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Kali Cordes '13 Honored by the UMAC

Summary: Kali Cordes '13, Glenwood, is one of two recipients of the 2013 Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) Scholar-Athlete Leadership Award.

(May 2, 2013)-SAINT PAUL, Minnesota—Kali Cordes '13, Glenwood, is one of two recipients of the 2013 Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (UMAC) Scholar-Athlete Leadership Award. The award, which is given to one male and one female student-athlete from UMAC member-institutions, recognizes graduating seniors who demonstrate a healthy balance by achieving excellence in academics, leadership, and service while participating in intercollegiate athletics. She is in the fifth pair to win the award since its inception in 2009.

Cordes, who will graduate with a degree in psychology and studio art, was captain and a four-year member of the Cougar women's soccer team and a one-year participant on the softball team. Cordes has been a member of the Dean's List in each semester of her college career and is a four-time UMAC Academic All-Conference honoree. She was also named to the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-District Women's Soccer Team in 2011 and 2012. In 2010 she was named National Soccer Coaches Association of America All-Region for her performance on and off the field.

In addition to her academic work, Cordes has spent a considerable amount of time volunteering on campus and in the community. She is a volunteer at the University's Health and Wellness Center and at the Benson Girls' Ranch. Throughout her collegiate career Cordes coordinated a campus Toys for Tots drive, participated in the Adopt-a-Family program, packed meals for Feed My Starving Children, and led a silent auction and donation drive to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer research. She also works for Morris Community Education and the Divine House. Cordes serves as a member of the Morris Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and as a group leader for undergraduate research in the Psychology Discipline. This spring she was awarded with the NCAA Post-Graduate scholarship, an honor that is given to student-athletes who have achieved high levels of combined academic and athletic success.

“Each year I am impressed with the athletic, academic, leadership and service accomplishments of our Scholar-Athlete Leadership Award recipients,” says Corey Borchardt, UMAC commissioner. “These student-athletes are great representatives of the NCAA Division III philosophy, and the Upper Midwest Athletic Conference is extremely proud to highlight their successes and accomplishments.”

Cordes will enroll at Denver University to pursue a masters degree. During her Morris career she played in 77 games and was a staple in her team's defense. This season Cordes helped the Cougars rack up 11 shutouts en route to a 12-5-2 record.

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