HAAC Conference

Founded in 1971, the Heart of America Athletic Conference finished its 43rd year of competition during the 2013-14 season. Currently the HAAC has 10 institutions participating as members of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). Current conference members are: Avila University, Baker University, Benedictine College, Central Methodist University, Culver-Stockton College, Evangel University, Graceland University, MidAmerica Nazarene University, Missouri Valley College, and Peru State College.

CMU, while associated with the Methodist church, does not have mandatory religious activities and welcomes all faiths to its campus. Presently over 75 percent of the student body represents a wide variety of religious beliefs.

NAIA

The purpose of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics is to promote the education and development of students through intercollegiate athletic participation. Member institutions, although varied and diverse, share a common commitment to high standards and to the principle that participation in athletics serves as an integral part of the total educational process.

The NAIA has 50,000 student-athletes participating at nearly 300 member colleges and universities throughout the United States and Canada. The NAIA offers 23 championships in 13 sports.

Champions of Character

Through Champions of Character, the NAIA seeks to create an environment in which every student-athlete, coach, official, and spectator is committed to the true spirit of competition through the five core values: Respect, Integrity, Responsibility, Servant Leadership, and Sportsmanship.

2013 Award Winners

Aubrey Utley
Senior - Pitcher
Tenton, Mo.
3-time NAIA All-American
2-time NFCA All-American
3-time HAAC Pitcher of the Year
1st Team All-HAAC
Capital One Academic All-American
Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete

Michele Rupard
Junior - Catcher
Kansas City, Mo.
2nd Team NAIA All-American
2nd Team NFCA All-American
1st Team All-HAAC
All-HAAC Gold Glove Team

Lauren Geringer
Sophomore - Infielder
O’Fallon, Mo.
Honorable Mention NAIA All-American
HAAC Player of the Year
HAAC Freshman of the Year
1st Team All-HAAC

Bri Ford
Senior - Pitcher/Designated Player
Branson, Mo.
1st Team All-HAAC
All-HAAC Gold Glove Team

Megan Robbins
Senior - Infielder
Las Vegas, Nev.
2nd Team All-HAAC
All-HAAC Gold Glove Team
Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete

Mary Kate Townley
Senior - Outfielder
O’Fallon, Mo.
2nd Team All-HAAC

2013 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes
Courtney Dennis
Caitlin Holman
Brooke Brandt
Aubrey Utley
Elisabeth Nation
Juliette Kein
Megan Robbins
Erika Reinagel
Melanie Wilmsmeyer

2013 NAIA National Championship Participant
HAAC Regular Season and Tournament Champions

Aubrey Utley
Pitcher

Central Methodist
Eagles Softball
As he enters his 22nd season with Eagles, Coach Reardon has over 500 career wins at the helm of the program. Reardon, the six-time HAAC Coach of the Year (2013, 2012, 2011, 2009, 2008, 1995) and three-time NFCA Midwest Region Coach of the Year (2013, 2012, 2008), has established the Eagles as a consistent conference title contender and continues to produce outstanding graduates.

Committed to excellence both in the classroom and on the field, the 2013 CMU team was recognized with nine Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes, the most in the country, and two Capital One Academic All-Americans. On the field, the squad won the program’s third-straight HAAC regular-season and second-straight Tournament titles. The Eagles captured their fourth HAAC regular-season and third Tournament title in the last six years. CMU advanced to the NAIA National Championship for a second-consecutive season.

Reardon was a four-year letter winner in soccer and three-year letter winner in baseball at Central Methodist College (now CMU), where he earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration in 1990. He received his master’s degree in sports management from the University of Missouri in 1993. He was elected and serves on the NAIA Softball Executive Committee. Reardon’s other duties include Assistant Athletic Director and Assistant Professor in the Physical Education Department at Central Methodist.

Coach Reardon currently resides in Boonville, Mo., with his biggest supporters – wife Leslie, daughter Addyson, and son Avery.

Contact Information
For more information, contact Gene Reardon at freardon@centralmethodist.edu or 660-248-6348.

2013 Highlights
• 3rd-straight HAAC regular season championship
• 2nd-straight HAAC Tournament championship
• 2nd-straight NAIA National Championship participant
• Earned highest ranking (No. 18) in school history
• 9 All-HAAC players and 4 HAAC Gold Glove players
• 3 All-Americans
• 2 Capital One Academic All-Americans
• 9 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar Athletes (most in the nation)

Central Methodist University Softball

Academics
The finish line of a successful softball career is graduation. CMU softball prides itself on quality student-athletes who work toward this goal. The cumulative team GPA for the 2012 season was 3.48, leading all teams on campus. It marked the fourth year in a row CMU has ranked in the top 10 in the NAIA for team GPA. Since 2006, the program has had 40 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes and four Capital One Academic All-Americans. We offer an outstanding academic support center, which includes a writing lab and tutoring help for all student-athletes. Academic and athletic scholarships, along with financial aid, are available to student-athletes.

Program
Softball at CMU started in 1977 and has grown to become a nationally recognized program, being ranked in the NAIA Top 25. The team has won four conference regular-season titles and three conference tournament titles in the past six years. CMU has both junior varsity and varsity teams, offering a chance at immediate playing time. The JV schedule includes 20-25 games, while the varsity schedule includes 50-60 games beginning in February and continuing with the postseason in May.

Strength & Conditioning
The softball strength program is led by Head Strength Coach Kyle Oberweather in the Adair Weight Room. Coach Oberweather has developed a program that has had a major role in the recent success of the program. In conjunction with our hitting coach, our offensive production has increased every year since the strength program was put in place, our injuries have decreased, and our overall conditioning has greatly improved.