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Frozen temperatures, wind, rain and sleet did not stop Men and Women in 39th Annual Kansas State Ed Chartrand Memorial Tournament

April 13-15 Tournament saw Texas A&M Men and KU Women emerge as Champions

Manhattan, Kan. - At the conclusion of a weekend plagued by rain, gusty winds, freezing temperatures and even snow, the women of University of Kansas and men of Texas A&M took home the championship titles in the 39th Annual Kansas State Ed Chartrand Memorial Soccer Tournament held at Kansas State University's WWI Memorial Stadium and Frank Anneberg Park in Manhattan.

"It definitely was a weekend of wild weather, but that just goes to show you the passion that these teams have for the sport of soccer," Dennis Cook, tournament director and former K-State soccer player, said. "For thirty-nine years this tournament has showcased the best in college soccer and this weekend was no different. We are one of the finest and longest athletic traditions at K-State and in the Midwest."

Art Chartrand, president of the Chartrand Charitable Foundation, presented the Dennis Cook MVP awards at the conclusion of play on Sunday to Paige Chase, University of Kansas and Kyle Ragusin of Kansas State. Cook and the Chartrand brothers all played soccer at K-State in the 1970's. "Dennis' dedication to the students and his soccer knowledge cannot be matched," said Chartrand.

Schools competing this year included: Kansas State, Truman State University, University of Kansas, Texas Tech University, Texas A&M, Missouri State, University of Nebraska Omaha and University of Nebraska Lincoln, Sam Houston State and Pittsburg State. All game results may be found at <http://www.chartrandsoccer.com/tournament/game-results/> For additional tournament information and history please visit www.chartrandsoccer.com

The Chartrand Tournament is a partnership between the K-State soccer teams, the Chartrand Charitable Foundation (CFF) and the 1st Infantry, 5th Field Artillery Division (1-5FA) of Ft. Riley. The partnership between the military and college soccer began in 1979

when a team of soldiers from Ft. Riley competed in the inaugural Ed Chartrand Tournament. The military base continues to be an important participant in the annual tournament. The 1-5FA provides logistical support and many soldiers in uniform and their families were on hand throughout the weekend. They also provide significant pageantry and patriotism with their color guards presenting for the National Anthem at the opening and closing games.

The Chartrand Charitable Foundation, based in Lenexa, Kans., provides sports equipment to underserved programs and organizations serving youth not only in Kansas, but also throughout the world. The Foundation awarded scholarship to a member of the men's and women's K-State soccer clubs at the event. 2018 recipients were Ashley Akers, a junior from Newton, Kan. studying landscape architecture and Kyle Ragusin, from Overland Park and St Thomas Aquinas High School and graduate student studying Kinesiology.

"We are so proud of what this tournament has accomplished as we look to our 40th year at K-State," Chartrand, said. "We have not only established a the reputation as the premier college soccer tournament in the Midwest and provided scholarships to students, but have supported the entire K-State Family by helping bring the World War I Stadium back to its true purpose and dedication as a sports facility. We continue to work with everyone to bring the addition of crtically needed locker rooms and an event box."

The K-State Ed Chartrand Memorial Soccer Tournament was founded in memory of Edward E. "Fast Eddy" Chartrand, a former K-State soccer player from Leawood, Kan., who died at the age of twenty-two in 1979, the night before his graduation from K-State. For more information on the tournament visit www.chartrandsoccer.com and on Facebook at K-State Ed Chartrand Memorial Soccer Tournament.

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