APR Honors for Six Teams

On April 22, the NCAA recognized teams for having Academic Progress Rates in the top 10 percent of all Division I squads in their respective sports. Three UNC men’s teams and three women’s teams were on the APR Public Recognition Awards list this year. Congratulations to those recognized teams: Baseball, Men’s Basketball, Men’s Lacrosse, Women’s Fencing, Women’s Golf, and Women’s Volleyball.

The NCAA will release the complete APR data to the public on May 6. This report will contain a multi-year rate, which gauges the academic progress and retention of all student-athletes who received athletics grant-in-aid at the institution for the 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08 academic years for each varsity sport.

The APR is based on each student-athlete having the opportunity to earn four total points each year (two points per semester). One point is awarded if the student-athlete is academically eligible to compete at the end of the semester, with the second point being awarded if the student-athlete returns to the institution for the following term. Those teams scoring under the minimum threshold of 925 will be penalized through deductions in their maximum financial aid limits. Nationwide in 2008, there were 218 teams at 123 institutions sanctioned for poor performance. To date, UNC is proud of the fact that no sport has been penalized through the APR.

Please contact the Compliance Office (962-6000) if you have any questions regarding the upcoming release of APR data.

Family Fun

While fun for all, there’s no denying that the department’s annual family picnic is most appreciated by the youngest Tar Heels. Lots of other kids (our department is definitely growing!), inflatables, space to run around … what’s not to love?

Enjoying the festivities were (Clockwise from top left): Cole Gwaltney, checking out the scene at his first picnic, with father Clint; The Brickner clan: Tom with kids Emily, Ben and Amanda; Ella Smith, daughter of Tim (see page 3), is thrilled by a trip down the slide; Michael Beale and daughter Ashton chat with Amy Herman and daughters Ivie and Macie (who also made her family picnic debut).

Thanks to chief organizer Stacey Harris, as well as Jaci Field, Mark Gaines and Chris Harris, whose hard work made the evening possible.

Upcoming NLI Signing Dates

For student-athletes enrolling in 2010-11

- Basketball and other sports not listed (early)
  Initial: 11/11/09; Final 11/18/09
- Football (mid-year JC transfer)
  Initial: 12/16/09; Final: 1/15/2010
- Football (regular period)
  Initial: 2/3/2010; Final: 4/1/2010
- Field Hockey, Soccer, Track & Field, XC
  Initial: 2/3/2010; Final 8/1/2010
- Basketball (regular period)
  Initial: 4/14/2010; Final: 5/19/2010
- Other sports not listed (regular period)
  Initial: 4/14/2010; Final: 8/1/2010

Tar Heels Claim Carlyle Cup

For the second year in a row and fourth time in the past five years, UNC has won the Carlyle Cup, the annual all-sports competition against Duke.

This year’s final score was 15-11, with Carolina earning points in men’s basketball, women’s basketball, women’s golf, field hockey, football, women’s lacrosse, men’s soccer, women’s soccer, men’s swimming and diving, women’s swimming and diving, men’s track & field, women’s track & field, wrestling and volleyball.

Congrats to all of the Tar Heel teams!
New Tar Heel

Congratulations to Kevin Best (Athletic Communications) and wife Natalie, who welcomed Sydney Elizabeth Best in the wee hours (1:59 a.m.) of April 16th.

Sydney, who debuted on the roster at 7 pounds, 3 ounces and 20 1/2 inches long, joins big brother Davis in the family.

Best wishes to Kevin, Natalie and Davis, and welcome to Sydney!

Warm Welcomes

- Marcus Berry has joined the football office as Director of Player Personnel. A native of Cleveland, Ohio, he played football at West Virginia, graduating in 1990.

  Berry comes to his position at UNC after serving player personnel internships with the Green Bay Packers and the Jacksonville Jaguars.

  From 1997-2008, he coached football at Friendly High School in Maryland, helping the team to two state championships and playing a role in producing 24 players who went on to college scholarships within a three-year span.

  Before he began coaching, Berry worked as an Account Manager with the Washington Bullets (now Wizards).

- Justin Freeman has joined the Business Office on a full-time basis after having interned there for the past year. A 1999 graduate of BYU, he also earned his master’s in athletic training there. Before coming to UNC for the Sport Administration graduate program, in which he just finished his second year, Freeman worked as an athletic trainer on the college and high school level and also coached high school basketball. He currently serves as assistant coach for the varsity boys basketball team in Chapel Hill High.

  Freeman and his wife, Laurie, have three children: Malachi, Amelia and Elijah.

  Welcome Marcus and Justin!

Fond Farewell

- Jeremy Whitehurst has left the Finley Golf Course staff to take the Assistant Golf Professional position at the new Arnold Palmer-designed NC State Lonnie Poole Golf Course in Raleigh, which is scheduled to open this summer. Jeremy is a 2008 graduate of the NC State Professional Golf Management program.

  Best wishes, Jeremy!

Happy Birthday in May to...

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Finley Golf Course

Does your golf game need help?

On Tuesday (May 5) from 4-6 p.m., UNC Finley PGA Professionals Frank Maynard III and Robert Costa will be providing free 10-minute lessons at Henry Field adjacent to Boshamer Stadium.

If you’re planning to attend the Elon-UNC baseball game at 6 p.m., stop by and let Frank and Robert work on your golf swing before you head into the Bosh. Maybe a tune-up before Play Day on Wednesday?

Honesty, does it need even more?

May is free golf lesson month with the PGA of America. UNC Finley PGA Professionals Johnny Cake, Mike Wilkinson, Frank Maynard III, and Robert Costa will be providing free lessons throughout the month of May.

For more information about the program check out TarHeelBlue.com or check with us in the golf shop.

Please send newsletter comments, suggestions, corrections or submissions for future issues to Dana Gelin at dgelin@unc.edu or 962-0083

Get Well, Angie!

Angie King was recently involved in an automobile accident and is currently recuperating at home. If you would like to send her a card, just address it to her at the EWAC and we’ll forward it on.

We miss you, Angie! Hope you’re feeling better soon.
Tim Smith
• Major Gift Director, The Rams Club

Born and raised: Hyde Park, N.Y.
Education: BA in Philosophy & Political Science from Boston College (’97), MA in Sports Administration from UNC (’06).
Family: My wife, Kristi, and I have two little girls – Ella is 2 (will be 3 in the end of July) and Sienna is almost 15 months.
Athletic background: I played basketball, tennis and ran cross country in high school, but ultimately, tennis was my sport and I went on to play it for Boston College.

Before your current position: I taught a lot of tennis and interned for a U.S. Senator in college. After graduation, I took a job in business consulting with Accenture and stayed with them for about six years before getting back into college athletics at MIT. I then came to graduate school at UNC and did my internship at The Rams Club in 2005. I was lucky enough to get hired on after graduation and have loved every minute of it since.

How long at UNC? At the Rams Club since 2005.
Job description: I help raise money for Carolina Athletics.

What’s something about your job that other people would be surprised to know? When I’m doing my job well, I listen a lot more than I talk.

What’s the best thing about your job? That’s a tough one, as I really do love what I do. I get to help kids go to college. I get to watch SportsCenter and call it “research”. I get to call watching college sports “work”. And I do get to play some pretty good golf courses every now and then. What’s the best part though… Probably getting to know all the people associated with these events.

Favorite pastimes: Spending time with my wife and kids, playing cards, playing golf.
Favorite restaurant: There is a great little place in Boston called Tapeo. Great tapas.
Favorite book: The Count of Monte Cristo
Favorite TV show: All time – The Sopranos. Currently – either 24 or The Office.

Last movie you saw and grade you’d give it: I’m embarrassed to say this, as I love movies, but I can’t remember the last movie I saw in the theatre. I had to ask my wife and she said to “make up something that makes us sound cool”. I couldn’t even think of that.

A fun fact about you: Until I married a southern girl, I didn’t know barbeque was an actual meal. I always thought it was an adjective – like barbeque chicken.

Biggest pet peeve: I have a bunch, but two big ones for me are – I hate it when you’re driving and you go out of your way to let someone in and they don’t give you the wave to say thank you. And I can’t stand bad customer service. Both of those drive me nuts.

Dream job: Mr. Baddour has a pretty good one…

Greatest athletic achievement: Probably being selected the captain of my tennis team at Boston College.

What would you do with a completely free day? I would definitely sleep in (with two kids under 3, I don’t get to do that too often). Then I’d hit Starbucks with my kids. Then I’d drop them back home and play a round of golf with friends. I’d follow that up with a nice long shower and a great steak. Yeah, I’ve thought about this day for quite a while now!

If you could have dinner with anyone, who would it be and why? I’d probably go with paternal grandfather. He passed away when I was only about 5, so I never really got to know him, and I’d love to.

What would be your dream vacation? At a beach (or a lake) with a few close friends and our families.

If you won the lottery, what’s the first thing you’d buy? A dream vacation for those friends and families.
The third-annual Student-Athlete Graduation, sponsored by the Student-Athlete Advisory Council and the Department of Athletics, took place April 28 at the Alumni Center. Student-athletes graduating this weekend, as well as December 2008 and 2009 grads, enjoyed a program that included words from Director of Athletics Dick Baddour, Chancellor Holden Thorp, Rams Club Director of Endowment Sue Walsh (who served as the keynote speaker – thanks, Sue!), Assistant A.D. for Student-Athlete Development Cricket Lane, Senior Associate A.D. John Blanchard and senior rower Eugenia Delbono, who spoke on behalf of SAAC. While mingling before and after the program, student-athletes and their families joined coaches, administrators and staff in enjoying the sounds of “Equinox”, Chancellor Thorp’s band.

Thanks to the SAAC members for their hard work and props to Student-Athlete Development intern Kristina Meissen for spearheading the event’s organization – great job, Kristina!

Below left: Men’s lacrosse coaches Joe Breschi, Greg Paradine and Pat Myers with some of the team’s seniors. Below right: Student-athletes sing the alma mater, led by Chancellor Thorp’s band.

Student-athletes from the football, rowing, men’s soccer and men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams spent part of an April Saturday participating in YMCA Healthy Kids Day at Meadowmont. The national event was designed to help kids and families participate in fun fitness activities while learning more about the Y.
UNC student-athletes, coaches, administrators and staff celebrated the successes of the 2008-09 school year April 20 at the department’s annual All-Sports Banquet. Held at the Dean E. Smith Center, the event recognized individuals and teams that have distinguished themselves on and off the field this year.

“Each spring, we have a great opportunity to pause and look back at the successes of the year,” said Dick Baddour, UNC’s Director of Athletics. “Athletic achievements like national and conference championships get plenty of attention, and deservedly so. But we want to make sure that we also celebrate the exceptional things that our student-athletes have done academically and in the community. This evening’s event gives us the chance to recognize some of those outstanding individuals in front of their peers and the rest of the department and to make sure they know how proud of them we all are.”

Adam Warren and Yael Averbuch were announced as recipients of the Mildred McCaskill Award, which is presented each year to one male and one female senior student-athlete who demonstrate excellence in athletics, scholarship and community service. Warren, a member of the baseball team, is a business administration major from New Bern, N.C. Averbuch, a member of the women’s soccer team, is a psychology major from Upper Montclair, N.J.

John Powell and Morgan Stengel were honored with the ACC Senior Scholar Award, which goes to one male and one female from each Atlantic Coast Conference school who demonstrate excellence in academics and athletics. Powell, a member of the men’s fencing team, is an English major from New Haven, Conn. Stengel, a member of the women’s cross country and track and field teams, is a business administration major from Nashville, Tenn.

Chase Rice received the John Lotz Award, given to the student-athlete who best exemplifies the spirit of the late John Lotz, who served as UNC’s Assistant Athletic Director of Campus and Community Relations and also was an assistant basketball coach for the Tar Heels. The award goes to a student-athlete who succeeds under adverse circumstances, overcoming difficulties while maintaining a positive attitude. Rice, a senior on the football team, is a management and society major from Asheville, N.C.

Six student-athletes were honored with the ACC Top Six for Service Award, which is presented to six individuals at each conference school who have demonstrated dedication and commitment to community service and outreach programs. Tar Heels honored were Katie Brooks (women’s lacrosse/women’s soccer), Eugenia Delbono (rowing), Marcus Ginyard (men’s basketball), Lindsay McIlvain (women’s swimming and diving), Anna Rodenbough (women’s soccer) and Kennedy Tinsley (football).
The Carolina Leadership Academy celebrated UNC's outstanding student-athlete leaders at its 2008-09 annual banquet, held April 13 at UNC's Friday Center. In addition to honoring graduates of the Veteran Leaders and Rising Stars programs, the CLA recognized 33 recipients of the Tar Heel Leader of Distinction Award, the organization's highest honor.

The Carolina Leadership Academy, the flagship program in collegiate leadership development, is now in its fifth year.

2008-09 Tar Heel Leaders of Distinction are Christina Abruzzini (Women's Fencing); Whitney Allen (Softball); Yael Averbuch (Women's Soccer); Brock Baker (Men's Cross Country and Track & Field); Colin Bates (Baseball); Caroline Boneparth (Women's Soccer); Addie Bracy (Women's Cross Country); Katie Brooks (Women's Lacrosse); Michael Callahan (Men's Soccer); Alexandra Coppelage (Women's Track & Field); Sydney Crane (Women's Golf); Amber Falcone (Women's Cross Country); Brie Felmagle (Women's Cross Country); Trima Goddard (Football); Ali Hawkins (Women's Soccer); Kristina Jacob (Gymnastics); Chase Jones (Baseball); Keegan Mueller (Wrestling); Donte Nall (Men's Track & Field); Christine Nguyen (Gymnastics); Mark Paschal (Football); Sam Pompeo (Men's Track & Field); Callie Pottinger (Women's Track & Field); Garrett Reynolds (Football); Anna Rodenbaugh (Women's Soccer); Jenn Russell (Women's Lacrosse); Rachel Schneider (Gymnastics); Adam Smith (Men's Track & Field); Morgan Stengel (Women's Track & Field); Katrina Tsang (Women's Tennis); Adam Warren (Baseball); Katie Wood (Rowing); and Kara Wright (Gymnastics).

Brooks is the first four-time honoree, earning the honor twice for women's soccer and twice for women's lacrosse. Baker was honored for both men's cross country and men's track & field for 2008-09.

Above, baseball sophomore Greg Holt introduce teammates Colin Bates, Adam Warren and Chase Jones, all three of whom were honored as Tar Heel Leaders of Distinction. At right, softball team members Stephanie Murad, Anna Roberts, Whitney Allen and Brittany Robinson with coach Donna Papa. Below, the 2008-09 Leaders of Distinction.

The evening began with remarks from Dick Baddour, UNC's Director of Athletics and the driving force behind the program's creation.

Freshman gymnast Zoya Johnson delivered the CREED leadership reflection, representing first-year student-athletes, all of whom take part in the CLA's leadership foundation program.

Joe Kinderwater, a sophomore on the men's swimming and diving team, spoke on behalf of the Rising Stars, a select group of sophomores and juniors that provides future leaders with insights, strategies and skills to help them as they seek to become effective leaders.

Caroline Boneparth, a junior on the women's soccer team, spoke on behalf of the Veteran Leaders, the program for team captains and leaders at the highest level.

John Blanchard, Senior Associate Director of Athletics and Co-Director of the CLA, served as the evening's emcee and introduced Tar Heel Leader of Distinction winners.

Jeff Janssen, Co-Director of the CLA, delivered the keynote address, entitled "We Believe in You..." In addressing the attendees, Janssen said, "We offer this Leadership Academy because we believe in you. We believe the world needs you and especially your leadership. Every day in every way, the world is looking for strong, solid, and ethical leaders like yourselves. To whom much has been given, much is expected. We invite and implore you to step up to the challenge on your teams, on your campus, in your community, and around the world."

As the nation's premier leadership development program in collegiate athletics, the Carolina Leadership Academy develops, challenges and supports student-athletes, coaches and staff in their continual quest to become world-class leaders in athletics, academics and life.