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Grand Valley State Earns Inaugural Division II Women's Program of the Year Award

NEW ORLEANS – With back-to-back runner-up finishes at the Division II Cross Country National Championships, and the Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships, and a fourth-place finish at the Division II Outdoor Track and Field Championships, the Grand Valley State Lakers picked up the inaugural Division II Women's Program of the Year Award.

GVSU finished with eight points towards the final program of the year standings. The Lakers had earned four points total between their cross country and indoor team finishes and needed to finished 11th place or worse to not take home the title of Division II's best program.

Finished second to GVSU was Adams State with 21 points followed by Seattle Pacific with 22.5 points. Adams State finished first overall at the corss country championships, 12th at the indoor championships and finished the 2008-09 season with an eighth-place team finish at the outdoor championships.

Seattle Pacific finished in the top ten at both the 2008 cross country championships and the 2009 indoor championships before finishing tied for 11th place at the outdoor championships.

The NCAA Division II Program of the Year Award is awarded annually to the most outstanding NCAA Division II 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 II 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 II Championship in cross country, indoor track & field, and outdoor track & field (i.e. $1^{st} = 1$ point, $2^{nd} = 2$ points, $31^{st} = 31$ points) with the lowest total score for all three championships combined determining the award recipient.



The Division II Women's 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	Grand Valley State	2	2	2	2	4	4	8
2	Adams State	1	1	12	12	8	8	21
3	Seattle Pacific	4	4	6	6	11 (tie)	12.5	22.5
4	Western Washington	10	10	9	9	17 (tie)	18.5	37.5
5	Shippensburg	6	6	16 (tie)	17	17 (tie)	18.5	41.5
6	Cal State Los Angeles	13	13	26	26	7	7	46
7	Minnesota-Duluth	8	8	11	11	29 (tie)	31	50
8	Western State	3	3	38	38	11 (tie)	11.5	52.5
9	Slippery Rock	11	11	13 (tie)	14	51 (tie)	52.5	77.5
10	Missouri Southern State	16	16	48	48	15 (tie)	15.5	79.5
11	Pittsburg State	18	18	26 (tie)	27.5	36 (tie)	37	82.5
12	UMASS Lowell	22	22	38 (tie)	40	51 (tie)	52.5	114.5