

June 15, 2006

To: Jim Swartz, Dean of the College
From: Greg Wallace, Associate Director of Athletics
Re: Annual Report

2005-2006 Grinnell College athletics year in review

At Grinnell, our intercollegiate athletics program holds academics as the guiding principle in balancing the philosophy of participation with competition. We value excellence and recognize success in its many forms. We celebrate the accomplishments of our All-Conference and Academic All-Conference players. We are proud of our All-Region and Academic All-Region student-athletes. And we delight in the fact that we have All-Americans and Academic All-American caliber athletes among those being honored here today.

Over 70 Pioneer athletes received All-Conference honors. Three students earned Academic All-Region distinction and Academic Honors. Outstanding efforts in the library, the labs and classrooms amounted to over 200 Pioneers attaining Academic All-Conference honors. One of our recent graduates received the 2006 Archibald Medal at Commencement ceremonies. As well, several teams achieved national academic distinction from their coaches' associations.

The 2005-06 academic year, saw Grinnell win seven conference titles for the first time since 1994. The Midwest Conference measures the strength of each school's men's and women's programs by assigning points, by sport, for a

team's league finish, and again this year, the women's varsity program as a whole won the all-sports trophy for the Midwest Conference. Also noteworthy, the men finished second in the conference's all-sports standings. Although the league does not award a men's and women's combined all-sports trophy, Grinnell would have also won the distinction as the top athletic institution in the conference.

The women's soccer team won the Midwest Conference Tournament Championship and hosted, and won, a first round NCAA Tournament game last fall. Men's cross-country followed up by claiming another league title, their 19th in the last 20 years. Women's cross country and women's tennis also reigned supreme in the fall season.

In the winter, the women's and men's swimming and diving teams defended their league titles once again, winning their eighth and fifth consecutive conference championships, respectively. Also, the men's basketball team again led the nation in scoring and returned to the conference tournament.

Also, for the fourth time in five seasons the men's tennis team won the conference title. In addition, all the spring sports teams finished in the top four in the conference for the first time in a decade. The softball and baseball teams stormed into the conference tournament. The women took Lake Forest to the championship game before being defeated and the men finished a strong third.

Including our seven conference championship teams, 15 of 20 Grinnell squads finished in the top half of the league standings.

Intramurals and Club Sports for 2005-2006

Intramurals

Participation:

The department felt that the 2005-06 year was a successful one. The participation rate was noticeably higher than in recent years. We attribute most of this increased participation to improved organization and advertisement. Activities sponsored this year include: flag football, soccer, pool, ping-pong, dodgeball, tennis, Frisbee golf, volleyball, basketball, and the strongman competition.

Flag Football: 10 teams, 83 participants, 10 referees. This activity spanned roughly 6 weeks.

Soccer: 10 teams, 80 participants, 1 supervisor, 2 referees. This activity spanned roughly three weeks.

Pool: 12 participants. This was a one day activity that was put on twice during the year (once per semester).

Ping-pong: 25 participants, 2 supervisors. This activity was a one day activity that was put on twice during the year (once per semester).

Dodgeball: 18 teams; 144 participants. This was a new intramural activity that found great success.

Tennis: 16, 1 supervisor. This activity lasted one weekend during the fall. The same participants participated in both the singles and doubles.

Frisbee Golf: 8 participants, 1 supervisor. This activity lasted one weekend.

Volleyball: Scheduled as a sand volleyball tournament at the end of the second semester. There was quite a bit of interest, however, the scheduled date was rained out and we were unable to reschedule.

Basketball: 26 teams, 239 participants, 22 referees. Perennially the most popular event, this activity lasted 5 weeks.

Strongman Competition: 24 participants, 2 supervisors. A new event this year spurred by Coach Pedersen.

Fencing: 12 participants. This was a renewed interest activity.

Club Sports

Participation

Clubs	
Ultimate Frisbee	30-40
Rugby	15-25
Dagohir Sword Fighting	30-45
Water Polo	25-30
Aikido	15-20
International Soccer	25-30

Number of Physical Education Class Participants for 2005-2006

1st Semester 414

2nd Semester 524

Total 938