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WICHITA STATE IS ALL-SPORTS CHAMP FOR THIRD-STRAIGHT YEAR

ST. LOUIS, MO. -- For the third-straight season, Wichita State University has captured the Missouri Valley Conference All-Sports Trophy. The Shockers did it in record fashion, claiming seven Valley championships in 2005-06 and gaining fifth-or-better finishes in all of the 15 Valley sports in which they sponsor. The Shockers earned titles in women's cross country, women's indoor and outdoor track & field, men's basketball, men's golf, women's tennis (co-championship), and volleyball.

The All-Sports Trophy is based on a school's average finish in each of the sponsored championships by the Missouri Valley Conference. Teams are awarded one point for first, two for second, three for third, etc., and the total accumulated points are divided by the number of sports in which a particular school competes. Finishes in baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball are based on regular-season competition. All other sports are determined by finish at the championship tournament or championship meet.

Wichita State, which won three-straight all-sports titles for the first time since winning six-straight from 1977-78 through 1982-83, took the 2005-06 All-Sports Trophy with an aggregate score of 2.70. It is the second-best aggregate score total in league history, since the league began using its current scoring format in 1993-94 (2.47 - Illinois State). It marks the 15th Missouri Valley Conference all-sports championship for Wichita State.

Since the league began sponsoring women's sports (1992-93), no Valley school has captured more than five championships and no Valley school has finished in the top five in all of its sponsored sports. Only Illinois State (in 1984-85) had more single-season championships than the Shockers did this year, claiming a combined eight titles while the men competed under the Missouri Valley Conference umbrella and the women competed under the Gateway Conference umbrella. (See chart at bottom right.)

Missouri State, meanwhile, also had a balanced athletic season, finishing no worse than sixth in any of its 18 Valley-sponsored sports, and the Bears took second in this year's all-sports race. Missouri State has eight-straight top-three finishes, with all-sports trophies in 2000, 2002, and 2003, and the Bears were third last year.

After finishing fifth in the All-Sports Trophy standings last year, Illinois State rebounded to take third in this year's race. ISU has finished first, second or third in the All-Sports Trophy standings in 14 of the past 15 seasons. All time, Illinois State has earned a total of 10 all-sports titles, trailing only Wichita State (15) for the most. Either Illinois State, Missouri State or Wichita State, meanwhile, has earned the league's all-sports championship trophy every year since 1995, as the Redbirds won five of six all-sports championships from 1996-2001.

For the second-straight season, Southern Illinois (4th this year and 2nd last year) and Indiana State (5th this year and 4th last year) finished in the Top 5 of the all-sports race, joining Wichita State, Missouri State, and Illinois State in the league's upper division. SIU did not win a league title in any sport but had top-three finishes in nine sports, while Indiana State was bolstered with four titles, including men's cross country, women's basketball, a co-championship in women's tennis, and men's outdoor track & field.

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TOP-FIVE FINISHES, same season

Year	No.*	MVC Leader
1993		<i>no all-sports award given</i>
1994	18	13 - Southern Illinois (of 17)
1995	18	14 - SIU (of 17); ILS (of 17)
1996	18	14 - Illinois State (of 16)
1997	19	16 - Illinois State (of 17) - ^
1998	19	16 - Illinois State (of 17) - \$
1999	19	14 - Missouri State (of 19)
2000	19	16 - Missouri State (of 19)
2001	19	15 - Illinois State (of 17)
2002	19	16 - Missouri State (of 19)
2003	18	16 - Missouri State (of 18)
2004	18	15 - Illinois State (of 17)
2005	18	13 - Wichita State (of 15)
2006	18	15 - Wichita State (of 15)

* - Number of sports sponsored by Valley that year; ^ - ISU's men's cross country was 7th; \$ - ISU's softball was 8th

SAME-SEASON CHAMPIONS

Pre-Women's Sports (1907-1982)

- 6 - Oklahoma A&M (1948-49)
- 6 - Houston (1959-60)
- 6 - Southern Illinois (1976-77)
- 5 - Oklahoma A&M (1947-48)
- 5 - Oklahoma A&M (1953-54)
- 5 - Houston (1959-60)

Pre-MVC/Gateway Merger (1983-92)

- 8 - Illinois State (1984-85)
- 6 - Illinois State (1982-83)
- 6 - Southern Illinois (1983-84)
- 6 - Illinois State (1988-89)
- 6 - Illinois State (1989-90)
- 5 - Southern Illinois (1982-83)

MVC (one umbrella - 1993-present)

- 7 - Wichita State (2005-06)**
- 5 - Southern Illinois (1994-95)
- 5 - Illinois State (1996-97)
- 5 - Missouri State (2002-03)
- 5 - Missouri State (2003-04)