

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

OU SWIMMING & DIVING CELEBRATION

April 20, 2023

- First of all congratulations to the Men's Swimming and Diving for winning its 45th consecutive conference championship....
- And congratulations to the Women's Swimming and Diving for winning its 29th straight conference championship.
- I don't want to go too far out on the limb, but I think it's safe to say that winning is a tradition here with Oakland University's Swimming and Diving teams.
- Your effort and success in swimming, diving and academics make all of us so proud.
- I'd like to take just a moment to congratulate those who have received awards for their outstanding accomplishments....
- Elle Chalifoux, the 2023 Horizon League Championship Special Awards as Women's Diver of the Meet
- *Susan LaGrand*, co-Women's Swimmer of the Meet
- Marko Khotynetski, Men's Swimmer of the Meet
- Larry Albright, Women's Diving Coach of the Year
- Pete Hovland, Women's Swimming Coach of the Year
- And Susan LaGrand, who qualified for the NCAA Championships for the third consecutive year.

Other notable accomplishments include...

- The men's team finished 5th...and the women's team finished 16th at the CSCAA (College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association of America) National Invitational Championship
- We are extremely proud of the 8 student-athletes named to the College Sports Communicators All-District All-Academic

Team. They include:

- Christian Bart
- Andrew Bernsdorf
- Sam McKenzie
- Ben Rojewski
- Taylor Bailey
- Susan LaGrand
- Sohvi Nenonen
- Jordyn Shipps
- In addition, 13 Oakland Swim and Dive student-athletes were named to the Horizon League All-Academic Team
- The Swimming and Diving teams are a central part of the Oakland University tradition and identity...
- The Swimming and Diving teams embody all that we stand for at Oakland University – hard work, integrity, commitment to excellence, selflessness...and of course....teamwork.
- There is a reason so many of us follow sports teams....
- Sports is a metaphor for the “game of life.”
- And the traits that make each of you great competitors are the traits that will make you a great success outside of the pool ... in the game of life.
- Congratulations on your impressive accomplishments...
- We appreciate the standard you have set... and for representing Oakland University with such grace, style and distinction.
- Thank you for making us all so proud.