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Utah Valley
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OREM, Utah-The 2019 Wolverine Club Athletic Awards were held Wednesday night at the UCCU Center on the campus of Utah Valley University. Around 600 student-athletes, athletic staff, Wolverine Club members and fans were in attendance to honor the achievements of UVU student-athletes during the 2018-19 season.

Highlighting the night was the Coach of the Year award, presented to head track & field coach [Scott Houle](#). Under his leadership for 15 years running, Houle has won a total of 32 conference championships. He has been recognized for his efforts by his peers by being named the men's and women's Western Athletic Conference and Great West Conference Cross Country, Indoor Track & Field and Outdoor Track & Field Coach of the Year an impressive 32 times. Houle has also produced 32 Track & Field NCAA Qualifiers during his time at UVU as well as led his cross-country teams to the NCAA Mountain Regional every season since 2009.

New to the ballot of awards this year included the leadership award, won by Hannah Bruce of women's soccer and Ben Perkins of men's soccer. This award exemplifies a student-athlete that goes above and beyond in their sport as an individual and teammate but also outside of the sport as well.

In the final awards of the night, softball junior Lyndsay Steverson was named the Outstanding Female Athlete of the Year, while wrestling junior Demetrius Romero took home Outstanding Male Athlete honors.

Steverson earned athlete of the year after being named First Team All-WAC last year as well as a Preseason All-WAC honoree prior to this season along with her leading the team in the power numbers with team-high tallies of 11 home runs, 44 RBIs, 87 total bases and a .608 slugging percentage. The junior hit .322 (46-for-143) on the year with eight doubles, 17 runs scored and 17 walks and also tallied a .384 on-base percentage. Steverson also led the team with 14 multiple RBI games and finished the season on a team-best 19-game reached base safely streak.

Meanwhile, Demetrius Romero earns athlete of the year after becoming UVU's first-ever Big 12 champion last month en route to earning the No. 9 seed for the NCAA Championships in his weight class (165) and going 3-2 at nationals and finishing just one win shy of securing an All-American finish at the NCAAs. He also went an impressive 28-5 on the season and was nationally ranked all season long.

Capping the night of talent, cross-country's Kevin Lynch took home both Men's Play of the Year for his individual first-place performance at the WAC cross-country championships but also had a hand in his team's recognition of WAC champions on the evening.

Other award winners were as follows:

Outstanding Female Athletes by Sport: Lyndsay Steverson (softball), Hannah Branch (cross country), Savannah Neuberger (indoor track & field), Jordan Holland (women's basketball), Carly Dehlin Hirsch (women's golf), Sadie Brockbank (women's soccer), Aliena Gillespie (outdoor track & field), Kazna Tarawhiti (volleyball)

Outstanding Male Athletes by Sport: Alec Felix (men's soccer), Michael Beltran (baseball), Demetrius Romero (wrestling), Albert MacArthur (outdoor track & field), Gabe Lysen (men's golf), Jake Toolson (men's basketball), Kevin Lynch (cross country), Daven Russell (indoor track & field)

Newcomer of the Year: Kazna Tarawhiti (volleyball) and Tate Orendorf (wrestling)

Most Inspirational Athlete: Aisha Graham-Perez (cross country) and Geoffrey Kemboi (track & field)

Women's Play of the Year: Kallie Given (track & field)

Men's Play of the Year: Kevin Lynch (cross country)

Men's Game of the Year: Men's wrestling vs Purdue

Women's Game of the Year: Women's volleyball over UTRGV

Individual Performance of the Year: Peyton Angulo (softball) and Demetrius Romero (wrestling)

Crowd Pleaser: Isaiah White (men's basketball) and Jordan Holland (women's basketball)

Athletic Service Award: Brianna Moeller (softball) and Brandon Edmondson (cross country)

Walk-On of the Year: Josh Rudder (track & field) and Makaila Jarema (volleyball)

Wilson Sorensen Spirit of Sport Award: Hayden Schneck (men's basketball) / Mitch Brown (wrestling) and Ana Margarita Raga (women's golf) / Savanna Reilly Routsong (track & field)

Overall Outstanding Athlete of the Year: Lyndsay Steverson (softball) and Demetrius Romero (wrestling)

Leadership Award: Hannah Bruce (women's soccer) and Ben Perkins (men's soccer)

Scholar Athlete of the Year: Jake Toolson (men's basketball) and Carly Dehlin Hirsch (women's golf)

Assistant Coach of the Year: [Ethen Lofthouse](#) (wrestling)

Coach of the Year: [Scott Houle](#) (cross country/track & field)

Team GPA Award: Women's soccer

Team Green Award: Men's golf

Fan of the Year: Green Man Group

Advisor of the Year: Lori Duke, Academic Advisor for Behavioral Science - Psychology

Educator of the Year: Kimberly Hanson, Lecturer - Department of Communication

Team of the Year: Wrestling and volleyball

WAC Champions: Cross country (2018)

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