Dear friends of Saint Anselm College,

The term Hawks Headlines took on historic meanings in the 40 days since our last edition of “From the AD’s Desk,” highlighted by the softball team’s unexpected and memorable run to the championship series of the NCAA Division II Softball Championship.

After going undefeated in both the NCAA Division II Softball Regional and Super Regional, the record-setting group traveled to Salem, Virginia in late May. This marked only the second time a Saint Anselm team advanced to the Elite Eight within an NCAA tournament field of 64 teams (men’s basketball, 2000).

Wins over #8 Southern Arkansas (twice) and #25 Saint Leo earned the team a spot in the national championship series before the Hawks were downed by Southern Indiana. Saint Anselm ended the year ranked #2 in the NFCA rankings. Coach Jill Gagnon and her staff were also tabbed as the NFCA East Region Coaching Staff of the Year!

Men’s lacrosse upset Le Moyne, the nation’s #1-ranked team who was previously undefeated (15-0), in the NE10 semifinals and took on Merrimack for the NE10 title on May 6 (Saint Anselm’s first appearance in the final). The Hawks came up on the wrong end of an 11-7 result to the Warriors, who went on to win the NCAA Division II national title.

The 2017-18 academic year was record-setting on many fronts, but the success of our Athletics program can best be measured in our collective achievements. To that end, Saint Anselm finished 9th in the NE10 President’s Cup standings, up two spots from last year, and the highest finish overall since 2004-05. Moreover, for the first time in its history, the Queen City Cup found its way west of the Merrimack River as Saint Anselm downed Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) 21-15 in the overall crosstown rivalry.

Lastly, we announced our final #HawksSoarHigher award recipients yesterday. We were honored to present Ken with this award given his years of tireless dedication and service to Athletics as rink manager of Sullivan Arena, and Jenny, who is a fan favorite of our staff and student-athletes.

Best wishes to our student-athletes for a terrific summer! GO HAWKS!

Daron Montgomery
Director of Athletics