

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Tom Waterman  
(0) 757-706-3041[twaterman@atlantic10.org](mailto:twaterman@atlantic10.org)**Richmond Women Named A-10 Preseason Cross Country Favorites**

**NEWPORT NEWS, Va.** — The Richmond Women's Cross Country team has been selected as the favorite to repeat as Atlantic 10 Conference Champions in a poll conducted of the league's 14 head coaches, the A-10 announced on Wednesday.

Richmond, the two-time defending A-10 champion, received 12 first-place votes and 194 total points. The Spiders return five top-20 performers from last year's championship in senior Kylie Regan (13<sup>th</sup> place), junior Ave Grosenheider (14<sup>th</sup> place), sophomore Claire Brown (15<sup>th</sup> place), junior Colleen Carney (17<sup>th</sup> place) and senior Shelby Cain (18<sup>th</sup> place).

Dayton, the 2016 A-10 runner up, was selected second and received one first-place vote along with 171 points. The Flyers are in pursuit of their first A-10 title since 2009 and return two top-five finishers from last year's championship including junior Taylor Vernot (4<sup>th</sup> place) and sophomore Chloe Flora (5<sup>th</sup> place).

Davidson was selected third in the poll with 161 points and a first-place vote. Duquesne was predicted to finish fourth in the poll with 160 points, followed by George Washington in fifth with 130 points. UMass was sixth with 124 points and Saint Joseph's was seventh with 104 points.

Saint Louis (84), George Mason (83) and Fordham (82), were selected eighth, ninth and tenth, respectively. La Salle, VCU, Rhode Island and St. Bonaventure rounded out the poll, which was voted on by the league's 14 head coaches.

The 2017 Atlantic 10 Women's Cross Country Championship will be hosted by George Mason University at Oatlands Plantation in Leesburg, Va. on October 28. The Cross Country regular season begins this weekend.

**2017 A-10 Predicted Order of Finish**

(number in parentheses includes first-place votes)

1.	Richmond (12)	194
2.	Dayton (1)	171
3.	Davidson (1)	161
4.	Duquesne	160
5.	George Washington	130
6.	Massachusetts	124
7.	Saint Joseph's	104
8.	Saint Louis	84
9.	George Mason	83
10.	Fordham	82
11.	La Salle	75
12.	VCU	54
13.	Rhode Island	33
14.	St. Bonaventure	15

**About the Atlantic 10 Conference**

The Atlantic 10 Conference was founded in 1975 and consists of 14 diverse members across eight states and Washington, D.C. The mission of the Atlantic 10 is to provide an enhanced student-athlete experience through 21 nationally competitive championship sports. The basketball-centric conference is committed to integrity, educational excellence and providing quality equitable championship experiences for its student-athletes, coaches, and support staff. The membership consists of Davidson College, the University of Dayton, Duquesne University, Fordham University, George Mason University, The George Washington University, La Salle University, the University of Massachusetts, the University of Rhode Island, University of Richmond, St. Bonaventure University, Saint Joseph's University, Saint Louis University and Virginia Commonwealth University. For more information, visit [www.atlantic10.com](http://www.atlantic10.com).