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UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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ATHLETES OF THE WEEK FOR SEPTEMBER 26, 2011

UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION Athlete of the Week selections are drawn from nominees submitted by member institution coaches and sports information directors. **UAA** Athletes of the Week are selected in each sport in which the **UAA** sponsors competition. They are selected on the basis of their individual performances and contributions to team efforts during the past week in both Association and non-Association competition.

Women's Cross Country

Liz Phillips — Washington University — Homer Glen, IL (Lockport)

Senior Liz Phillips led second-ranked Washington University to a first-place finish at the Wheaton College Gil Dodds Invitational on Saturday. She placed first out of a field of 96 competitors in the 6,000-meter race, posting a time of 21:48.93. The Bears placed five runners in the top 10 to post a 25-point team score.

Men's Cross Country

Michael Burnstein — Washington University — Brookline, MA (Brookline)

Senior Michael Burnstein led third-ranked Washington University to a first-place finish at the Wheaton College Gil Dodds Invitational on Saturday. He finished first among 125 runners in the 8,000-meter race, posting a time of 25:23.30. Washington placed six runners in the top 10 to finish on top with a team score of 24 points.

Football – Offense

Erik Olson — Case Western Reserve University — Bethel Park, PA (Bethel Park)

Case Western Reserve University junior quarterback Erik Olson accounted for 262 yards of offense and recorded two touchdowns in a 24-6 victory at Denison University on Saturday. Olson completed 15 of 25 passes for 213 yards and a touchdown. He rushed for 49 yards and scored his second touchdown with a 62-yard dash on a fake punt.

Patrick Blanks — Carnegie Mellon University — Cincinnati, OH (Moeller)

Junior running back Patrick Blanks turned in a career day to help Carnegie Mellon University defeat Kenyon College 35-14 on the road Saturday. He opened the first and second quarters with touchdown runs and added a third in the closing seconds of the first half. Blanks' three touchdowns and 147 yards on 12 carries are both career highs. His touchdown run of 56 yards on the first play from scrimmage marked the longest touchdown run in his three-year career.

Football – Defense

Kevin Nossem — Case Western Reserve University — Munster, IN (Munster)

Case Western Reserve University linebacker Kevin Nossem turned in a career-best performance in a 24-6 victory at Denison University on Saturday. The junior registered game-highs with 14 tackles and four sacks. Nossem also forced a fumble and recorded an interception for the second consecutive game.

Football – Special Teams

Kevin Donohue – Carnegie Mellon University – West Hempstead, NY (Chaminade)

Freshman placekicker Kevin Donohue of Carnegie Mellon University converted all five of his extra point attempts in a 35-14 victory at Kenyon College on Saturday. His career-high performance helped the Tartans even their record at 2-2 for the year. Donohue has converted on 10 of 11 extra point attempts this season.

Women's Soccer – Offense

Kendra Simmons – Case Western Reserve University – Medina, OH (Walsh Jesuit)

Case Western Reserve University junior midfielder Kendra Simmons totaled five points on two goals and an assist to help the Spartans to a 2-0 week. Simmons scored the game-winner in a 2-1 double overtime win at Baldwin-Wallace College on Tuesday. On Saturday she assisted on the first goal and scored the game-winner in the second half for a 2-1 victory over The College of Wooster.

Women's Soccer – Defense

Lee Bachouros – Emory University – Westlake, OH (Hathaway Brown)

Emory University junior Lee Bachouros led a defense that allowed just six shots, three of which were on goal, during two shutouts last weekend. In a 2-0 win over Thomas University, co-captain Bachouros and the back line allowed just one shot during her 66 minutes of play. She played all 90 minutes of a 4-0 win over the University of the South on Sunday, holding the Tigers to just two shots, one of which was on goal. Bachouros has helped the team record a 0.12 team goals-against average, while limiting opponents to 4.875 shots per game and 2.0 shots on goal per game.

Men's Soccer – Offense

Vinny Bell – Case Western Reserve University – Parma Heights, OH (Valley Forge)

Senior forward Vinny Bell recorded seven points on three goals and an assist to help Case Western Reserve University to a 2-0 week. Bell scored the game-winner in a double-overtime win at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College on Tuesday. He tallied two goals and an assist in a 6-1 victory at Heidelberg University on Saturday. Bell's 11 goals this season tie for a school single-season record, and his 34 career goals rank him second in the Spartan record book.

Men's Soccer – Defense

Ian Epperson – Carnegie Mellon University – Bethesda, MD (Walt Whitman)

Senior outside back Ian Epperson scored his first career goal for Carnegie Mellon University in a 4-1 win against Bethany College on Saturday. His inaugural score was also recorded as the game-winner. He helped lead a defense that gave up just one goal during his time on the field in two matches played last week. In a 5-1 victory over Washington & Jefferson College, Epperson registered an assist on the team's fourth goal of the game.

Women's Tennis

Gabrielle Clark – Emory University – Chicago, IL (Univ. of Chicago Lab)

Emory University sophomore Gabrielle Clark won both the singles and doubles draws of the 2011 USTA/ITA South Region Championships in Atlanta, GA last weekend. Clark, the top-seeded singles player, dropped just 14 games in her six match victories, including a 6-3, 6-2 win over teammate Malavika Padmanabhan in the championship match. Entering doubles play as the top seed with senior Zahra Dawson, the duo won all five of their matches, including an 8-3 victory over third-seeded teammates Jordan Wylie and Brenna Kelly in the final match. By virtue of winning the regional titles, Clark will earn All-America honors for the second-straight season, and advance to the USTA/ITA National Small College Championships in Mobile, AL.

Men's Tennis

Adam Putterman — Washington University — Houston, TX (Memorial)

Junior Adam Putterman of Washington University captured the USTA/ITA Central Regional Singles Championship with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over his opponent from Kenyon College on Monday. He paired with freshman Ross Putterman in the doubles draw and advanced to the semifinals where the duo fell to teammates Max Franklin and Kevin Chu 9-7.

Volleyball

Tricia McCutchan — Case Western Reserve University — Hamilton, OH (Stephen T. Badin)

Case Western Reserve University senior middle hitter Tricia McCutchan posted 16 kills with a .433 hitting percentage and nine digs during a three-set victory versus The College of Wooster on Tuesday.

Natalie Schonefeld — Emory University — Riviera, TX (Sacred Heart Academy, KY)

Setter Natalie Schonefeld helped Emory University post a 4-0 mark at the Emory Homecoming Tournament. The senior became the Eagles' all-time leader in assists in the second set against Berry College on Saturday, advancing her career total to 4,894. She entered the contest needing 19 assists to assume the number-one spot and dished out 34 assists along with seven digs in a 3-0 victory over the Vikings. Schonefeld played in nine of the team's 13 sets and averaged 9.44 assists and 2.11 digs per set in the tournament.