



CENTURION

Athletics

By Shelly Springborn

Centurion athletics is returning to Montcalm Community College after more than 40 years.

MCC has been accepted as a member of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) and the Michigan Junior College Athletic Association (MJCAA) and is recruiting players and coaches in these areas:

- Men's basketball
- Women's basketball
- Bowling
- Clay target shooting
- Men's cross-country
- Women's cross-country
- Men's golf
- Women's volleyball

MCC President Stacy H. Young, Ph.D., said the addition of athletics at MCC will benefit students and the college.

"One of the comments we often hear from students who choose not to attend MCC is they want to get the full college experience," Dr. Young said. "Sports will help fill that gap.

"The addition of athletics will offer a sense of community on our campus," Dr. Young said. "We have many high school student athletes and non-traditional students who would benefit from the opportunity to continue their athletic careers at the college level.

"Sports offer life-learning lessons on the field and through teamwork that our students may or may not be able to discover in the classroom," Dr. Young said. "Sports contribute to characteristics such as good sportsmanship, persistence, completion and work ethic – all of which are crucial to

personal and professional success. Being part of an athletic team promotes the fundamental values of hard work, drive and pushing yourself to the limit to help you attain goals you may never have thought you could achieve."

According to the NJCAA, more than 50,000 students participate in intercollegiate athletics at the community college level annually.

Starting at the community college level may also be beneficial for athletes who want to compete at the college level, but are not quite ready for competition at a four-year university.

"It's a great opportunity for student athletes to strengthen their skills and get the physical form necessary to compete at a higher level," Dr. Young said. "At the same time, they can complete coursework at a much lower cost than at a university."

MCC has more than 125 transfer agreements with universities and colleges, which offer seamless transfer of credits.

"Our counselors and advisors can help students select a path and select courses that will transfer to other institutions," Dr. Young said.

MCC currently is focusing on recruiting coaches and athletes. Visit montcalm.edu/athletics to complete an interest form in any of the college's athletic program areas. ■

For more information:

- Visit montcalm.edu/athletics
- email athletics@montcalm.edu
- Call **989-328-1095**