

MURRAY STATE COLLEGE

AGGTELITE



MURRAY
STATE COLLEGE

John Owen,

Murray State College Bass Fishing Coach
Bass Fishing Coach of the Year

BASEBALL



NJCAA Region 2 Gold Glove Award for a catcher.

Stats: 225 putouts, 12 assists, and threw out five baserunners, while only being charged for one error on the season.

COACH RECAP

As I reflect back on what an outstanding year our team had, my mind immediately goes to the community of people who supported us and were the foundation of our success. First and foremost, I want to thank our players for all of their hard work, dedication and commitment this year.

2024 was a challenging one for our team. It started with the highest of expectations and despite a finish that did not meet those high goals, the team completed the season with a 30-23 record. It was a year that came with much adversity. Both players and coaches had to step up and take on new and sometimes unexpected roles on the team. I am very proud of the

way everyone continued to believe in each other and kept moving forward and focus on staying in the moment. Baseball doesn't just build character, it also reveals it. What it revealed about this group is that they are men of true character and toughness.

Murray State Aggie Pitching Coach
Justin Eclavea did an outstanding

CROSS COUNTRY



2024 Murray State College Baseball Graduates

job on the field, on the recruiting trail and on campus. He is an integral part of our operation and the impact he has on this program is immeasurable.

I would like to say thank you and best of wishes to Director of Baseball Operations Jake Mitzner in his new role at Pauls Valley High School as Head Baseball Coach. Coach Mitzner bleeds Murray Blue and is as loyal and genuine as a person can be.

Beyond the players and coaches, we are so blessed here at Murray State to have an incredibly supportive family. President Faltyn has been a supporter and motivator for us all year. We feel his leadership from the top, and he has been a great example setter for all of us. We would also like to thank Justin Cellum for support and guidance for our whole athletic department. He has been our problem solver, and we are very lucky to have him. Kevin Morgan and the housing department, the academic advising staff, and the facilities department all work with us very closely and are instrumental in our day-to-day success. We have a tremendous amount of gratitude and respect for the business office, financial aid office and registrar's office.

Our hard-working faculty are always very helpful and accommodating with our players. It really takes our Aggie Nation to make our operation successful. We are incredibly grateful for everything they do, not only for us but for all of our students. The Murray State

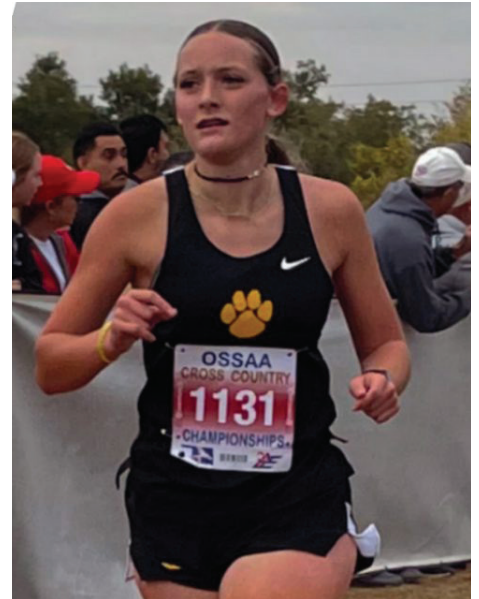


College and our Aggie baseball family really are very special. I feel blessed every day to have the opportunity to be a small piece of our successes. We are looking forward to another great year with everyone next year!

—Sam Bjorling

2023-2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Murray State College Baseball Team finished the 2024 campaign with a 30-23 record and 13-17 mark in conference play.



Korlee Cunningham-Martin, from Madill, OK, will run on the Murray State College cross country team.

CROSS COUNTRY RECRUITS

In Fall 2024, Murray State College's new cross country program will officially begin its first season. The team will consist of 18 runners representing the Aggies on the men's and women's cross country teams. Several student-athletes will attend Murray State College after running for the local high schools of Durant, Madill, Silo and Sulphur. Other runners will be welcomed to Murray State from Geary, Seminole, Waurika and Woodward High Schools, as well as Lockhart High School in Texas.



Coach Justin Wagner will lead the inaugural season of the Aggie's Cross Country team.



MAKING WAVES

ACROSS THE NATION



COACH RECAP

The 2023-24 Bass Fishing Team would like to express our gratitude to everyone for all of the support this season.

As our first full season comes to an end, we look back at the goals we set and have accomplished. Our goals were to win the Oklahoma College B.A.S.S. Master Championships, and secure a spot among the top 50 universities and colleges in the national collegiate rankings.

With 10 new freshmen, we took to the maps and water to learn everything we could about the lakes they would encounter across the nation. These young men traveled the country to compete against the best schools in the nation at lakes in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Tennessee. Watching this team navigate these challenges and keeping their combined GPA above a 3.0 was impressive to say the least.

We had three teams qualify for the

2023-2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

State Awards

- School of the Year



- Angler of the Year - Braden Langford and Sam Sutter



- Coach of the Year - John Owen

national championship. Sam Sutter and Braden Langford; CJ Lawrence and Carson Owen; and Alan Kight and Shaden Farley; respectively, represented us in Alabama on

Pickwick Lake. Although the results weren't what they wanted, they managed to earn our college national points allowing us to move up in the rankings.

Braden Lankford and Sam Sutter won the Oklahoma Anglers of the Year award. They finished third place at four straight events to secure the win.

Alan Kight and Shaden Farley won our regional championship by just a few ounces.

The team won the Oklahoma School of the Year title by winning the Oklahoma College B.A.S.S. Championship points series. We totaled 23 top-10 finishes for the season.

We finished as the 4th ranked junior college in the nation against all colleges.

Collegiately against more than 400 universities and colleges, we finished out the season ranked 32nd, finishing above some large universities like the

FISHING



Clemson, LSU, Mississippi State, the University of Alabama and more.

All of these accomplishments would not be possible without the support of our college.

On behalf of the Murray State College Fishing Team, we would like to say thank you for providing resources and cheering us on at competitions. Your dedication has had a significant impact on our experience. We are grateful for your belief in us and for providing us with a place where we can pursue our passion for fishing.

A special thanks to my assistant coach Brad Gooch and my two team captains CJ Lawrence and Shaden Farley. You made this year a big success with your help and support.

To the Murray State Business Office, thank you for everything you do for our students. Especially for taking the time to help teach them how to navigate our systems.



I want to thank Kevin Morgan and Quinton Jones for always being there for myself and the team. The support you have given us this season cannot be said enough.

We thank all of the faculty and staff for the day-to-day support for the kids and the program. Without you, this place

wouldn't feel like home to them. Myself, the team and their families thank you.

Personally, I want to thank Coach Todd Smith and Coach Aaron Mullens for allowing me to observe their winning programs to help build the best fishing team in the state.

There are so many people who have helped us this season. Please note that we thank you all for everything you do.

To every student associated with this team. Thank you for letting me have the best job in the world. To be able to help you grow and succeed in fishing and in life is a dream come true.

I must give a special thank you to my wife Lindsey for the support she gives us and for allowing me to travel the country for weeks to chase the fish we all love so much.

—John Owen
Coach of the Year



COACH RECAP

I want to start off by saying that our success wouldn't be possible without everyone's belief in our program. The men's team had some tremendous success this spring. We won four tournaments by an average of more than 20 shots. We didn't end up playing our best at the national championship but had tremendous success for the season as a whole.

I want to personally thank Gary and Jamie Akin, and Robin and Wallace Coppedge for the support and donations they have made throughout the year.

Without the parents' support, the team wouldn't be where we are today. I can't thank them enough for their support and commitment to our success.

MURRAY STATE GOLF PROGRAM MOVES TO ARDMORE

"Ardmore offers an exceptional golfing environment," said Murray State College Golf Coach Luke Coppedge. "I requested this move to enhance our athletes' training experience and to provide them with new challenges and opportunities to excel in their sport."

Lastly, I want to thank Justin Cellum. He has been such a blessing for us, and we couldn't have been as successful without his willingness to help and support. President Faltyn's generosity has been shown throughout my time here at Murray State. We can't thank them enough.

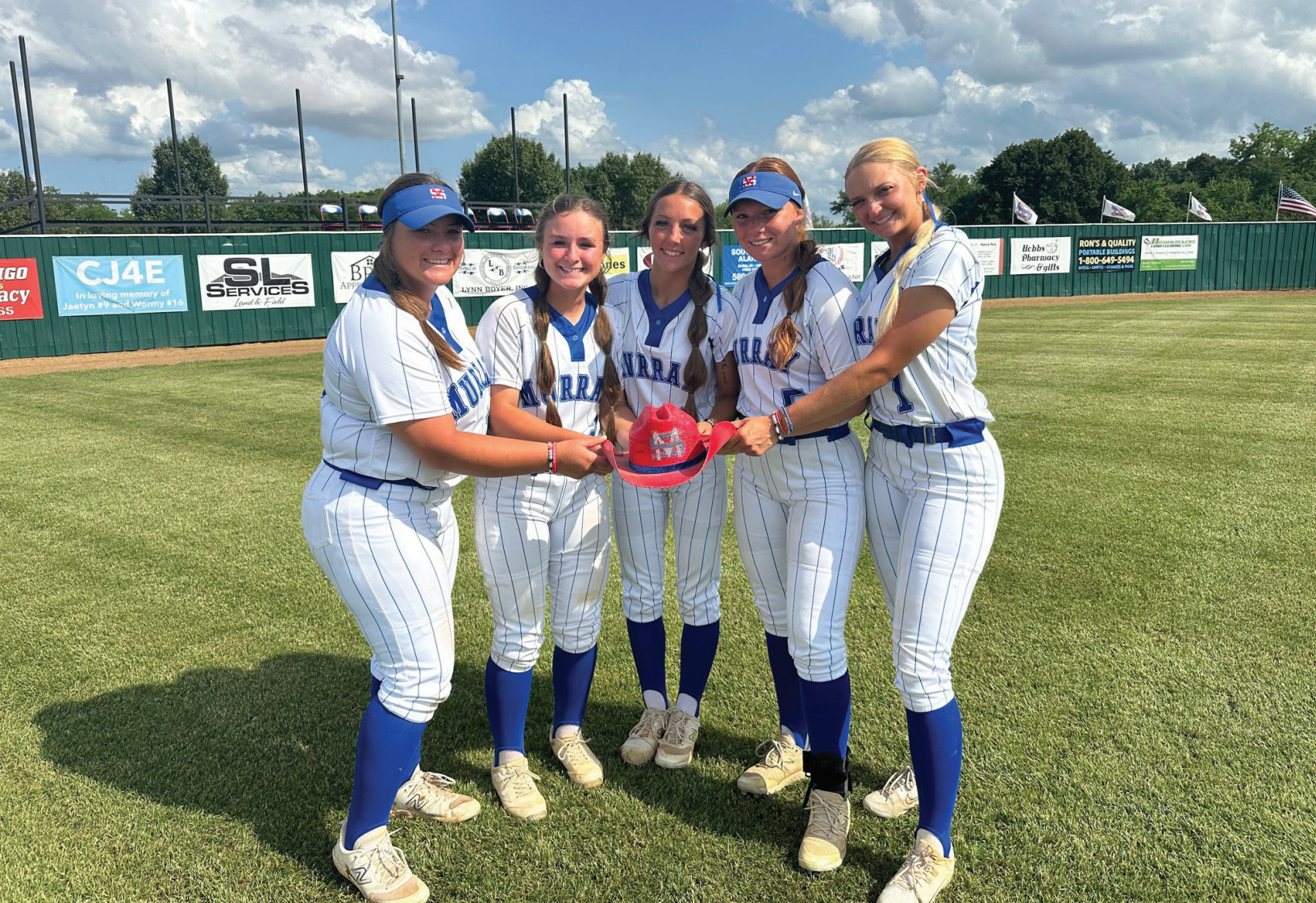
—**Luke Coppedge**

GOLF 2023-2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Won 4 Consecutive Tournaments in Spring
- Won Murray State College Men's Golf Team's first District Championship
- Noah Choi selected as All-American
- Finished #12 in National Championships
- Ranked No. 7 in final edition of the NJCAA Golf Rankings

A SEASON OF GRIT, DETERMINATION AND MEMORIES





2023-2024 Sophomores. L-R: Jordan Hayes, Karsyn York, Morgan Skold, Shaylin Midgley and Mattie Richardson

COACH RECAP

As another softball season has concluded, I want to take the time to reflect on the season as well as thank and recognize the people who make my job enjoyable. As I have stated many times before, you are only as good as the people who surround you.

We had a great season that ended with a third place finish at the NJCAA Division 2 World Series. We overcame a lot of obstacles during our journey this season. We struggled mightily in the fall; we had so many new faces and it took everyone awhile to come together as one. When we came back from Christmas break, everything felt different. We had purpose and intent behind everything that we did in practice while also continuing to grow our relationships with one another. By the time February rolled around and

the season had begun, I had a really good feeling that it was going to be a special year.

We finished the year undefeated in conference play for the fourth straight year. This feat moved our overall conference record in Region 2 play to 97-0 since the 2021 season. We set a national record for runs scored in a season. We led the country in many offensive categories and set many institutional team and indivisible records along the way. We secured a national tournament bid for the fourth straight season by securing the Region 2 Championship close to home in Ardmore. The team had to fight through rain and lightning delays to accomplish this goal, which made for a really long championship day.

There are a lot of people to thank who help our student-athletes succeed on

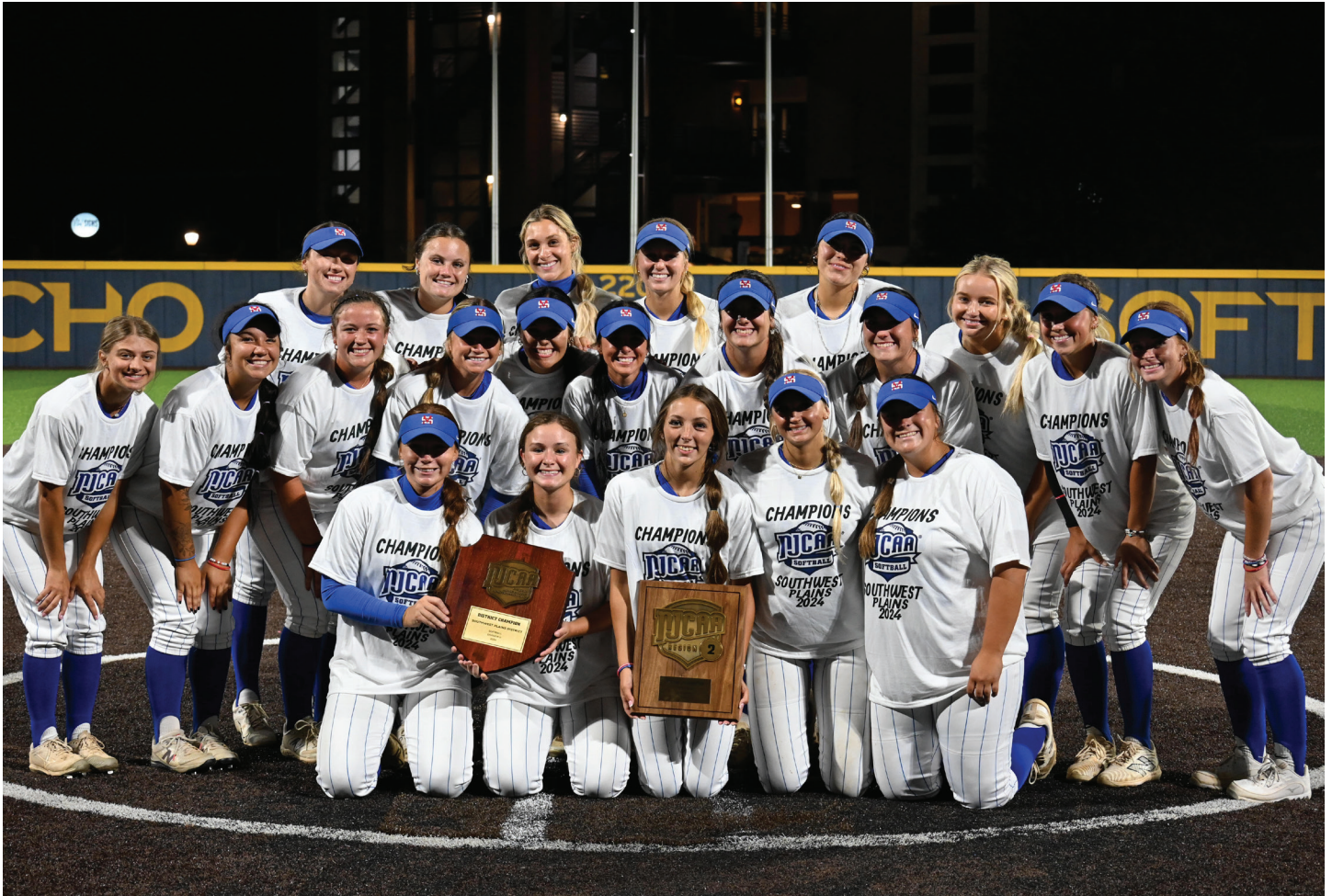
and off the field.

First and foremost, my assistant coaches Charlie Crawford, Saige Vandiver and Jeff Waters. They do so many things for our team on and off the field. They all love doing what they do and are very passionate while doing it. We are very close as a coaching staff; it makes coming to work everyday really enjoyable.

To Jon Hazell for leading our FCA devotions every Wednesday. He has invested countless hours into our program by leading bible studies, providing meals and simply being an ear for our players when they need someone. We appreciate the opportunity that he provides for us to continue to grow spiritually.

Murray State's Academic Advisement team and Tutoring/Retention Services

SOFTBALL



2024 Southwest Plains Softball Regional Tournament Champions

team. From Melissa McBride and Liz Hart in helping our players with the organization of their classes to Lindsay Brantley and Liz Elliot in making sure they are successful in the classroom. Our team GPA this season was 3.67. This would not have taken place without the services that these departments offer to our student-athletes.

To our administrative team for continuing to provide opportunities for our student-athletes. As a coach, I want to be able to provide the best experience for them. Our administrative personnel help in providing these opportunities, especially financially. Without the financial assistance, we would not be able to do what we do, and it is very appreciative.

I want to thank Quinton Jones and Kevin Morgan for always being there for our students. They provide support

as well as a multitude of services for all of the competitive teams. They demonstrate care and compassion, helping our athletes feel at home. We are so thankful for what they do for Murray State College.

Thank you, faculty and staff for making our athletes feel welcomed and important. You know them all by name, and this simple gesture is what makes this institution the best in the country. They all feel wanted and important which in turn helps lead them to being successful both on and off the field. I couldn't mention faculty and staff without discussing what Sharon Young means to the Murray State College softball program. Ms. Sharon is our #1 fan. We appreciate her love and support for our players. I want to thank my wife Cassie and son Julian as well as Derek Crawford for allowing Charli and I to have a job where we feel like we "get" to go to

work and not that we "have" to go to work. As coaches, we travel a lot. We simply could not do what we do without our spouses' support.

Finally, I want to thank the players for making this one of the most enjoyable experiences of my coaching career. The love you have shown and will continue to show one another is remarkable. We went through a lot together, making many memories along the way. I am very grateful and thankful that we got to do it all together.

Our players and coaches appreciate everyone's support throughout the year. We look forward to making another season memorable next year.

Go Aggies!

—**Aaron Mullens**
3x Coach of the Year



2024 Murray State College Softball Graduates and Team

WORLD SERIES TOURNAMENT RECAP

Day 1. We started the tournament with a 3-0 win over Fort Scott.

Day 3. Kirkwood was on the list. We suffered a crushing defeat 4-3 after being up 3-1 with 2 outs and 2 strikes. This is where the true grit and determination of the team began to show. With the loss, we did not have a lot of time to dwell on it. We had to play Des Moines Area later that night and only had two hours to pull everything back together. Winning that game 2-1 set us up for day four.

Day 4. We played St. Louis Community College, winning 10-9. Next up was Johnson County Community College at 8 p.m. that

evening. However, the games were running behind and we didn't start until 11 p.m. We made it to the top of the 3rd inning and had to halt the game due to lightning. At 1:20 a.m., it was determined that we would not resume play until 9 a.m. the next morning. We loaded the bus and headed back to our hotel 30 minutes away. We did not get in bed until 3 a.m., and everyone was back up at 6 a.m. for breakfast and to prepare for day five and the continuation of the game from the previous night.

Day 5. We continued our game against Johnson County, winning 5-1. Following, we played the defending national champions

Copiah-Lincoln. We beat them 6-2 and then immediately had to play Kirkwood again. We suffered another heartbreaking loss 4-3, ending our season. However, we had just played three games on three hours of sleep. What a testament to our players for their resiliency and determination to succeed at any cost.

To say our coaching staff is proud of their effort would be an understatement. Although we did not accomplish our ultimate goal, a third place finish out of 170 teams in the NJCAA Division 2 is something to reflect on and be proud of.



BRADI HARMAN

NJCAA DII World Series All-Tournament Team; NJCAA First Team All-American; NFCA Second Team All-American; NFCA South All-Region Second Team; Region 2 Player of the Year

Hitting Stats: .543 On-Base Percentage, .481 Batting Average, 104 Hits, 94 Runs, 32 Doubles, 21 Stolen Bases

Pitching Stats: 6-1 Record, 102 Strikeouts in 57.2 Innings Pitched, 1.46 ERA

Hometown: Cyril, Oklahoma

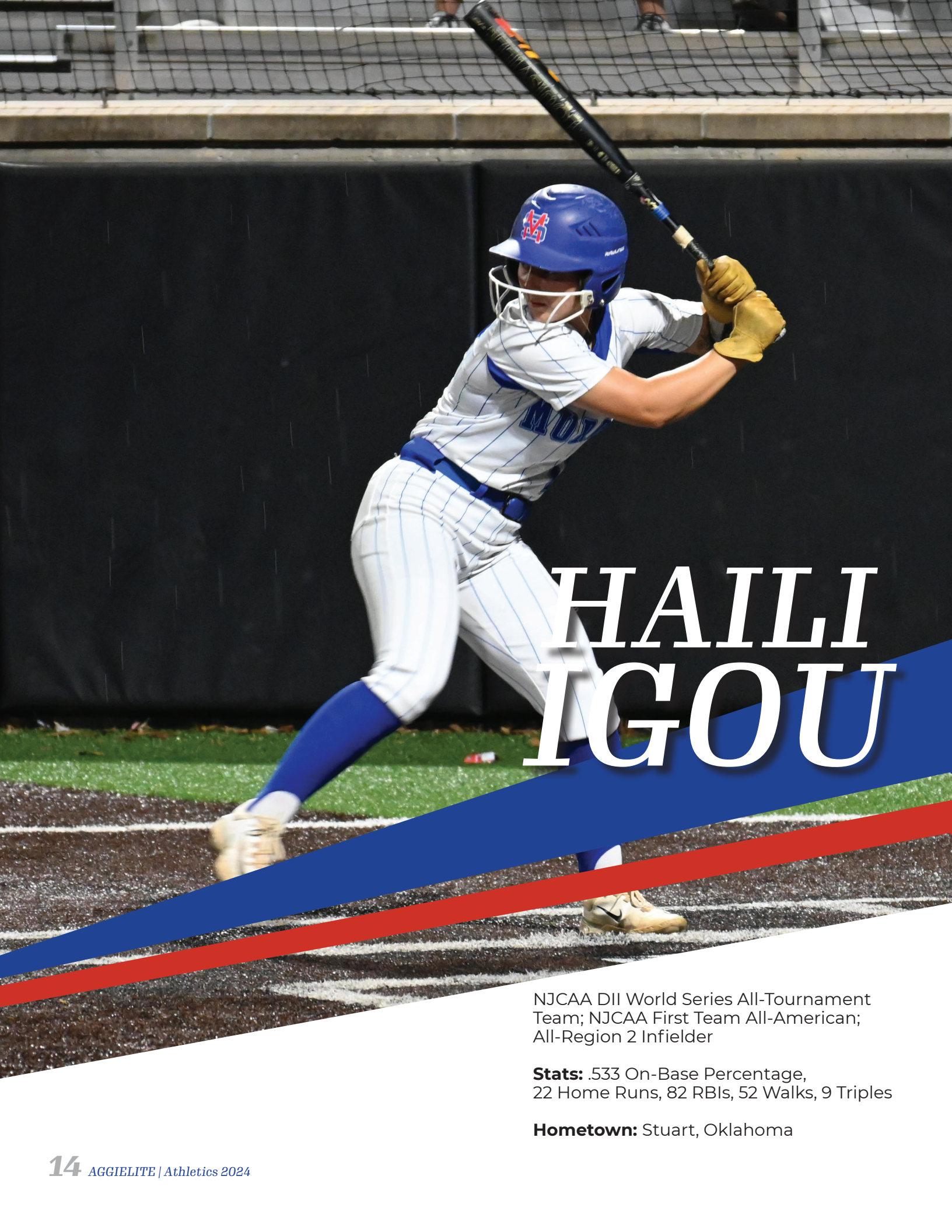


SHAYLIN MIDGLEY

NJCAA First Team All-American; NFCA First Team All-American;
NFCA South All-Region First Team; All-Region 2 Outfielder

Stats: 108 RBIs, 28 Home Runs, .447 Batting Average, .476 On-Base Percentage

Hometown: Silo, Oklahoma



HAILI IGOU

NJCAA DII World Series All-Tournament Team; NJCAA First Team All-American; All-Region 2 Infielder

Stats: .533 On-Base Percentage, 22 Home Runs, 82 RBIs, 52 Walks, 9 Triples

Hometown: Stuart, Oklahoma



KARSYN YORK

NFCA Second Team All-American; NFCA South All-Region First Team; All-Region 2 Catcher

Stats: .448 Batting Average, 95 Hits, 93 Runs, 20 Doubles

Hometown: Muskogee, Oklahoma



COURTNEY GREY

NFCA South All-Region Second Team;
All-Region 2 Utility

Hitting Stats: .533 On-Base Percentage, 78 Hits, 10 Home Runs

Pitching Stats: 18-2 Record, 3.35 ERA, 103 Strikeouts

Hometown: Buffalo Valley, Oklahoma

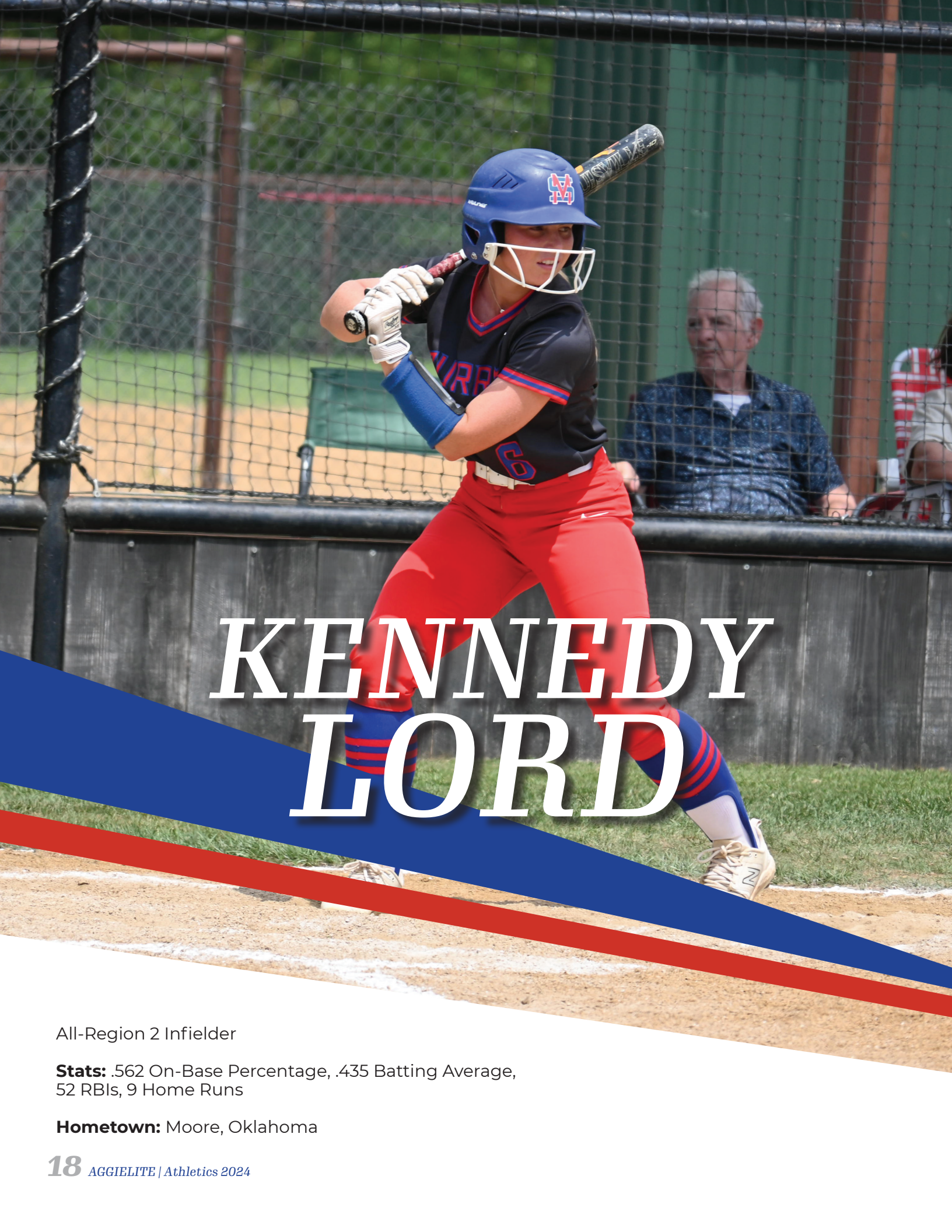


DARA HAMBLIN

All-Region 2 Pitcher

Stats: 23-2 Record,
2.96 ERA, 83 Strikeouts

Hometown: Kinita, Oklahoma



KENNEDY LORD

All-Region 2 Infielder

Stats: .562 On-Base Percentage, .435 Batting Average,
52 RBIs, 9 Home Runs

Hometown: Moore, Oklahoma

18 AGGIELITE | Athletics 2024

2023-2024 NJCAA ALL-ACADEMIC TEAMS

59 Murray State College student-athletes earned a spot on the NJCAA All-Academic Teams including seven Aggie athletic teams earning well above 3.0 GPAs.

FIRST TEAM

4.0 GPA

Baseball

Jake Blackwell
Austin Haley
Kyndon Lovell
Mason Shimkus

Men's Basketball

Emery Eberhard

Men's Soccer

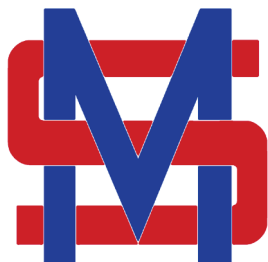
Bryan Garcia
Carl Murch
Nathan Sealy
Maliq Thom
Fernando Villasenor

Softball

Bradi Harman
Brighton O'Connor
Emily Rogers

Women's Soccer

Cristina Escudero
Kaylee Foster
Annika Huder
Kellie McMahon
Katherine Walker



SECOND TEAM

3.80 - 3.99 GPA

Baseball

Ty Chaddrick
Jaxon Gless
Angus Ponder
Brody Roe
Kane Springer
Luke Stills

Men's Golf

Noah Choi

Men's Soccer

Thomas Arboleda
Dominic Woolley

Softball

Courtney Grey
Jordan Hayes
Riley Kaler
Kennedy Lord
Lexi Meadows
Brynn Surmont

Women's Golf

Averyl Bell
Mackenzie Dreyer

Women's Soccer

Caliber Keene



THIRD TEAM

3.60 - 3.79 GPA

Baseball

Wilbert Espinal
Brance Garrett
Brennan Morgan
Conner Smeltzer

Men's Basketball

Rustin Coffey

Men's Golf

Dilyn Hart
Dylan Ros

Men's Soccer

Inaki Arborea
Joshua Adeyemi
Caio Felipe
Victor Mayrink
David Restrepo
Ethan Squires
Uros Vulovic
Yuki Yabunaka

Softball

Kayden Bean

Women's Basketball

Ongolea Afu
Mireia Casas
Tierra Williams

Women's Golf

Macie Albright
Cadence Merchant
Addison Pettett

Women's Soccer

Montserrat Torres



MURRAY
STATE COLLEGE