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Cincinnati State among most successful junior college programs

Contributed By: Nick Novy

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The 2013-14 athletics year at Cincinnati State proved to be a season which boasted success in competition and in the classroom.

Four of Cincinnati State's teams—men's soccer, women's basketball, men's basketball, and men's golf—advanced to the NJCAA national championships of their respective post-season tournaments. Women's soccer, which advanced to the regional final, narrowly missed becoming a fifth member of that elite group. The golf team had its best showing in the national tournament, finishing as NJCAA Runners-Up. Head Coach Andre Tate's basketball team finished 6th in the national tournament.

Cincinnati State is one of only eleven NJCAA colleges to send teams to four national championships.

Surge teams combined to capture two Ohio Community College Athletic Conference championships (men's basketball, men's soccer) and four district or regional titles. The teams combined for a record of 90-49-2, a .645 winning percentage.

Three Cincinnati State student-athletes were selected as OCCAC most outstanding performers in their sports and a total of 23 received all-conference honors. The Surge also had 21 receive all-region honors and had seven NJCAA All-Americans—Liam Doyle (men's soccer), Julie Martin (women's soccer), Winston Grays (men's basketball), Phylicia Johnson (women's basketball), Matt Nickoson (golf), Taylor Suggs (golf) and Jeff Wray (golf).

Doyle also earned Academic All-American honors as did Ricky Dumont (golf), Austin Klueh (soccer), Tucker Beerman (soccer) and Danielle Reifenberger (soccer).

Academically, 39 Cincinnati State student-athletes—43 percent—were named Surge Scholar Athletes, having grade point averages of 3.0 or better while passing at least 12 semester hours. Seventeen had GPAs of 3.5 or better, qualifying for the college's Dean's List, and three posted perfect 4.0s.

"Our student-athletes and support staff have helped solidify Cincinnati State as one of the most successful intercollegiate programs in the area," stated Cincinnati State athletic director Tom Hathaway. "We take great pride in giving our students opportunities to achieve their goals in athletic competition and in the classroom."

22 of the program's 27 sophomore student-athletes have graduated in the Spring semester or will graduate at the end of the Summer semester. 12 have already accepted offers to play at the NCAA Div. I level next season. 7 will play Div. II and others will make their decisions on where to play later on this summer.



(Left to right): Scott Webb - Golf Coach, Sonya Beeler - Women's Basketball Coach, Andre Tate - Men's Basketball Coach, Mike Combs - Men's Soccer Coach.

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