



# NEWS RELEASE

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**NEWS RELEASE**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NSIC MYLES BRAND ALL-ACADEMIC WITH DISTINCTION AWARD

BURNSVILLE, Minn. - Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) Commissioner Erin Lind is excited to announce the 12th annual NSIC Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award winners. The honor, named for the late NCAA President Dr. Myles Brand, is bestowed to senior NSIC student-athletes who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.75 or higher, are exhausting their eligibility and are on track to graduate (student-athletes can only earn the award once). Each student-athlete will be recognized by the NSIC with a certificate of achievement and a wristwatch. A record number 227 student-athletes from the NSIC's 16 institutions will receive the award in its 12th year, 33 more than last year's record of 194.



"I am filled with pride on how our student-athletes in the NSIC continue to excel in the classroom, in the community and on the playing field. We continue to increase the number of student-athletes that have earned the Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award, which is a testament to the dedication of the student-athletes, coaches and administrators in our league. These are characteristics in which Dr. Myles Brand emphasized. I am extremely proud of all these student-athletes for their devotion to their universities, the NSIC and to their personal academic and athletic goals. I have no doubt these student-athletes will continue to achieve success in life well beyond the classroom and the competition venues," said Lind.

Dr. Myles N. Brand, visionary leader, educator and reformer, served as the President of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) from 2003-2009. He passed away in September 2009 at the age of 67 after a battle with pancreatic cancer. Brand presided over passage of the most comprehensive academic reform package for intercollegiate athletics in recent history – a package that refocused the attention of student-athletes, coaches and administrators on the education of student-athletes. Brand also changed the national dialog on college sports to emphasize the educational value of athletics participation and the integration of intercollegiate athletics with the academic mission of higher education. His impact on Division II ran deep by implementing an identity campaign and a strategic-positioning platform tied to specific divisional attributes. He challenged Division II to continue its game environment and community engagement focus, and improve academic success rates.

### About the NSIC

The NSIC is a 16-team, 18-sport, NCAA Division II conference with institutions located in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The NSIC is a model Division II conference that uses high-level athletics competition to develop champions in the classroom and community while empowering student-athletes to be impactful and positive leaders. Formed in 1992 by the merger of the Northern Intercollegiate Conference (men's league) and the Northern Sun Conference (women's league), the NSIC has flourished over the past quarter century, maturing into a 16-team union of Upper Midwest colleges and universities. The NSIC has won 23 team national championships and crowned 77 individual national champions. For additional information, visit [NorthernSun.org](http://NorthernSun.org).

### About NCAA Division II

The NCAA, the national governing body for college athletics, is a volunteer association of more than 1,000 colleges and universities that classify their athletics programs in one of three membership divisions. The 300+ institutions in NCAA Division II support a balanced approach in which student-athletes have the opportunity to earn scholarships based on their athletic ability, pursue their desired academic degree, and participate in all the campus and surrounding community have to offer. Division II student-athletes annually graduate at rates higher than their student body peers, and they have access to the best championships-participant ratio among the NCAA's three divisions. Division II gives student-athletes the unique opportunity to compete in the classroom, on the field, in their career, for their causes, and on their terms. For additional information, visit [NCAA.org](http://NCAA.org).

*(some text taken from [www.NCAA.org](http://www.NCAA.org) web site)*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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## 2021 NSIC Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award

### AUGUSTANA (19)

Name	Sport	Hometown	Major
Taylor Beagle	Swimming	Lead, S.D.	Biology
Holden Daum	Football	San Antonio, Texas	Sport Administration & Leadership
Luke Fritsch	Football	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Biology
Kevin Hartman	Football	Falcon Heights, Minn.	Sport Administration & Leadership
Izzy Hedge	Soccer	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Nursing
Micah Hudlet	Swimming	Hayden, Idaho	Nursing
Justin Koومان	Track & Field	Pipestone, Minn.	Athletic Training
T.J. Liggett	Football	Rosemount, Minn.	Computer Science
Tiegen Lindner	Track & Field	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Exercise Science
Julia Megazzini	Track & Field	Yorkville, Ill.	Government
Shannon McKnight	Soccer	Farmington, Minn.	Biology
Kelly Partington	Soccer	West St. Paul, Minn.	Athletic Training
Madden Pikula	Football	Gillette, Wyo.	Business Administration
Carly Rahn	Track/CC	Ames, Iowa	English/Secondary Education
Tyler Riemersma	Basketball	Bloomington, Minn.	Data Science
Kali Ryan	Track & Field	Sioux City, Iowa	Biology
Meagan Schenk	Track/CC	Harrisburg, S.D.	Biology and Chemistry
Alex Stone	Women's Golf	Crosslake, Minn.	Accounting
Elizabeth Yoder	Track/CC	Dickinson, N.D.	Religion

### BEMIDJI STATE (7)

Taylor Bray	Basketball	Anoka, Minn.	Exercise Science
Griffin Chase	Basketball	Nevis, Minn.	Sport Management
Samantha Dullum	Softball	Harwood, N.D.	Exercise Science
Taylor Nier	Volleyball	Hatley, Wis.	Exercise Science
Hannah Peterson	Tennis	Menomonie, Wis.	Exercise Science
Teagan Pompa	Basketball	Elgin, Ill.	Mass Communication
Carolyn Smith	Soccer	Grand Forks, N.D.	Psychology

### CONCORDIA-ST. PAUL (14)

Haleigh Bares	Soccer	Belgium, Wis.	Exercise Science
Ryan Bastyr	Baseball	Lakeville, Minn.	Exercise Science
Maria Brown	Track/CC	Elk River, Minn.	Nursing
Scott Burazin	Track/CC	Cottage Grove, Minn.	Sport Management
Zeke Green	Track/CC	Rochester, Minn.	Graphic Design
Tyson Kauffman	Football	Stratford, Wis.	Biology
Ayla Lemke	Basketball	Two Harbors, Minn.	Chemistry
Kara Lindberg	Track/CC	Pine Island, Minn.	Accounting
Maddie Mandoza	Soccer	Goshen, Ky.	Biology
Hanna Mortenson	Softball	Cottage Grove, Minn.	Mathematics
Cayla Renwick	Soccer	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	Biology
Cam Veenbaas	Softball	Woodbury, Minn.	Finance
Sidney Wentland	Basketball	Elk River, Minn.	Sport Psychology
Rachel Westemeier	Track & Field	St. Michael, Minn.	Secondary Education

### UNIVERSITY OF MARY (10)

Alec Battest	Baseball	Beulah, N.D.	Business Administration
Casi Boehm	Swim/Dive	Bismarck, N.D.	Respiratory Therapy (Pre-Med)
Andrew Brooks	Baseball	Missoula, Mont.	Sport & Leisure Management
Annie Corbett	Swim/Dive	Pierz, Minn.	Mathematics Education
Emma Davies	Soccer	Bloomington, Minn.	Exercise Science
Rachael Laetsch	Softball	Salem, S.D.	Mathematics Education
Lauren Rotunda	Basketball	Fargo, N.D.	Elementary Education
Tommy Rumpza	Track & Field	St. Paul, Minn.	Nursing
Leonardo Vecchi	Football	Bergamo, Italy	Business Administration
Macy Williams	Basketball	Sussex, Wis.	Business Admin/Marketing

### MINNESOTA CROOKSTON (9)

Kamryn Frisk	Softball	Anchorage, Alaska	Finance
Deaira Gresham	Volleyball	Maplewood, Minn.	Health Sciences
Anthony Kampa	Cross Country	St. Cloud, Minn.	Software Engineering
Roseline Kanssole	Cross Country	Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso	Agricultural Business
Sydney Kruisselbrink	Volleyball	Rochester, Minn.	Biology/Health Sciences
Jennifer Lax	WBB/CC	Sleepy Eye, Minn.	Criminal Justice
Katie Lienemann	Volleyball	Rosemount, Minn.	Health Management
Ben Thoma	Baseball	Clearbrook, Minn.	Management
Jessica Withrow	Soccer	Gardnerville, Nev.	Elementary Education

### MINNESOTA DULUTH (14)

Name	Sport	Hometown	Major
Madison Biebel	Track & Field	Suamico, Wis.	Graphic Design
Jessica Bren	Softball	Victoria, Minn.	Social Work
Anders Brown	Baseball	Taylor Falls, Minn.	Exercise Rehab Science
Natalie Cahill	Tennis	Pine City, Minn.	Exercise Rehab Science
Eric Chromy	Track & Field	New Prague, Minn.	Mechanical Engineering
Jenna Eichten	Soccer	Rosemount, Minn.	Exercise Rehab Science
Megan Freeberg	Volleyball	Bloomington, Minn.	Marketing
Henry George	Baseball	Woodbury, Minn.	Finance
Camille Harmer	Track & Field	Baxter, Minn.	Biochemistry
Shannon King	Soccer	Bataia, Ill.	Chemistry
Taylor Koehnen	Softball	New Prague, Minn.	Biology
Lexy Langenfeld	Volleyball	Hastings, Minn.	Integrated Elem & Special Ed
Lindsay Maruska	Track & Field	Big Lake, Minn.	Industrial Engineering
Rhianna Rinke	Track & Field	North Branch, Minn.	Exercise Rehab Science

### MINNESOTA STATE (17)

Autumn Anderson	Track & Field	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	Dental Hygiene
JD Ekowa	Football	Plainfield, Ill.	Biology
Ivy Glade	Track/CC	Mankato, Minn.	Earth Science
Kaylee Jensen	Track & Field	Nekoosa, Wis.	Biochemistry; Biology; Gender & Women's Studies; Psychology
Kyle Johnson	Track & Field	Moorhead, Minn.	Mathematics & Music
Brittaney Kroll	Soccer	Plainview, Ill.	Communication Disorders
Ben Livorsi	Baseball	Minnetonka, Minn.	Sport Management
Brea Perron	Track & Field	Waukesha, Wis.	Psychology & Communications Disorders
Emmaline Polson	Basketball	Plainview, Minn.	Communication Studies
Torey Richards	Softball	Mankato, Minn.	Exercise Science & Psychology
Molly Riley	Soccer	White Bear Lake, Minn.	Nursing
Tori Roth	Swim/Dive	Muscatine, Iowa	Art
Rachael Shumski	Basketball	Granada, Minn.	Management
Lauryn Smith	Soccer	Maplewood, Minn.	Sport Management
Sarah Turpen	Track/CC	Charles City, Iowa	Social Work
Brooke Valiukas	Soccer	Woodbury, Minn.	Nursing
Jack Waletich	Baseball	Fairmont, Minn.	Finance & Accounting

### MSU MOORHEAD (19)

Logan Bruce	Football	Rosemount, Minn.	Accounting
Danielle Dokken	Golf	Elk River, Minn.	Speech/Language/Hearing Science
Lauren Fech	Basketball	Wausau, Wis.	Business Administration
Carly Jo Gamrath	Soccer	St. Michael, Minn.	Biology: Health & Medical Sciences
Ethan Gerbig	Football	DePere, Wis.	Biology: Health & Medical Sciences
Sarah Jacobson	Basketball	Fargo, N.D.	Biology: Health & Medical Sciences
Katie Kaminski	Swim/Dive	Sturgeon Bay, Wis.	Biology: Health & Medical Sciences
Brooklyn Liegel	Basketball	New Richland, Wis.	Elementary Inclusive Education
Jacob Mertens	Basketball	Devils Lake, N.D.	Exercise Science
Rachel Nguyen	Tennis	Westminster, Colo.	Computer Information Systems
Tomomi Nishihara	Soccer	Okayama, Japan	Athletic Training
Lauren Phillips	Soccer	Rockton, Ill.	Business Administration
Jill Safranski	Golf	Thief River Falls, Minn.	Accounting
Rachel Schumacher	Track & Field	Bismarck, N.D.	Finance & Business Admin
Logan Spooner	Track & Field	Mosinee, Wis.	Biology: Health & Medical Sciences & Biochemistry and Biotechnology
Ryan Stenson	Wrestling	Lindstrom, Minn.	Criminal Justice
Julia Wallace	Swim/Dive	Baxter, Minn.	Elementary Inclusive Ed
Jacqueline Wetteland	Soccer	Buckley Wash.	Paralegal
Lorissa Yuen	Tennis	Portland, Ore.	Accounting

### MINOT STATE (10)

Faith Brintle	Basketball	Alta Vista, Kan.	Management
Jacob Dahl	Basketball	Coeur D'alene, Idaho	Foreign Language Education
Cameron Deasy	Baseball	Brampton, Ontario	Criminal Justice
Mackenzie Froehlich	Volleyball	Swift Current, Sask.	Elementary Education
Roma'n Grissett Jr.	Football	Ruskin, Fla.	Nursing
Cade Hernandez	Football	Riverside, Calif.	Criminal Justice
Je-Mario Jones	Wrestling	Minot, N.D.	Computer Science
Sofia Lewis	Soccer	Minot, N.D.	Marketing
Abigail McGee	Track/CC	Butte, Mont.	Radiologic Technology
Jordan Will	FB/Wrestling	Minot, N.D.	Accounting

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### NORTHERN STATE (14)

Name	Sport	Hometown	Major
Alexis Boesl	Volleyball	Warner, S.D.	Education
Ben Carolin	Baseball	Grand Forks, N.D.	Business
Roko Dominovic	Basketball	Belgrade, Serbia	Psychology
Jake Flakus	Wrestling	Aberdeen, S.D.	Biology
Elizabeth Klamm	Track & Field	Valley Springs, S.D.	Biology
Chance Olson	Football	Langford, S.D.	Business
Emily Reiten	Soccer	Jamestown, N.D.	Business
Olivia Rud	Volleyball	Madison, S.D.	Biology
Sarah Schafer	Track/CC	Flasher, N.D.	English Literature
Emma Terveer	Softball	Brandon, S.D.	Education
Avery Terwilliger	Basketball	Humboldt, Iowa	Business
Tori Thorpe	Soccer	Pierre, S.D.	Education
Robert Vomacka	Football	Gregory, S.D.	Biology
Kylie Werner	Track & Field	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Education

### SIoux FALLS (18)

Victoria Ambrosio Cueto	Tennis	Santa Rosa, Argentina	MBA
Lily Frederickson	Soccer	Lino Lakes, Minn.	Social Work and Psychology
Krista Goerger	Volleyball	Cleveland, Minn.	Biology/Chemistry
Nina Groene	Swimming	Mannheim, Germany	Mathematics
Logan Hansen	Track & Field	Hurley, S.D.	Theology & Youth Ministry/Psychology
Sydney Hubbard	Golf	Onalaska, Wis.	Biology
Lexi Jonas	Golf	Hudson, Wis.	Exercise Science
Chantal Kasch	Swimming	Stade, Germany	Psychology & Criminal Justice
Rachel Klatt	Tennis	Sioux Falls, S.D.	Exercise Science
Payton Livingston	Baseball	Brandon, S.D.	Psychology, Sociology
Kyleigh Moran	Golf	Vermillion, S.D.	Exercise Science
Mercy Oyadare	Track & Field	Sioux City, Iowa	Criminal Justice/Media Studies
Aleah Rohde	Swimming	Anchorage, Alaska	Psychology
Charles Roskowiak	Baseball	Andover, Minn.	MBA
Bailey Rudebusch	Track & Field	Howard, S.D.	Exercise Science
Ty Smith	Football	Sioux Falls, S.D.	MBA
Joelle Thorfinnson	Tennis	Glenwood, Minn.	MBA
Cassie Van Beek	Softball	Rock Valley, Iowa	Elementary Education

### SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE (15)

Allie Cook	Soccer	Adel, Iowa	Marketing
Nick Dufault	Basketball	Waseca, Minn.	Finance
Emily Gillingham	Track/CC	Minneota, Minn.	Exercise Science
Payton Hjerleid	Volleyball	Mallard, Iowa	Physical Education/Health
Trey Johnson	Football	Apple Valley, Minn.	Exercise Science
Nathan Kuhn	Baseball	Eagan, Minn.	Marketing
Avery Lester	Track/CC	Sioux City, Iowa	Elementary Education
Caedyn Reinhardt	Volleyball	El Dorado, Kan.	Biology
Gabriela Reis	Swim/Dive	Petropolis, Brazil	Exercise Science
Keaton Rommel	Football	Davenport, Iowa	Political Science
Trey Sachs	Football	Elkhorn, Neb.	Exercise Science
Meghan Sullivan	Track/CC	Mason City, Iowa	English/Professional Writing
Sara Teske	Basketball	Lakeville, Minn.	Exercise Science
Jeremiah Van De Steeg	Baseball	Hutchinson, Minn.	Sports Management
Angela Young	Volleyball	Conde, S.D.	Marketing

### ST. CLOUD STATE (13)

Dominique Buechel	Track & Field	Sherwood, Wis.	Community Psychology
Cheresa Bouley	Track/CC	Zimmerman, Minn.	Life Sciences
Madison Brinkman	Swim/Dive	Grey Eagle, Minn.	Radiologic Technology
Victoria Czech	Track & Field	Chippewa Falls, Wis.	English Alyssa Doherty
Swim/Dive	Cudahy, Wis.	Athletic Training	
Kaitlyn Dziubinski	Soccer	St. Charles, Ill.	Marketing
Carly Ekstrom	Soccer	Cedar Falls, Iowa	Psychology
Kassidy Lange	Soccer	Grafton, Wis.	Biology
Sally Nelson	Soccer	Apple Valley, Minn.	Criminal Justice
Jake Shusterich	Baseball	Nipomo, Calif.	Technology Management
Madeline Torve	Volleyball	Loretto, Minn.	Marketing
Christina Ware	Swim/Dive	Ankeny, Iowa	Statistics
Tori Wortz	Basketball	Hutchinson, Minn.	Biomedical Science

### UPPER IOWA (14)

Name	Sport	Hometown	Major
Noah Antes	Golf	Rochester, Minn.	Chemistry & Biology
Sean Biernacki	Basketball	Camberwell, Australia	Liberal Arts
Brinn Grunder	Track & Field	Durant, Iowa	Health Service Administration
Grant Dieken	Track/CC	Clear Lake, Iowa	Secondary Education
Chris Harsh	Baseball	Des Moines, Iowa	Mental Health and Counseling
Devon Lawrence	Track & Field	Loves Park, Ill.	Exercise Science & Physical Therapy
Kaitlin Niedert	Volleyball	Independence, Iowa	Elementary Education
Tanner Prochaska	Wrestling	Stewartville, Minn.	Psychology
Jenna Ross	Track & Field	Shueyville, Iowa	Athletic Training
Sidney Schnor	Track/CC	Fairbank, Iowa	Agricultural Business
Christonna Shafanski	Track & Field	Stevens Point, Wis.	Biology
Mac Spotts	Wrestling	Nora Springs, Iowa	Agricultural Business
Molly Wenthold	Golf	West Union, Iowa	Biology
Cassidy Wilson	Track & Field	Delhi, Iowa	Criminal Justice

### WAYNE STATE (16)

Alyssa Ballenger	Volleyball	Ankeny, Iowa	Communication Studies
Brittany Bongartz	Basketball	Ramsey, Minn.	Computer Systems
Jaci Brahmer	Volleyball	Pierce, Neb.	Applied Health & Sport Physiology
Halley Busse	Basketball	Winthrop, Minn.	Health and Physical Education
Maddie Duffy	Volleyball	Fridley, Minn.	Chemistry
Dylan Emanuel	Baseball	North Bend, Neb.	Chemistry/Pre Med
Brock Hegarty	Track/CC	Fremont, Neb.	Computer Science
Ashley Hernandez	Softball	Omaha, Neb.	Business/Accounting
Madeline Moser	Softball	Central City, Neb.	Elementary Education
Erin Norling	Basketball	Loretto, Minn.	Biology/Pre Physician Assistant
Bailey Peckham	Track/CC	Bankelman, Neb.	Biology/Pre Dental
Aaron Ras	Baseball	Bancroft, Neb.	Psychology
Megan Schuster	Soccer	Arvada, Colo.	Biology/Pre-Vet
Sarah Stang	Track & Field	Herman, Neb.	Human Resource Management
Kenzie Sullivan	Track & Field	Laurens, Iowa	Business/Marketing
Jacee Weber	Volleyball	Dorchester, Neb.	Biology/Pre Med

### WINONA STATE (18)

Miguel Benjamin	Football	Rochester, Minn.	Criminal Justice & Spanish
Camryn Cadiz	Soccer	Buffalo Grove, Ill.	Movement Science
Matthew Chandler	Golf	Chester, Nova Scotia	Business Administration
Cole Cohorst	Cross Country	Green Bay, Wis.	Finance; Accounting; Business Admin
Audrey Delich	Tennis	Eveleth, Minn.	Psychology
Carter Duxbury	Football	Chatfield, Minn.	Elementary Education
Tyler Hughes	Football	Onalaska, Wis.	Accounting
Katie Lorenz	Track/CC	Apple Valley, Minn.	Nursing
Mya Lubben	Tennis	Buffalo, Minn.	Math Secondary Education
Bre Maloney	Volleyball	Roseville, Minn.	Marketing
Rina Niehoff	Tennis	Waukesha, Wis.	Social Science Education
Brady Omtvedt	Cross Country	Madison Lake, Minn.	Accounting
Becca Pagel	Volleyball	Sumner, Iowa	Human Resources Mgmt
Zac Stange	Baseball	Eau Claire, Wis.	Biology
Ross Stevensen	Cross Country	Owatonna, Minn.	Biology
Sarah Suits	Volleyball	Robbinsdale, Minn.	Movement Science
Georgette Topalis	Soccer	Arlington Heights, Ill.	Psychology
Carly Vandenhouten	Track/CC	Oshkosh, Wis.	Mathematics & Statistics

### NSIC MYLES BRAND TOTALS BY YEAR:

2020-21:	228
2019-20:	194
2018-19:	156
2017-18:	147
2016-17:	142
2015-16:	132
2014-15:	113
2013-14:	96
2012-13:	80
2011-12:	83
2010-11:	82
2009-10:	75

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