



Update from the **FIELDHOUSE**

2015 Fall Sports Review

The Defiance football team posted a 2-8 overall record and placed in a tie for sixth in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference with a 2-6 mark. The Yellow Jackets recorded wins against Hanover (Ind.) College and Earlham (Ind.) College. In the matchup against Earlham, DC rushed for 334 yards which marked the third time in the past five seasons that the Yellow Jackets rushed for 300 yards or more against the Quakers. Also this season, the DC defense accounted for a league-leading five touchdowns. The Jackets had three interception returns for touchdowns and a pair of fumble recoveries that were also returned for scores. DC tied for third nationally amongst all NCAA Division III schools in defensive touchdowns.

Following the season, a total of 10 players were named to the All-HCAC Teams. Seniors Joe Niehaus (Grass Lake, Mich./Grass Lake), Andrew Feldhaus (Lutz, Fla./Steinbrenner), juniors Matt DeVore (Van Buren), Keandre Gilmer (Toledo/Rogers) and Kenny Jones (Toledo/Bowsher) and freshmen Tyler L'Heureux (Apopka, Fla./Apopka) and Nate Roberts (St. Petersburg, Fla./Boca Ciega) were all selected second-team. Junior Cody Wilson (McComb) and freshman Jalin Nealy (Pontiac, Mich./Jefferson) were tabbed honorable mention. In addition, senior Cody Lee (Tampa, Fla./Jefferson) was named to the HCAC All-Sportsmanship Team.



Kenny Jones (6) and Markell Moncrief (31)

The Jackets' individual success on the field carried over into the classroom as well as six players were named Academic All-HCAC. It marked the second straight year that DC had six players named Academic All-HCAC. The six players selected included: seniors Cody Lee, Tom Woehner (Kendallville, Ind./East Noble), juniors Andy Foore (Swanton), Cody Wiggins (Howell, Mich./Howell), Cody Wilson and sophomore Anthony Righi (Liberty Center).

The Defiance men's soccer team finished the 2015 season with a

6-11-1 overall record and 2-6-1 in the HCAC finishing eighth.

Sophomore Nick Kleptz (Troy) led the team in five statistical categories, including goals (eight), points (17), game-winning goals (four), shot percentage (.381) and penalty kick goals (three). His eight goals this season, put him in a tie for third in the HCAC. Following the season, Kleptz was named honorable mention All-HCAC for the second consecutive season. Joining Kleptz on the All-Conference Teams was senior Blayne Robbins (Galva, Ill./Miamiisburg) who also earned honorable mention accolades. In addition, junior Brian Kurtz (Sandusky/Perkins) was named to the HCAC All-Sportsmanship Team.

The women's soccer team finished with a 3-15 overall record and 2-7 in the HCAC. Sophomore Kassie Memmer (Bowling Green) led all players in scoring for the second straight season with a team-high five goals for 10 points. Her five goals put her in the top-20 in the HCAC in that category. She also led the team in both shots (37) and



Nick Kleptz

19

ALL-HCAC SELECTIONS

shots on goal (23). After the season, Memmer was one of three players to be honored by the HCAC as a honorable mention selection for the second consecutive season. Freshman Claire Stockwell (Union, Ky./Larry A. Ryle) was also named honorable mention. Joining Memmer and Stockwell was senior Erica Islas (Lockhart, Texas/Lockhart) who was named to the All-Sportsmanship Team.

The Yellow Jacket volleyball team finished the season with an 11-19 overall record and qualified for the HCAC Tournament for the fourth straight season. Senior Rebecca Kain (Orland, Ind./Prairie Heights) ended a standout four-year career as the program's all-time leader in career digs with 1,927. She owns a combined eight school records (single season and career) in both the all-time and 25-point scoring eras, including career marks in digs and digs per set (4.45). She owns single-season records for digs (648), digs per set (5.68), and serve percentage (.949). In addition to Kain, sophomore Meredith Shank (Maumee/Springfield) and freshman Marissa Windau (Castalia Margaretta) both had solid seasons in 2015. Shank led the team in kills with 296 and ranked ninth overall in the HCAC. She had 15 matches with 10 or more kills, including a career-high 20 kills against Otterbein University. Defensively, she was one of seven players to record 100 or more digs (107) and was fourth in blocks with 25 (eight solo and 17 assists). Windau had a strong "rookie" season for the Purple & Gold after finishing second on the team in kills with 274. She had 14 matches with 10 or more kills, including a season-high 15 kills against PSU-Behrend. In addition, she was fourth in aces (24), second in blocks (31) and also had 100 digs.

At the conclusion of the season, Shank was named to the All-HCAC Team, while Kain was selected honorable mention. Windau capped her impressive first season by being named to the



Rebecca Kain



Eme Miller

All-Freshman Team, becoming the fifth DC player to garner the award.

The Defiance women's cross country team finished 10th in the conference and were led all season by junior standout Eme Miller (Portland, Ind./Jay County). She broke her own school record in the 5k by nearly 30 seconds at the Wilmington College JennaStrong Fall Classic on Oct. 18. Miller went on to finish as runner-up individually at the

HCAC meet and 13th at the NCAA Division III Regional Meet earning All-Conference and All-Region accolades.

On the men's side, junior Clayton Bruggeman (St. Henry) paced the Yellow Jackets as the top finisher all season. Bruggeman posted a season-best time of 27:11.0 at the HCAC Championships and placed 17th overall. He went on to post a time of 28:24.4 at the NCAA Division III Regional Meet and placed 169th overall.

Following the season, the cross country teams each had a representative selected to the Academic All-HCAC Team in Aaron Textor (Swanton) for the women and junior Zach Roush (Nashville, Ind./Brown County) for the men.

The women's tennis team improved upon last season's outcome with a 5-12 overall record. Freshman Hannah Hesterman (Archbold) led the team in individual victories with eight and finished with an overall mark of 8-9 primarily as the number two singles player. Senior Haley Kuhlman (Oregon/Clay) was second in wins with seven and went 7-10 overall at the number three singles spot. Kuhlman and freshman Danielle Vance (Defiance) were the top doubles duo with six victories and went 6-11 overall.

Following the season, senior Savannah Marquez (Porterville, Calif./Porterville) was selected honorable mention All-HCAC and fellow senior Nicole Tank (Lincoln Park, Mich./Roosevelt) was selected to the All-Sportsmanship Team.

The women's golf team placed sixth at the HCAC Championships this fall. DC was led all season by the duo of sophomore Kristin Aslanian (Trenton, Mich./Trenton) and freshman Allison Barron (Ypsilanti, Mich./Heritage). Barron placed ninth at the HCAC Championships and finished just outside of All-HCAC honors. Aslanian placed 17th at the conference championships and led the team in stroke average at 92.7 in six tournaments and nine rounds of 18 holes. Barron finished just behind Aslanian with a 94.8 stroke average.