

ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY



HILLCAT ATHLETICS

2018 RSU ANNUAL REPORT



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

DR. LARRY RICE | RSU PRESIDENT



Rogers State University is the Tulsa metro area’s public university, providing opportunities for young men and women to better themselves through education. Our Athletic Department develops our student-athletes to compete in their athletic endeavors, while also preparing them for a successful transition to life after college.

This annual report stands as testament to the remarkable year our student-athletes have experienced. Beyond results on the field, our student-athletes also exhibited a commitment to community service that sets the example for everyone with whom they come in contact.

RSU student-athletes from all sports were involved in community service activities touching the lives of countless individuals throughout our service area. Our student-athletes (representing every sport) participated more than 5,000 volunteer hours during the past year. As you’ll read elsewhere in this book, this commitment to service resulted in the Hillcats earning the inaugural Heartland Conference Community Service and Student-Athlete Impact Award. These young men and women represent the best of what it means to be a Hillcat.

Our campus’ close-knit family atmosphere and commitment to academic excellence define the essence of an RSU education. Our students say the small college experience and the personal attention they receive sets RSU apart from other schools. You’ll see it in our small classes (where less than 2% of classes have more than 50 students enrolled) as well as with our faculty and staff who know students by name and are personally invested in their success.

We are focused on preparing our students for making a difference in the wider world, whether through employment after graduation or continuing their education at top graduate programs in fields such as medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, law, engineering, and more.

I’m also honored to note that nearly half of last year’s graduating class earned their college degree without taking on student loans thanks to our affordable tuition and commitment to securing financial aid for deserving students.

RSU has made strategic investments in its physical campus. In the past 15 years, we have constructed three student apartment communities on our main campus in Claremore to strengthen our position as Tulsa metropolitan area’s only public, residential four-year university. Along with campus housing, RSU constructed the adjacent Chapman Dining Hall to provide healthy dining options, while also including a basement storm shelter large enough to hold all campus residents. The university has upgraded academic facilities in Baird Hall and the Stratton Taylor Library, as well as opened new campus facilities in Bartlesville and Pryor. Thanks to support from the student body, we have invested in our athletic programs through new or remodeled facilities at Soldier Field, the Hillcat Athletic Center, the Diamond Sports Complex and Bushyhead Fieldhouse.

Thank you for your continued support for RSU and its athletics program. The support of our extended Hillcat family has created incredible opportunities for these young men and women to fully develop their academic skills while strengthening their personal values and character.

Go Hillcats!

Sincerely,



LETTER FROM THE AD

CHRIS RATCLIFF | RSU DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS



It was a banner year for RSU Athletics!

The 2017-18 season saw three Rogers State teams claim Heartland Conference championships.

Men's Cross Country, led by All-American and three-time Heartland Conference Runner of the Year Baylor Harvey, brought home the conference title with a one point victory for the first conference championship in the program's history. Head coach Chris McCormick was named Heartland Conference Coach of the Year and Elijah Mackey earned Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year recognition. McCormick's squad also reached the NCAA Division II Championship for the first time.

Men's Golf, under first-year head coach Steve Brown, clinched the program's first Heartland Conference championship with a one-stroke victory after trailing by five strokes entering the final round. The Hillcats fired a 279 team score in the third round to post a school record 54-hole total of 845. Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year Luke Palmowski led the way firing the best round of his young career with a five-under par 67 including a birdie on the final hole of the tournament.

Softball earned its first Heartland Conference Championship in program history with a 5-4 marathon victory in 13 innings, on a walk-off single by sophomore Megan Porter. The championship punched the ticket for the Hillcats to the NCAA Division II Softball South Central Regional in Grand Junction, Colo. It was the pinnacle of an impressive season for Coach Andrea Vaughan, who was named Heartland Conference Coach of the Year, as she and her squad improved by 10-wins in conference play from last season.

In total, Hillcat Athletics saw three coaches named Heartland Conference Coach of the Year for their respective sport, four student-athletes named Conference Freshman of the Year, two All-Americans, and one Heartland Conference Runner of the Year. RSU finished with 13 First Team All-Conference selections, 12 Second-Team, six Third-Team, and three Honorable Mention selections for 2017-18.

In the classroom, RSU student-athletes were impressive as well. Ten graduating student-athletes were named either the outstanding or distinguished graduates for their respective majors. Additionally, 125 student-athletes were named to the Heartland Conference Honor Roll with 73 of those Hillcats holding a 3.5 or better cumulative GPA to be named to the Conference President's Honor Roll.

In this annual report we are showcasing what it means to be a part of the Hillcat family. Our student-athletes, coaches, and staff have represented the University in competition, in the classroom, and throughout the community. This report highlights many of our triumphs throughout the year and provides a glimpse into the bright future of RSU Athletics.

Thank you for joining the Hillcat family in our journey this year. We are truly appreciative of all the student-athletes, coaches, staff, supporters, and fans. Without your unwavering support we could not be successful.

Go Hillcats!

Sincerely,



ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY

IT ALL STARTS HERE

Since being established as a four-year regional university in 1999, Rogers State University has quickly developed into a dynamic university widely recognized for its high-quality academic programs, distance learning options, and high-technology learning environment.

RSU stands as the only public, four-year, residential university in the Tulsa metropolitan area, which allows students the opportunity to fully immerse themselves in the college experience while living in one of its three on-campus student apartment communities. Students also may live at home while enjoying the flexibility of taking classes at RSU's three physical campuses (Claremore, Bartlesville and Pryor) or through the nationally recognized RSU Online program.

Whatever a student's path, RSU provides rigorous educational preparation coupled with personalized attention attained through small class sizes and faculty committed to student success. RSU offers a wide variety of bachelor's and associate degrees, and it most recently added its first graduate program featuring a Master of Business Administration.

DISTINGUISHED ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

Academic quality has long been a hallmark of the RSU experience, with highly regarded programs in health care, biological sciences, social sciences, criminal justice and business. RSU's nursing program is considered one of the most rigorous in the state with graduates consistently exceeding state and national averages for nursing exams.

The university has quickly established itself as an institution of choice in the Tulsa metro for students who plan to study biology and apply to medical school, dental school or other related medical-professional graduate programs. In the past few years, more than 100 RSU students have been accepted into health-related graduate programs.

RSU students work closely with faculty members, many of whom hold doctoral degrees or the highest degrees available in their fields from esteemed institutions across the nation. The RSU Honors Program provides an atmosphere where scholars can challenge themselves academically through specialized courses, student/faculty joint research projects and a strong emphasis on service learning in the community. The President's Leadership Class (PLC), a four-year scholarship program that fosters personal and professional development, was designed for RSU students who have demonstrated leadership abilities.

Students are able to participate in a broad selection of internships, including The Washington Center Internship Program, a nationally recognized program placing students with private, public and nonprofit organizations in Washington, D.C. The university offers international study-at-large programs to provide students with opportunities to see the world, learn about other cultures and enrich their educational experience in locations that have included Italy, Wales, Scotland, Ireland and Korea.

GROWTH IN LEARNING FACILITIES

Visitors to RSU's main Claremore campus are quick to praise its attractive, collegiate appearance that blends remodeled historic buildings alongside newly constructed facilities.

The Dr. Carolyn Taylor Center, which opened in 2009, has become the centerpiece of the main campus in Claremore. This two-level, 50,000-square-foot facility combines student services programs under one roof, serves as a central location for students to study and socialize, and provides a focal point for the RSU campus in Claremore. The facility also offers ballrooms, conference centers, and meeting rooms for the community.



A major expansion and renovation of Baird Hall on the Claremore campus was completed in 2010. The new Baird Hall has doubled in size and contains many of the leading-edge features associated with higher learning today, including modern classrooms, a performance studio, a television production studio, an art gallery, and an outdoor classroom for learning outdoors on sunny days.

Opened in 2004, the Stratton Taylor Library features extensive printed and digital informational resources, electronic databases, multimedia collections, study areas, reading rooms, computer stations, and classrooms. Additional academic facilities include a full-powered public television station, a student-run radio station, a 100-acre conservation reserve, advanced nursing facilities, an EMS classroom featuring a full-sized ambulance, art facilities, and the historic Will Rogers Auditorium.

The Claremore campus houses RSU's residential community with capacity for more than 800 students in three student apartment communities (constructed in 2001, 2011 and 2015) and family housing. Residents can choose from several floor plans within the housing communities, which are adjacent to Chapman Dining Hall (opened in 2014). Chapman Dining Hall features a dedicated emergency generator for food preparation during long-term power outages and a basement storm shelter large enough to hold all campus residents.

The RSU campus in Bartlesville is located in a nine-story building in the heart of downtown and serves as the educational anchor for the revitalized business district. The Pryor campus is located in a two-story, 38,000-square-foot facility (opened in 2014) in the MidAmerica Industrial Park, which donated the facility to address the region's workforce needs. The largest single gift in the university's history, the approximately \$10 million project included site development and construction on the 83-acre property.

A STORIED HISTORY

RSU holds a unique position as Oklahoma's newest four-year regional university, but with roots that extend back to the earliest days of statehood. RSU was founded in 1909 as Eastern University Preparatory School in Claremore. The school prepared the daughters and sons of area residents to attend college. Historic Preparatory Hall, known for its iconic gold dome, was the first building on the school's campus.

However, the school closed only a few years after it opened. Taking its place was the storied Oklahoma Military Academy (OMA), which operated on the Hill from 1919 to 1971. Known as the "West Point of the Southwest," OMA has an extensive register of graduates who became great leaders, both in military and civilian life. More than 2,500 OMA graduates served in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. More than 100 graduates gave their lives in service to their country.

In 1971, OMA closed and Claremore Junior College opened on the Hill, serving more than 400 students. The junior college grew rapidly in the 1970s, and by the time it was renamed Rogers State College in 1982, the institution boasted a variety of associate degree programs, distance learning capabilities, a new radio and television station and intercollegiate athletics.

In 1999, the Oklahoma Legislature renamed the institution Rogers State University and charged it with seeking accreditation as a four-year university offering bachelor's and associate degrees. Its first graduate program, a Master of Business Administration, launched in 2014 and graduated its first class in May 2016.



WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY



AVERY BUCK | FR.

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.): Chris McCormick (8th Season)
Office Phone: (918) 343-7689
Email: cmccormick@rsu.edu

HISTORY

First Year: 2010
Conf. Titles (Individual): 1 – Brenda Felipe (2011)
NAIA Nat'l. Champion App.: 1 – Brenda Felipe (2011)

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

- 1 Conference Runner of the Year
- 7 All-Heartland Conference Selections
- 4 All-Sooner Athletic Conference Selections
- 3 Conference Runner of the Week Selections

Academic Awards

- 33 Academic All-Conference Selections
- 2 CoSIDA Academic All-District@
- 1 Capital One Academic All-District@
- 2 USTFCCCA All-Academic Team
- 2 D2ADA Academic Achievement Honorees
- 33 President's Honor Roll Selections
- 25 Dean's Honor Roll Selections

SEASON REVIEW

The Rogers State women's cross country team showcased an experienced lineup for head coach Chris McCormick, in his eighth season at the program's helm. During their six meets of the season, the Hillcats were led by seniors Hailey Gillispie and J'Cee Holmes as the duo took the top two spots for the navy and red in each race.

RSU started the season with a sixth place finish at the UCO Land Run. Gillispie paced the Hillcats in her first race of her senior campaign as she broke 20 minutes in the 5,000 meter course in 19:35.4. Holmes was right behind in 20:01.12 to just barely miss going under the 20 minute mark.



(From Left to Right) **Row 1:** Taylor Lee, Brianna Valles, Ellen Thomas, Avery Buck, Haley Gillispie, Elizabeth Reidlinger
Row 2: Hannah Taylor, Beth Terhune, Malinda Moore, J'Cee Holmes

In a loaded field at the Southern Stampede, the Hillcats continued their season with a 22nd place finish. Gillispie again led the Hillcats in 95th with a time of 19:09.3 in the 5,000 meter race with Holmes right behind in 19:23.35. Traveling to the Greater Louisville Cross Country Classic for the first time, the Hillcats took 13th as a team with Gillispie in front for RSU in 15th overall in a time of 19:02.08. Gillispie and Holmes were one-two for RSU at the FHSU Tiger Open with only six seconds separating the two seniors. Gillispie placed 69th in 20:07.8 with Holmes in 76th in 20:13.2 on a wet and raining morning in Victoria, Kan.

The Hillcats placed sixth at the Heartland Conference Championships and Gillispie earned All-Heartland Conference First Team with a 10th-place finish. RSU concluded the season at the South Central Region Championship and placed 21st overall. Holmes paced the Cats in 59th in 23:25.52 in the 6,000 meter event. The Hillcats showed success in the classroom with Gillispie being named a Google Cloud Academic All-American as selected by CoSIDA. In her final year of eligibility, she carried a 4.0 GPA while starting her masters of business administration at RSU.





CHRIS McCORMICK
HEAD COACH

Chris McCormick completed his eighth year as the head coach of the Rogers State men's and women's cross country teams as the only coach in program history since its inception in April 2010.

McCormick led the men's cross country team to its first-ever Heartland Conference championship in 2017 and he was named the 2017 Heartland Conference Coach of the Year. The navy and red made their first appearance in the NCAA Division II National Championship and finished 26th in the nation after being ranked in the NCAA Division II Top 25 Poll most of the season. Baylor Harvey earned All-American honors for the second straight season in cross country along with being the Heartland Conference individual champion and Runner of the Year for third seasons. Five Hillcats were selected All-Heartland Conference First Team and Elijah Mackey was named the Freshman of the Year.

For the women's team, McCormick saw senior Hailey Gillispie earn All-Heartland Conference First Team honors after finishing 10th at the Heartland Conference Championship.

McCormick earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Education from East Central and was a member of the Tigers' track and field program. He twice competed at the NAIA Track and Field National Championships, placing 8th and 11th in the marathon.



HAILEY GILLIPSIE

Hailey Gillispie made the most of her final season in the navy and red. The senior from Henryetta, Oklahoma capped her career as an All-Heartland Conference First Team selection after placing 10th at the Heartland Conference Championships to earn all-league honors for the first time in her four-year RSU cross country career. But what Gillispie did in the classroom might be more impressive. After completing her bachelor's degree in only three years at RSU, Gillispie started a master's of business administration and carried a perfect 4.0 grade point average while being an all-conference student-athlete in both cross country and track & field. For her success in the classroom and on the course, Gillispie was named a Google Cloud Academic All-American; becoming the first Academic All-American in the history of the RSU women's cross country program.





MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY



BAYLOR HARVEY | SR.

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.): Chris McCormick (8th Season)
Office Phone: (918) 343-7689
Email: cmccormick@rsu.edu

HISTORY

First Year: 2010
NCAA Div. II All-Am.: 2
 – Baylor Harvey (2017 & 2016)
Team Conf. Titles: 1 (2017)
Conf. Titles (Individual): 3
 – Baylor Harvey (2017, 2016 & 2014)
NCAA National Championship App.:
 2 – Baylor Harvey (2016 & 2017)
 1 – Team Appearance (2017)
NAIA Nat'l Championship App.:
 1 – Caleb Clark (2010)

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

2 – NCAA Division II All-American
 2 – NCAA Division II All-South Central Region
 3 – Conference Runner of the Year
 1 – Conference Coach of the Year
 2 – Conference Freshman of the Year
 13 – All-Heartland Conference Selections
 1 – All-Sooner Athletic Conference Selection
 7 – Conference Runner of the Week Selections

Academic Awards

24 Academic All-Conference Selections
 2 CoSIDA Academic All-District®
 2 Capital One Academic All-District®
 1 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete
 1 D2ADA Academic Achievement Honoree
 5 President's Honor Roll Selections
 17 Dean's Honor Roll Selections

SEASON REVIEW

The Rogers State men's cross country team put together a stellar season in 2017. The Hillcats captured their first-ever Heartland Conference championship with a team win at the Heartland Conference Championship race in Wichita, Kansas with five RSU runners earning All-Heartland Conference honors, including Heartland Conference Runner of the Year and league champion Baylor Harvey. Eighth-year head coach Chris McCormick was named the Heartland Conference Coach of the Year with Elijah Mackey garnering Heartland Freshman of the Year honors. Along with the league title, the Cats advanced to the NCAA Division II National Championship, placing 26th overall. For the first time in program history, the navy and red were ranked in the top 25 in NCAA Division II.



(From Left to Right) **Row 1:** Tristan Owens, Byron Ratliff, Chris Largent, Ryan Alexander, Cruz Chavez, Elijah Upton, Daniel Driskill, Baylor Harvey **Row 2:** Justin Noble, Brooks Cataudella, Nick Williams, Elijah Mackey, Colton Green, Seth Whittington, Barrett Wellborn

Harvey repeated as an All-American with a 16th-place finish at the NCAA Division II Championships to become a three-time All-American. He once again grew stronger as the race continued and finished in 31:27.0 in the 10,000 meter race in Evansville, Indiana.

Five Hillcats placed in the top 12 at the Heartland Conference Championship to give the Cats the win by one point over Dallas Baptist University. Baylor Harvey won the league championship for the third time in his career. Seth Whittington, Elijah Mackey and Colton Green went sixth through eighth with senior Ryan Alexander earning the key fifth spot in 12th to push the navy and red to the conference championship. Harvey, Whittington, Mackey, Green and Alexander earned All-Conference First Team honors.

RSU placed in the top three in their four regular season races before postseason. The Cats started the year with a team win at the UCO Land Run as the navy and red put five runners in the top 11 to dominate the race. The Hillcats were the top NCAA Division II team at the Southern Stampede and finished third behind two nationally ranked teams at the Greater Louisville Cross Country Classic. RSU qualified for the NCAA National Championship with a seventh place finish at the NCAA South Central Regional Championship.





CHRIS McCORMICK
HEAD COACH

Chris McCormick completed his eighth year as the head coach of the Rogers State men's and women's cross country teams as the only coach in program history since its inception in April 2010.

McCormick led the men's cross country team to its first-ever Heartland Conference championship in 2017 and he was named the 2017 Heartland Conference Coach of the Year. The navy and red made their first appearance in the NCAA Division II National Championship and finished 26th in the nation after being ranked in the NCAA Division II Top 25 Poll most of the season. Baylor Harvey earned All-American honors for the second straight season in cross country along with being the Heartland Conference individual champion and Runner of the Year for third seasons. Five Hillcats were selected All-Heartland Conference First Team and Elijah Mackey was named the Freshman of the Year.

For the women's team, McCormick saw senior Hailey Gillispie earn All-Heartland Conference First Team honors after finishing 10th at the Heartland Conference Championship.

McCormick earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Education from East Central and was a member of the Tigers' track and field program. He twice competed at the NAIA Track and Field National Championships, placing 8th and 11th in the marathon.



RYAN ALEXANDER

A four-year runner for the Hillcats, Ryan Alexander came up big when it mattered most in his senior season. The local product from Claremore, Oklahoma ran the best race of his career at the Heartland Conference Championships to propel the Hillcats to their first-ever Heartland Conference championship. Alexander took the fifth and final spot in the team scoring for RSU with a personal-best time of 25:57.9 to earn the 12th spot overall. His place gave the Hillcats the league title by one point over previous conference champion Dallas Baptist University plus he garnered All-Heartland Conference First Team honors for the first time in his four-year career in the navy and red.





WOMEN'S SOCCER



HANNAH MUSHISKY | FR.

WOMEN'S SOCCER QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.): Scott Parkinson (2nd Season)
Record (Pct.): 19-13-6
Office Phone: (918) 343-7996
Email: sparkinson@rsu.edu
Asst. Coaches (Yrs.): Kelsi Tuthill (2nd Season)

2017 SEASON-IN-REVIEW

Record: 13-4-3
Home: 8-1-1
Away: 5-3-1
Neutral: 0-0-1
Heartland Conf. (Finish): 9-3-2 (3rd)
Home: 5-1-1
Away: 4-2-1

HISTORY

First Year: 2007
All-Time Record (Yrs.): 107-86-14 (11)
Home: 62-36-9 (.621)
Away: 43-48-4 (.474)
Neutral: 2-2-1 (.500)
Heartland Conf.: 17-31-5 (.368)
Sooner Athletic Conf.: 36-19-4 (.644)
Postseason: 8-5-2 (.600)

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

- 2 NAIA All-America Selections
- 2 NSCAA NAIA All-Southwest Region Selections
- 3 All-Region VI Selections
- 1 Conference Offensive Player of the Year Selection
- 1 Conference Newcomer of the Year Selection
- 1 Conference Goalkeeper of the Year Selection
- 1 Conference Coach of the Year Selection
- 4 All-Heartland Conference Selections
- 18 All-Sooner Athletic Conference Selections
- 3 NAIA National Player of the Week Selections
- 9 Conference Offensive Player of the Week Selections
- 11 Conference Defensive Player of the Week Selections

Academic Awards

- 56 Academic All-Conference Selections
- 4 Capital One Academic All-America Selections®
- 8 Capital One Academic All-District Selections®
- 5 NSCAA Scholar All-South Region Selections
- 8 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes
- 8 D2ADA Academic Achievement Honorees
- 1 NSCAA Academic Team Award
- 1 NAIA Scholar Team Award
- 33 President's Honor Roll Selections
- 38 Dean's Honor Roll Selections

SEASON REVIEW

The Rogers State women's soccer team made one of the biggest single-season turnarounds in Heartland Conference history, going 9-3-2 in the conference and 13-4-3 overall in the 2017 season under second-year head coach Scott Parkinson. The Hillcats advanced to the Heartland Conference Championship game for the first time in program history. The 13 wins in a season were the most for the Cats since 15 victories in 2009 and were the most wins for the navy and red since joining the Heartland Conference.

The Hillcats put together the best defensive season in school history. RSU totaled a school record 11 shutouts and allowed the least amount of goals ever at 12 for the whole season of 20 games. Goalkeeper Taylor Sargent set a school record with all 11 shutouts and a 0.58 goals against average.



(From Left to Right) **Row 1:** Lexi Ellingsen, Marlaina Trahant, Maggie Brown, Bria Salazar, Amanda Tewes, Katarina Perez, BreAnn Tolleson, LeighAnn Craig, Alexis Pryor **Row 2:** Jordan Downing, Alex Wynn, Savannah Melton, Madison Murray, Hannah Mushisky, Mackenzie Belyeu, Abigail Resendiz **Row 3:** Janell Hernandez, Bailey Stringer, Daisy Cardona, Taylor Stover, Scott Parkinson, Kelsi Tuthill, Taylor Sargent, Melissa Cardenas, Tess Dominic, Megan Bell

Scott Parkinson was named the Heartland Conference Coach of the Year due to the turnaround with Bria Salazar garnering Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year honors. A total of eight Hillcats earned All-Heartland honors and five were selected All-South Central Region.

RSU started the 2017 campaign with six straight wins, including five by shutout, to cruise out to a 6-0 record. After a stretch of three losses in four matches, the Cats rallied to end the regular season with an eight-match unbeaten streak that included a win over conference power St. Edward's, 2-1.

In their first-ever appearance in the Heartland Conference Tournament, the Cats advanced to the championship match with a thrilling 6-5 win in penalties after a 2-2 draw with SEU. In the championship, RSU came up short at Dallas Baptist University to end the season.

Daisy Cardona, Hannah Mushisky, Bria Salazar, Taylor Sargent and Melissa Cardenas were selected All-South Central Region by the United Soccer Coaches. Those five along with Alex Wynn, Jordan Downing and Lexi Ellingsen were named All-Heartland Conference, the most all-league selections for the program in its history.





SCOTT PARKINSON
2017-2018 HEAD COACH

Scott Parkinson, the 2017 Heartland Conference Coach of the Year, left the RSU program to join the professional ranks. Parkinson, who turned the RSU women's soccer team in two short years, was selected as the top assistant coach for Utah Royals FC of the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL), the highest level of women's professional soccer in the United States.

Parkinson served as the head coach of the RSU women's soccer program for two seasons, and he was named the Heartland Conference Coach of the Year in 2017 as he guided the Hillcats to one of the largest turnarounds in Heartland Conference history. Parkinson led the navy and red to a 13-4-3 record and a runner-up finish in the Heartland Conference Tournament. He had a school-record eight Hillcats earn All-Heartland Conference this season, including the Heartland Freshman of the Year in Bria Salazar, and five were named All-South Central Region. In a record-breaking 2017 season, RSU conceded the least amount of goals in a season in RSU history with only 12 allowed and the team totaled a school-record 11 shutouts.



YOLANDA THOMAS
HEAD COACH

Yolanda Thomas is in her first season as the head coach for the RSU women's soccer program.

Thomas comes to RSU after serving three seasons as an assistant coach for the University of Tulsa's women's program under head coach Kyle Cussen. She served as the recruiting coordinator, travel coordinator, director of player development and academic and sports performance liaison. During her time at TU, Thomas coached five all-conference honorees, including The 2016 American Midfielder of the Year in Rachel Thun. Thomas helped the Golden Hurricane total 24 wins during her tenure as an assistant coach, including a 13-6-1 mark in 2015.

Before her time at TU, Thomas recorded a 38-8 record in four seasons as the head coach at Edmond Memorial High School. She led EMHS to a 2014 Oklahoma State runner-up finish, the program's first state championship appearance in more than a decade. Thomas totaled 15 all-state selections in her four years and coached 11 players who went on to play collegiate soccer.

Thomas played four seasons for Oklahoma State and earned a bachelor's degree in human services in 2009 and a master's degree in international studies in 2010. A four-year letterwinner, Thomas was a three-time NSCAA All-American and NSCAA Scholar All-America honoree. She was twice named the Big 12 Player of the Year.



LEXI ELLINGSEN
DEFENDER

A four-year starter for the Hillcats, Lexi Ellingsen played an instrumental role on a record-breaking defense. Starting in 19 straight matches as an outside back, the senior captain led the team to a school-record 11 shutouts in 2017 with only 12 goals allowed all season. Ellingsen helped the Cats to one of the biggest turnarounds in Heartland Conference history with a 13-4-3 record. She was named All-Heartland Conference for the first time in her career in 2017 as a defender. Off the field, Ellingsen served as the president of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee for two years. She helped SAAC raise money for Make-A-Wish and was very active in the community at local schools and nursing homes, including the annual Senior Prom put on for local senior citizens. For her contributions to RSU, she was awarded the Hillcat Award, given to the most outstanding student-athlete each year at the annual OMA's Award Show.





MEN'S SOCCER



JEREMY HOELZER | JR.

MEN'S SOCCER QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.):	Derek Larkin (11th Season)
Record (Pct.):	106-76-22 (.563)
Office Phone:	(918) 343-7995
Email:	dlarkin@rsu.edu
Asst. Coaches (Yrs.):	Mitchell Sowerby (2nd Season) Bryan Weygand (9th Season)

2017 SEASON-IN-REVIEW

Record:	8-7-3
Home:	6-1-1
Away:	2-6-2
Heartland Conf. (Finish):	5-6-3 (7th)
Home:	5-1-1
Away:	0-5-2

HISTORY

First Year:	2007
All-Time Record (Yrs.):	106-76-22 (11)
Home:	66-32-9 (.659)
Away:	37-43-13 (.473)
Neutral:	2-1-0 (.667)
Heartland Conf.:	2-1-0 (.667)
Sooner Athletic Conf.:	26-18-8 (.577)
Postseason:	3-7 (.300)

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

- 6 NSCAA All-South Central Region Selections
- 2 D2CAA All-Region Selections
- 2 NSCAA NAIA All-Southwest Region
- 1 USL PRO Combine Attendee
- 1 Conference Player of the Year Selection
- 12 All-Heartland Conference Selections
- 1 Heartland Conference All-Tournament Team
- 19 All-Sooner Athletic Conference Selections
- 1 NAIA National Player of the Week Selection
- 9 Conference Offensive Player of the Week Selections
- 16 Conference Defensive Player of the Week Selections

Academic Awards

- 60 Academic All-Conference Selections
- 1 Capital One Academic All-America Selection®
- 4 Capital One Academic All-District Selections®
- 1 NSCAA Scholar All-America College Division
- 3 NSCAA Scholar All-South Region Selections

SEASON REVIEW

The Rogers State men's soccer team put together another winning record, its nine winning season in the program's 11 years, with an 8-7-3 record as the Hillcats played one of the toughest schedules in NCAA Division II men's soccer. RSU was outstanding at Soldier Field with a 6-1-1 record that included a 1-1 draw with No. 3-ranked Midwestern State.

The navy and red got out to a fast start, going 5-1 through the first six matches. To open the season, the Cats went to Colorado to defeat top RMAC competition at CSU-Pueblo, 2-0. RSU earned a 1-0 win over nationally ranked Fort Hays State in the home opener to give RSU head coach Derek Larkin his 100th career win for the RSU men's soccer program. After a dominating 4-0 win at Southwest Baptist, the Hillcats began Heartland Conference play with home wins over Lubbock Christian and UT Permian Basin for the 5-1 start.



(From Left to Right) **Row 1:** Kevin Kwarteng, Juma Byabusha, Ellis Ashworth, Riggie Gonzalez, Declan Fitzpatrick, Michael Turner, Noah Robson, Jeremy Hoelzer, Abe Young, Jake Simpson, Chris Sowder **Row 2:** Roman Gutierrez, Igbinose Isere, Jarred Cooper, Dillon Dean, Cody Gammill, Walker Farrar, Logan Smith, Blake Costello, Chris Moore, Trey Robertson **Row 3:** Jordan Watson, Jose Ortega, Jaxon Pitt, Callum Hubble, Derek Larkin, Mitchell Sowerby, Jesus Ramirez, Erol Banuelos, Pedro Garcia, Oscar Palacios

A four-match league road trip saw the Cats total only one point as the navy and red played at two nationally-ranked teams in MSU and St. Edward's along with matches at Oklahoma Christian and Dallas Baptist University.

Returning home, the Hillcats defeated Eastern New Mexico before the 1-1 draw with No. 3 Midwestern State at Soldier Field on Oct. 12. RSU ended the season with a four-match unbeaten streak at Soldier Field as the Cats closed the season with back-to-back home wins over Oklahoma Christian and Newman on Senior Day. Four Hillcats earned All-Heartland Conference honors in defender Ellis Ashworth, forward Jake Simpson and midfielders Declan Fitzpatrick and Jordan Watson. Simpson led the Cats with five goals in 14 contests with Watson adding three goals and two assists. Fitzpatrick paced the team with four assists, and Ashworth anchored the back line with 17 starts on defense. RSU excelled in the classroom with Simpson and Ashworth being named to the United Soccer Coaches Association Scholar All-West Region Team and Simpson garnered CoSIDA Academic All-District.





DEREK LARKIN
HEAD COACH

Derek Larkin is in his 11th season as the head coach of the RSU men's soccer team. Larkin earned his 100th career win on College Hill with a 1-0 win over national power Fort Hays State. The Hillcats finished the 2017 with an 8-7-3, their nine winning record in the 11 years of the program. Four Cats were named All-Heartland Conference. The navy and red were an impressive 6-1-1 at home at Soldier Field in 2017.

The only head coach in program history; Larkin compiled back-to-back 10 win seasons in 2016 and 2015, including a win over No. 3-ranked St. Edward's in 2016. Under Larkin's tutelage in 2016, RSU reached the Heartland Conference Tournament becoming the first team in school history to play in NCAA Division II postseason competition.

In 11 years as the head men's soccer coach, Larkin has gathered a 106-76-22 record for a .563 winning percentage. He previously served as head coach at Bishop Kelley High School, Bacone College, Catoosa High School and Missouri Valley College. A four-year starter during his playing days at Missouri Valley College, Larkin was a two-year captain leading the Vikings to two Heart of America Athletic Conference Championships. He was twice named first-team all-conference and second team-all region.



DECLAN FITZPATRICK
FORWARD

After sitting out the 2017 season, Declan Fitzpatrick made the most of his one season in the navy and red. Appearing in 16 games in the midfield, Fitzpatrick led the team with four assists and added two goals during his only season at RSU. He was at his best on Senior Day, his final collegiate match, totaling the contest's opening goal and adding an assist in the 3-1 victory over Newman. The Falkirk, Scotland native netted his first goal for RSU in a win over Southwest Baptist. Fitzpatrick, who was known for his physical play in the midfield, was named All-Heartland Conference in his final season in the navy and red.





WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



DARIAN JACKSON | SO.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.):	Bobby Cope (4th Season)
Record (Pct.):	40-67 (.374)
Office Phone:	(918) 343-7883
Email:	rcope@rsu.edu
Asst. Coaches (Yrs.):	April Ponds (3rd Season) Ashlee Pitts (1st Season)

2017-18 SEASON-IN-REVIEW

Record:	10-17
Home:	9-5
Away:	1-11
Neutral:	0-1
Heartland Conf. (Finish):	5-9 (5th)
Home:	4-3
Away:	1-6

HISTORY

First Year:	2007-08
All-Time Record (Yrs.):	170-149 (111)
Home:	98-61 (.616)
Away:	60-83 (.420)
Neutral:	12-15 (.444)
Heartland Conf.:	29-57 (.337)
Sooner Athletic Conf.:	73-53 (.579)
Postseason:	8-11 (.421)

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

- 6 NAIA All-America Selections
- 1 Conference Newcomer of the Year Selection
- 2 Conference Defensive Player of the Year Selections
- 1 NAIA National Championship All-Tournament Team Selection
- 6 All-Heartland Conference Selections
- 21 All-Sooner Athletic Conference Selections
- 4 Conference All-Tournament Selections
- 7 Conference Player of the Week Selections

Academic Awards

- 33 Academic All-Conference Selections
- 1 D2ADA Academic Achievement Honoree
- 1 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete
- 1 CoSIDA Academic All-District
- 27 President's Honor Roll Selections
- 18 Dean's Honor Roll Selections

SEASON REVIEW

The Rogers State women's basketball team improved by two wins in 2017-18 to a 10-17 record under fourth-year head coach Bobby Cope. The Hillcats made postseason for the second straight season with an appearance in the Heartland Conference Tournament.

The navy and red started the season 2-0 with two victories at the Holiday Inn Express – Claremore Conference Challenge. After a 3-1 start, RSU lost nine of 10 games, but responded to go 6-4 over its next 10 games, including a win over defending league champion St. Edward's. The stretch ended with a win over Newman before the season came to a close with a loss to St. Mary's in the Heartland Conference Tournament.



(From Left to Right) Row 1: Lilly Garner, Kolby McIntosh, Lindsey Byfield, Jordan Evans, Lauren Schuldt, Ke'Aunna Johnson, Darian Jackson, Nikola Nedoroscikova Row 2: Denisha Ford, Carlye Bohannan, April Ponds, Bobby Cope, Ashlee Pitts, Kamry Chamberlain, Desiree Nelson

The Hillcats were at their best playing inside with forwards Lauren Schuldt and Darian Jackson being named All-Heartland Conference Honorable Mention. Schuldt paced the team in scoring at 14.0 points per game on 51.8 percent shooting. She added 6.9 rebounds per game. The RSU career leader in blocked shots, Schuldt totaled 50 in her junior season to average 1.9 per game, ranking second in the Heartland Conference. Jackson added 11.7 points and a team-high 7 rebounds per game. Schuldt and Jackson each were named Heartland Conference Players of the Weeks once during the 2017-18 season.

Starting point guard Nikola Nedoroscikova ranked fourth in the league in assists at 4.1 per game. The Kosice, Slovakia native dished out a career-high 13 assists in a win over Randall, one assist off the school record of 14.

Outside shooter Desiree Nelson set multiple 3-point records during her first season in the navy and red. Nelson hit seven 3-pointers against Bacone College on homecoming to tie the RSU individual game 3-point record. For the contest, she shot 7-for-11 from deep for a career-high 23 points. For the season, Nelson set the school record for 3s made in a season with 72 and shot 42 percent from 3-point distance, the highest career 3-point shooting percentage at RSU.





BOBBY COPE
2017-2018 HEAD COACH

After four years at the helm of the RSU women's basketball program, Bobby Cope left the program to pursue a career outside college athletics in August 2018.

In its second year of postseason eligibility following the completion of the NCAA Division II membership process, Cope's Hillcats earned a bid to the Heartland Conference Tournament as the six seed to advance to postseason for the second straight season.

Under Cope's guidance, forwards Lauren Schuldt and Darian Jackson were named All-Heartland Conference, and Schuldt also earned CoSIDA Academic All-District honors. During the season, Schuldt and Jackson each were selected as the Heartland Conference Players of the Week on Nov. 13, 2017 and Jan. 22, 2018, respectively.

Cope served as an assistant women's basketball coach at RSU for five seasons helping the Cats to a NAIA National Tournament three times. The Hillcats totaled 99 victories in his five seasons as an assistant.



KYLE BENT
HEAD COACH

Kyle Bent enters his first season as the head women's basketball coach at Rogers State after being named to the position in Aug. 2018. Bent is the fourth head coach in the history of the RSU

women's basketball program.

Bent joins RSU after four seasons as the head coach at Martin Methodist College in Pulaski, Tennessee. In his four seasons, Bent guided the RedHawks to four straight NAIA National Tournament appearances and posted an overall record of 95-38 (71.4 percent), leaving as the all-time winningest coach in Martin Methodist history. Bent totaled five NAIA All-Americans and 10 All-Southern State Athletic Conference picks in his four years at MMC.

Before his time at Martin Methodist, Bent served as the head women's basketball coach for Danville Area Community College for four seasons. He turned around a struggling DACC program and posted two consecutive 22-win seasons in 2012-13 and 2013-14. Under Bent's tutelage, he totaled three All-Americans and nine all-conference selections in his four seasons as the head coach of DACC. He was named the NJCAA Region 24 Coach of the Year after 2011-12 season when the Lady Jaguars posted a 16-win improvement from the previous season.

Prior to DACC, Bent coached the University of Illinois Women's Club Basketball Team during the 2019-10 season.

Bent earned masters and bachelors degrees in sport management from the University of Illinois.



NIKOLA NEDOROSCIKOVA
GUARD

The starting point guard for the last two seasons for the RSU women's basketball team, Nikola Nedoroscikova started in all 27 games, playing a team-high 27.9 minutes per game. She posted 7.0 points, 3.1 rebounds and a team-high 4.0 assists and 1.4 steals per game. In the final 13 games of the season, the Kosice, Slovakia averaged 5.6 assists per game, including a career-high 13 assists in a win over Randall on Jan. 30, 2018. The 13 assists were one assist off the school record of 14. For the season, she totaled 4.1 assists per game and finished her career ranking No. 2 all-time in assists per game at 4.0. In only two seasons in the navy and red, Nedoroscikova ranks third all-time in total assists at 218. On the defensive end, she ranks in the top 10 in career steals and steals average. Nedoroscikova signed a professional contract with Boa Vlagem Angra Acore in Portugal to continue her career.





MEN'S BASKETBALL



TATE TURNER | JR.

MEN'S BASKETBALL QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.):	Justin Barkley (8th Season)
Record (Pct.):	163-76 (.682)
Office Phone:	(918) 343-6804
Email:	jbarkley@rsu.edu
Asst. Coaches (Yrs.):	Ben Rovenstine (3rd Season) Cooper Land (1st Season)

2017-18 SEASON-IN-REVIEW

Record:	18-11
Home:	11-3
Away:	5-6
Neutral:	2-2
Heartland Conf. (Finish):	9-7 (4th)
Home:	6-2
Away:	3-5

HISTORY

First Year:	2007-08
All-Time Record (Yrs.):	236-99 (11)
Home:	132-27 (.830)
Away:	78-57 (.578)
Neutral:	26-15 (.634)
Heartland Conf.:	61-31 (.663)
Sooner Athletic Conf.:	86-40 (.683)
Postseason:	13-10 (.565)

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

- 6 NAIA All-America Selections
- 3 NABC All-District Selections
- 2 D2CCA All-Region Selection
- 3 Conference Player of the Year Selections
- 1 Conference Defensive Player of the Year
- 1 Conference Newcomer of the Year
- 1 Conference Coach of the Year Selections
- 11 All-Heartland Conference Selections
- 23 All-Sooner Athletic Conference Selections
- 1 NAIA National Championship All-Tournament Team Selection
- 1 Conference Tournament MVP
- 4 Conference All-Tournament Selections
- 12 Conference Player of the Week Selections

Academic Awards

- 20 Academic All-Conference Selections
- 1 CoSIDA Academic All-America Selection®
- 1 CoSIDA Academic All-District Selections®
- 3 D2ADA Academic Achievement Honorees
- 2 NAIA Champions of Character Scholarship Honorees
- 19 President's Honor Roll Selections
- 23 Dean's Honor Roll Selections

SEASON REVIEW

The Rogers State men's basketball team was in contention in the Heartland Conference midway through the season and finished fourth in the league at 9-7 and went 18-11 overall under eighth-year head coach Justin Barkley.

After a season-opening loss at CSU-Pueblo, the Cats posted six-straight victories to open up the season at 6-1. The wins included a 73-67 victory over Lone Star power Midwestern State then a 62-54 road win at in-state rival Northeastern State. Heading into conference play with a 6-1 record, RSU fell just short in the league opener at No. 22-ranked UAFS. Baron Smith Jr. went off for a career-high 38 points, but the Lions won 73-69. The Cats responded with non conference wins over Emporia State, Ouachita Baptist and Cameron.



(From Left to Right) **Row 1:** Saint Hilaire, Kyle Dortch, Ahnte Harkey, Gage Loy, Gabriel Ferreira, Don Leak, Brian Harness, Brewster Peacock, Greg Gibbs **Row 2:** Chase Littlejohn, Tavian Davis, Josh Joiner, Ben Rovenstine, Justin Barkley, Cooper Land, Baron Smith Jr., Vaughn Rainey, Tate Turner

After a loss at Newman to start 0-2 in league action, RSU earned its first conference victory with a 72-70 upset over No. 16-ranked Dallas Baptist University. The win started a five-game winning streak to put the Cats into first place in the league at 5-2.

The navy and red suffered back-to-back losses to nationally ranked teams No. 17 UAFS and No. 18 DBU. The losses started a stretch of four losses in five games before the Cats ended the regular season by winning three of four games. RSU played Lubbock Christian in the Heartland Conference Tournament for the second straight season with the Chaps taking the win to end the 2017-18 season for the Hillcats at 18-11.

Baron Smith Jr. was an All-Heartland Conference selection for the second straight season. The senior led the Hillcats in scoring at 15.8 points per game. He shot 44.1 percent from the field, 41.4 percent from 3 and 80.8 percent from the free throw line. He added a team-high 87 assists and 48 steals while playing a team-high 29.9 minutes per game. Saint Hilaire added 12.2 points and a team-high 6.2 rebounds per game. He upped his output when he was moved into the starting lineup at a forward position.





JUSTIN BARKLEY
HEAD COACH

In eight seasons as head coach of Rogers State men's basketball, Justin Barkley has set a winning standard on College Hill that continued in the 2017-18 season.

Under Barkley's leadership, the Hillcats compiled an 18-11 record for the 11th consecutive season above .500 in the program's 11-year history. Since being named head coach in April 2010, Barkley has compiled an overall record of 163-76 for a .682 winning percentage as the third head coach in program history.

The Hillcats advanced to the Heartland Conference Tournament in 2017-18 for the second straight season in their only years eligible for NCAA Division II postseason. Baron Smith Jr. and Saint Hilaire were named All-Heartland Conference.

Barkley has totaled three Heartland Conference Players of the Year selections in his career. Jeylyn Sharpe (2016-17), J.C. Hartlzer and Frederico Santos (2014-15) all earned league player of the year honors in consecutive seasons. Barkley was the Heartland Conference Coach of the Year in 2015-16 after guiding the Cats to the conference regular season title.

As a player, Barkley led Inola High School to a state championship under the direction of his father, Clyde, in 1998. He continued his playing career at Northeastern State, where he spurred the Redmen to a NCAA Division II National Championship in 2003.



BARON SMITH JR.
POINT GUARD

As the lone returning starter for the Hillcats in 2017-18, Baron Smith Jr. established himself as one of the top players in the Heartland Conference in his senior season. In the Heartland Conference opener at No. 22 UA Fort Smith, Smith was unstoppable with 38 points, the second-most in RSU single game history, in a close loss. It started a stretch of three-straight games of 20 points or more to open league play. For his senior season, Smith totaled a team-high 15.8 points, 3.1 assists and 1.7 steals per game in 28 starts and was named All-Heartland Conference for the second straight season. He averaged a team-high 29.9 minutes per game as the starting point guard.





SOFTBALL



ANDREA MORALES | FR.

SOFTBALL QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.):	Andrea Vaughan (3rd Season)
Record (Pct.):	84-79 (.515)
Office Phone:	(918) 343-7562
Email:	avaughan@rsu.edu
Asst. Coaches (Yrs.):	Kerry Hallman (2nd Season) Malori Moss (2nd Season)

2018-IN-REVIEW

Record:	39-20
Home:	20-5
Away:	10-10
Neutral:	9-5
Heartland Conf. (Finish):	16-12 (5th)
Home:	11-4
Away:	5-8

HISTORY

First Year:	2006
All-Time Record (Yrs.):	393-314 (13)
Home:	186-113
Away:	105-139
Neutral:	102-62
Heartland Conf.:	45-75
Sooner Athletic Conf.:	71-92
Postseason:	12-18
NAIA Nat'l Tourn. App.:	1 (2018)
NAIA Div II Tourn. App.:	1 (2013)
Heartland Conf. Tourn. Champion:	1 (2018)

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

- NAIA All-America Selections
- All-South Central Region Selection
- Conference Newcomer of the Year
- Conference Freshman of the Year
- Conference Coach of the Year
- All-Heartland Conference Selections
- All-Sooner Athletic Conference Selections
- Heartland Conference All-Tournament Team
- Heartland Conference Tournament MVP
- Hero Division II Coach of the Year
- All-Region VI Selections
- Sooner Athletic Conference Gold Glove Selections
- Conference Hitter of the Week Selections
- Conference Pitcher of the Week Selections

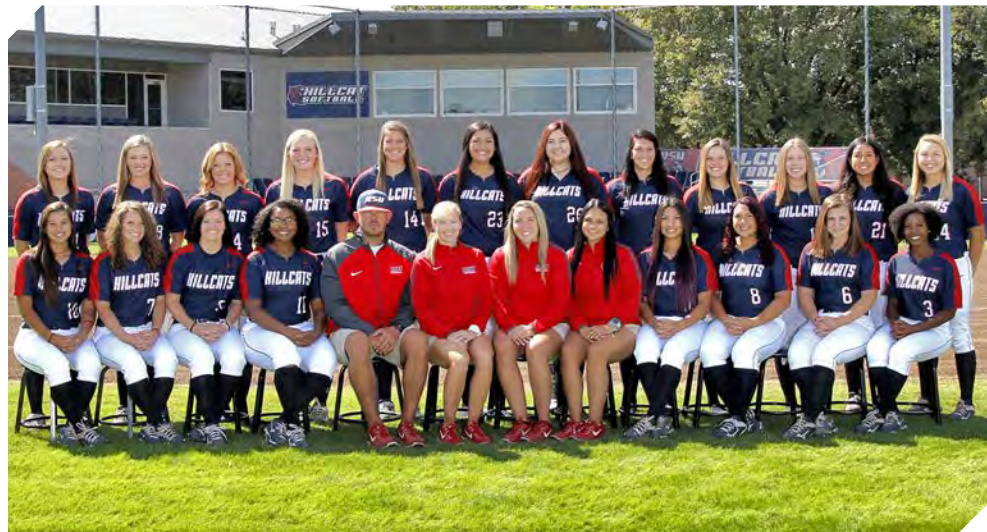
Academic Awards

- Academic All-Conference Selections
- Capital One Academic All-America Selections®
- Capital One Academic All-District Selections®
- D2ADA Academic Achievement Honorees
- Daktronics-NAIA Scholar Athletes
- NAIA Scholar-Team Award
- President's Honor Roll Selections
- Dean's Honor Roll Selections

SEASON REVIEW

In the 2018 season, the Rogers State softball team made a historic run in the Heartland Conference Tournament to win its first-ever Heartland Conference championship and advanced to the NCAA Division II South Central Regional Tournament for the first time in program history. Under the guidance of head coach Andrea Vaughan, who was named the Heartland Conference Coach of the Year, the Hillcats went 39-20, an 11-win improvement from 2017, and 16-12 in the Heartland Conference.

The Cats captured the league championship with a marathon 13-inning 5-4 win over No. 2 seed Oklahoma Christian in the Heartland Conference Championship. Megan Porter hit the game-winning walk off RBI single, her first career hit in the navy and red, to score Tailee Reding for the victory. The Hillcats went 4-0 in the conference tournament and knocked off No. 1 seed St. Mary's along with OC twice and No. 4 seed Texas A&M International. Freshman Andrea Morales was named the Heartland Tournament MVP with Katy Taylor, Danelle Day and Merissa Smith landing on the Heartland All-Tournament Team.



(From Left to Right) **Row 1:** Tailee Reding, Sierra Skaggs, Brooke Tyler, Rylee DeLozier, Edie Fairchild, Ali Turner, Allie McFetridge, Taylor Santistevan, Kenzi Ziem, Danelle Day, Andrea Morales, Merissa Smith **Row 2:** AJ Waggnor, Alex Brake, Katy Taylor, De'Leigh Emarthle, Kerry Hallman, Andrea Vaughan, Malori Moss, Arika Araujo, Mikalya Waggnor, Megan Scott, Megan Porter, Katelyn Gamble

RSU advanced to the NCAA South Central Regional Tournament for the first time, where its season ended with two losses to No. 3-ranked Colorado Mesa and Tarleton State. After starting the season with a 4-4 record, the young Hillcat team, which had six freshman starters, went on an 18-game winning streak, the longest winning streak for the navy and red since 2013.

RSU won for the first time ever at Lubbock Christian with a dominating 6-0 victory, and the Cats defeated St. Mary's, the regular season league champion, for the first time ever. Six Hillcats were named All-Heartland Conference with head coach Andrea Vaughan being selected as the Heartland Coach of the Year. Danelle Day, Allie McFetridge, Merissa Smith, Rylee DeLozier, Katelyn Gamble and Tailee Reding earned All-Heartland honors. Alex Brake (three times) and Andrea Morales garnered Heartland Conference Pitcher of the Week honors, and McFetridge (twice), Day and Rylee DeLozier took Heartland Conference Hitter of the Week honors.





ANDREA VAUGHAN
HEAD COACH

Andrea Vaughan completed her third season as the head coach of the Rogers State softball team after being named the interim head coach a week prior to the 2016 season. Vaughan was officially named the fourth head coach in program history on April 25, 2016. Vaughan guided the Hillcats to their first-ever Heartland Conference Tournament Championship and first-ever NCAA Division II Regional appearance in the 2018 season. Vaughan was named the Heartland Conference Coach of the Year as she led the Cats to their best-ever record since transitioning to NCAA Division II with a 39-20 record, including an 18-game winning streak.

RSU was one of the top hitting teams in the nation in 2018, ranking 11th in the country in home runs per game with a total of 71 home runs during the season. All-Heartland Conference First Team selections Danelle Day (20) and Merissa Smith (16) ranked first and second in the league individually in home runs. The Hillcat pitching staff ranked in the top 40 in the nation in earned run average with a total ERA of 2.38 for the 2018 season. For the season, six Hillcats earned all-league honors, including three first-team selections.

Vaughan enjoyed a standout collegiate career at Oklahoma City, making three-consecutive trips to the NAIA National Tournament. The Stars won the NAIA National Championship in 1997. Vaughan, a right-handed pitcher from Claremore, Oklahoma, was a two-time Academic All-American at OCU.



DANELLE DAY
OUTFIELDER

After being a part-time starter in her freshman season, Danelle Day turned in a breakout season as a sophomore as one of the top power hitters in NCAA Division II softball. Day knocked out a Heartland Conference-leading 20 home runs for the Hillcats offense that ranked 11th in NCAA Division II with 71 home runs during the 2018 season. Day, an All-Heartland Conference First Team pick, led the league with 63 RBI and ranked in the top 10 in the Heartland Conference in batting average (.326), slugging percentage (.702), on base percentage (.424), runs scored (42), hits (59), at bats (181), walks (27), hit by pitch (six) and sacrifice flies (three). The sophomore catcher from Fort Worth, Texas started in all 59 games for the navy and red in 2018.





BASEBALL



BRENDAN GRIFFITH | JR.

BASEBALL QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.):	Chris Klimas (4th Season)
Record (Pct.):	104-92 (.530)
Office Phone:	(918) 343-7787
Email:	cklimas@rsu.edu
Asst. Coaches (Yrs.):	Robert Brown (13th Season) Jimmy Rogers (10th Season) Skyler Ellis (12th Season) Skyler Ellis (4th Season)

2018 SEASON-IN-REVIEW

Record:	26-24
Home:	11-11
Away:	12-12
Heartland Conf. (Finish):	12-16 (6th)
Home:	5-7
Away:	7-9

HISTORY

First Year:	2006
All-Time Record (Yrs.):	385-280 (13)
Home:	214-122 (.637)
Away:	138-135 (.505)
Neutral:	33-23 (.589)
Heartland Conf.:	55-81 (.404)
Sooner Athletic Conf.:	101-76 (.571)
Postseason:	17-15 (.531)
NAIA World Series App.:	2 (2012, 2013)

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

- 2 MLB First-Year Draft Picks
- 2 NAIA All-America Selections
 - 1 Conference Player of the Year
 - 1 Conference Newcomer of the Year
- 3 NCBWA All-America Selections
- 5 NCBWA All-South Central Region Selections
 - 1 ABCA/Rawlings All-America Selection
 - 5 ABCA/Rawlings All-South Central Region Selections
- 2 D2CCA All-America Selections
- 4 D2CCA All-South Central Region Selections
- 13 All-Heartland Conference Selections
- 20 All-Sooner Athletic Conference Selections
 - 1 All-Region VI Selections
- 3 NAIA World Series All-Tournament Selections
- 1 NAIA World Series Gold Glove Selections
- 10 Sooner Athletic Conference Gold Glove Selections
- 2 All-Region VI Gold Glove Selections
 - 1 NCBWA South Central Region Pitcher of the Week Selection
- 16 Conference Hitter of the Week Selections
- 13 Conference Pitcher of the Week Selections

Academic Awards

- 64 Academic All-Conference Selections
- 1 Capital One Academic All-District Selection®
- 1 CoSIDA/ESPN the Magazine Academic All-America Selection®
- 4 D2ADA Academic Achievement Honorees
- 4 Daktronics-NAIA Scholar Athletes
- 33 President's Honor Roll Selections
- 65 Dean's Honor Roll Selections

SEASON REVIEW

For the third consecutive season, Rogers State baseball put together a winning season under fourth-year head coach Chris Klimas as the navy and red went 26-24 overall. The Hillcats finished 12-16 in Heartland Conference play.

Opening Day was exciting as senior Tim Luce threw the first no-hitter in program history in a 12-0 win over Randall. The Claremore, Oklahoma native went the complete 7.0 innings with 10 strikeouts and only base runners reaching on one walk and one hit by pitch. The Hillcats went on to sweep the four-game weekend series with the Saints for a 4-0 start.



(From Left to Right) **Row 1:** Zack Mann, Sean Robinson, Hunter Johnson, Myles Marshall, Spencer Bivens, Landon Nealon, Patrick Reynier, Drew Van Winkle, Zach Stanley, Seth Gerardy **Row 2:** Chris Klimas, Skyler Ellis, Jeff Losornio, Bradley Degnan, Adam Frandsen, Chris Nakashima, Brock Knoten, Devland Zakar, Rusty Huber, Jimmy Rogers, Robert Brown **Row 3:** Blake Chiramonte, Derek Brumble, Cale Backward, Brendan Griffith, Garrett Hall, Tim Luce, Grant Farris, Matt Seubert, Dylan Russell, Case Woodard, AJ Deason, Preston Whitten, Brooks Douglass, Joey Lucas, Sam Casinelli, Christopher Ford, Daniel Davila

RSU started the season with an 11-3 mark and took three games from preseason nationally ranked Drury in Springfield, Missouri. The Hillcats ended the non conference schedule with a 14-8 record. To begin Heartland Conference play, the Cats went to St. Mary's and managed to take one game in the four-game series. In their next two series, the Hillcats split with Texas A&M International and at St. Edward's.

With two critical home league series left to stay in postseason contention, RSU dropped three of four games to UAFA, but swept a doubleheader with Lubbock Christian on day one to still have a chance at postseason. The Chaps took both games on the second day of the series to split the series. After a series loss at Newman, the Hillcats won their only league series by winning three games out of four at Oklahoma Christian on the final weekend of the regular season.

Head coach Chris Klimas earned his 100th career win with the doubleheader sweep of LCU on April 19. The Cats swept the Chaps in a doubleheader for only the second time in the program's history and first time in Claremore. Four Hillcats garnered All-Heartland Conference honors in Spencer Bivens, Blake Chiramonte, Brock Knoten and Zack Mann. Bivens was once named the NCBWA South Central Region Pitcher of the Week.





CHRIS KLIMAS
HEAD COACH

In his fourth season as head baseball coach at Rogers State, Chris Klimas led the Hillcats to their third straight winning season, going 26-24.

Under Klimas's guidance, four Cats were named All-Heartland Conference in Spencer Bivens, Blake Chiaramonte, Brock Knoten and Zack Mann. Senior Tim Luce threw the first-ever no-hitter for the navy and red in the 2018 season opener. For the season, RSU went 26-24 and 12-16 in league play.

In 2017, Klimas' Cats went 31-19, their best record since going NCAA Division II. The Hillcats strung together nine consecutive wins including a series victory over St. Edward's and sweeps of Oklahoma Panhandle State and Newman.

Two Hillcats were selected to All-American lists as Rusty Huber was named to the NCBWA, D2CCA, and ABCA/Rawlings list while Chris Miguel was recognized by the NCBWA and D2CCA. Miguel became the first Hillcat named Heartland Conference Baseball Player of the Year after batting a league leading .400 on the season. Klimas also coached 2015 NCBWA All-America Honorable Mention selection Andrew Vanisi.

A native of Broken Arrow, Okla., Klimas was a two-year starting catcher for Oklahoma Baptist from 1999-2001 and graduated from OBU in 2001 with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies.



SPENCER BIVENS
PITCHER

Spencer Bivens turned in an impressive final season in the navy and red. For the second straight season, the right-handed pitcher led the team in wins with seven as a senior to total 15 wins in his two-year RSU career. In his senior campaign, Bivens lowered his earned run average to a team-best 2.37 in a team-high 13 starts. He pitched a team-high 83.2 innings with 48 strikeouts. The senior from State College, Pennsylvania threw a complete game two-hitter in nine innings in a 2-0 win over Sioux Falls during his senior season. He totaled eight strikeouts and allowed only two ground ball singles. Bivens was named All-Heartland Conference, the Heartland Conference Pitcher of the Week once and the NCBWA South Central Region Pitcher of the Week after the two-hitter.





WOMEN'S GOLF



MICA EASTIN | SR.

WOMEN'S GOLF QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.): Whitney Hocutt (1st Season)
Office Phone: (918) 343-7894
Email: whocutt@rsu.edu

HISTORY

First Year: 2009-10
Tournament Titles: 6
Low Round (Team): 291 (9/16/14)
Low Round (Individual): 67 (-3)
Jess Whitting (2/20/18)

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

- 1 WPGA All-American Selection
- 1 WPGA All-West Region Selection
- 3 Tournament Individual Champion
- 4 All-Heartland Conference Selections
- 1 Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year
- 6 Conference Golfer of the Week Selections

Academic Awards

- 25 Academic All-Conference Selections
- 1 D2ADA Academic Achievement Honoree
- 20 President's Honor Roll Selections
- 22 Dean's Honor Roll Selections

SEASON REVIEW

Rogers State Women's Golf tallied seven top-five finishes in 11 tournaments during the 2017-18 campaign and finished third at the Heartland Conference Women's Golf Championship under the leadership of first-year head coach Whitney Hocutt. Redshirt freshman Jess Whitting became the first All-American in program history as she was named an All-American by the Women's Golf Coaches Association.

RSU entered the NCAA Division II West Super Regional rankings for the first time in program history at No. 12 in the rankings on April 12. In the fall, the Hillcats placed in the top five in three of their five tournaments, including third place at the Women's West Texas A&M Invitational.

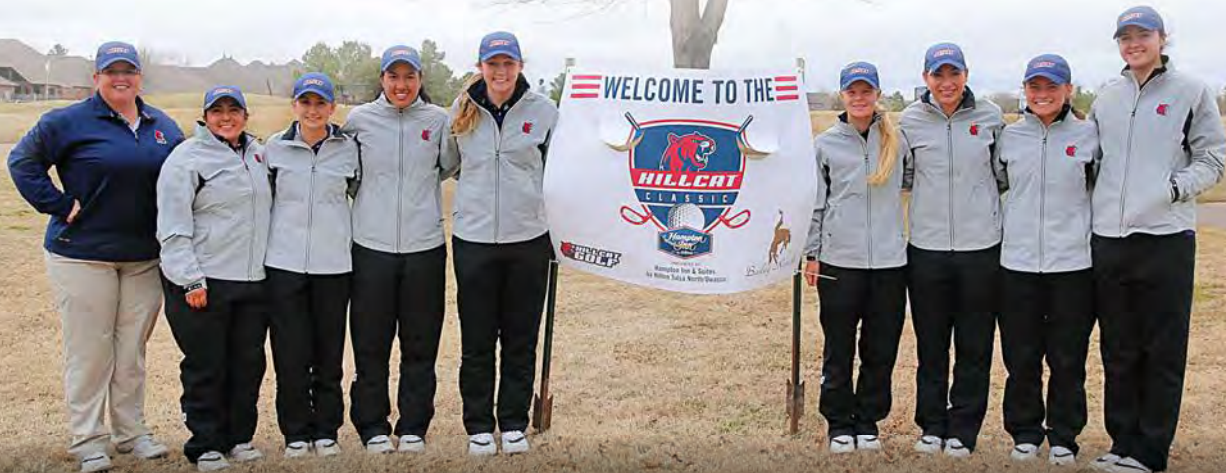


(From Left to Right) Row 1: Jess Whitting, McKenzie Risenhoover, Veronica Grey, Mariana Flores, Whitney Hocutt Row 2: Alex Massie, Mica Eastin, Jessica Green, Sydney Murray

The spring season saw the navy and red take fifth at the St. Edward's Invitational and Midwestern State Invitational in back-to-back tournaments before placing third at their own event, the third annual Hillcat Classic. Whitting won the individual title at St. Edward's and at the Hillcat Classic while placing fifth at Midwestern State. The Cats concluded the season by finishing third at the Heartland Conference Tournament. Senior Mica Eastin placed fourth individually in her final collegiate event.

Jess Whitting advanced as an individual to the NCAA Division II West Super Regional Championship as RSU had an individual move on to regional competition for the second straight season. She placed 12th at 13-over-par 229 in Durango, Colorado. For her performance, she earned All-West Region and All-American by the WPGA. She was one of 32 golfers to be named an All-American in the 2017-18 season. Whitting was also named the Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year.

Whitting paced the Hillcat women's golf team with a 75.11 scoring average in 27 rounds during the season. She totaled two tournament victories at the St. Edward's Invitational and Hillcat Classic and six top-five finishes in 12 events. Whitting set a school record with a score of 67 at the St. Edward's Invitational to surge to the tournament win.





WHITNEY HOCUTT HEAD COACH

Whitney Hocutt completed her first season as the RSU Head Women's Golf Coach.

In her first season in charge of the RSU women's golf program, Hocutt guided the Hillcats to their first-ever regional ranking. Redshirt freshman Jess Whitting became the first All-American in program history and was the Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year.

The local Claremore, Oklahoma product started her coaching career on the Hill as an assistant men's and women's golf coach for former head coach Josh Fosdick. During her one season as an assistant coach at RSU, the Hillcats won a combined three tournaments between the two programs as the men never placed lower than eighth at an event and the women turned in top-six results at 10 of 11 tournaments. Four Hillcats earned All-Heartland Conference accolades with Alex Marsh being named the Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year.

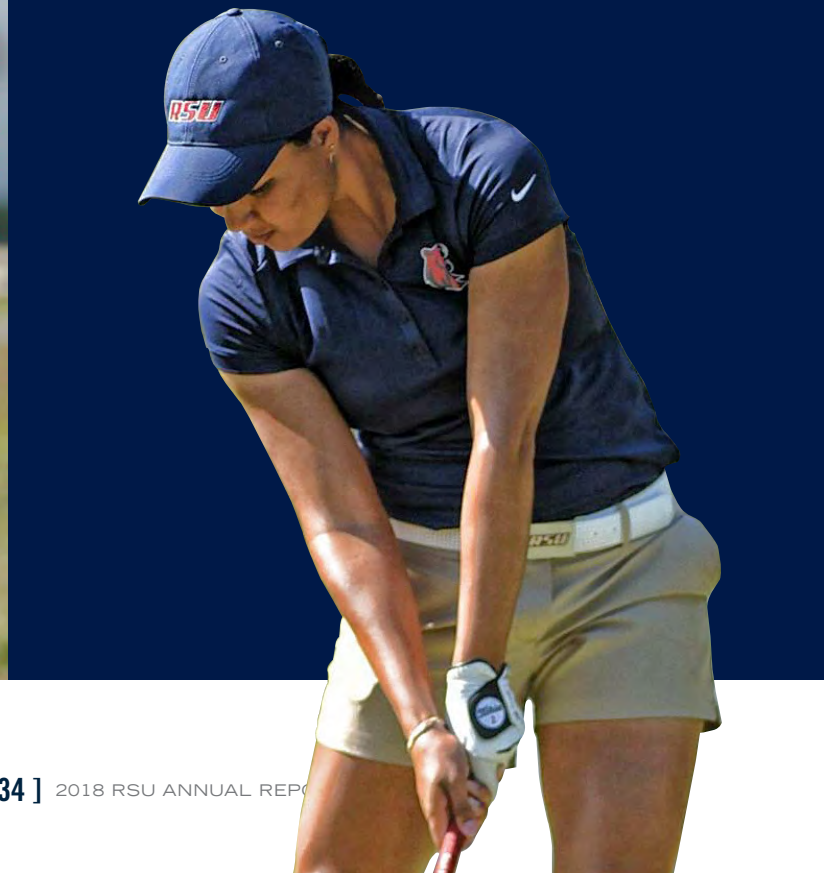
Hocutt joined the coaching staff following a four-year playing career with the Hillcats. While at RSU, Hocutt was a three-time selection as the most valuable player for the women's golf team and was honored with the Hillcat award.

Hocutt earned a bachelor's degree in medical/molecular biology from RSU in 2014 and completed a master's degree in education/sport administration from East Central in 2015.



JESS WHITTING

Redshirt freshman Jess Whitting had a breakout season in 2017-18 as she became the first All-American on program history. The Perth, Australia native totaled two tournament wins at the St. Edward's Invitational and the third annual Hillcat Classic. At SEU, she rallied in the final round with a school-record 3-under-par 67. The record round was four shots better than any other round shot at the St. Edward's Invitational and won by three shots after going into the final day two shots back. She became the second Hillcat to advance to the NCAA Division II Regionals as an individual and placed 12th overall. Whitting was named the Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year along with being named an All-American and All-West Region by the Women's Golf Coaches Association.





MEN'S GOLF



LUKE PALMOWSKI | FR.

MEN'S GOLF QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.): Steve Brown (1st Season)
Office Phone: (918) 343-7888
Email: sbrown@rsu.edu

HISTORY

First Year: 2009-10
Tournament Titles: 10
Low Round (Team): 278
 (4/22/18, 3/10/15
 & 9/18/12)
Low Round (Individual): 65 (-6)
 Preston Bartley (9/18/12)

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

- 1 PING All-American Selection
- 1 PING All-Region Selection
- 1 Conference Golfer of the Year
- 1 Conference Coach of the Year
- 2 Conference Freshman of the Year
- 5 All-Heartland Conference Selections
- 2 All-Sooner Athletic Conference Selections
- 5 Conference All-Tournament Team Selections
- 7 Conference Golfer of the Week Selections

Academic Awards

- 32 Academic All-Conference Selections
- 1 Cleveland Golf/Srixon All-America Scholar
- 2 D2ADA Academic Achievement Honorees
- 14 President's Honor Roll Selections
- 35 Dean's Honor Roll Selections

SEASON REVIEW

The Hillcat men's golf team captured the 2018 Heartland Conference championship with a third-round rally from five shots back to earn their first-ever Heartland title. RSU used a school record 54-hole total of 845, a record by eight shots, to edge UA Fort Smith by one shot. The navy and red shot scores of 278, an individual round school record, 288 and 279.

With the league title, the Hillcats clinched a spot in regional competition in the 2018 NCAA Division II Men's Golf Championships, their first-ever appearance in NCAA Division II regional competition. Luke Palmowski was named the Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year and All-Heartland Conference. He led the Hillcats with a season average of 74.11 in 28 rounds. The freshman placed in the top five in two events and top 10 in three tournaments in his first season in the navy and red.



(From Left to Right) **Row 1:** Steve Brown, Richard Cheetham, Garrett Smith, Adam Dahlstrom, Josh Gentry, Patrick Bart, Gonzalo Chaves, Luke Palmowski, George Burnett, Alex Marsh, Evan Norlie, Hagen Barmasse **Row 2:** Jacob Baird, Aiden Gavey, Peter Cummins, Matthew Armstrong, Ewen Delamplé

Under the guidance of first-year head coach Steve Brown, the Hillcats posted five top-five team finishes, highlighted by the Heartland Conference title. The young Cats, which played four freshmen at some tournaments, hit their stride late in the season and totaled three straight top-five finishes in the final three events of the 2018-19 regular season.

The surge at the end of the season started with a breakthrough at the Patriot Classic as the navy and red posted a second place finish in a loaded 14-team field at Hackberry Creek Country Club. Three freshmen placed in the top 12 in Luke Palmowski, Aidan Gavey and Gonzalo Chaves. One week later, RSU placed in the top four at the Hardscrabble Invitational with Chaves finishing inside the top 10 individually. The strong closing stretch was highlighted by the Heartland Conference Tournament with the Cats earning the league title. Palmowski placed second while senior Alex Marsh posted a fifth-place mark individually at the league championship.





STEVE BROWN
HEAD COACH

Steve Brown finished his first season as the RSU head men's golf coach after guiding the Hillcats to their first-ever Heartland Conference championship in 2017.

The Cats captured the league title with a school record 54-hole tournament record of 845 to win by one shot. RSU advanced to regional competition of the 2018 NCAA Division II Men's Golf Championship for the first time. Luke Palmowski was named the Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year.

Brown has more than 30 years of experience in the golf industry as a player, coach, instructor and entrepreneur. Brown came to RSU after serving six years as an assistant men's coach at Chico State in Chico, California. Brown was a key component to the coaching staff as he helped the Wildcats reach four NCAA Championship finals in his six seasons. Chico State finished as the NCAA Division II national runner-up in 2011-12. Brown was instrumental in the development of six All-Americans in his six years at the program.

Brown earned a bachelor's degree in social science from Chico State and played one season for the Wildcats. Brown also played two seasons of collegiate golf at Butte College before his move to Chico State.



ALEX MARSH

In his final season in the navy and red, senior Alex Marsh capped his career with a Heartland Conference championship. A four-year golfer for the Hillcats, Marsh used his experience to fire a season-best 3-under-par 69 in the final round of the conference tournament to propel the Cats to a five-shot rally and one-shot victory. In his final Heartland Conference Tournament, the Southampton, England posted a top-five finish, his three top-five in his career on College Hill. Marsh, who was named the Heartland Conference Freshman of the Year in 2014-15, concluded his career with his best numbers as a senior with a 75.13 average and two top 10s plus the Heartland Conference championship.





WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD



SCH'CARA YOUNG | JR.

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.): Chris McCormick (4th Season)
Office Phone: (918) 343-7689
Email: cmccormick@rsu.edu
Assistant Coach (Yrs.): Morrie Turner (4th Season)

HISTORY

First Year: 2015
Conf. Titles (Individual):
 - Long Jump
 Destiny Thompkins,
 Audrianna Morgan
 Sch'Cara Young,
 Daisha Reece (2018)
 - 4x100 relay
 Audrianna Morgan (2017)
 - 100 meters
 Audrianna Morgan (2017)
 - 200 meters
 Vivian Walters (2017)
 - triple jump
 Audrianna Morgan,
 Destiny Thompkins
 Vivian Walters,
 Sch'Cara Young (2017)
 - 4x100 relay
 Audrianna Morgan (2016)
 - 100 meters
 Audrianna Morgan (2016)
 - 200 meters
 Audrianna Morgan,
 Ashli Turner,
 Vivian Walters,
 Cambridge Coy (2016)
 - 4x100 relay

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

39 All-Great American Conference Selections
 1 Conference Runner of the Week Selection

Academic Awards

16 Academic All-Conference Selections
 2 CoSIDA Academic All-District®
 1 Capital One Academic All-District®
 2 USTFCCA All-Academic Team
 2 D2ADA Academic Achievement Honorees
 28 President's Honor Roll Selections
 22 Dean's Honor Roll Selections

SEASON REVIEW

The Rogers State women's track & field program continued to make strides under fourth-year head coach Chris McCormick and assistant coach Morie Turner. The Hillcats captured two conference championships and totaled eight All-Great American Conference honor performances.

The Hillcats finished fifth at the Great American Conference Championships with two event conference titles. Daisha Reece took the conference title in the long jump with a distance of 17 feet, eight inches. The navy and red added another league championship with a win in the 4x100 meter relay. The team of Destiny Thompkins, Audrianna Morgan, Sch'Cara Young and Reece turned in a time of 47.05 seconds.



(From Left to Right) **Row 1:** Morrie Turner, Hailey Gillispie, Avery Buck, Olivia Couch, Ellen Thomas, Daisha Reece, Alaina Orban, Destiny Thompkins, Cambridge Coy, Chris McCormick **Row 2:** Calah Singleton, Alexis Thomas, J'Cee Holmes, Elizabeth Reidlinger, Audrianna Morgan, Sch'Cara Young, Katelyn Callender

Olivia Couch earned All-GAC in the long jump as she placed fourth. Hailey Gillispie placed third in the 800 meters for All-GAC honors. Morgan added two more All-GAC awards in the 100 and 200 meters along with Young taking All-GAC in the 100 and 200 meters as well. RSU started the 2018 season with the indoor season. The Cats competed at the Crimson and Gold Invitational, PSU Invitational, Lion Open and Gorilla Classic to open the year in the indoor campaign.

In the outdoor season, the Hillcats began at the OBU Early Outdoor Invitational with Reece winning the long jump. Morgan finished as the runner up in the 100 meters with the 4x100 relay team also in second place. The Cats continued the outdoor campaign with a top-10 finish at the ESU Relays and then put five in the top five at the UCA Open. The 4x100 relay advanced to the finals at the Drake Relays and turned in their best time of the year at the Arkansas Twilight. The 2018 season ended in California with the 4x100 relay winning at the Oxy Invite, and Hailey Gillispie setting two school records.

Hailey Gillispie garnered Google Cloud Academic All-America honors. The All-GAC performer posted a 4.0 grade point average while working on her MBA during her senior season of competition. The Henryetta, Oklahoma native completed her undergraduate degree from RSU in only three seasons.



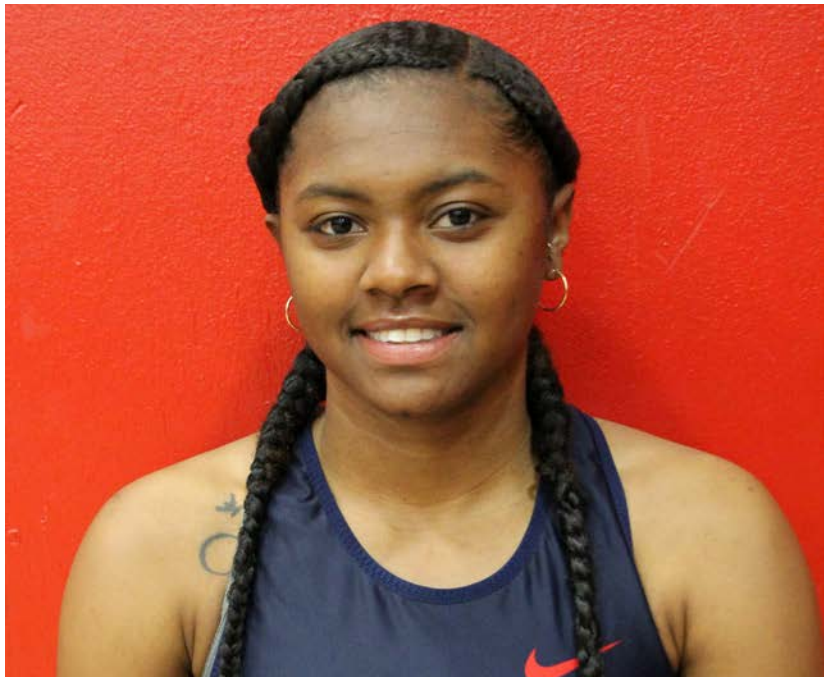
CHRIS McCORMICK
HEAD COACH

Chris McCormick finished his fourth season as head coach of the Rogers State women's track and field team and concluded his third season with the men's program. He was instrumental in getting the two programs started on the Hill and also remains the head coach of men's and women's cross country.

In the 2018 season, RSU added its first-ever All-American in indoor track & field when Ricky Bell placed eighth in the 60 meters at the 2018 NCAA Indoor Championships. The success continued into the outdoor season when the Hillcats totaled 19 All-GAC selections.

The 2017 season saw the Hillcats earn All-American honors in three events at the NCAA Outdoor Championships. Baylor Harvey (5,000 meters), Quintin Powell (400 meters) and the relay team of Powell, Ricky Bell, JaQuan Johnson and Djiron Lilley garnered All-American recognition for the first time in program history. At the 2017 Great American Conference Championships, the Hillcats totaled nine conference championships, five for the men and four for the women.

McCormick earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Education from East Central and was a member of the Tigers' track and field program. He twice competed at the NAIA Track and Field National Championships, placing 8th and 11th in the marathon.



AUDRIANNA MORGAN

In her final season in the navy and red, Audrianna Morgan added to her incredible four-year career for the RSU track & field program. The senior earned All-Great American Conference honors in three events to make her an 11-time All-GAC honoree in only three seasons in the conference. Morgan became a three-time All-GAC selection in the 100 meters, 200 meters and 4x100 meter relay and was twice All-GAC in the 4x400 meter relay. In her senior campaign, she won another league championship with the victory in the 4x100 meter relay. She has tallied seven conference championships in her career on College Hill. Along with the all-league honors, she competed in the NCAA Division II Outdoor Championships and was named to the USTFCCA All-Region team in 2016-17 as part of her outstanding four-year career at RSU.





MEN'S TRACK & FIELD



COLTEN GREEN | JR.

MEN'S TRACK & FIELD QUICK FACTS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.): Chris McCormick (3rd Season)
Office Phone: (918) 343-7689
Email: cmccormick@rsu.edu
Assistant Coach (Yrs.): Morrie Turner (3rd Season)

HISTORY

First Year: 2016
NCAA Div. II All-Am.: 4 – Ricky Bell (2018)
 60 meters (indoor)
 – Baylor Harvey (2017)
 5,000 meters
 – Quintin Powell (2017)
 400 meters
 – Quintin Powell, Ricky Bell, JaQuan Johnson and Dijiron Lilley (2017)
 4x100 meter relay
Conf. Titles (Individual): 7 – Baylor Harvey (2016)
 5,000 meters
 – Baylor Harvey (2017)
 1,500 meters
 – Quintin Powell (2017)
 400 meters
 – Colton Green (2017)
 5,000 meters
 – Djiron Lilley (2017)
 100 meters
 – Jacques Morgan, Quintin Powell, Djiron Lilley and Ricky Bell (2017)
 4x100 meter relay
 – Djiron Lilley (2018)
 100 meters

HIGHLIGHTS

Individual Awards

- 4 NCAA Division II All-Americans
- 43 All-Great American Conference Selections
- 2 Great American Conference Track Athlete of the Week

Academic Awards

- 2 CoSIDA Academic All-America®
- 23 Academic All-Conference Selections
- 3 CoSIDA Academic All-District®
- 11 President's Honor Roll Selections
- 20 Dean's Honor Roll Selections

SEASON REVIEW

In only its third year of competition, the Rogers State men's track and field team added to its All-American honors under the guidance of Head Coach Chris McCormick and Assistant Coach Morrie Turner.

For the second straight season, the Hillcat men's track & field team produced an All-American. Ricky Bell became the first-ever NCAA Division II All-American as he placed eighth in the 60 meters at the NCAA Division II Indoor Championships in Pittsburg, Kansas. With the eighth-place finish, Bell was a First Team All-American selection.



(From Left to Right) **Row 1:** Morrie Turner, Daniel Driskill, Byrun Ratliff, Ryan Alexander, Blake Fisher, Ricky Bell, Cruz Chavez, Bryan Clinton, John Pruitt, Quintin Powell, Chris McCormick **Row 2:** Tyler Knox, Jairus Bradley, Tristan Owens, Baylor Harvey, Colton Green, JaQuan Johnson, D'Jiron Lilley **Row 3:** Jack Aikman, Seth Whittington, Nick Williams, Jimmerick Martin, Jacques Morgan, Brooks Cataudella, Nathan Hammack, Justin Noble

Bell and D'Jiron Lilley were named to the USTFCCA All-South Central Region Team in the 60 meters, ranking in the top five in the region in the event. During the indoor season, the Hillcats moved into the top 25 of the NCAA Division II National Team rankings for the first time in program history at No. 25.

RSU placed fourth at the Great American Conference Championships with D'Jiron Lilley taking the Great American Conference Championship in the 100 meters in a time of 10.78 seconds. The Cats earned All-GAC honors in 11 events during the league championships. Along with the win in the 100 meters, Lilley took All-GAC honors in the 200 meters, long jump and 4x100 meter relay team with Cameron Emery, JaQuan Johnson and Jacques Morgan. Emery added his second all-league award in the 200 meters.

The navy and red did damage in the distance events at the conference championships. Seth Whittington doubled up on All-GAC honors in the 5,000 meters and 10,000. Baylor Harvey earned All-GAC for the third straight year in the 1,500 meters. Nick Williams took All-GAC in the 3,000 steeplechase, and Byrun Ratliff was All-GAC in the 800 meters. Harvey was selected as a Google Cloud Academic All-American for the second straight season. He graduated with a 3.94 grade point average in sports management.





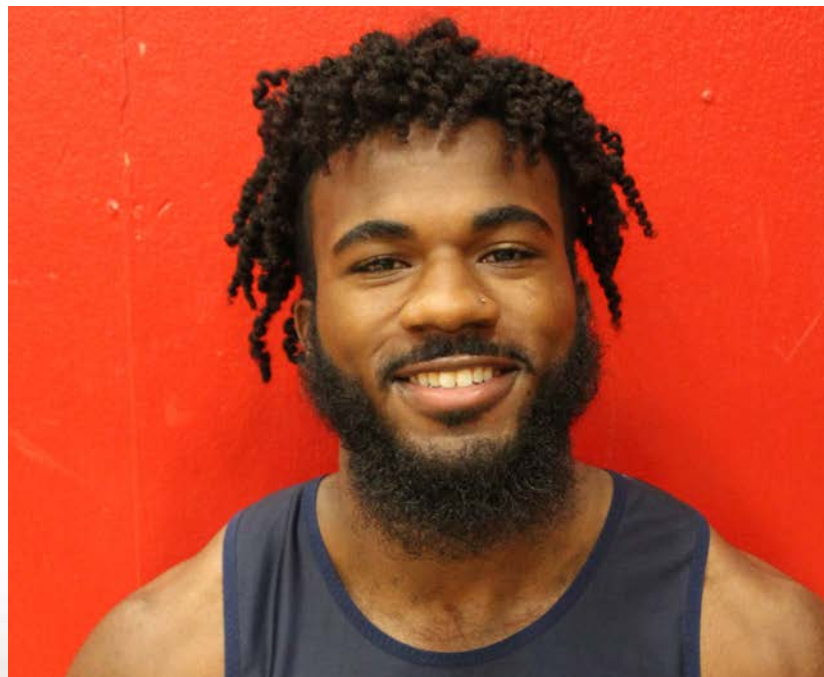
CHRIS McCORMICK
HEAD COACH

Chris McCormick finished his fourth season as head coach of the Rogers State women's track and field team and concluded his third season with the men's program. He was instrumental in getting the two programs started on the Hill and also remains the head coach of men's and women's cross country.

In the 2018 season, RSU added its first-ever All-American in indoor track & field when Ricky Bell placed eighth in the 60 meters at the 2018 NCAA Indoor Championships. The success continued into the outdoor season when the Hillcats totaled 19 All-GAC selections.

The 2017 season saw the Hillcats earn All-American honors in three events at the NCAA Outdoor Championships. Baylor Harvey (5,000 meters), Quintin Powell (400 meters) and the relay team of Powell, Ricky Bell, JaQuan Johnson and Djiron Lilley garnered All-American recognition for the first time in program history. At the 2017 Great American Conference Championships, the Hillcats totaled nine conference championships, five for the men and four for the women.

McCormick earned a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Education from East Central and was a member of the Tigers' track and field program. He twice competed at the NAIA Track and Field National Championships, placing 8th and 11th in the marathon.



D'JIRON LILLEY

After being an All-American in the 2017, D'Jiron Lilley put together another stellar season in 2018 as he won the Great American Conference title in the 100 meters and earned All-GAC honors in four events. The junior won the 100 meters in 10.78 seconds for the only league championship for the Hillcats in 2018. Lilley wasn't done as he took second in the 200 meters in 21.74 seconds and finished third in the 4x100 meter relay in a time of 41.69 seconds. Lilley started his day with an all-conference performance in the long jump. Also a force in the indoor season, Lilley was named to the All-South Central Region Team as a top five performer in the region in the 60 meters.





DANCE & CHEER



LEXI HOLLEYMAN | JR.



BRE YEAGER | JR.

NATE CALLIS | SO

DANCE QUICK FACTS



COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.): Amy Alt (1st Season)
 Office Phone: (918) 343-7789
 Email: aalt@rsu.edu

CHEER QUICK FACTS



COACHING STAFF

Head Coach (Yrs.): Titus Massey (1st Season)
 Office Phone: (918) 343-7782
 Email: tmassey@rsu.edu

DANCE TEAM

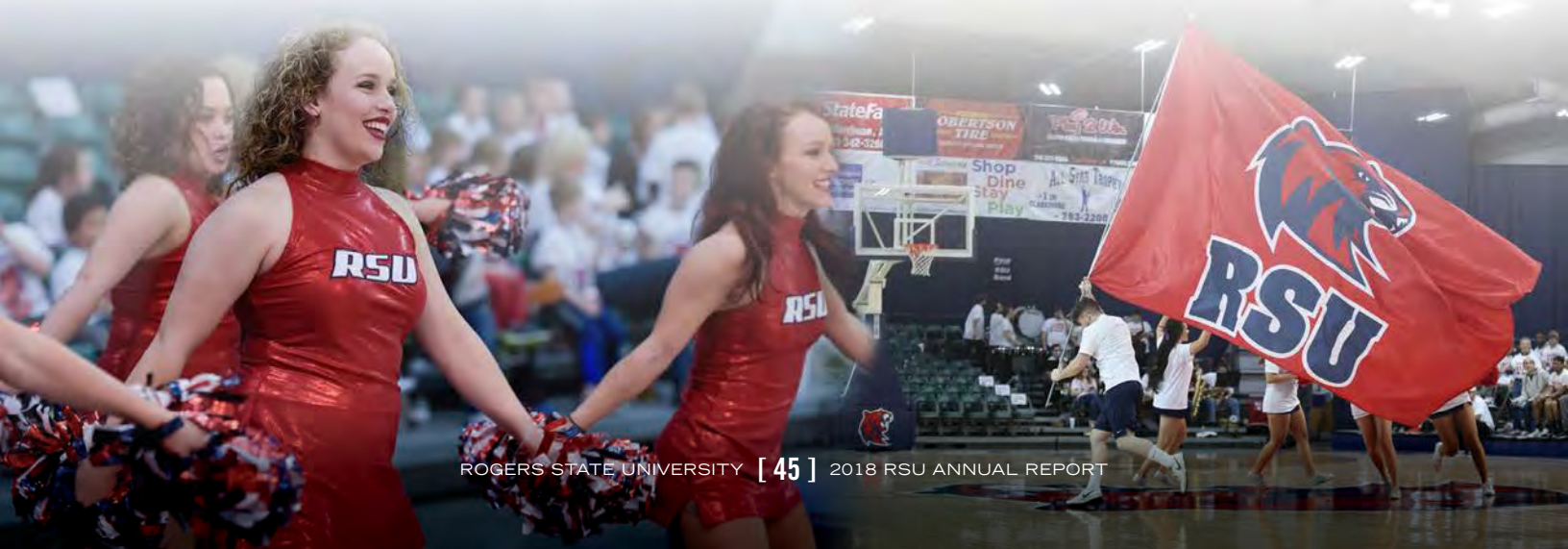


(From Left to Right) Row 1: Mckinnlie Hassell, Chelsea Couch, Lexi Holleyman, Jacalyn Honeywell, Gracy Head
 Row 2: Graycen Osburn, Abby Nofsinger, Memory Merriman, Sierra Smith

CHEER SQUAD



(From Left to Right) Row 1: Darrell Taylor, Nate Callis, Daysha Going, Bre Yeager, Emmi Gaddy, Dakota Thomas, Mascot - Adam Bickford
 Row 2: Gabriel Weathers, Bailey Reed, Maranda Talley, Meagan Sockey, Shelby Keith, Bailee Bilyeu, Cade Edwards, Cordell Williams





KEEPING UP WITH THE
HILLCATS

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COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

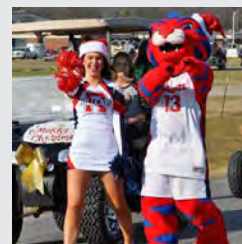
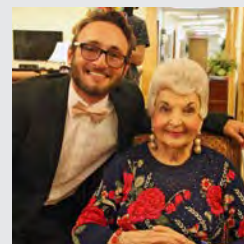
Everywhere you turn in Claremore and Rogers County, the Hillcat logo continues to pop up and make an appearance. That's because of the Rogers State athletic department's conscious effort to engage the community.

In the last year, people have had the opportunity to see Rogers State coaches and staff attempt to simultaneously ride donkeys and play basketball, while kids across the area have engaged with Hillcat student-athletes in the class room, during sports clinics, and at RSU sporting events. Several senior citizens also have enjoyed social events sponsored at their assisted living center by student-athletes. Those acts are just a sampling of the way Hillcat Athletics has impacted the community during the year.

The RSU athletic department takes an active role in the local community and has participated in a number of community and University events throughout the year totaling more than 5,000 hours. By providing opportunities for student-athletes to serve, these young men and women make meaningful contributions to society in the present and learn to be servant leaders in the future.

"We cannot be successful on the Hill without the support of the Claremore community," RSU Director of Athletics Chris Ratcliff said. "It is important for our athletic department to be involved on campus and across the community. It is the best way to create well-rounded student-athletes and allows us to be a part of what makes this a great place to live."

Community involvement is an essential component of developing strong, well-rounded student-athletes, and a unified athletics department. RSU athletics is committed to service initiatives that respond to the needs of the community, while providing student-athletes, coaches, and staff the opportunity to learn and grow.





RSU BASEBALL AND “HILLCAT HOMIES” AT ROOSA ELEMENTARY

RSU Baseball kicked off the school year with a “work day” at Roosa Elementary to beautify the outdoor space around the school and the playground. The team partners with Roosa Elementary throughout the school year with “Hillcat Homies.” Student-athletes volunteer in classrooms and ended the fall semester signing autographs for every single student at the elementary school during lunch. The entire school was invited to Roosa Day at the Ballpark to end the spring semester where baseball players signed autographs, all students received a free poster, and there were free hot dogs, candy and drinks. The event was capped by kids getting to run the bases after the game.



GOLF HOSTS VALENTINE’S DAY DANCE AT BROOKDALE SENIOR LIVING CENTER

Men’s and women’s golf put on a Valentine’s Day Dance at Brookdale Senior Living Center for the third straight year complete with music, dancing and a photo booth in February.



WOMEN’S BASKETBALL PARTNERS WITH CATOOSA SPECIAL OLYMPICS

For the eighth-straight year, the RSU women’s basketball team partnered with the Catoosa Special Olympics. The team put on a clinic for the athletes from Catoosa and cheer them on at their basketball tournament. The Catoosa Special Olympics team is a big supporter of the RSU women coming to several games during the season at the Claremore Expo.



MEN’S SOCCER VOLUNTEERS AT CATALAYAH ELEMENTARY

Men’s soccer partnered with Catalayah Elementary throughout the spring, reading to students each week. They were invited to a soccer, basketball, and baseball game during the year.



TRACK AND CROSS COUNTRY PARTICIPATE IN RUNNING BUDDIES AT CATALAYAH ELEMENTARY AND CLAREMONT ELEMENTARY

RSU cross country and track helped facilitate an after school running program at Catalayah Elementary and Claremont Elementary. “Running Buddies” allows the RSU student-athletes to run with the kids from the schools, talk to them about technique and encourage the students in the sport.



RSU SOCCER COMPLETES SIXTH SEASON WITH TOPSOCCER

RSU Soccer partnered with Owasso TOPSoccer for the eighth-consecutive season. The student-athletes helped coach the TOPSoccer team and invited them out to a game where they got to walk out with the players during starting lineups and play a game at halftime. RSU soccer players signed autographs after the game.



SOFTBALL PARTNERS WITH RCB BANK AND WILDCATS SPECIAL OLYMPICS TEAM

The RSU Softball Team partnered with RCB Bank to host the Wildcats Special Olympics team on the RSU Campus for a game. The event was a warm-up to prepare the team for the Special Olympics. The event was opened to the public and donations collected helped pay for the Wildcats new uniforms.



WOMEN’S SOCCER VOLUNTEERS AT MUSTARD SEED LITERACY NIGHT

RSU Women’s Soccer Volunteered at Mustard Seed Preschool Literacy Night during Read Across America week. They painted kid’s faces, played board games, read books and facilitated activities in the gym.



WESTSIDE ELEMENTARY BACK TO SCHOOL BEAUTIFICATION

Men’s basketball along with men’s and women’s golf spent a day during the first week of school helping the elementary update its landscaping.



RSU COLLABORATES WITH THE FEED THE VETERANS PROJECT

RSU Student-Athletes and Athletics Staff volunteered at the Feed the Veterans Project multiple times during the school year. RSU Athletics helped set up the event and distribute food to veterans.



CLAREMONT FORD DRIVE FOR YOUR SCHOOL EVENT

The Rogers State Athletic Department volunteered at the Ford Drive for Your School Event with proceeds benefiting Claremont Elementary. RSU Athletics partnered with the RSU Foundation, Kisse Ford and RCB Bank to help raise fund for Claremont Elementary with a Ford Test Drive Event. For every test drive, the elementary received a donation from Ford. Student-athletes, coaches and staff helped with registration, and test drove cars to help raise money for our Partner in Education.



RSU NAMED WINNER OF HEARTLAND CONFERENCE COMMUNITY SERVICE AND IMPACT AWARD

Rogers State University has been named the inaugural winner of the Heartland Conference Community Service and Student-Athlete Impact Award as announced by the league office. The award is given to the institution within the Heartland Conference that best engages and serves its community during the year.

The Hillcats completed more than 5,000 hours of community service and engagement throughout the year. RSU's unique partnership with RCB Bank and Claremont Elementary School allowed student-athletes to develop long-standing relationships with Claremont students throughout the year.

"Giving back and engaging the community is an emphasis within the Athletic Department at Rogers State University," RSU Director of Athletics Chris Ratcliff said. "We understand our duty as members of the Claremore and Rogers County community to strive to enrich the community every chance we get."

During the basketball season, Rogers State hosted its first VIP Game for Claremont Elementary students. Students were given VIP passes to a RSU basketball game, a hot dog lunch, door prizes and a grand giveaway of a new bike for two lucky students. The game was just one of many partnerships the Hillcats developed with the school throughout the year. "RSU's partnership with our school has elevated our students both in

and out of the classroom. Their continued support and volunteerism has created a connection that goes beyond just one event," Claremont Elementary first grade teacher Jessica Peck said.

RSU is involved at Claremont Elementary throughout the school year with projects ranging from hosting the VIP Day, volunteering at the Claremont Crayon Run, setting up booths at the Fall Back to School Carnival and working the Ford Drive for Your School Event.

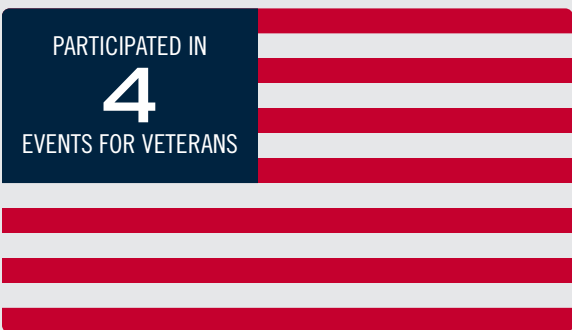
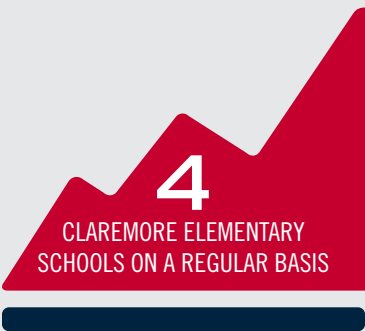
Each of RSU's 14 athletic programs completed multiple service projects throughout the year. RSU collaborates with all four elementary schools in Claremore and can be found working with a local Special Olympics team and volunteering at assisted living centers.

Rogers State becomes the first winner of the Heartland Conference Community Service and Student-Athlete Impact Award. The Hillcats were tops among a group of three finalists that included Newman, who finished in second place, and Texas A&M International.

The Heartland Conference Community Service and Student-Athlete Impact Award finalists are comprised of the top three service schools by hours. The winner of the award is selected from the finalists by a group comprised of conference Senior Women's Administrators, Faculty Athletics Representatives and student-athletes.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

BY THE NUMBERS



A + ACADEMICS



GRADUATION DAY FULL OF RSU STUDENT-ATHLETES

Rogers State University announced its fall and spring graduates with 46 former student-athletes receiving their degrees during the University's 2018 commencement ceremonies on May 12 at the Claremore Expo Center.

The 46 student-athletes were among the 505 students awarded master's, bachelor's and associate degrees for successfully completing their course of study during the fall 2017 and spring 2018 semesters. Two former student-athletes earned their master's degrees with the other 44 earning bachelor's degrees.

"We are very proud of these young women and men for completing their degrees," RSU Director of Athletics Chris Ratcliff said. "These 46 student-athletes not only represented the Hillcats in competition, but most importantly in the classroom. Congratulations to these former student-athletes on such a great milestone in their lives."

All 14 RSU athletic programs were represented among the 46 graduates with former Hillcats earning degrees in communications, business management, justice administration, sport management, medical/molecular biology, sociology, nursing, accounting, community counseling, marketing, human resource management, organizational leadership, forensic accounting and masters of business administration.

More than 300 student-athletes have now earned bachelor degrees from RSU since the inception of athletics in 2005.



TEN HILLCATS HONORED AT GRADUATE AWARDS CEREMONIES

A total of 10 Rogers State graduating student-athletes were recognized by their respective honor graduates awards ceremonies on Friday, May 11 before graduation on Saturday.

In the RSU Department of Business, eight Hillcat student-athletes were named either the outstanding or distinguished graduates for their respective majors. Malinda Moore, Ryan Alexander, Cody Cammill, Evan Norlie, Baylor Harvey, Leigh Ann Craig, Alex Marsh and Courtney Davis garnered awards from the School of Professional Studies at the 2018 Honor Graduates Award Ceremony at Herrington Hall.

Cambridge Coy was named the outstanding graduate from the Department of Biology for the medical/molecular major, and Blake Fisher was selected as the outstanding graduate from the Department of History & Political Science for the bachelor of arts in public affairs with the political science option from the School of Arts and Science at the 2018 Honor Graduate Award Ceremony at the Will Rogers Auditorium.

The award winners are selected by the department's faculty and based on performance in the classroom and for their actions within the campus community.

School of Professional Studies

Department of Business

Bachelor of Science: Business Administration, Forensic Accounting Option
Outstanding Graduate: Malinda Moore

Bachelor of Science: Business Administration, Management Option

Outstanding Graduate: Ryan Alexander



Bachelor of Science: Business Administration, Marketing Option
Distinguished Graduate: Cody Gammill

Bachelor of Science: Business Administration Supply Chain Management
Outstanding Graduate: Evan Norlie

Bachelor of Science Sport Management, Fitness Management
Outstanding Graduate: Baylor Harvey
Distinguished Graduate: Leigh Ann Craig

Bachelor of Science Sport Management, Sport Business
Outstanding Graduate: Alex Marsh
Distinguished Graduate: Courtney Davis

School of Arts and Sciences

Department of Biology

Bachelor of Science in Biology: Medical/Molecular
Outstanding Graduate: Cambridge Coy

Department of History & Political Science

Bachelor of Arts in Public Affairs: Political Science Option
Outstanding Graduate: Blake Fisher



HARVEY SELECTED AS GOOGLE CLOUD ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA FOR SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR

Rogers State's Baylor Harvey was named to the 2018 Google Cloud Academic All-America Division II Men's Track & Field/Cross Country team for the second straight season as selected

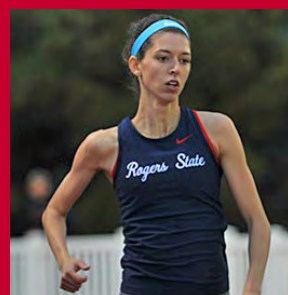
by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). Harvey was a first team selection in 2018 after being a second team pick as a junior in 2017.

Harvey earned CoSIDA Academic All-America honors for the second time in his career in the navy and red. The senior from Cleveland, Oklahoma was selected as a CoSIDA Academic All-America a season ago after being a two-time All-American in cross country and track & field during his junior campaign. During his senior season, Harvey finished his historic career on College Hill as an All-American in cross country for the second straight season. Harvey placed 16th at the NCAA Division II Championships on Nov. 18, 2017 in Evansville, Indiana to take All-American honors.

Harvey won his third individual title in the Heartland Conference Men's Cross Country Championship and led the Hillcats to a team Heartland Conference Championship. He was named the Heartland Conference Runner of the Year for the third time after the win in the league championship. During the track & field season, Harvey was All-GAC in the 5,000 meters. For his career, Harvey earned All-American honors three times – twice in cross country and once in track & field in the 5,000 meters as a junior.

In the classroom, Harvey held an impressive 3.94 grade point average in sport management. He graduated this spring and will continue his academic career at the University of Oklahoma where he will start in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program (DPT). Along with being a two-time CoSIDA Academic All-America, Harvey was a four-time CoSIDA Academic All-District honoree.

The Division II and III Google Cloud Academic All-America program is partially financially supported by the NCAA Division II and III national governance structures, to assist CoSIDA with handling the awards fulfillment aspect for the 2017-18 DII and DIII Academic All-America teams.



GILLISPIE GARNERS GOOGLE CLOUD ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA HONORS

Rogers State's Hailey Gillispie was named to the 2018 Google Cloud Academic All-America Division II Women's Track & Field/Cross Country team as selected by the College Sports Information Directors of America

(CoSIDA). Gillispie was a second team selection for her first-ever All-America honor.

Gillispie, a senior from Henryetta, Oklahoma, earned Google Cloud Academic All-America Second Team honors for the first time in her four-year career in the navy and red. In her senior season, Gillispie was named all-conference in cross country and track & field. During the fall in cross country, she took 10th at the Heartland Conference Women's Cross Country Championships to pick up All-Heartland Conference First Team honors. She was the top runner for the RSU women's cross country team all season in her senior season. In her track & field season, Gillispie finished third in the 800 meters at the Great American Conference Championships to take All-GAC in the race. She set the school record in the 800 meters numerous times throughout the season and lowered the mark to 2:15.60 in her final race of her career at the Oxy Invitational on May 12 in Los Angeles.

Gillispie completed her undergraduate degree in three years while at RSU and started a master of business administration (MBA) during her senior season of athletics for both the cross country and track & field programs. She currently carries a perfect 4.0 grade point average in the MBA program. Gillispie was a Google Cloud All-District First Team selection during her senior season.

The Division II and III Google Cloud Academic All-America program is partially financially supported by the NCAA Division II and III national governance structures, to assist CoSIDA with handling the awards fulfillment aspect for the 2017-18 DII and DIII Academic All-America teams.



2017 & 2016
Men's Cross Country
All-American or Two-Time
NCAA DII Men's Cross Country
All-American

2017
Men's Track & Field
All-American First Team
(5,000 meters)

2018 & 2017
CoSIDA Academic
All-American

2018
Heartland Conference
Male Athlete of the Year

2018
Heartland Conference
Male Scholar Athlete of the Year

2017, 2016 & 2014
Heartland Conference Individual Champion

2017, 2016 & 2014
Heartland Conference Runner of the Year

2017, 2016, 2014 & 2013
Heartland Conference First Team

2018, 2017, 2016 & 2015
CoSIDA Academic All-District

2017 & 2016
All-South Central Region

2017
Heartland Conference
Cross Country Team Champion

2017
Great American Conference
Champion 1,500 meters

2016
Great American Conference
Champion 5,000 meters

2018, 2017 & 2016
All-Great American
Conference First Team

2017
USTFCCA
All-Academic Team

Seven-time
Heartland Conference
Runner of the Week

HARVEY SWEEPS

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE'S HIGHEST AWARDS



Rogers State's Baylor Harvey swept the two most prestigious awards given by the Heartland Conference in 2017-18 as the senior was named the Heartland Conference Male Athlete of the Year and the Heartland Conference Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year. He became the first student-athlete in the nearly 20 years of the conference to sweep the two league awards.

The Heartland Conference Male Athlete of the Year award is determined by the votes of the league's sports information directors, and the Heartland Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year honor is selected from a group of 18 by the votes of the league's athletic directors and faculty athletic representatives.

Harvey's selection as the Heartland Male Athlete of the Year and Heartland Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year marks the first time a Rogers State Hillcat has won the awards since RSU joined the conference in 2013. The senior closed out one of the most impressive cross country careers in conference history both athletically and academically.

The Cleveland, Oklahoma native led the Hillcats to their first Heartland Conference championship in cross country with a one-point win over previous champion Dallas Baptist University. Harvey's third individual championship pushed RSU over the top and spurred the Hillcats' best postseason run since joining Division II. Harvey picked up his third Heartland individual title in four years and earned Heartland Runner of the Year honors for the third time. Harvey was also selected for his second All-American award in cross country at the Division II National Championship with a 16th-place finish. He now holds the Rogers State record at every distance in cross country along with most distance events for the RSU track & field team.

In the classroom, Harvey graduated with a 3.94 grade-point-average in sport management and looks to continue his academic pursuits at The University of Oklahoma in the doctor of physical therapy program. His academic and athletic accomplishments led to the fourth Academic All-District award and second Google Cloud Academic All-America honor of his career earlier this season.

For his career, Harvey is a three-time All-American, two-time CoSIDA Academic All-American, one-time Heartland Conference Male Athlete of the Year (in the one year the award has existed), three-time Heartland Conference Runner of the Year, three-time Heartland Conference individual champion, one-time Heartland Conference team champion, four-time All-Heartland Conference First Team, four-time CoSIDA Academic All-District and two-time All-South Central Region in cross country.



HEARTLAND CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE RUNNER OF THE YEAR
BAYLOR HARVEY

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR
ELIJAH MACKEY

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE COACH OF THE YEAR
CHRIS MCCORMICK

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR
BRIA SALAZAR

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE COACH OF THE YEAR
SCOTT PARKINSON

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE WOMEN'S SOCCER ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM
MELISSA CARDENAS, HANNAH MUSHISKY & AMANDA TEWES

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE COACH OF THE YEAR
ANDREA VAUGHAN

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE SOFTBALL ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM
ANDREA MORALES (MVP), DANELLE DAY,
MERRISSA SMITH & KATY TAYLOR

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR
LUKE PALMOWSKI

HEARTLAND CONFERENCE FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR
JESS WHITTING

3 HEARTLAND CONFERENCE COACHES OF THE YEAR

1 HEARTLAND CONFERENCE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

4 HEARTLAND CONFERENCE FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR

2017-18 ACADEMIC SUCCESS

BY THE NUMBERS



55

Student-Athletes earned a bachelor's degree



DEPARTMENT AVERAGE GPA

3.03



HEARTLAND CONFERENCE

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE HONOR ROLL

FALL

SPRING

62

COMMISSIONER'S HONOR ROLL (GPA 3.0)

52

COMMISSIONER'S HONOR ROLL (GPA 3.0)

74

PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL (GPA 3.5)

73

PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL (GPA 3.5)

FALL 31

Student-Athletes with a 4.0 GPA

SPRING 44

Student-Athletes with a 4.0 GPA

TOP TEAM GPA

3.51 Women's Soccer

3.34 Men's Cross Country

3.29 Women's Cross Country/Track&Field

3.26 Baseball

3.22 Women's Basketball



ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY

ACADEMIC HONOR ROLL

FALL

SPRING

47

DEAN'S HONOR ROLL (GPA 3.5)

46

DEAN'S HONOR ROLL (GPA 3.5)

32

PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL (GPA 4.0)

47

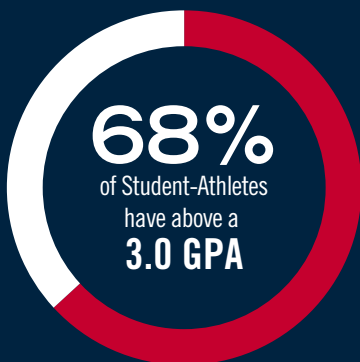
PRESIDENT'S HONOR ROLL (GPA 4.0)

FALL 71

Student-Athletes with a 3.0 GPA

SPRING 68

Student-Athletes with a 3.0 GPA



STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



SAAC LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee was developed to enhance the overall student-athlete experience, encourage engagement within the community, and act as liaisons between the administration and student-athletes. This organization is made up of student-athletes that encompass excellent leadership skills and have the ambition to make an impact on campus and within their community.

The 2017-2018 academic year was yet another impeccable year for the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. With our fantastic SAAC members, we were able to accomplish some amazing things. Our focus for the year was to increase student engagement and continue our involvement within the community. Undoubtedly, with our motivated and dedicated student-athletes we achieved all our goals.

In April, we hosted our fourth annual “Senior Prom” at the Brookfield Assisted Living Center. This event is always full of great music, dancing, and laughter. Like every year prior, it was a huge hit for everyone involved. The senior prom is a great way for our student-athletes to engage with community members while having a ton of fun. This has become a tradition for our Student-athlete advisory committee and I am excited to see it continue for years to come.

The NCAA Division II is partnered with Make-A-Wish foundation. Therefore, in agreement with the Heartland Conference, our athletic department was responsible for raising \$1000 to the foundation. Our impeccable student-athletes from all teams volunteered to work the concession stands for the Green Country Rodeo in Claremore. It was inspiring to see everyone come together to dedicate their time to make a difference. Within two days, we were able to meet our goal!

At the end of the year, we organized our fourth annual sand volleyball tournament and barbecue on campus. This event is open to all students and gives them the opportunity to socialize and unwind from the stress of finals week! With the help of our Jeff Losornio, our student-athletes, and athletic advisors, the event was a huge success.

I am so grateful for the time and energy that our members and advisor, Sara Braun, put into this year. Everyone dedicated numerous hours of volunteering, meetings, and organizing events on top of all their athletic and academic commitments. I am so proud of everything we accomplished as a committee and I am honored to have been the president.

I have watched the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee grow and improve so much within my last four years at RSU and I cannot wait to see what amazing things they will accomplish in years to come.

Sincerely,
Lexi Ellingsen



RSU SAAC REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2017-2018



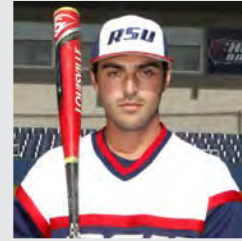
LEXI ELLINGSEN
President
Women's Soccer



OLIVIA COUCH
Vice President
Women's Track and Field



TAYLOR STOVER
Secretary/National SAAC Rep
Women's Soccer



SAM CASINELLI
Treasurer
Baseball



DARIAN JACKSON
Women's Basketball



DESIREE NELSON
Women's Basketball



KATELYN GAMBLE
Softball



TAYLOR SANTISTEVAN
Softball



LONDON NEALON
Baseball



VAUGHN RANEY
Men's Basketball



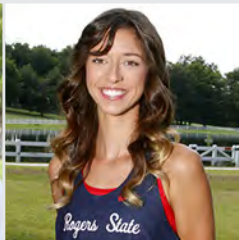
JOSH JOINER
Men's Basketball



CHRIS SOWDER
Men's Soccer



ROMAN GUTIERREZ
Men's Soccer



HAILEY GILLISPIE
Women's Cross Country/Track



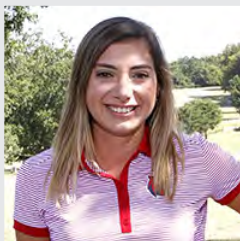
SETH WHITTINGTON
Men's Cross Country/Track



BAYLOR HARVEY
Men's Cross Country/Track



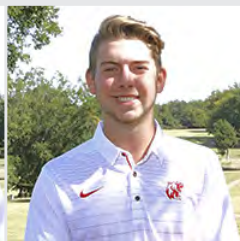
JESS WHITTING
Women's Golf



MARIANA FLORES
Women's Golf



GEORGE BURNETT
Men's Golf



GARRETT SMITH
Men's Golf



SARA BRAUN
Associate AD for External Operations/SWA

RSU STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

The Rogers State University Hillcat Student-Athlete Advisory Committee's (SAAC) mission is to foster open communication between student-athletes and the athletic department administration, and to enhance the student-athlete experience by developing leadership skills, promoting a positive student-athlete image, and improving the day-to-day life of all student-athletes through activities, social events, and community service



OMAs RECAP

The Rogers State athletic department held its third annual Outstanding Moments in Athletics (OMAs) Award Show on Wednesday, April 25 inside the Will Rogers Auditorium on the RSU Claremore campus honoring the 2017-18 endeavors of its student-athletes.

“The third annual OMAs Awards Show was a huge hit and great success, as we celebrated the achievements of our teams and student-athletes with our biggest fans and supporters in attendance,” RSU Associate Athletic Director Sara Braun said. “We are also grateful for the continued support of the RSU and Claremore community, and we look forward to the continued success of all our athletic programs.”

In a new location at the Will Rogers Auditorium, the event started with interviews on the red carpet along with a photo booth. The night featured 25 department awards to recognize the best in RSU athletics for the 2017-18 year plus special awards for each of the RSU athletic teams.

The award show, hosted by Josh Haley, featured highlight videos, top plays from the year and awards presented to Hillcat student-athletes by their peers. Award recipients for the OMAs were nominated by the coaches and chosen by a selection committee.

The OMAs also included three awards for the Professor of the Year, Corporate Sponsor of the Year and Mark Haggard Fans of the Year. Bob Willis was selected as the Professor of the Year. Bob, who retired after the school year, provides tremendous support at many RSU Athletic events along with serving as the team mentor for the cross country program. David and Karen Sutton were named the Mark Haggard Fans of the Year. The couple can be seen at most RSU sporting events throughout the season. RCB Bank was selected as the Corporate Sponsor of the Year as they have gone above and beyond to help support the athletic department.

Along with the team awards, student-athletes presented awards in categories of For the Love of the Game, Courage Award, Best Supporting Role, Newcomer of the Year, Highlight of the Year, Team Performance of the Year, Hillcat Spirit Award, Academic Success Award, All-Academic Team, Athlete of the Year, Distinguished Athlete Award and the Hillcat Award.

This year’s award show concluded with the 2017 Heartland Conference champion RSU men’s cross country team receiving its championship rings.

“The OMAs Award Show is always a fun event for our Athletic Department. It is a great way to celebrate the achievements of our teams and student-athletes with parents, fans and supporters. We had a great year on the field of play and in the classroom. It was exciting to relive the year’s accomplishment with the entire Hillcat Family.”

- Chris Ratcliff, Director of Athletics

2017-2018 OMA WINNERS



DANCE HEART OF THE HILLCAT

ABBY NOFSINGER

WOMEN'S SOCCER MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

TAYLOR SARGENT

MEN'S SOCCER HILLCAT TEAM AWARD

CHRIS SOWDER

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY HILLCAT LEGACY AWARD

HAILEY GILLISPIE

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY HILLCAT LEGACY AWARD

RYAN ALEXANDER

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL HILLCAT AWARD

DARIAN JACKSON

MEN'S BASKETBALL MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER

BARON SMITH JR.

WOMEN'S GOLFER OF THE YEAR

JESS WHITTING

MEN'S GOLF – THE P.U.M.A.

ALEX MARSH

SOFTBALL HILLCAT AWARD

DANELLE DAY

BASEBALL MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER

SPENCER BIVENS

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD HILLCAT LEGACY AWARD

CAMBRIDGE COY

MEN'S TRACK & FIELD HILLCAT LEGACY AWARD

JAQUAN JOHNSON

FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME

TAYLER STOVER

JAQUAN JOHNSON

COURAGE AWARD

HANNAH MUSHISKY

SETH GERADY

BEST SUPPORTING ROLE

MELISSA CARDENAS

RYAN ALEXANDER

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

ALLIE MCFETRIDGE

BREWSTER PEACOCK

INDIVIDUAL HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR

RICKY BELL

TEAM HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR

MEN'S GOLF

TEAM PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

HILLCAT SPIRIT AWARD

LEXI HOLLEYMAN

ACADEMIC SUCCESS AWARD

HAILEY GILLISPIE

CAMBRIDGE COY

VAUGHN RANEY

BAYLOR HARVEY

ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM

BASEBALL - SETH GERADY

SOFTBALL - KATELYN GAMBLE

MEN'S SOCCER - CODY GAMMILL

WOMEN'S SOCCER - TAYLER STOVER

MEN'S BASKETBALL - VAUGHN RANEY

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL - LAUREN SCHULDT

MEN'S GOLF - ALEX MARSH

WOMEN'S GOLF - SYDNEY MURRAY

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK & FIELD – BAYLOR HARVEY

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY - HAILEY GILLISPIE

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD - CAMBRIDGE COY

CHEER - BREANNE YEAGER

DANCE - JACALYN HONEYWELL

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

JESS WHITTING

BAYLOR HARVEY

DISTINGUISHED ATHLETE AWARD

HAILEY GILLISPIE

CODY GAMMILL

HILLCAT AWARD

LEXI ELLINGSEN

BAYLOR HARVEY

PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

BOB WILLIS

CORPORATE SPONSOR OF THE YEAR

RCB BANK

MARK HAGGARD FAN OF THE YEAR

DAVID & KAREN SUTTON



RSU HILLCAT COMPLIANCE

Rogers State University is responsible for the actions of its coaches, student-athletes and staff, as well as its alumni, boosters and fans. The following information is intended to help educate athletic boosters and organizations, so they can best support RSU athletes without putting the institution or the individual student-athletes at risk. If you have any questions or would like to seek clarification regarding your actions as a supporter of Hillcat athletics, please call the athletic compliance office at 918-343-7884 or email RSU's NCAA Compliance Coordinator, Dawn Tatro at datatro@rsu.edu.

BOOSTERS

You are a Booster or Representative of Athletic Interests, if you:

- ▶ Have participated in, or ever have been, a member of a booster organization that supports RSU athletics;
- ▶ Have made any financial contribution to the RSU athletic department or any athletic organization of the University;
- ▶ Have been involved in the recruitment of a prospect or have been asked to assist in the recruitment of a prospective student-athlete;
- ▶ Have provided or are providing benefits to an enrolled student-athlete or his or her relatives or friends;
- ▶ Have otherwise been involved in promoting the RSU athletic program;
- ▶ Have helped arrange employment for student-athletes;
- ▶ Are a parent or guardian of an enrolled student-athlete;
- ▶ Are or have ever been a season-ticket holder.

NOTE: Once someone has been identified as a Booster, they will retain that identity forever.

RECRUITING

A prospective student-athlete is any person who has begun classes in the ninth grade. A prospective student-athlete remains so even after signing a National Letter of Intent or accepting financial aid and until they report for the first day of classes.

What are Boosters prohibited from doing?

- ▶ Contacting a prospect in person on or off campus
- ▶ Writing or telephoning a prospect or member of the prospect's family
- ▶ Making arrangements for the prospect or the prospect's relatives or friends to receive money or financial aid
- ▶ Providing transportation for a prospect or the prospect's family or friends to visit the campus
- ▶ Providing free tickets or reduced priced tickets to attend an athletic event to the prospect or the prospect's family or friends
- ◆ Entertaining coaches of prospects

What are Boosters permitted to do?

- ▶ Notify coaches about prospects in your area
- ▶ Attend athletic contests where prospects compete, but may not contact the prospect or the prospect's relatives
- ▶ Continue existing friendships with families of prospects, but not attempt to recruit
- ▶ Participate with prospects in organized institutional community engagement activities when prospects reside within 100-mile radius of location (Effective 8/1/07)

ENROLLED STUDENT-ATHLETES

A booster may not provide a student-athlete any benefit or special arrangement that would not be offered to the rest of the general student population. This would include:

- ▶ May not entertain student-athletes or their friends or family;
- ▶ May not use the name or picture of an enrolled student-athlete to advertise, recommend, or promote any product or service;
- ▶ May not provide awards or gifts to student-athletes;
- ▶ May not allow a student-athlete to use a telephone to make free calls, or allow use of a free or discounted auto mobile;
- ▶ May not provide a student-athlete free or reduced cost goods or services;

NOTE: An enrolled student-athlete may be invited to a booster's home for an occasional home-cooked meal, but may not be taken to a restaurant.

EMPLOYMENT

A student-athlete may be employed so long as compensation is only for work actually performed, at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar work, and the student-athlete was not hired based on athletics ability.

NOTE: Employment may be arranged for a prospect provided the employment does not begin before the completion of the prospect's senior year of high school.

INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL

RSU is responsible for the actions of its boosters and booster support groups. Boosters are regulated by the same NCAA rules and regulations placed upon all institutional athletics staff members.

CONSEQUENCES

If a booster provides an impermissible benefit to a prospect, a student-athlete, or their relatives or friends, institutions may be subject to penalties, even if the student-athlete has completed his or her eligibility. A prospect or student-athlete who accepts an impermissible benefit faces the loss of eligibility.

ATHLETIC STAFF & COACHES DIRECTORY

NAME	POSITION	EMAIL	PHONE
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ADMINISTRATION

Chris Ratcliff	Director of Athletics	cratcliff@rsu.edu	918-343-7782
Sara Braun	SWA/Associate AD for External Operations	sarabraun@rsu.edu	918-343-7989
Dawn Tatro	Assistant AD for Compliance & Academics	dtatro@rsu.edu	918-343-7884
Tim Hanson	Sports Information Director	thanson@rsu.edu	918-343-7839
Dr. Brian Andrews	Faculty Athletic Representative	bandrews@rsu.edu	918-343-7684
Kim Bagwell	Executive Assistant to the Director of Athletics	kbagwell@rsu.edu	918-343-7782

ATHLETIC TRAINING

Trey Robertson	Head Athletic Trainer	trobertson@rsu.edu	918-343-5203
Jeff Paden	Asst. Athletic Trainer/Strength & Conditioning Coordinator	jpaden@rsu.edu	918-343-6808

BASEBALL

Chris Klimas	Head Coach	cklimas@rsu.edu	918-343-7787
Robert Brown	Assistant Coach	robertbrown@rsu.edu	918-343-6815
Skyler Ellis	Assistant Coach	sellis@rsu.edu	918-343-6815

BASKETBALL (M)

Justin Barkley	Head Coach	jbarkley@rsu.edu	918-343-6804
Tyler Wayman	Assistant Coach	twayman@rsu.edu	918-343-7678
KT Carter	Assistant Coach	kcarter@rsu.edu	918-343-6864

CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK (M)

Chris McCormick	Head Coach	cmccormick@rsu.edu	918-343-7689
Morrie Turner	Assistant Coach	morrieturner@rsu.edu	918-343-7288

GOLF (M)

Steve Brown	Head Coach	sbrown@rsu.edu	918-343-7988
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SOCCER (M)

Derek Larkin	Head Coach	dlarkin@rsu.edu	918-343-7995
Mitchell Sowerby	Assistant Coach	msowerby@rsu.edu	918-343-7995
Bryan Weygand	Assistant Coach		918-343-7995

BASKETBALL (W)

Kyle Bent	Head Coach	kbent@rsu.edu	918-343-7883
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Ashlee Pitts	Assistant Coach	apitts@rsu.edu	918-343-7757

CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK (W)

Chris McCormick	Head Coach	cmccormick@rsu.edu	918-343-7689
Morrie Turner	Assistant Coach	morrieturner@rsu.edu	918-343-7288

ATHLETIC STAFF & COACHES DIRECTORY

NAME	POSITION	EMAIL	PHONE
GOLF (W)			
Whitney Hocutt	Head Coach	whocutt@rsu.edu	918-343-7894
SOCCER (W)			
Yolanda Thomas	Head Coach	ythomas@rsu.edu	918-343-7996
Michael Moritz	Assistant Coach	mmoritz@rsu.edu	918-343-7290
SOFTBALL			
Andrea Vaughan	Head Coach	avaughan@rsu.edu	918-343-7562
Malori Moss	Assistant Coach	mmoss@rsu.edu	918-343-6813
Chris Nakashima	Assistant Coach	cnakashima@rsu.edu	918-343-7517
CHEERLEADING			
Titus Massey	Head Coach	tmassey@rsu.edu	
DANCE			
Amy Alt	Head Coach	amyalt@rsu.edu	



HILLCAT FACILITIES

BUSHYHEAD FIELDHOUSE

Bushyhead Fieldhouse serves as the on-campus practice facility for RSU's basketball teams. The gym features six goals, digital scoreboards and portable seating with a capacity of 300. Bushyhead is also the home of the athletic department offices as well as the RSU Wellness Center - a private weight training facility for student-athletes. Bushyhead houses both the men's and women's basketball locker rooms, an athletic training room, the Hillcat Academic Center for student-athletes and public restrooms.



CLAREMORE EXPO CENTER

Claremore Expo Center serves as the home of Hillcat basketball on game nights and is utilized as a secondary practice facility for the basketball teams. The Expo Center features arena seating on all four sides of the court for up to 2,000 fans. A four-sided digital scoreboard adorns center court accompanied by professional playing goals with three-sided shot clocks on each end of the floor. A state-of-the-art sound system helps produce a fun atmosphere for fans and often creates a hostile environment for opponents.



DIAMOND SPORTS COMPLEX

The Diamond Sports Complex features a professional playing surface, lights, a large inning-by-inning scoreboard, batting cages and grandstand seating for 1,200. A spacious locker room is located adjacent to the Hillcat dugout featuring individual lockers, coaches' offices, and an athletic training area. The first floor of the centerpiece, two-story building includes concessions, restrooms, and umpire dressing rooms. The second floor features separate baseball and softball press boxes, offices, and a donors' suite with indoor and outdoor seating.



SOLDIER FIELD

Soldier Field is located in the heart of the RSU campus with a new digital scoreboard added in the south end zone. It also features a large press box, lights, a public address system and stadium seating for a great view of the action capable of supporting 2,000 fans. The installation of artificial turf at Soldier Field was completed in May 2012 allowing RSU to maximize the availability and functionality of historic Soldier Field.



HILLCAT ATHLETICS CENTER

Located in the north end zone of Soldier Field, the 8,986 square-foot Hillcat Athletics Center was completed in the summer of 2012. The facility features spacious locker rooms for the men's and women's soccer teams as well as the men's and women's cross country and track teams. Coaches' offices and an athletic training room are located in the central area of the building. The facility also includes permanent concessions and restrooms for patrons and a paved concourse area with sight lines to the field.



ABOUT THE HEARTLAND CONFERENCE

The Heartland Conference is an NCAA Division II conference, founded in 1999, that consists of nine schools, five from Texas, two from Oklahoma, and one each from Arkansas and Kansas. The schools comprising the Heartland Conference stretch from as far north as Wichita, Kan., as far east as Fort Smith, Ark., as far south as Laredo, Texas, and as far west as Lubbock, Texas. The Conference stretches over a distance of 1,050 miles north to south and 524 east to west.

The schools that are in the Heartland Conference include founding members St. Edward's University (Austin, Texas), and St. Mary's University (San Antonio, Texas), and expansion members Dallas Baptist University (Dallas, Texas) in 2002 and again in 2004, and Newman University (Wichita, Kansas), and Texas A&M International University (Laredo, Texas), the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith (2009), and Oklahoma Christian University (2012), and Lubbock Christian and Rogers State in 2013.

Among the many accomplishments of these institutions are national championships in baseball, golf, women's basketball, softball, and nationally ranked teams in all sports. The strength of the student-athlete concept is well supported by the many NCAA scholar-athletes in each school, the high cumulative GPA of the student-athletes in each school, and the high number of student-athletes who graduate from each institution in the Heartland. The Heartland Conference is one of the newest NCAA Division II conferences. At the present time, there are 24 conferences in NCAA Division II, totaling almost 300 institutions in full or provisional status across the nation. Members of NCAA Division II believe that a well-conducted intercollegiate athletics program, based on sound educational principles and practices, is a proper part of the educational mission of a university or college and that the educational welfare of the participating student-athlete is of primary concern.



CONFERENCE PRINCIPLES

Members of NCAA Division II support the following principles in the belief that these objectives assist in defining the division and the possible differences between it and other divisions of the Association. This statement shall serve as a guide for the preparation of legislation by the division and for planning and implementation of programs by institutions and conferences. A member of Division II:

- ▶ Believes in promoting the academic success of its student-athletes, measured in part by an institution's student-athletes graduating at least at the same rate as the institution's student body;
- ▶ Believes that participation in intercollegiate athletics benefits the educational experience of its student-athletes and the entire campus community;
- ▶ Believes in offering opportunities for intercollegiate athletics participation consistent with the institution's mission and philosophy;
- ▶ Believes in preparing student-athletes to be good citizens, leaders and contributors in their communities;
- ▶ Believes in striving for equitable participation and competitive excellence, encouraging sportsmanship and ethical conduct, enhancing diversity and developing positive societal attitudes in all of its athletics endeavors;
- ▶ Believes in scheduling the majority of its athletics competition with other members of Division II, insofar as regional qualification, geographical location and traditional or conference scheduling patterns permit;
- ▶ Recognizes the need to "balance" the role of the athletics program to serve both the campus (participants, student body, faculty-staff) and the general public (community, area, state);
- ▶ Believes in offering opportunity for participation in intercollegiate athletics by awarding athletically related financial aid to its student-athletes;
- ▶ Believes that institutional control is a fundamental principle that supports the educational mission of a Division II institution and assumes presidential involvement and commitment. All funds supporting athletics should be controlled by the institution. The emphasis for an athletics department should be to operate within an institutionally approved budget, and compliance with and self-enforcement of NCAA regulations is an expectation of membership; and
- ▶ Believes that all members of Division II should commit themselves to this philosophy and to the regulations and programs of Division II.

HILLCATS TO JOIN MIAA CONFERENCE FOR 2019-2020 SEASON

Rogers State University will join the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association Conference starting in fall 2019 after receiving formal approval from the university's governing board.

The MIAA is a 14-school, NCAA Division II athletic conference featuring public and private institutions in Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma. The conference includes area schools such as Northeastern State, University of Central Oklahoma, Pittsburg State and Missouri Southern State. Other MIAA schools include Central Missouri, Emporia State, Fort Hays State, Lincoln University, Lindenwood, Missouri Western, University of Nebraska at Kearney, Northwest Missouri State, Southwest Baptist and Washburn.

RSU Director of Athletics Chris Ratcliff said a move to the MIAA aligns well with the athletic department's mission moving forward.

"The MIAA is known for its championship-caliber athletic programs, emphasis on academic excellence and a commitment to community service, and these traits align perfectly with RSU's vision for our athletic programs," he said. "Additionally, the conference's geographic footprint lends itself to natural rivalries with area schools that will excite our fans, while also reducing travel time for student-athletes."

RSU President Dr. Larry Rice said the MIAA shares RSU's commitment to developing well-rounded student-athletes through its emphasis on academics, sportsmanship, ethical conduct and community service.

"At RSU, we strive to ensure that our student-athletes are successful in competition, in the classroom and in the community," Rice said. "The MIAA shares our commitment to developing student-athletes who will earn their diplomas and then go out into the world to make a positive difference."

The MIAA participates in conference championships for all sports in which RSU competes, including baseball and softball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's golf, men's and women's soccer, and men's and women's track and field. While most MIAA members compete in football, the conference in June removed specific sports sponsorship requirements (including football) for member institutions; RSU officials said the university will not be adding football to its athletic programs.

The 2018-2019 season marks RSU's final year as a member of the Heartland Conference.



ABOUT NCAA DIVISION II



Higher education has lasting importance on an NCAA individual's future success. For this reason, the emphasis on the student-athlete experience in Division II is a comprehensive program of learning and development in a personal setting. The Division II approach provides growth opportunities through academic achievement, learning in high-level athletics competition and development of positive societal attitudes in service to community. The balance and integration of these different areas of learning opportunity provide Division II student-athletes a path to graduation, while cultivating a variety of skills and knowledge for life ahead.

NCAA Division II has 284 active member institutions, ranging in size from less than 2,500 to over 15,000, with the average enrollment being around 4,500. The division has almost 90,000 student-athletes competing and providing an intersection where athletically gifted students can compete at a high level, while maintaining much of a traditional student experience. Additionally, the athletics programs are properly aligned with the educational mission of the institution and higher education. This balance is what distinguishes Division II from the other divisions.

- Division II teams usually feature a number of local or in-state student-athletes.
- Many Division II student-athletes pay for school through a combination of scholarship money, grants, student loans and employment earnings.
- Division II athletics programs are fully integrated into the institution's operations and budget, like other academic departments on campus.
- The Division II membership is focused on an "academics first" philosophy and the division's commitment to academic excellence supports the primary mission for NCAA schools: We are preparing student-athletes to go pro in something other than sports.
- A regionalization philosophy is used to select teams for Division II national championships. This emphasis on being the best team in your geographic region helps schools prioritize scheduling of regional opponents, limit missed class time, and manage travel expenses.

DIVISION II ATTRIBUTES

- Learning – multiple opportunities to broaden knowledge and skills
- Service – positive societal attitude through contributions to community
- Passion – enthusiastic dedication and desire in effort
- Sportsmanship – respects for fairness, courtesy; ethical conduct toward others
- Resourcefulness – versatile skill set drawn from broad range of experiences
- Balance – emphasis on collective knowledge; integration of skills

WHAT IS NCAA DIVISION II

- NCAA Division II offers intercollegiate athletics in a fiscally responsible way and, in the process, offers all the student-athletes a positive intercollegiate athletics experience.
- In Division II, a "balance" exists that emphasizes both academic excellence and athletics achievement, and an environment is created that leads to the student-athlete's total personal development, emphasizing the integration of athletics into the learning environment in ways that allow institutional members to focus on the total and comprehensive co-curricular experience of their student-athletes.
- Student-athletes are valued for their athletics contribution and for being an important part of the overall student body.

Division II provides an intersection where athletically gifted students can compete at a high level, while maintaining much of a traditional collegiate undergraduate experience. This balance, where students are recognized for their academic success, athletics contributions and campus/community involvement, is at the heart of the Division II student-athlete experience.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

The latest figures show a 73 percent Academic Success Rate (ASR) for Division II. This means that 73 percent of all Division II student-athletes (scholarship and nonscholarship) receive a degree within six years of initial full time collegiate enrollment.

The division's "comprehensive program of learning and development" and research-based initial- and continuing-eligibility standards result in Division II student-athletes consistently graduating 10 to 15 percentage points higher than the total student body.

The gap between the Division II student-athlete and the student body graduation rate is bigger than at both the Division I and Division III levels.

FINANCIAL AID

Nearly 50 percent of all Division II student-athletes receive some amount of athletically related financial aid. Many Division II student-athletes pay for school through a combination of scholarship money, grants, student loans and employment earnings.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Division II institutions have embraced a philosophy whereby athletics is positioned as the institution's front porch to community. By engaging community in this way, all programs, departments, and events that a campus has to offer can be showcased in a strategic way.

Division II institutions have intentionally focused on creating a civil, comfortable and entertaining game environment for its athletics events that are affordable, puts fans in close proximity to the action, and the environment is "fan friendly."

The Division II National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee has committed its fundraising activities to the Make-A-Wish Foundation since 2003. The overall amount raised during this timeframe is more than \$1.5 million. It is estimated that more than 150 wishes have been granted from these Division II dollars.

2017-2018 RSU HILLCAT CLUB SUPPORTERS

HILLCAT CLUB

== PLATINUM ==

EIOC
Holiday Inn Express - Claremore
James & Norma Morrison
RCB Bank
Robson Properties
State Farm Insurance – David
Merriman
TTCU

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Play2Win
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== NAVY ==

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Tommy & Kathy Andrews
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Gary & Lynn Boergermann
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Frank & Pat Elwell
Pete & Pam Fowler
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Oklahoma Farm Bureau
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The Lipe Company / El Azteca
Dick & Dena Thornburg
Dr. Tobie & Jeanne Titsworth
Clark & Cindy Victory
Tom & Andrea Volturo
Carlene Webber
Bob & Susan Willis

== RED ==

Animal Medical Center
Anna Bavido
Bobby & Amy Cope
Brock & Julie Crawford
Chris & Penny Klimas
Ronnie & Sherri Robison
Bob & Ginny Sherrer
Jillie Turner
Dawn Tatro

== WHITE ==

Anthony & Katherine Fakouri
Tim & Kaitlyn Hanson
Derek & Christy Larkin
Chris & Nicole McCormick
Scott & Lauren Parkinson
Herbert & Suzy Ratcliff



HILLCAT CLUB MEMBERS RECEIVE:

- Reserved seating & VIP access for all RSU home basketball games.
- Exclusive Hillcat Club athletic apparel.
- Special recognition at Hillcat athletic events and much, much more!

To **JOIN THE TEAM** call the RSU athletic department at **918-343-7989** or visit
WWW.RSUHILLCATS.COM

ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY

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