



KNOX COLLEGE ATHLETICS

2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear K Club Members,

Thank you for being a part of this remarkable time for Knox athletics. Despite the ongoing challenges presented by COVID-19, our teams were able to remain healthy, while also achieving success. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our athletes, coaches, and staff, as well as the ongoing commitment of the College. The K Club Engagement Council have also dedicated their time and enthusiasm to engage student and alumni athletes and promote and support Knox athletics events and fundraising throughout the year.

We are grateful for the passion and support of our dedicated alumni, parents, fans, and friends. Thank you for your continued investment in our student-athletes and programs. Your generosity allows us to transform lives and shape leaders, while fueling our teams' success in competition, the classroom, and the community.

I wanted to take a moment to recognize the accomplishments of our student-athletes and coaches in this annual report. Highlights include a number of MWC records in men and women's soccer, track and field, and softball, as well as a number of individual awards.

On behalf of our student-athletes, coaches, and staff, thank you for your support of Knox athletics. Thank you for being part of the team!

I am excited for what the upcoming season holds for Prairie Fire athletics.

All the best,

Monica Keith

Vice President for Advancement

SUCCESS BY THE NUMBERS

1

NCAA All-American

3

Individual NCAA Appearances

6

All-Region Performances

1

Team NCAA Appearance

1

Team Midwest Conference (MWC)
Tournament Champion

2

Team MWC Regular Season
Champions

12

Individual MWC Champions

16

All-Conference Performances
in 14 Sports

1

MWC Offensive
Player of the Year Award

1

Elite 20 MWC Award
recognizing the student-athletes,
with the highest cumulative grade
point average, participating in his or
her respective sport's culminating
championship or tournament

120

MWC Academic All-Conference
Performers

3

SIAC Academic All Conference
Performers



The women's soccer team finished a perfect 8-0 in conference play to claim the regular-season title. The team is the first in league history to have five consecutive regular-season MWC Championships. Lydia Mitchell '22 received the 2021 MWC Women's Soccer Offensive Player of the Year award, along with First Team All-Conference honors. Deborah Bonales '22 and Olivia Grierson '22 joined Mitchell on the First Team, while Emma Art '22 and Louise Schoeffel '25 made the Second Team. Lydia Mitchell '22 was named Second-Team All-Region by the United Soccer Coaches.



The men's soccer team returned to the NCAA Tournament for their second time in the last three seasons, after winning the MWC Tournament. Raleigh Berry '22, Lucas Piqueras '22, Martin Garcia '22, and Nicolas Lantendorffer '24 were First Team selections. Alex White '24 represented Knox on the Second Team.

PRAIRIE FIRE ATHLETICS

FALL SPORTS YEAR IN REVIEW



Offensive lineman Creed Justice '24, linebacker Ean Rau '22, and linebacker Davis Brumbaugh '23 were all selected for the All-Midwest Conference (MWC) Second Team in football.



This year the cross country teams combined had 34 season personal records (PRs). The men's team moved up two places in the conference championships from 2019.



Hayden Fay '24 was named to the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletics Conference (SLIAC) All-Sportsmanship Team at the SLIAC Women's Golf Championship and was named Academic All-Conference.



The volleyball team had its best winning percentage since 1995. Catessa Duran '22 earned First Team All-MWC honors, and teammate Emme Patton '25 was a Second Team selection.

PRAIRIE FIRE ATHLETICS

WINTER SPORTS YEAR IN REVIEW



The men's basketball team finished with the second-best record at Knox since 2005-2006 and also swept Monmouth College for the first time since the 2005-06 season. Jordan Rayner '22 was named Second Team All-Conference.



At the MWC Championship meet the indoor track and field team compiled 15 PRs, 5 event champions, 2 school records, and 1 MWC record. The men's team finished fourth overall, the highest they have finished since 1995. Charles Broomfield '22 was honored as the Elite 20 Award Winner and the Men's Field Performer of the meet after winning the shot put (14.40m) and the weight throw (17.14m).



The men's and women's swimming & diving teams were selected by the College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) as a Scholar All-America Team.



The women's basketball team held an eight-game winning streak to move from 0-3 in league play to 8-3 and in the hunt for a spot in the MWC Tournament. The eight-game winning streak tied a school record. Kristin Herndon '23 was first in the league with 1.8 blocks per game. Catessa Duran '22 was named First Team All-Conference and led Knox with 11.1 points per game and 8.5 rebounds per game, Knox allowed only 59.4 points per game, the third-best mark in the league.

PRAIRIE FIRE ATHLETICS

SPRING SPORTS YEAR IN REVIEW



The men's golf team won the Iowa Wesleyan and Monmouth Invationals in the spring and won the Knox Purple and Gold Classic in the fall. Patrick Mattar '23 led the Prairie Fire with a three round total of 232 (77-77-78) at the SLIAC Tournament to finish in a tie for eighth place overall and earn Second Team All-SLIAC honors. Mattar and Harrison Phillips '23 were named to Academic All-SLIAC team.



The track and field team had 12 Knox Top-10 performances and five MWC Performers of the Week throughout the spring season. At the MWC meet, the team finished with seven event champions, 13 top-three finishes, the Men's Outstanding Track Performer, the Men's Outstanding Field Performer, and the Women's Outstanding Field Performer. Derrick Jackson '22 broke the 39-year-old NCAA DIII record in the 100m (10.17 seconds) at Culver-Stockton on April 23. Jackson and Tyrell Pierce '24 both qualified for the NCAA Championships with Jackson earning All-America honors for finishing seventh in the 100m.



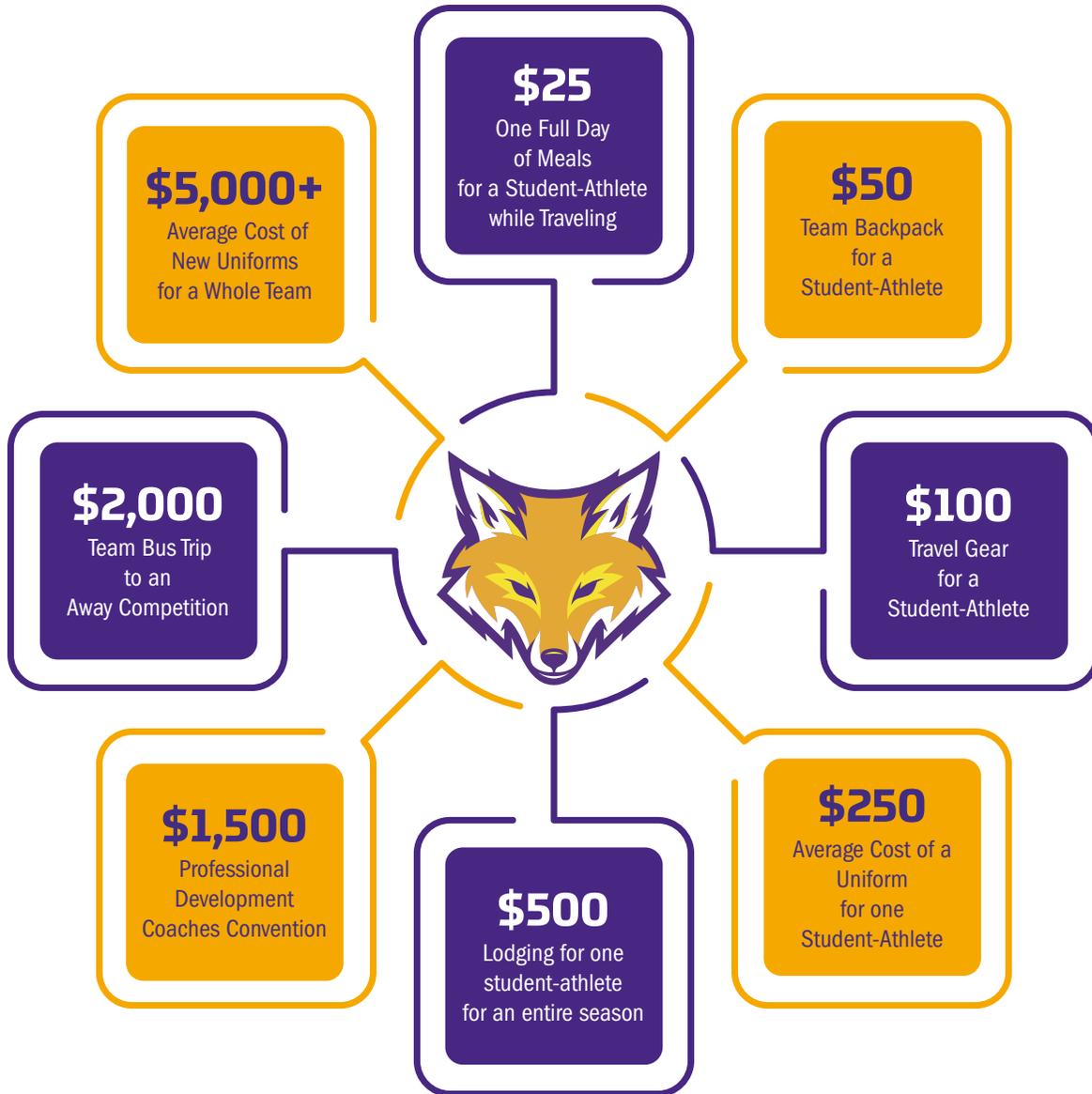
The women's softball team set the MWC record for most innings pitched in a game (Leila Rouhani '25) in an 18 inning 5-4 loss to Monmouth on April 28. They beat Monmouth 5-3 on May 2. Softball had players finish in the top-10 in hit by pitch, runners caught stealing, and fielding percentage. Britney Salinas '22 earned Second Team All-MWC honors. She batted .375 with six doubles, a triple, a home-run, 21 RBI, 20 runs scored, and a .430 on base percentage for the season.



The men's baseball team won the series over Cornell for first time since they rejoined the conference in 2013 and Grinnell for first time since 2013. Jason Clark '23 was named to the D3 Team of the Week by 3baseball.com for the week of April 17-24.

K CLUB BY THE NUMBERS

IMPACT OF K CLUB ON PRAIRIE FIRE STUDENT-ATHLETES



WHY K CLUB GIFTS MATTER

The battle between NCAA Division III schools to earn the commitment of highly qualified student-athletes continues to heighten each year. K Club donations are crucial in helping us, the Prairie Fire, contend with other highly ranked academic schools in the Midwest Conference and across the nation.

While gifts to individual sports will always be accepted, **the goal of the K Club remains the same: to come together as the “Team Behind the Team” and donate to the larger cause—athletics as a whole. Doing so supports ALL of our student-athletes and ALL of our teams** by way of facility and branding enhancements, bolstered recruiting budgets, team equipment, and so much more.

1,001
TOTAL DONORS

2021-2022 REVIEW

All Sport	\$177,321
Capital Projects	\$ 23,214
Sport Specific	\$ 62,122
	\$262,657

K CLUB DOLLARS IN ACTION

K CLUB DOLLARS PROVIDE

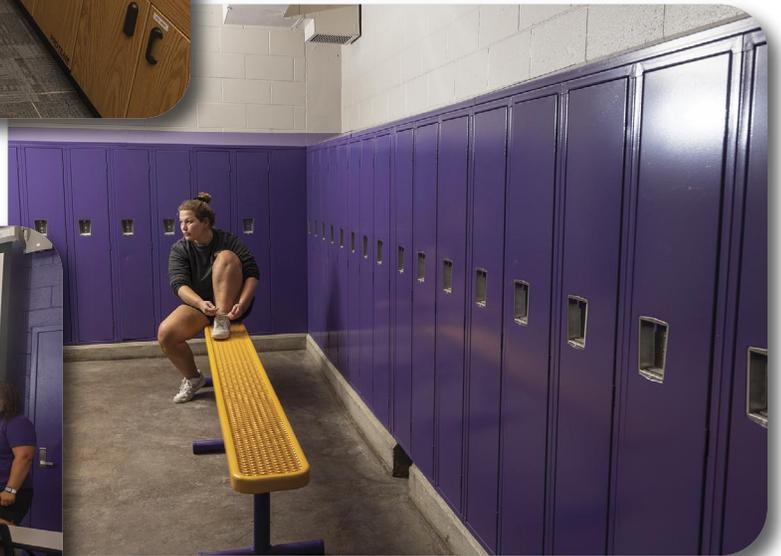
- Facility improvements & branding
- Strengthened recruiting efforts of future Prairie Fire
- Team equipment
- Salaries and moving expenses for coaches and K Club coordinator
- **An enhanced student-athlete experience for all**



Enhancements in the athletic training room



Significant technological upgrades in the team film room and multi-purpose room



Improvements in the locker rooms



Branded windscreens for Blodgett Field and the Softball Field

K CLUB ENGAGEMENT COUNCIL

The K Club Engagement Council are alumni letterwinners who embody and promote school spirit, increase attendance at K Club events and Knox College reunions, build enthusiasm around Knox Prairie Fire Athletics, and encourage peer-to-peer engagement during K Club fundraising campaigns. Thanks to the 2021-2022 K Club Engagement Council team:

David Anderson '89 (President)
Jordan Anderson '19
Jeff Baker '75
Jon Betts '05
Valerie Blevins '86
Ryan Cannady '99
Katy Coseglia '20
Colin Davis '11
Chantal Heckman '14
Lloy Johnston '94
Matt McQuaid '88
Abdul Oganla '16
Amy Olson '91
Paul Shimotake '85
Geoff Ziegler '03



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FOREVER FIRE CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERIES

This year, we held four events featuring K Club Engagement Council members Jon Betts '05, Val Blevins '86, Katy Coseglia '20, Colin Davis '11, Chantal Heckman '14, Lloy Johnston '94, Matt McQuaid '88, and Paul Shimotake '85.

Virtual Events

- In August, we held a Meet and Greet with Kira Mowen, new women's basketball head coach.
- In November, the Fall Athletics Virtual Open House included breakout rooms by sport.
- A Founders Day Event in February featured four previous athletics directors for a panel discussion.

IN MEMORIAM JONATHAN G. POWERS

Beloved and respected professor and chair of economics at Knox, Jonathan G. Powers died from natural causes at his home in Galesburg in mid-June.

A member of the Knox faculty since 2000, Powers taught microeconomics, industrial organization, and game theory, and presented research papers at the American Economic Association, Midwest Economic Association, and Western Economic Association annual meetings. Powers received his Ph.D. in 2002 from Northwestern University.

He was affectionately known as "J-Pow" among his students, colleagues, and alumni, because typing "jpow" into an email would automatically complete into his full Knox email address.

He was a friendly, highly respected, and familiar figure to many students as a teacher, but also as the head coach of the Knox College Prairie Fire swim teams. He swam for four years at Amherst College, where he graduated magna cum laude in 1987. He was captain of the swim team at Amherst his senior year, and helped lead his squad to a 25th place finish at the NCAA Division III National Swimming and Diving Championships. Powers also competed in water polo at Amherst, serving as captain his senior year. He also was faculty advisor and coach for the Knox College men's and women's water polo clubs.

More at knox.edu/news/in-memoriam-jonathan-g-powers.

