FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MacEwan University’s Cam Leverman named national coach of the year

Edmonton, AB – Cam Leverman, head coach of the MacEwan University Griffins, has been named the 2013 Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association’s national men’s soccer coach of the year.

Following an 8-1-1 regular season record, Leverman led his team to their first Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference championship since 2006 and his first as head coach. “His team’s remarkable improvement stands out from the others,” said Jim Loughlin, CCAA men’s soccer convenor. “As a coach he’s a class act, and the standards he holds his players to off the field are as high as on the field.”

Leverman, with loyal assistants Danny Jeffery and Bryan Klaus, transformed his Griffins team in less than one year from a group of men who missed the ACAC playoffs in 2012 into a championship winning team.

“I was really surprised. I had looked at all the other coach’s record prior to the banquet and everyone had good seasons. Needless to say, I was honoured to be chosen,” said Leverman following the banquet. “When they announced the award, we (Danny, Bryan and I) all stood up together. That is what makes us a great team; we all know our roles and try to be at our best each day. They have been a big part of this team and I am pleased to have them as part of the team and share the award with them. They deserve just as much of the recognition for making me look good.”

“Being able to share tonight with my wife, who just flew in tonight from home, was also something special,” continued the St. Albert resident in reflection. “We often talk about our team sacrifices and don’t acknowledge what our other family does to help us along the way. She does a lot for me to be able to coach at this level, and I am very appreciative for her sacrifices for the team.”

His Griffins were just a jovial as their leader when the announcement came. “The lads were really excited and gave me a standing ovation,” Leverman said proudly. “That is what makes our team special, how close we really are. That closeness is what really helped ourselves this season on the field and off.”

Griffins’ standout Ryan Matowe was also honoured as an All-Canadian. The first year striker set an ACAC record for goals in consecutive games with 11 goals in 10 games, while finishing second in league scoring behind fourth year teammate Jerad Uytterhagen.

Leverman and Matowe received their awards Tuesday, November 5th at the CCAA championship awards banquet at the 2013 CCAA men’s soccer national championship in Saint John, N.B. CCAA Coaches of the Year receive a customized ring provided by Jostens Canada.

This season will be the last for the MacEwan University Griffins soccer programs, as both men and women’s teams will move into the Canada West Universities Athletic Association league next season.

To follow the men’s soccer national championship tournament, visit http://www.ccaa.ca/national-championship-s15061. The Griffins will take on Dawson College, QC in their first round on Wednesday with a kick off scheduled for 12:30 (AST)

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