



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thunder Women's Soccer Coach and Athletes Receive ACAC Award Recognition

Edmonton, AB – The Concordia Thunder Athletics Department is pleased to recognize five members of the 2015-16 Women's Soccer team, with ACAC North Coach of the Year and All Conference awards.

Franco Imbrogno – ACAC North Coach of the Year

Franco Imbrogno is now in his 3rd year as Head Coach of the Thunder Women's Soccer program. After just narrowly missing out on capturing an ACAC Bronze Medal in 2014-15, Franco has the program back in the National Championship conversation with a CCAA National ranking reaching #4 in Canada this season. Imbrogno was an Assistant Coach on the Thunder Women's Soccer team that won a CCAA National Championship in 2009, before rejoining the program in 2013 as Head Coach.

"Franco has been a tremendous asset to our women's soccer program and as a coach and instructor, has contributed greatly to the advancement of both Athletics and Physical Education at Concordia. His calm, level-headed demeanour combined with a student-athlete centered approach to coaching has created a positive environment within his team, wherein he continually gets the best out of his athletes, week-in and week-out. Franco embodies strong qualities of personal integrity, leadership and a strong work ethic that has earned him the respect of his students, athletes, colleagues and peers." – Joel Mrak, Concordia Thunder Athletics Director.

Jaida Stasiuk – ACAC All-Conference Team

Jaida has made a big impression on the ACAC in this, her first year of post-secondary soccer at Concordia. Her work rate and aggressive style added a much appreciated scoring punch to the Thunder offense with Jaida racking up 7 goals in 9 games. Jaida is from Edmonton, AB and is enrolled in the Open Studies program.

"Jaida was hungry for goals in her first year with the Thunder. She was a true threat coming off of the bench, and will continue to be an impact player moving forward in the program." – Head Coach Franco Imbrogno

Laura D'Andrea – ACAC All-Conference Team

Laura returned to the Thunder line up this season after a two year absence and made an immediate impact. Laura's maturity anchored the Concordia midfield corps and gave the team great stability in the transition game. Laura is from Edmonton, AB and is enrolled in the 3rd year of her the Bachelor of Arts degree program.

“Laura was a strong presence in the midfield for the entirety of the season. Her physicality, field vision, and distribution made her a midfield menace.” - Coach Imbrogno

Maggie Boras - ACAC All-Conference Team

Maggie is in her second year with the Thunder and showed her versatility right out of the gate taking on a major positional shift to help out the squad. Her commitment to the program is evident not only by her shift but also by her work rate during practices and games. Maggie hails from St. Albert, AB and is enrolled in the Bachelor of Science degree program.

“Maggie Boras stepped up this season, by stepping back into the role of a central defender (from previous midfield position). Her leadership abilities allowed her to thrive in this new role, where she provided stability to the back line through communication and physicality.” – Coach Imbrogno

Brynn deVries - ACAC All-Conference Team

Brynn is in her 3rd year of ACAC eligibility, the last two with the Thunder. In her skills toolbox, she brings great field presence along with a deceptively quick closing rate to the Thunder back line. Brynn is from Edmonton, AB and is enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts degree program.

“Brynn DeVries returned to the back line this season where her defensive presence continued to grow. Through field awareness and organization, DeVries contributed greatly to our defensive success.”
– Coach Imbrogno

Selina Verkland - ACAC All-Conference Team

Selina is in just first year with the Thunder but was elevated to the starting Goalkeeper position right out of training camp. She has been a rock all season, playing in 9 out of 10 games and recording 3 shutouts and allowing just 7 goals against. Selina is from Sherwood Park, AB and is enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts degree program.

“Selina was challenged from day one, having been named as the starting Goalkeeper in her first year. She embraced this role, improving her artillery of skills through the season and becoming a Goalkeeper that could save the day.” – Coach Imbrogno

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Concordia Thunder Athletics

The Concordia University of Edmonton Thunder Athletics program has a proud history of excellence at the highest levels both provincially and nationally. The Thunder have been a part of the Alberta Colleges Athletics Conference (ACAC) since 1992 and have more than 150 student-athletes representing the school in the sports of badminton, basketball, cross country running, curling, golf, hockey, indoor track, soccer and volleyball. To learn more about Thunder Athletics, please visit <http://athletics.concordia.ab.ca/>.

For more information, please contact:

Joel Mrak, Athletics Director

Concordia University of Edmonton, Thunder Athletics Department

Phone: (780) 479-9321

Email: joel.mrak@concordia.ab.ca