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Wisconsin Oshkosh Captures Inaugural Al Carius Program of the Year Award

NEW ORLEANS – The Wisconsin Oshkosh men added another trophy to their collection on Monday when the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association announced the final standings of the inaugural NCAA Division III Al Carius Men’s Program of the Year Award.

Oshkosh earned the trophy after back-to-back national titles. The Titans won their first-ever men’s indoor national title in March, tying Program of the Year runner-up Wisconsin-La Crosse in the indoor team standings, and then won its first-ever men’s outdoor national title back in May. Oshkosh also finished ninth at the cross country national championships to finish with a final Program of the Year score of 11.5 points.

La Crosse finished just behind Oshkosh in the standings with 12.5 points as the Eagles picked up top ten finishes in all three sports this year. Another Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference member, Wisconsin Stevens Point, finished third in the team standings with 38.5 points.

Whitworth University finished fourth with 40.5 points while North Central College finished fifth with 41 points.

The Al Carius Program of the Year Award is awarded annually to the most outstanding NCAA Division III men’s cross country/track & field program. The award honors the institution that has achieved the most success in each academic year (spanning the cross country, indoor track & field, and outdoor track & field seasons) based on the institution’s finish at the NCAA Division III Championships.

In order to be eligible for the award, teams must qualify for the NCAA Championships. Scoring is based on the team’s finish at each NCAA Division III Championship in cross country, indoor track & field, and outdoor track & field (i.e. 1st = 1 point, 2nd = 2 points, 31st = 31 points) with the lowest total score for all three championships combined determining the award recipient.

The Al Carius Program of the Year Award is named after USTFCCA Hall of Famer and long-time North Central College head coach Al Carius. Carius is in his 43rd year of service at North Central and has won 17 NCAA Division III National Championships.

The Al Carius Program of the Year Award Standings:

Final Standings	Institution	Cross Country Finish	Points Awarded	Indoor Finish	Points Awarded	Outdoor Finish	Points Awarded	Total Points
1	Wisconsin-Oshkosh	9	9	1 (tie)	1.5	1	1	11.5
2	Wisconsin-La Crosse	6	6	1 (tie)	1.5	5	5	12.5
3	Wisconsin-Stevens Point	4	4	8	8	25 (tie)	26.5	38.5
4	Whitworth	31	31	3	3	6 (tie)	6.5	40.5
5	North Central (Illinois)	2	2	7	7	29 (tie)	32	41
6	Williams	3	3	48 (tie)	51	14 (tie)	15	69
7	Nebraska Wesleyan	23	23	32 (tie)	35.5	11 (tie)	11.5	70
8	Ohio Northern	11	11	17 (tie)	20	44 (tie)	46	77
9	Calvin	5	5	32 (tie)	35.5	36 (tie)	37.5	78
10	Augustana (Illinois)	21	21	11 (tie)	12	44 (tie)	46	79
11	St. John's (Minnesota)	22	22	25 (tie)	27	44 (tie)	46	95
12	Mount Union	25	25	48 (tie)	51	21 (tie)	22	98
13	Dickinson	14	14	25 (tie)	27	55 (tie)	57.5	98.5
14	Haverford	16	16	32 (tie)	35.5	55 (tie)	57.5	109
15	Allegheny	10	10	40 (tie)	43.5	55 (tie)	57.5	111
16	Case Western Reserve	29	29	40 (tie)	43.5	76	78	150.5