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## **Four Athletes Achieve Academic All-American Status**

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## FOUR ATHLETES ACHIEVE ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICAN STATUS

July 29, 2015

Four of Lindenwood University's NCAA student-athletes have been named Capital One Academic All-Americans by members of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). Women's lacrosse player Melissa Menchella was a first-team selection; swimmer Maike Tweesman and women's ice hockey player Nicole Hensley made the second-team; and men's lacrosse player Jon George made the third-team.

Menchella was an NCAA Division II Academic All-American in the women's at-large category and is just the fourth first-team Academic All-American in Lindenwood history. A senior last season, Menchella is Lindenwood's all-time career leader in women's lacrosse with 233 points and 183 goals. She was the top offensive threat on the No. 1 scoring offense in NCAA Division II this year and finished the season with 67 goals, 22 assists, and 89 points. She had seven of Lindenwood's 19 game-winning goals and was a first-team All-American. Menchella was recently selected to the annual North-South All-Star game to participate for the South team.

Tweesman made it onto the second-team in the women's at-large category. The senior was an honorable mention All-American at the NCAA Division II National Championships in Indianapolis, Ind., in March and was a member of the 400 free relay team that came in ninth. Tweesman's swim times are among Lindenwood's all-time top-three in the 100 free, 100 fly, 200 free, and 50 free, and she is a member of a number of record-setting relay teams.

Hensley, a junior, is the only returning member to the Academic All-American team, having made the third-team last year. Hensley also earned first-team all-conference honors this year. The goalie had a school-record 2.71 goals-against average and a .916 save percentage. She made 866 saves and set a school record with 10 wins. The Lakewood, Colo., native was recently won the Sportswomen of Colorado award for the second consecutive year.

George was named to the third-team after playing a valuable role on Lindenwood's most successful men's lacrosse team since joining the NCAA. The team had a 14-4 record and advanced to the NCAA Tournament. George was fifth on the team with 23 goals and 36 points and was fourth with 13 assists. He also picked up 39 groundballs and caused eight turnovers.

The at-large categories include all student-athletes in the sports of women's bowling, women's crew, fencing, field hockey, golf, gymnastics, ice hockey, lacrosse, rifle, skiing, swimming, tennis, men's volleyball, water polo, and men's wrestling.

With four Academic All-Americans this school year, Lindenwood has now had 11 over the last three years. Lindenwood had seven student-athletes named to Academic All-District teams in 2014-15, which tied a school record. Since Lindenwood began nominating in the program in 2007, it has had 16 Academic All-Americans and 43 Academic All-District honorees.

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## Press Release Contact:

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