



OFFICIAL UC ALUMNI NEWSLETTER / JUNE 2021 / VOLUME II ISSUE VI



Dear Alumni and Friends,

I hope this message finds you and your families doing well and enjoying summer.

With our baseball team having completed play in the NCAA regional tournament we hosted at the Welch Athletic Complex, we have just finished a busy Spring sports season. Eighteen of our teams competed between January and May due to all athletic competitions being postponed in the

Fall. Our teams did exceptionally well on the field, and in the classroom.

Now that most students have left the residence halls, campus is a bit quieter. Yet in many ways it is still quite busy. Over 1,700 students are enrolled in summer courses at UC, the majority of whom are engaged fully online. Data on student progress is being analyzed to identify ways we can help them to be more successful. New program development work continues in business analytics and artificial intelligence, nursing, and occupational therapy. Renovation work in Rigglesman Hall is underway as is the creation of our new outdoor recreation center in the Boathouse building. And we are working on plans for a safe return to campus in the Fall given the recent changes in CDC and State COVID-19 guidance.

We will be busy throughout the summer. Students returning to campus in early August will be here before we know it.

Wherever you may be, please stay safe and keep in touch with us!

Best regards,

Marty

# Athletic Corner



Jack Mastandrea, Class of '20 and current grad student, is the most decorated Cross Country/Track and Field athlete in school history. Last week, he competed in the NCAA

National Track and Field Championships where he ran a 29.24 10K and placed 9th. His long list of accomplishments includes being named 4-time NCAA Division II All-American, 6-time NCAA National Qualifier, and 12-time 1st Team All- Atlantic Region. Check out Jack's full bio [here](#).

"Jack has raised the bar here at Charleston with his hard work, dedication, and self-discipline with running. His willingness to live the lifestyle of an elite athlete is what makes

## 70 years ago...a perfect season!

In 1951, the Golden Eagles football team, led by head coach Eddie King,



completed a perfect season. And it was topped off by defeating the Emory and Henry College Wasps 35-14 in the Tangerine Bowl (now known as the Citrus Bowl) in Orlando, FL. 50 years later, in 2001, the Ruffner Ruffians, as they were referred to in the 1951 "Harveyan", were inducted into the UC Athletics Hall of Fame in honor of their exciting season. For a full list of UC Athletic Hall of Fame inductees click [here](#).

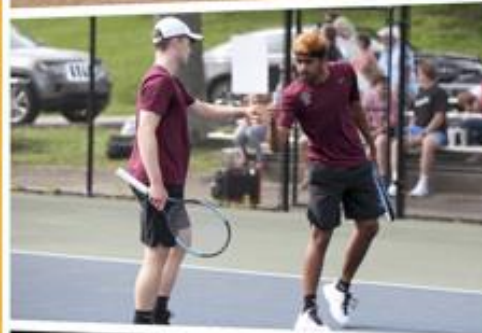
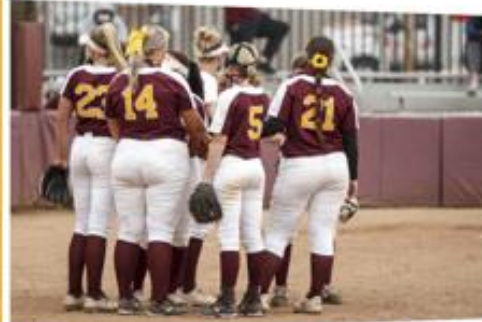
him one of the best runners in the NCAA. He is a joy to coach, an amazing teammate and always looking for ways to get better each day!"- Nick Bias, UC Head Cross Country/Track and Field Coach

**18 Golden Eagle athletic teams competed during the Spring semester. Not only were their accomplishments on the field impressive, so were their academic achievements!**

# GOLDEN EAGLES

3.67	WOMEN'S GOLF
3.63	WOMEN'S TENNIS
3.61	MEN'S TENNIS
3.55	WOMEN'S SOFTBALL
3.53	MEN'S SOCCER
3.45	WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL
3.41	WOMEN'S SOCCER
3.40	WOMEN'S LACROSSE
3.37	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
3.36	MEN'S GOLF
3.32	MEN'S BASKETBALL
3.31	MEN'S TRACK
3.23	MEN'S VOLLEYBALL
3.21	MEN'S BASEBALL
3.10	WOMEN'S TRACK
3.08	CHEERLEADING
2.84	FOOTBALL

## SPRING 2022 TEAM GPA





**U**Connect  
THE PODCAST

**Looking to advance your career or improve your leadership skills?**

Pick up some tips when you listen to "UConnect: The Podcast", hosted by Dr. Travis Kahle, Director of the Center for Career Development at UC. You can find it on Apple, Google, or Spotify. For the direct link to the podcast on Apple, click [HERE!](#)

ALUMNI



**SPOTLIGHT**



The Office of Advancement and Alumni Relations hopes that all of you had a wonderful Memorial Day Weekend.

In the last year, there have been 626 service members graduate from UC. As we highlight one of them, we want to say, "**Thank you**", to all Golden Eagle veterans!

#### **The Huggins Family, Class of '16, '18, and '20**

Josh and Andrea Huggins met in 2017, married in 2020, and by the end of 2023 will have four University of Charleston degrees between them. This couple is a wonderful example of how UC can provide opportunities to earn a degree beyond the traditional four-year programs.

The Huggins have been overwhelmingly impressed with the personal connection the faculty and staff make with their students, even with the programs being online based. High praise was given to Josh's adviser, Angela Hilton, and if it were not for Dr. Ruth Wylie's encouragement and personal phone call, Andrea may not still be enrolled to complete her Doctorate of Executive Leadership. "I can't thank Dr. Wylie and Dr. Barnette enough for encouraging me and I'm grateful for the confidence I've gained," says Andrea.

They are proud Golden Eagle alumni and cannot wait to celebrate the next accomplishments when Josh graduates from the Masters of Science in Strategic Leadership program in 2022 and Andrea graduates from the DEL program in 2023!  
Read their full story [HERE!](#)

# GIVING OPPORTUNITIES



## A note from Catherine Eckley, Director of the Annual Fund

The University of Charleston needs your support as we approach the end of our fiscal year. Gifts to the Annual Fund go to the area of greatest need, from scholarship to tech resources, student life programming to faculty support, and more. By making a gift to UC's Annual Fund, you can make a meaningful impact on the university and its students, as every student on campus is touched by the support of Annual Fund donors.

You can give to the UC Annual

Fund by clicking [HERE](#). Make your gift by June 30th to help us maximize the support for our students this year.

### Meet Whitney Hunt

She is the president of the Innovation Scholars and a current scholarship recipient. When you make a donation to the UC Scholarship Fund, you make a difference in the lives of students just like Whitney. Check out [THIS VIDEO](#) about how scholarships have impacted her experience at UC! You can give to the UC Scholarship Fund [HERE](#).



**PROUD  
MEMBER**

*JOIN TODAY!*

[www.ucwv.edu/alumni/alumni-association](http://www.ucwv.edu/alumni/alumni-association)

### Are you one of the over 150 proud UCAA members?

The UC Alumni Association is a great way to stay engaged, help plan alumni events, network with other alumni, and give back from wherever your wings have taken you!

**The Gold Level** requires a \$100 membership donation and includes a decal, key chain, coffee tumbler, invitations to special VIP events, discounts, and more.

**The Maroon Level** is just \$25 and includes our decal, alumni koozie, special events, discounts, and more.

Join your fellow Golden Eagle alumni (see a full list of current members [HERE](#)) by becoming a member of the UC Alumni Association. For more details, visit our [website](#) or feel free to reach out to the Alumni Office directly at 304-357-4734.



***JUNE 9th will be the next monthly UCAA meeting. Members will receive information for the meeting via email!***

## **Join Now**



### *Member Responsibilities*

- Encourage fellow alumni to join & participate in the association
- Cultivate projects that will enhance UC
- Be a "UC brand ambassador" - assisting in recruiting students
- Serve as "Give Day" ambassadors
- Participate in one senior student event in the spring
- Support alumni events

### *Gold Level*

*500 Membership Donation*

- ✓ Alumni decal
- ✓ Bottle opener key chain
- ✓ Coffee tumbler with logo
- ✓ Upgraded seating at two basketball games per year
- ✓ Invitation to two special alumni events
- ✓ One VIP event with President Roth
- ✓ 15% off discount at UC Bookstore
- ✓ Hotel discounts for trips to Charleston
- ✓ Virtual Events throughout the year
- ✓ Access to private tailgate for first football game of the year

### *Maroon Level*

*525 Membership Donation*

- ✓ Alumni decal
- ✓ Alumni Koozie
- ✓ Upgraded seating at one basketball game per year
- ✓ Invitation to one special alumni event
- ✓ 15% off discount at UC Bookstore
- ✓ Hotel discounts for trips to Charleston
- ✓ Virtual Events throughout the year
- ✓ Access to private tailgate for first football game of the year

## ***In Memorium***

***Remembering Golden Eagle Alumni who have passed away in the last month.***

Thomas Reich, '64

David Bishop, '94

Sondra Sleeth Samples, '63

Please note: This list includes updates provided by family members, newspapers, and other sources.

These dates reflect the period during which UC received and processed the information, not necessarily the dates that the individual passed away.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Summer Athletic Camps-** UC Baseball, Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, and Men's Soccer will be hosting summer youth camps.

Click [HERE](#) for a full schedule and to register!

**June 9 @ 12:00 noon EST- UCAA Zoom Meeting**

**June 9 @12:00 noon EST- MBA Virtual Open House-** Learn more about the program and have your questions answered. Click [HERE](#) to register for the event.

**July 12-15- Project Management Professional Virtual Bootcamp-** For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

# LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you recently changed jobs? Did you and your family make a big move? Do you have exciting news to share with your alumni family? We want to hear about it! Update your alumni record and enter your "Class Notes" [here](#) so that we can share your successes with the rest of the Golden Eagle family. Keep soaring to new heights!



Now you can network with Golden Eagle alumni on LinkedIn! Get connected in this new way [HERE!](#)



Contact Us

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