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SOUTH DAKOTA STATE EARNS SUMMIT LEAGUE SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD *Institution wins first honor in just its second year of league competition*

ELMHURST, Ill. - South Dakota State University has been honored by its fellow institutions with the 2008-09 Summit League Sportsmanship Award. It is the first year the school has been given the prestigious award.

The Sportsmanship Award is given annually to the league institution that is judged by its peers to be the best in the league in living up to the ideals of sportsmanship. Areas for evaluation include student-athlete conduct, staff/administrator conduct, coaches' conduct and event management.

UMKC won the first Sportsmanship Award presented following the 1998-99 academic year, while Centenary earned the honor last season. Southern Utah has won the most Sportsmanship Awards with five, while Centenary has won two and IUPUI and Valparaiso have each captured one.

The Summit League is comprised of 10 member institutions – Centenary College of Louisiana, Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW), Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC), North Dakota State University, Oakland University, Oral Roberts University, South Dakota State University, Southern Utah University and Western Illinois University. The league offers championships in 19 sports.

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SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD **YEAR-BY-YEAR SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD LISTING**

Academic Year	School
1998-99.....	UMKC
1999-2000	Southern Utah
2000-01.....	IUPUI
2001-02.....	Valparaiso
2002-03.....	Southern Utah
2003-04.....	Southern Utah
2004-05.....	Southern Utah
2005-06.....	Southern Utah
2006-07.....	Centenary
2007-08.....	Centenary
2008-09.....	South Dakota State