

## NEWS RELEASE

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## Five USM Spires Soccer Players Recognized As 2009 Scholar-Athletes by NAIA

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—Five University of Saint Mary soccer players—including four from the Women’s Soccer Team and one from the Men’s Soccer Team—were named 2009 Scholar-Athletes by the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) last week.

The honored Lady Spires were senior Emily Owen, a forward from Tulsa, Okla., senior Theresa Baumstark, a midfielder from Hermann, Mo., junior Michelle Lighton, a midfielder from Lewisville, Texas, and junior Jessalyn Sadler, a defender from Bondurant, Iowa. This is the second consecutive year Owen and Baumstark have been named as NAIA Scholar-Athletes.

From the men’s team, junior Theo Daniels, a defender from Lansing, Kan., made the cut. To be considered for the scholar-athlete award, players must be at least juniors and have a 3.5 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale.

“I am very proud of these student athletes,” USM Head Men’s and Women’s Soccer Coach Derek Mazeitis said. “Each year, the women’s team in particular really steps up and does well in the classroom. This is the fifth consecutive year our women’s team has been recognized for their work in the classroom.”

The Lady Spires led the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference (KCAC) in NAIA Scholar-Athletes, Mazeitis noted.

Besides the NAIA honors, Owen and Sadler were also named to the KCAC All-Conference Second Team for their play this season.

Visit [www.gospires.com](http://www.gospires.com) to learn more about USM’s 8 varsity sports programs.

*The University of Saint Mary is a Catholic co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations in Overland Park, Shawnee, and Kansas City, Kan. Visit [www.stmary.edu](http://www.stmary.edu) for more information.*

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