

GREAT AMERICAN CONFERENCE

2017 ALL-GAC MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY RELEASE

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MAGNOLIA, Ark. - Following the Great American Conference's Men's Cross Country Championships, the league announced its All-GAC teams and individual superlative awards. Oklahoma Baptist's Jacob Janzen and Patrick Harris claimed the Runner and Freshman of the Year honors. Harding's Steve Guymon earned the Coach of the Year accolade.

Janzen and Harris finished first and second at the GAC Championships, the fourth time in seven seasons that a school has claimed the top two spots. The Bison's Garrett Elmore claimed a spot on the All-GAC Second Team after placing 13th.

Lead by seniors Lucas Goodspeed and Lawson Belcher, the champion Harding Bisons placed four on the All-GAC lists. The duo finished third and fourth while junior Camden Barrett joined them on the First Team and Larry Lopez placed 11th and land on the All-GAC Second Team.

Like Harding, Southern Arkansas produced three First-Team runners and a Second-Team performer. Trevor Poulson, Lane Alexander and Cole Watson finished inside the top 10 and Bradyn Gower made the Second Team.

East Central and Southern Nazarene each had a representative on the First and Second Team. ECU's Kevin Matthews and SNU's Cody Jones - the 2016 Runner of the Year and Freshman of the Year - respectively, each made the First Team while the Crimson Storm's Luis Guerra and the Tigers' Cameron Corbin filled out the Second Team.

The league also announced its Elite Scholar and Distinguished Scholar Athlete Awards. Goodspeed, with a 4.00 grade-point average, received the Elite Scholar award and Belcher earned the Distinguished Scholar recognition.

2017 ALL-GAC MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY FIRST TEAM

Jacob Janzen, Jr., Oklahoma Baptist
Patrick Harris, Fr., Oklahoma Baptist
Lucas Goodspeed, Sr., Harding
Lawson Belcher, Sr., Harding
Kevin Matthews, Sr., East Central
Trevor Poulson, Fr., Southern Arkansas
Cody Jones, So., Southern Nazarene
Lane Alexander, Jr., Southern Arkansas
Camden Barrett, Jr., Harding
Cole Watson, So., Southern Arkansas

2017 ALL-GAC MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY SECOND TEAM

Larry Lopez, Jr., Harding
Bradyn Gower, Jr., Southern Arkansas
Garrett Elmore, So., Oklahoma Baptist
Luis Guerra, Jr., Southern Nazarene
Cameron Corbin, So., East Central

2017 GAC ELITE SCHOLAR ATHLETES

Lawson Belcher, Harding

2017 DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR ATHLETES

Lawson Belcher, Harding

2017 RUNNER OF THE YEAR: Jacob Janzen, Oklahoma Baptist
2017 FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR: Patrick Harris, Oklahoma Baptist
2017 COACH OF THE YEAR: Steve Guymon, Harding