

## **University of Alaska Anchorage 2012-13 Athletics Superlatives**

1. UAA currently ranks No. 12 in the country out of approximately 300 NCAA Division II teams – top four percent - teams in the Director's Cup.
2. UAA student-athletes combined for a school-record 3.2 overall GPA for the calendar year 2012...UAA athletes have eclipsed the 3.0 mark as a group in nine of the past 10 years.
3. UAA Athletics won four conference championships in 2012-13 – in men's and women's cross country, women's indoor track & field, and women's outdoor track & field – and competed or qualified for seven NCAA Championships.
4. In the past year, UAA has produced three individual national champions, 30 All-Americans, one Academic All-Americans, 40 All-Region performers, 62 All-Conference selections and 60 Academic All-Conference selections.
5. In just UAA's first year of indoor track & field sponsorship, the Seawolves finished among the top 15 teams in the country on both the men's and women's side, while the women won the GNAC title.
6. On Mar. 21, 2013, UAA announced the naming partner of the Alaska Airlines Center, scheduled to open fall 2014. The 5,600-seat arena will become home of the Seawolves and is expected

to host UAA athletic competitions, high school and college graduations, concerts, youth camps and other community events. The ‘topping out’ ceremony took place May 10.

7. UAA is once again teaming with the Municipality of Anchorage on June 22 to host the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Mayor's Marathon & Half Marathon, Alaska’s top marathon and one that attracts more than 4,000 runners annually from across Alaska and virtually every state in the union.
8. In 2012, UAA began a new partnership with CBS Sports Network for national TV coverage of the Carrs/Safeway Great Alaska Shootout.
9. UAA Athletics was again involved in the community on many different levels, including its longtime interaction with the area high schools with its Shootout Adopt-A-School program, annual Reading With the Seawolves effort in local elementary schools (this year at Campbell Elementary), and its annual Seawolf Blood Drive – which saw 39 pints of blood (translating to 104 lives saved) – just to name a few.

# **University of Alaska Fairbanks Athletics Report**

Rifle sophomore Ryan Anderson (Great Falls, Va./Biology) and swimming junior Bente Heller (Hamburg, Germany/Communication) were named Alaska's Most Outstanding Athletes.

Hockey senior Steve Thompson (Anchorage, Alaska/Psychology) and senior skier Crystal Pitney (Fairbanks, Alaska/Business administration) were tabbed Intercollegiate Athletics Council Scholar-Athletes of the Year.

Men's Basketball head coach Mick Durham was honored as Alaska's Coach of the Year after leading the Nanooks to 11 more wins this year and reaching the GNAC semifinals.

Other top award winners included: Senior skier Ian Wilkinson (Fairbanks, Alaska/Art) - Bart LeBon Humanitarian Award Hockey senior Steve Thompson - Harris Shelton Spirit of Competition Award Peggy Birkenbuel, aka "Gramma Nanook" - Owen Tinker Fan of the Year Charlie Hill (Compliance) - Staff Member of the Year

Mike Curtin, head athletic trainer and strength coach for the Nanooks, was recognized and honored by Dr. Cary S. Keller for his 15 years of dedicated service to the student-athletes. There was a video made by former Nanooks and hockey's Tavis MacMillan and Kevin Petovello were in attendance to speak about "MC."

Four student-athletes worked closely with the 2013 Business Leader of the Year (BLOY) banquet, held in late April. Three were on the banquet committee to put the event on. The Nanooks working with BLOY were Keri Knight (volleyball), Jacqueline Lovato (women's basketball), Mike Liuzza (rifle) and Mats Eriksson (rifle).

The men's and women's cross country teams were both named U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All-Academic Teams.