why cross country/track & field @Bethany?

The 2015-2016 season for Bethany College XC/Track and field program made the record books. The XC/Track programs broke 24 school records throughout the cross country and track season. There were 12 records broken during the indoor season, 10 records broke during the outdoor season and two records broken in the cross country season. Nationally we had nine student athletes qualify for the national championships between the indoor and outdoor track seasons. The Bethany College XC/Track team excelled in the classroom as well, we had seven individuals named as Daktronics-NAIA Scholar Athletes for track and field and one for cross country. We had an additional six cross country runners named to the KCAC all conference Academic team. Bethany College xc/track program accumulated nearly 300 hours of community service. We are looking forward to another great year at Bethany College with an expanding staff and bigger team!

about head coach Aaron Yoder

Aaron Yoder begins his 7th season on the coaching staff of Bethany College. This is his third season as the head cross country coach and the second as the head track and field coach.

A 2009 graduate of Fort Hays State University, Yoder majored in health and human performance with an emphasis in health promotions and wellness and a minor in business administration. While at Fort Hays, Yoder competed in cross country and track for the Tigers from 2004 to 2008. During this time, he earned All- Conference Cross Country Performer, All-Conference Indoor Track Performer (5k), four-time All-Conference Performer in Outdoor Track (Steeple, 5k, 10k), two-time MIAA Cross Country Runner of the Week, four-time Individual Champion of Collegiate Cross Country Races, and 3A

swede athletics

The mission of the Department of Athletics is to utilize sports as a method to educate, develop, and challenge its participants. Bethany Swedes will:

• Genuinely engage in the greater Bethany community.
• Develop and evolve key character traits including integrity, humility, commitment, spiritual perspective, compassion and perseverance toward success.
• Maintain healthy mental and physical lifestyles while competing substance-free.
• Lead lives of faith, learning and service.
State Mile Champion. Yoder was also a member of the two-time State Championship Track Team from Hillsboro High School and of the three-time State Runner-Up Cross Country Team from Hillsboro High School.

about assistant coach Eric Hoke

The Bethany College track & field programs have hired Eric Hoke as the throws coach. Prior to coming to Bethany Hoke was the throwing coach and strength coach at Quincy University for the track & field team along with the cross country programs. Hoke also coached at his alma mater, Garnett High School, and while there, the throwers broke every school record except his javelin record which stood from 1989-2010. Hoke has had four high school athletes go to a NCAA Division I school and three others go to a NCAA Division II.

Hoke completed his associate’s degree in education at John Wood Community College and his bachelor’s degree in exercise science with a minor in mathematics at Quincy University. Hoke met his wife of 20 years while at Washburn. They have one daughter, Mariah, a senior a Murray State, where she threw the discus for the track & field team.

about assistant coach Halsie Large

Halsie will join us as a graduated Swede! After high school, Large started her college career at Colby Community College. She holds the record at Colby in the pentathlon. While there, Large was First Team All-Conference in the pentathlon competing in the Kansas Jayhawk Conference. She was first in the conference, and had the second best mark in the region. In junior college, Large ranked 14th in the nation in the pentathlon.

Large has continued to break and re-break records while in the Swedes uniform. Large holds the Bethany record in the pentathlon, heptathlon, 600-meter and the distance medley relay. She is a two-time NAIA national qualifier in the pentathlon, and has qualified once in the heptathlon.

Halsie was highly active on campus working as a resident assistant and was also voted as the Homecoming Queen for Bethany College. We are very excited to have Halsie on staff for the track program.

contact

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athletics

You may be eligible for a performance award for academic achievement, athletic skill, and performance in theatre, music and art.

Nicknamed the Swedes, Bethany College athletics has a reputation throughout the region for building quality teams. Since 1902, Bethany College has won 152 conference championships. Bethany competes as a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and fields these teams:

men’s
Baseball
Basketball
Cheer
Cross Country
Football
Golf
Soccer
Tennis
Track and Field
Wrestling

women’s
Basketball
Music
Cheer
Cross Country
Dance
Golf
Softball
Tennis
Track and Field
Volleyball

The mission of Bethany College is to educate, develop, & challenge individuals to reach for truth & excellence as they lead lives of faith, learning, & service.