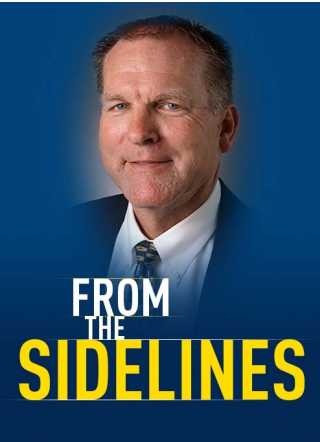




Fall 2021

Student-athlete recruiting more competitive than ever



Mike Zapolski, Director of Athletics

This fall, student-athlete recruits from numerous states and countries made up approximately 44% of our first-year class. That's a huge win!

Our coaches are successfully sharing the Augustana story: academic rigor, high-level DI athletics, mid-size metropolitan area with plenty of internship opportunities. ([Learn how they do it](#))

- Related: [NCAA Constitutional Convention](#) to reimagine aspects of college sports to more effectively meet the needs of athletes.



The finishing touches are being done on the new pool, slated to open next month.

Augustana's third competition pool

The students who swam for Augustana's first varsity team in 1928 could hardly have imagined the new state-of-the-art facility about to open. For one thing, their 1916 pool had no space for spectators. ([See what it looked like](#)).

5 questions for water polo Coach Ryan Pryor



Zander O'Dwyer, a first-year student from Lantana, Texas.

Coach Ryan Pryor talks about the challenges of starting a new program, especially during a pandemic, and how he will measure success.

The men's home opener is Nov. 13 in the new Anne Greve Lund Natatorium. Women's water polo also is in its first year; its competitive season is January-April. ([Read the interview](#))



New sports marketing internship honors Wrath '80

Dave Wrath has retired from Augustana athletics, but his legacy will live on in the most appropriate way.

An endowed fund for the Dave Wrath '80 Sports Marketing Internship was announced Sept. 5 in honor of his 40 years of sharing Augustana's stories and mentoring students. ([more](#))

'71 grad hits hole-in-one at Viking Club outing



The day's most serious competitors were, from left, Boris Tomas, Jack Peters '16 (lacrosse), Mike McAleer '15 (lacrosse) and Tim Pellus.

Eighty-two alumni, parents, staff and sponsors participated in the Viking Club's annual golf outing on Sept. 18.

John Malvik '71 hit a hole-in-one on the par 3 16th hole.

The winning team included all former Viking lacrosse players: Alex Crescenti '16, Jeremy Gottardo '15, Taylor McGinnis '16 and Tim Pellus. They scored a 15-under par for the scramble. Funds raised will benefit Augustana's student-athletes.

Father, daughter team up for the Vikings

Mark Beinborn, Viking women's basketball coach, lands an all-state player and a state tournament-qualifying high school coach in a "package deal." ([Read about them](#))

When in Rome, kick the ball!



Anna Fank '20 is playing for [REVER Roma](#) in the Series C division of Italian Women's Soccer this summer.

She played her first game Sept. 19 and scored the winning goal in a 2-1 match.

Fank majored in teaching Spanish at Augustana, which may explain her quick grasp of Italian on display [in this video interview after her goal](#).

She was a first-team All-CCIW selection and a United Soccer Coaches All-Central Region honoree three years in a row.

GAME CHANGERS

- Ken Anderson '81 will be inducted into the [Bengals Ring of Honor](#) this Thursday at 8:20 p.m. EST on the NFL Network.
- 2009 grad Greg Ruth's book, "Tennis: A History from American Amateurs to Global Professionals," was published by [University of Illinois Press](#).
- Haley Fox '15 is a member of the St. Ambrose University Sports Information Office, which was named the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference Sports Information Department of the Year for 2020-21.

Augustana launches women's wrestling Nov. 6



The Viking wrestlers begin their inaugural season Nov. 6 at the UW-Stevens Point Pointer Open in Wisconsin.

The first-ever Augustana women's wrestling home contest will be Jan. 6 vs. Carthage.

The Augie women will be led by Coach Tony Willaert, who is in his fifth year with the Augustana men's team.

SAVE THE DATE

- Oct. 1-3 [Homecoming](#)
- Oct. 9 [Men's](#) and [women's](#) swimming home openers vs. Millikin
- Nov. 1 [Men's wrestling](#) opener at St. Ambrose
- Nov. 6 [Women's wrestling](#) home opener vs. Carthage
- Nov. 9 [Women's basketball](#) home opener vs. Knox
- Nov. 12 [Men's basketball](#) home opener vs. Dubuque
- Nov. 13 [Women's bowling](#) home opener at Big River Bowl (Leatherneck Classic)
- Nov. 13 [Men's water polo home](#) opener vs. McKendree

