South Easton, Mass. – The NCAA has released the latest Division II graduation rate data, including the division’s Academic Success Rate (ASR), which held great news for the Northeast-10 Conference and Division II as a whole.

The ASR calculates the percentage of student-athletes that earn a degree within six years of their initial matriculation in college. 66 different Northeast-10 teams achieved a perfect academic success rate of 100 for their entering classes of 2003. This number leads all NCAA Division II Conferences. Additionally, an impressive 195 of the 233 (84%) Northeast-10 squads with data in the most recent cohort achieved ASR scores above the national Division II average of 73 percent.

Saint Michael’s College led all NE-10 member institutions as 15 of their 18 NE-10 teams achieved perfect ASR scores of 100. The Purple Knights also ranked first among all Conference institutions with an overall ASR of 99. Stonehill College, whose overall ASR of 98 ranks second in the NE-10, had 10 of its teams achieve perfect ASR scores. Adelphi University, with an overall ASR score of 94, saw 11 of its teams garner perfect Academic Success Rates.

“The impressive academic successes of our 6,500 student-athletes is remarkable,” said Northeast-10 Commissioner Julie Ruppert. “It clearly illustrates that both our institutions and our student-athletes are truly committed to success well beyond the playing field. These individuals are able to balance high-level athletic competition with a similar dedication to academic pursuits. We couldn’t be more proud to tell the story of their accomplishments.”

The Division II national ASR for the entering class of 2003 is 73 percent, which represents a two percent increase over last year. 13 of the 16 Northeast-10 institutions exceeded the national ASR.

Even when utilizing the less-inclusive federal rate, Division II student-athletes perform significantly better than the general student body. The federal rate for Division II student-athletes in the 2003 entering class increased one percent to 56 percent, while the general student body was 47 percent, a difference of 9 percent.

This is the fifth year the NCAA has released the Division ASR. The NCAA developed the Division II ASR at the request of college and university presidents who believed the federal graduation rate was...
flawed. Division II’s ASR data is similar to the Division I Graduation Success Rate as it takes transfer students in account. Given the partial-scholarship financial aid model of Division II, however, ASR also includes student-athletes not on athletically related financial aid. The result is that ASR captures more than 34,000 non-scholarship student-athletes.

The Northeast-10 is an association of 16 NCAA Division II colleges and universities located in New England and New York that are committed to supporting balanced academic and athletic opportunities for more than 6,500 student-athletes. Each year, 4,500 of those student-athletes compete in Conference championships in 23 sports, making the NE-10 the largest DII conference in the country. Leading the way in the classroom, on the field and within the community, the Northeast-10 is proud of its comprehensive program and the experience it provides student-athletes.