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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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***William Jewell Partners with Liberty Hospital to Provide  
Elevated Sports Medicine Care***

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**LIBERTY, MO-** William Jewell College announces a new partnership with Liberty Hospital Sports Medicine that will provide student-athletes an enhanced level of healthcare, effective for the 2019-2020 academic year.

“William Jewell is delighted to be partnering with Liberty Hospital to offer high-quality sports medicine to all of our 400 student-athletes,” said William Jewell President Dr. Elizabeth MacLeod Walls. “The partnership builds upon strengths of two Liberty institutions, allowing each to focus on its core expertise while ensuring the health and vitality of the students we serve.”

Through this partnership, Liberty Hospital becomes the exclusive provider for Jewell student-athletes. All sports medicine staff members, including athletic trainers and strength and conditioning assistants, will become Liberty Hospital employees reporting to medical professionals.

“The partnership provides a true medical oversight and healthcare compliance model,” said David Feess, President and CEO of Liberty Hospital. “We are excited about this collaborative approach.”

All student-athletes participating in the College’s NCAA Division II sports as well as members of the Cardinal cheer and dance teams will have access to this comprehensive model. The enhanced level of care includes but is not limited to athletic training, strength and conditioning, physical therapy, and care from physicians and orthopedic surgeons. In addition, this partnership will result in no out-of-pocket costs for in-network, insured student-athletes seeking treatment at Liberty Hospital Sports Medicine for injuries that occur during a Jewell-sponsored athletic activity.

“While it is impossible to prevent injuries, we are committed to providing a safe environment that minimizes risks and provides the appropriate support when injuries do happen,” said Director of Athletics Tom Eisenhauer. “I am confident this partnership allows us provide support better than we ever have before.”

Ashley Watson, who served as the assistant athletic trainer for Jewell in 2018-2019, as well as Graduate Assistant Lindsey Weir, will continue to work with Cardinal student-athletes on site. Additional staff will be announced at a later date.

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