

Dear Javelina Supporters:

The spirit around Javelina Nation is fantastic! Energy abounds for a whole range of reasons, among which is the excellent performance of our fall and winter sports teams. Javelina football, in particular was successful, once again, winning the Lone Star Conference football championship and finishing the season ranked # 17 in the nation. Our volleyball team made the Lonestar Conference tournament and finished the season with the fifth best overall record in the program's history. Women's basketball also made the Lone Star Conference tournament and had a final record of 18-10, which is the best record in a number of years.

We cannot forget the cross country and the track and field programs. We had four outstanding performers: three student-athletes qualified for the NCAA Region Cross Country meet and after re-instating the indoor track and field program in December after a three-year hiatus, C. J. Griggs qualified for the NCAA Indoor National Track and Field meet in the long jump and triple jump placing 7th in this event and earning All-American honors. Softball and Baseball are off to a good start, as of March 20th our softball team is in first place and baseball is in sixth place in the early going of the Lone Star Conference standings.

One area that we must not forget is academics, and 40% of our student-athletes finished the fall semester with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0. Twelve of our fall and winter student-athletes received Academic Honors from the Lone Star Conference. Track and Field student-athlete Robert Guzman was selected to the NCAA National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

More goods came to the Javelinas when the NCAA honored the athletic department with the NCAA II Game Environment Award of Excellence. In addition the Javelina athletic department was a recipient of the NCAA II Female Athletic Enhancement Matching Grant, which will help fund a full-time female track and field/cross country coach.

Noel Allen was hired in January to start the first-ever Javelina women's golf program and in May the Javelinas will add a new position to the department with a full-time strength and conditioning coach. Related to major honors, former Javelina All-American John Randle was selected for the induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame the past February, joining former Javelinas Gene Upshaw and Darrell Green.

Javelina Athletics is definitely on the move. Beyond the field and the classroom the Javelinas have completed over 25 community service and engagement activities in Kingsville. Our recruiting efforts in football landed us over a dozen transfers and two dozen freshmen. The spring football game was a success with the Blue Team defeating the White Team, 20- 19, in the last thirty seconds of the game. The football team gears up for the first game of the year that will most likely have the largest following in NCAA II history. Our Javelinas will travel to Maryville, Missouri, for a Thursday night game on September 2 to play the defending National Champions. But let's not get too far ahead of ourselves, we still have a number of balls and strikes and hurdles to hurdle this spring. We look forward to much success the rest of spring.

We are proud of what we do and proud of whom we are.....JAVELINAS!

Remember Every Day is Game Day in Javelina Nation!

Kenneth R. Oliver

Director of Javelina Athletics