



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thunder Cross Country Running Team Receives ACAC Award Recognition

Edmonton, AB – The Concordia Thunder Athletics Department is pleased to recognize three valued members of the 2015-16 Cross Country Running team with ACAC All-Conference awards.

Marriya Jenkins – ACAC All-Conference Team

Marriya has had an amazing university career with the Thunder Cross Country team. An ACAC Silver medalist at this year's Championships, she has picked up 4 ACAC medals in her 5 years here and has 2 CCAA medals and a Top 6 finish at the CCAA Championships to go along with that. Marriya is in her second and final year of the Education After-degree program at Concordia.

"Marriya has been a positive influence on her teammates from her first practice with us 5 years ago until this day and the program will miss her greatly when she graduates at the end of this school year." – Head Coach Matt Norminton

Kirk Sundt – ACAC All-Conference Team

Kirk has had a fantastic season this year and has continued on from the progress he made last year in his first year with the Thunder. Kirk earned a Silver Medal at this year's ACAC Championships and like teammate Marriya Jenkins, Kirk is also in his final year of the Education After-degree program at Concordia.

"Kirk is one of the most coachable athletes I have ever coached and his mental toughness when he races is inspiring. To see him bounce back these past 2 years after a couple of rough seasons is just plain awesome to see. I wish he had come to Concordia to start with so we could have watched him improve from day 1 but I hope that he will continue with the sport after he has graduated as he has a lot of good racing left to do." – Head Coach Matt Norminton

Kenton Sportak – ACAC All-Conference Team

Kenton is another 5th year athlete, having transferred over to Concordia after spending two years at SAIT and a year at Atlantic Canada's St. Francis Xavier University. Kenton finished in 5th place in this year's ACAC Championship, helping propel the Concordia XCR Men's team to the Silver Medal finish. Kenton is in the Bachelor of Science program at Concordia.

"Kenton struggled last XCR season with injuries but played an important team role for us as our 5th guy. This year he was our #2 man and ran a great race at the ACAC Champs to finish in 5th spot. If he has a

good race at the CCAA's, he could sneak into the Top 10, he is that talented. We'll need him to step up alongside Kirk and be in the Top 10 if we want to pick up a national team medal.” – Head Coach Matt Norminton

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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/>.

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