

Celebrating Spring Athletes: The 2025 Spring Athletics Awards Ceremony August Ryan May 28, 2025 9:01 AM

Students, coaches, and athletic staff celebrated athletes' growth, and a season of wins, at the 2025 Spring Sports Awards.

On Thursday, May 22, the Spring Athletic Awards Ceremony brought Saints to Engelhard Hall to celebrate a season with numerous All-Conference honors and championship runs for St. Andrew's teams. The event also celebrated the coaches, athletic trainers, facilities department, and other faculty and staff who help keep Saints athletics running.

The ceremony took place in the midst of several teams' continued bids for championship titles. The night before, St. Andrew's students packed buses to head to Caravel, where they joined other SAS community members—from leadership, to facilities, to alumni, and more—to cheer on girls soccer at a rainy, 50-degree state tournament semifinal match. Some boys tennis players, including the reigning state champion first-doubles duo of Porter Read '25 and Kent Como '28, came straight from their own tournament play to make plenty of noise for Saints soccer.

Welcoming community members to the awards ceremony, Director of Athletics Neil Cunningham reflected not just on the athletic season's wins, but also the ways it emphasized that being an SAS sports fan doesn't just mean wearing your red and white.

"I want to make sure I extend my gratitude for how well you show up for each other, because it means a lot," Cunningham said. "As a competitor, you notice, and you appreciate playing in front of members of the SAS community. I can't think of many schools where faculty and staff show up in droves to watch students play, where the head and associate head of school and the chief financial officer all show up on a 50-degree night in pouring rain. It doesn't happen everywhere."

Throughout the evening, coaches also emphasized community. As they announced individual athletes' awards and led the community in celebrating collective victories and team milestones, coaches often highlighted players' ability to lead, to celebrate their teammates, and boost morale.

There were many standout moments from the spring 2025 season, for our students and our coaches. The Delaware Independent School Conference (DISC) honored three of our coaches with conference awards. For baseball, head coach Matt Edmonds was named Coach of the Year and assistant coach David Miller was named Assistant Coach of the Year. For girls soccer, first-time head coach Megan Altig was also named Coach of the Year. DISC also recognized many of our spring athletes, and St. Andrew's posted stellar postseason performances across teams. Read on to hear from our spring coaches on their seasons, their athletes, and what they'll most remember from the Spring 2025 season of St. Andrew's athletics. You can watch the entire awards ceremony here.

Baseball



"As we came into this season, my goal for this team was to get better at competing. In the past, we have sometimes had a tendency to let the scoreboard dictate our level of energy and effort. Like many coaches, I preach the cliché of 'controlling the

controllables,' but there are too many variables in a baseball game for us to really control the outcome. But you can absolutely control your effort, your attitude, your willingness to compete, and those things should not change based on what the scoreboard says. This team, maybe more than any team I've ever been a part of, embraced that. I will always remember this team for its toughness and its competitive spirit, to say nothing of its energetic dugout chants."

Head Coach Matt Edmonds

- Most Improved Player Award: Richard Zhu '26
- Rookie of the Year: Paxton Wang '28
- Most Valuable Player: Toby Nix '26
- Coaches Award: Jack Myers '25 and Ray Quinones '25

Boys Crew



"Each year we host four major regattas on Noxontown Pond before traveling to three championship regattas in May. These early races are often difficult, as we've only been rowing for a few weeks while our competitors have been rowing year-round. This year, things were different: in the opening regatta, the 1V, 2V, and Freshman 8s all swept the field, taking commanding first-place victories to open the season. This set the tone for the racing that would follow. This past Friday, we traveled as a program to the Stotesbury Regatta to compete in the largest high school rowing event in the country, and although weather cancelled the finals on Saturday, our Friday time trial was one of the best collective finishes in our program's recent decades."

Varsity Boys Crew Interim Head Coach Alex Horgan '18

- Most Improved Player Award: Kaz Yamada '26
- Coaches Award: Roland Bridges '25
- Warwick Crew Prize (Most Valuable Player): Will Hagberg '25

Girls Crew



"I want to congratulate the entire team on a strong season, from the leap the novices took at Stotesbury to the 3V's outstanding and compelling home races, to the 1V and the 2V making the finals at Stotesbury for the third year in a row. In fact, the Varsity rowers are one of only two of the 40 programs that compete at Stotesbury to be able to claim that impressive feat of consistency over three years,

and that's a testament to their hard work and dedication over these past seasons."

Varsity Girls Crew Head Coach Wilson Everhart

- Most Improved Player Award: Emma de Ramel '25
- Most Valuable Player: Elli Baker '25
- Coaches Award: Grace Anne Doyle '25

Boys Lacrosse



"We're really pleased with the growth of our team this season from an individual and unit standpoint, both from last year to this year, and over the course of this season, our guys have dramatically improved. It's a ton of fun to watch their hard work and progress. We have a very unique combination of lacrosse-first

guys as well as players very new to the game, and to see those worlds collide and mesh has been awesome."

Varsity Boys Lacrosse Head Coach Chris Bates

- Most Improved Player: Liam Wilson '27
- Most Valuable Player: Liam Robinson '25
- Coaches Award: Gabriel Musa '27

2025 Postseason Report: After a strong 12-3 regular season, the playoff run for No. 6 Saints lacrosse ended with a quarterfinal loss against No. 3 Tatnall.

Girls Lacrosse



"The girls lacrosse team this season set out to compete and improve and they delivered. For the first time since 2019, we finished with a winning record and advanced to the second round of playoffs. Along the way, we earned two thrilling overtime victories—our first OT win since 2019—including our first conference win in three years and a dramatic two-day playoff upset over Milford. We played as a true team with different goal-scorers,

more than any other team in our conference; in 11 of our games, five or more players scored and nearly half of our goals came from assists. This team earned respect across the conference and the state, and they're just getting started. This small but mighty team of 19 showed up for each other every day as fierce competitors and supportive friends, they battled every game, celebrated each other's wins and left it all out on the field. I couldn't be prouder or more grateful to this group for putting St. Andrew's girls lacrosse back on the map."

Varsity Girls Lacrosse Head Coach Grace Saliba '12

- Most Valuable Player, Offense: Grace King '25
- Most Valuable Player, Defense: Lindy Black '25
- Spark Plug Award: Tattanna Perkins '27
- Most Improved Player: Brooke Barry '27
- Rookie of the Year: Marion Lindsay '28

2025 Postseason Report: After pulling a dramatic upset in Round 1 of the state tournament, No. 15 girls lacrosse lost in the quarterfinal game against No. 7 Tatnall.

Varsity Girls Soccer



"We set the goal at the beginning of the season to be conference champs, and I couldn't be prouder of the grit and determination shown by the team to get some of those wins. Last night, the team truly showed

what being a Saint is: hard work, grit, determination—everything was on full display last night in the quarterfinal match against the No. 1 seed in the state tournament. All season long, the team worked hard finding their identity, figuring out where they fit into the history of St. Andrew's soccer. Our senior class did a tremendous job being leaders on and off the field; they led by example, they supported everyone when they needed it most, and they certainly left this program better than they found it. A bar was set for this program to be competitive and stay competitive, and this team fought to the end to ensure that continues year after year."

Varsity Girls Soccer Head Coach Megan Altig

Most Valuable Player: Tanner Caldwell '26
Most Improved Player: Ember Theeke '25

• Coaches Award: Katie Boyer '25

2025 Postseason Report: No. 8 girls soccer, named CO-DISC champ, lost in the quarterfinal game against No. 1 Caravel.

JV Girls Soccer



"This was a team that put their all into every game we played, with two total subs throughout the season, which occasionally fell even lower due to illness or injury. Each and every player was vital to the overall success of the team. This was a team with tremendous skill, speed, endurance, heart, and grit. They supported each other on and off the field and celebrated their teammates' successes, put the needs of the team over their own, and fought until the last whistle in every game."

JV Girls Soccer Head Coach Kyra Wilson

Most Improved Player: Mekaila Gallimore '28

Most Valuable Player: Ceri Phillips '26

Boys Tennis

"Our team was sick of losing to our long-time state tournament rivals. However, this year we were hopeful after we qualified every one of our teams in the semi final rounds. But after some tough losses in the semis, only our 1st doubles team made it to the final round. With everyone in attendance, our 1st doubles team, led by our captain Porter Read and freshman Kent Como, outlasted their opponents in a thrilling three-set match to win the state championship. Furthermore, their victory helped to secure the team runner up trophy over our rival school. As we look to next year, our victory at 1st doubles has inspired our players to work even harder with the sole goal of winning the team championship here at St. Andrew's."

Varsity Boys Tennis Head Coach Steven Mufuka

- JV, Most Valuable Player: Duncan Pyle '27
- JV Coaches Award: Ronit Goyal '27
- Varsity, Most Improved Player: Alvin Xie '26
- Varsity Most Valuable Player: Porter Read '25

Girls Tennis



"We had a winning record of 9-4, and in looking back over that record, we had some incredibly tough and hard-fought matches.
Tiebreakers don't happen every match, they only happen in very dramatic, hard-fought matches—we played over 15 as a team and won 12 of them. That, to me, says that even in the incredibly close,

pressure-filled matches, people fought until the very end and triumphed, which is amazing. Both of our doubles teams made it to the quarterfinals of the state tournament and almost our entire lineup ended up being second team in the conference. I want to thank all of the players for an incredible season, and in particular coaches Gabe Perla and Chelsea Kneedler for all of your work, your inspiration, and your love for this sport."

Girls Tennis Varsity Head Coach Lauren Urbont

- Most Valuable Player: Daisy Wang '25
- Varsity, Most Improved Player: Kendall Ervin '28
- JV, Most Improved Player: Enid Appiah '26
- Coaches Award: Emma Hunter '25

2025 Postseason Report: After various playoff match wins up and down the girls and boys tennis rosters, the Saints tennis season ended with a first doubles state championship won by Porter Read '25 and Kent Como '28, and a state runner-up title for boys tennis overall.