leading runners to set the pace this fall. Bursting onto the scene for the Belles last season was Jessica Biek '14, who was the team's top finisher in each race during her first season with the cross country program.

Biek posted the fifth-fastest 5k time in program history in her first collegiate 5k at the Calvin Invitational last year. Later in the fall, she ran the third-fastest MIAA Championship 6k time in the history of Saint Mary's cross country.

Fellow senior Colette Curtis '14, junior Samee Chittenden '15, and sophomore Allie Danhof '16 will help Biek lead the pack in 2013. Curtis ran a personal record time at the MIAA Championship last year while finishing fourth overall for the Belles in the conference race and the NCAA Regional. Chittenden was a consistent contributor a season ago while picking up personal record times in three races. Danhof emerged as a top runner for the Belles in her first season as she was the team's third finisher at the MIAA Championship race and also competed in the NCAA Regional.

This core of experienced runners leads the way for several returners and newcomers and positions the Belles for a successful season this upcoming fall.

In the past 16 years of MIAA membership, the cross country team established a high level of academic success and has been named to the MIAA Team GPA Honor Roll 11 times by maintaining at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA for the entire academic year.



Jessica Biek '14

Moreover, members of the cross country team have been named to the MIAA Honor Roll more than 135 times during that same time.

2013–14 Schedule

Aug. 31	at Wabash Hokum Karem	TBD
Sept. 7	Alumnae Race	9 a.m.
Sept. 14	at Calvin Knight Invitational	10 a.m.
Sept. 28	at MIAA Jamboree (Adrian)	11 a.m.
Oct. 5	at Pre-Nationals (Hanover)	11 a.m.
Oct. 19	at Manchester Invitational	11 a.m.
Nov. 2	at MIAA Championships (Hope)	11 a.m.
Nov. 16	at NCAA Regionals (Calvin)	11 a.m.

Home meets in **bold**
Schedule subject to change

Head Coach Jackie Bauters



Alma Mater
Saint Mary's College

Season
Ninth

Contact
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Building a Tradition of Excellence

All-MIAA Honorees

Jackie Bauters
Megan Gray
Julia Kenney
Megan McClowry
Sara Otto

All-Region Honorees

Megan Gray
Julia Kenney

NCAA Championship Appearances

Megan Gray

Four-Time MIAA Honor Roll

Joanne Almond
Caitlin Brodmerkel
Sarah Copi
Lauren Easton
Jessica Eaton
Meaghan Herbst
Elizabeth Majewski
Megan McClowry
Caitlin Stevenson
Katie White

MIAA Honor Roll

1999 - 2002 - 2004 - 2005 -
2006 - 2007 - 2008 - 2009 -
2010 - 2011 - 2012

The cross country team has been named to the MIAA Team GPA Honor Roll 11 times in the past 16 years of MIAA membership.



Be Supported

Faculty Advisors

Each varsity team has a faculty advisor who serves as a liaison between athletics and our academic departments. Our faculty advisors support our student-athletes in a variety of ways. They are available to discuss schedule planning and choosing a major while also mentoring student-athletes facing academic challenges. They attend competitions, team meetings and banquets. Faculty advisors help to spread the word amongst their colleagues of the exciting accomplishments of our student-athletes and teams.

NCAA Student-Athlete Affairs (SAA)

SAA assists student-athletes with success outside of the athletic arena through monitoring academic progress and mentoring individuals as needed. Under the direction of cross country coach, Jackie Bauters, SAA also hosts the annual CHAMPS (Challenging Athletes' Minds for Personal Success) Cup competition to encourage individual growth while fostering athletic unity. Each of the eight varsity teams earn points through achievement, participation, and/or attendance in a variety of venues: academic achievement, personal development, career development, community service, and Belles spirit.

Get Involved

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)

In 1989 the NCAA adopted the idea to have an association-wide Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

The mission of the committee is to enhance the total student-athlete experience by promoting opportunity, reviewing legislation, protecting student-athlete welfare, and fostering a positive student-athlete image.



At Saint Mary's, the SAAC goes above and beyond the call to serve as a liaison between athletes and the athletic administration. Each year the athletic teams perform on- and off-campus community service projects while supporting organizations such as LOGAN Center and St. Margaret's House.

They also read to elementary school children, raise money for foundations, participate in charitable walks and runs, and support local food pantries.

Be Recognized

Athlete of the Week

Saint Mary's College honors outstanding student-athletes each week. At the end of the academic year, all of our Athlete of the Week recipients are recognized for their accomplishments at a reception in which they have the opportunity to invite a professor or staff member who has influenced them.

Athletic Hall of Fame

In 1993 former Athletic Director Dr. JoAnn Nester created the Saint Mary's College Athletic Hall of Fame to recognize outstanding Saint Mary's athletes, coaches, and athletic administrators for their numerous contributions to Saint Mary's athletics. Since the inception of the Hall of Fame, 29 individuals and two teams have been inducted.

Senior Awards Reception

Each spring the Athletic Department honors its senior student-athletes at a special recognition reception. In addition to each senior athlete receiving a watch to commemorate



their athletic careers, a select few seniors are recognized with special awards, including the Don Miller Belles Spirit Award and the Marvin Wood Outstanding Senior Athlete Award.

Distinguished Honors

Saint Mary's student-athletes have had an impact on the College community that extends well past the realm of competition. Over the past ten years, student-athletes have earned the distinguished honors of being their class's Lumen Christi Award winner and valedictorian.



The Lumen Christi Award is awarded to the senior who stands out in the College community as an outstanding Christian woman. The recipient of the award is traditionally someone who has excelled in leadership and loyalty to Saint Mary's and whose presence has had a profound effect on the College community.

Lumen Christi Award:

Patty Duffy '10
Liz Palmer '13

Valedictorians:

Amy Kleinfehn '04
Julia Adams '05
Samantha Wiczorek Wassel '11

MIAA and NCAA Information

MIAA History

The Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) is America's oldest collegiate athletic conference.

The 2013–14 school year will mark the 126th consecutive year of operation for the NCAA Division III affiliated conference. From the very beginning, the MIAA has conducted full-season championships in multiple sports. There have been changes in some of the sports, but these changes have served to develop the MIAA into one of America's finest NCAA Division III conferences, today offering 20 sports for men and women.

The MIAA's continuity is noteworthy. Of the 13 schools that have had full membership, nine are still members—Adrian, Albion, Alma, Calvin, Hope, Kalamazoo, Olivet, Saint Mary's, and Trine. Albion and Olivet were charter members, although Albion is the only member to hold continuous membership. Ex-members are Michigan State University (1888–1907), Eastern Michigan University (1892–1926), and Hillsdale College (1888–1960).



The MIAA's membership list went unchanged from 1954 to 1997, when Defiance College of Ohio and Saint Mary's College of Indiana were invited to join. It also marked the first time that the league added members outside Michigan. The league stipulated, however, that the name of the conference would not change. The inaugural year of current members are: Adrian (1908), Albion (1888), Alma (1902), Calvin (1953), Hope (1926), Kalamazoo (1896), Olivet (1888), Saint Mary's (1997), and Trine (2004).

MIAA Women's All-Sports Award Results

Since 1998, a trophy has been awarded at the conclusion of the spring sports season to the school with the highest cumulative point total in the final standing in the MIAA championships. Saint Mary's earned their highest-ever finish in the MIAA's Women's All-Sport Standings at the conclusion of the 2008–09 academic year. The Saint Mary's teams combined for a third-place finish among all MIAA schools. Points are awarded based upon each MIAA school's final conference standing in each sport.



To read more on how Saint Mary's exemplifies what it means to be Division III, please visit: saintmarys.edu/athletics

Rules about recruiting prospective student-athletes at a Division III institution include, but are not limited to the following:

- Prospects may receive printed materials at any time from NCAA Division III coaches.
- There is no limit on the number or timing of phone calls or emails at the NCAA Division III level, and the prospect may make calls to the coach at their own expense.
- Electronically transmitted communication, particularly through the means of social media, has many regulations as it pertains to NCAA Division III athletics. Phone calls, text messages, emails, facsimiles, instant messenger, and private communication through social networking sites are all approved means of communication.
- Correspondence through electronic communication is permitted provided that the communication is private between the sender and the recipient. There are no restrictions on the timing for sending private electronic correspondences to prospective student-athletes, and enrolled student-athletes may send private electronic correspondence to prospective student-athletes for recruitment purposes.

Many forms of communication through social media, however, are prohibited. Two of the more popular social media platform—Facebook and Twitter—have the following restrictions:

Facebook: NCAA Division III coaches are allowed to private message prospective student-athletes. Coaches are not allowed to engage in chat functions, group messages, posts on a prospective student-athlete's wall, "like" or "comment" on a photo, or send/accept friend requests with prospective student-athletes.

Twitter: NCAA Division III coaches can have a prospective student-athlete follow them as well as direct message. Coaches are not allowed to follow prospective student-athletes, re-tweet a prospective student-athlete, or tweet using a prospective student-athlete's handle.

Additionally, there is no Letter of Intent or Signing Day for NCAA Division III.

Saint Mary's College CAMPS 2014

Athletics Camps

Week 1: July 6–10

Week 2: July 13–17

Visit saintmarys.edu/camp
for updated sports camps
as they are posted.

Camp registration begins
November 25, 2013



Cheer on one of
Saint Mary's eight varsity
athletic teams
as they compete in the
MIAA conference.

A fun and exciting time
for the whole family.

Visit
saintmarys.edu/athletics
for team schedules.

Go **Belles!**



Follow Saint Mary's
Athletics on:



Please visit us online at
saintmarys.edu/athletics
for up-to-date information,
rosters, team schedules,
recruiting, and contact
information.

Information is subject to change