



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Russell Luna
469.524.1009 / russell@Big12Sports.com

2018 Winter Scholar-Athletes of the Year Announced

Irving, Texas - The Big 12 Conference has announced its 2018 Winter 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.

2018 BIG 12 MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Jevon Carter, West Virginia, Sr., Maywood, Ill.

- Sport management major with a 3.51 grade-point average and 100 percent participation.
- Tabbed the CoSIDA Men's Basketball Academic All-American of the Year and the Men's Basketball Senior CLASS Award recipient.
- Two-time Big 12 Defensive Player of the Year and two-time NABC Defensive Player of the Year.

2018 BIG 12 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Shaelyn Martin, Kansas State, Sr., Salina, Kan.

- Majoring in Kinesiology with a 4.00 GPA and participated in 94.1% of this year's contests.
- A 2018 Dr. Gerald Lage Academic Achievement Award recipient and CoSIDA Academic All-America Second Team honoree.
- Led the Wildcats with 7.2 rebounds per game, playing in 32 contests.

2018 BIG 12 EQUESTRIAN SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Rachel Van Allen, Baylor, Sr., Portland, Ore.

- Finance major with a 3.92 GPA and participated in 90.1 percent of competition this season.
- In 2017, earned All-Big 12 honors for Equitation on the Flat and was named NCEA All-America Second Team in 2017-18.
- A three-time Academic All-Big 12 honoree.

2018 BIG 12 GYMNASTICS SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Kelsey Paz, Iowa State, Sr., Sioux City, Iowa

- Senior accounting major with a 3.85 grade-point average and 100 percent participation.
- Three-time Academic All-Big 12 honoree (2016, 2017, 2018).
- Served as team captain during her junior and senior seasons.

2018 BIG 12 MEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

James Koval, West Virginia, Sr., Mount Pleasant, S.C.

- Chemical engineering major with a 3.80 GPA and 100 percent participation.
- Three-time Academic All-Big 12 First Team honoree (2016, 2017 and 2018).
- Placed fourth at the 2018 Big 12 Swimming and Diving Championship with a time of 15:38.35 in the 1650 yard Freestyle event.

2018 BIG 12 WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Amelie Currat, West Virginia, Sr., Dunkerque, France

- A finance major that boasts a 3.97 GPA and 100 percent participation this season.
- Currat is the first swimming & diving student-athlete to earn Big 12 Scholar-Athlete of the Year honors twice.
- Earned 2018 All-Big 12 First Team recognition in the 100 and 200 backstroke competitions.

2018 BIG 12 WRESTLING SCHOLAR-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Clay Ream, North Dakota State, R-Sr., Wentzville, Mo.

- Biochemistry and molecular biology major with a 3.977 grade-point average and 100 percent participation.
- A three-time NCAA Elite 90 Award winner (2016, 2017 and 2018).
- Competed in his fourth NCAA Championship and finished runner-up in the 157-pound category at the Big 12 Championship.

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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 nominates 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 (athletic and 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.

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