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Otterbein University Athletics

Spring 2010

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Cardinal Athletics



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WE ARE (AGAIN) OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY

You probably have heard, Otterbein College is no more! As of this fall we are returning to our original name, Otterbein University. The incoming class of 2010 will arrive at campus in the fall under the name of Otterbein University. The name reflects the increasing array of graduate and undergraduate programs offered at Otterbein and its

stadium seating. It is hoped that the future will bring about renovation of the track and installation of turf which will enable us to utilize the stadium as home to the men and women's soccer teams as well. With women's lacrosse on the horizon, our department will be responsible for the sponsorship of 20 sports and the servicing of over an estimated



future direction for growth through its strategic planning initiatives. As you can imagine, this will necessitate changing a lot of our signage and logos. But rest assured, any reference to OC, i.e. stadium seating, cardinal mascot, etc. will now represent "Otterbein Cardinals" instead of Otterbein College.

Changes within the Athletics Dept. have been for the improvement of the programs. The new Memorial Stadium, completed in 2005, affords us the luxury of having a facility that enhances the football, track and lacrosse programs with its state-of-the-art athletic training room, locker rooms, lounge, press box and

570 athletes. At the present time, we support 545 plus athletes.

As you can imagine, the support of these programs has required changes in the sports medicine area as well. Where Rudy Owens, a name for all you 50s, 60s and 70s athletes, served as trainer for all sports, we now have four full-time trainers, and a physical therapist on staff supported by several student trainers. These talented professionals operate out of The Freeman Athletic Training Facility, contained within the Clements Recreation Center, which includes a doctor's exam room, a hydrotherapy room with three whirlpools, and a swim-ex therapy pool. There are also 10 taping



OTTERBEIN
COLLEGE

ATHLETICS

MESSAGE FROM ATHLETIC DIRECTOR DICK REYNOLDS

Hello athletic alumni and welcome to the Spring 2010 Athletics Department newsletter.

Men's Lacrosse is up and competing and doing well for the first year of competition. Success has been experienced with anticipation of more competitiveness as the recruiting classes come. Work is still in progress in establishing a women's program, but the hope is to move towards that end within a few years.

The usage of the main stadium field for competitive lacrosse has brought the need for an artificial surface and track renovation in the stadium to the forefront. It is hoped that the future will see football, m/w track, m/w soccer and m/w lacrosse all competing in the stadium. We have had conversations and investigations relative to this need, and will continue to do so.

We have some 545 athletes in the department and are always recruiting to help maintain a competitive standard. Please keep us in mind as you view your local athletes and the possibility of them entering Otterbein. We would be glad to follow up with communication with anyone you recommend.

Don't forget to make nominations for our Athletic Department Hall of Fame, keep us up to date on your success, and please complete the online athlete profile for our records. As always, we do appreciate your support during the good times and the not so good times. Stop in and reacquaint yourselves with the campus and the department when you return to campus for a visit. Enjoy the upcoming summer.

~ Coach Reynolds

and 10 treatment tables, and a conference room/classroom area where most of the athletic training classes are held. Now that is a change!

Further changes one might notice would be relative to team transportation. Gone are the days when O Club members used their own cars to transport student-athletes. And gone are the days of the O Club bus, a long-time mode of transporting some of our smaller teams. Today's preferred method of transportation has centered around chartered buses and for long distance travel, flying. Van transportation remains a constant for teams with smaller numbers, yet for safety reasons our preference is to travel all teams on mini-buses or charters.

Both baseball and softball programs have benefited from recent enhancements to their facilities as well as the tennis courts. All of these facilities are located adjacent to one another behind the Clements and Rike facilities.

The Clements Recreation & Fitness Center, opened in the fall of 2002, has become a popular area for not only students, but faculty and staff alike. The cardio area is used extensively and the new weight room located in the back of

the Rike is used regularly as well. Drop down curtain panels in the Clements field house allow several sports the luxury of moving their practice sessions inside when weather conditions do not seem favorable.

When the college purchased the land situated west of Africa Rd. several years ago, it did so with the intention of providing practice fields for soccer, lacrosse and football. These fields provide an area for teams to practice so that the game fields can be preserved for competitions only. Surrounding these areas is our beautiful cross country course that meanders through open fields, and wooded areas to provide runners a venue that is second to none!

In addition to changing to Otterbein University, changes for the coming year or decades will be significant. Consistent facility upgrades, such as artificial turf, new outdoor track, upgraded practice fields, and renovation of the 1974 Rike Center, will be required. As Heraclitus, an ancient Greek philosopher once said, "The only thing that is constant is change". The changes we have experienced in the last several decades have made significant improvements to our programs. We look forward to the challenges and changes for the future as Otterbein College comes to be known as Otterbein University.

RECENT EVENTS



The 2002 NCAA Div. III Men's Basketball Championship Team was inducted into Ohio Basketball Hall of Fame, May 22, 2010. The event was held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. After capturing both OAC regular season and tournament titles, Otterbein went on to claim the school's first national title by defeating Elizabethtown (PA) 102-83 in Salem, VA. It was a shining moment for all the members of this team which included among many, Jeff Gibbs, who was named the tournament's Most Outstanding Player. Congratulations to the entire team and coaching staff!

OTTERBEIN'S EQUESTRIAN TEAM BRINGS HOME THE RIBBONS

The Otterbein Dressage Team travelled to St. Andrews College for the IDA National Championships April 23, 24, and 25th. The team placed 9th overall, with many individual awards as well. Mary Evert received 4th place in the first level division, and Lauren Sweezy came home with the Reserve Champion award in Introductory Level.

Otterbein's Eventing Team traveled to New Market Tennessee April 17th and 18th. Two Otterbein riders placed 5th

in their respective divisions. Both riders jumped clean in both jumping phases of the competition.

Two riders represented Otterbein at the American National Riding Commission Championship Horse Show at Sweet Briar College in Virginia. Riders competed on borrowed horses in 3 riding phases and one written test. Tenley Struhs received a 91% on her written test, receiving a fifth place ribbon.

The Intercollegiate Horse Show Association Zone finals were held at the University of Findlay on April 8th. Three riders from Otterbein qualified for this prestigious competition. Only one rider, sophomore Katie Kaiser, was able to advance to the National Championship Horse Show in Lexington Kentucky. Katie Kaiser received Reserve Champion at Zones, and was in the top 20 at the National Championship on May 6th.

WINTER HIGHLIGHTS

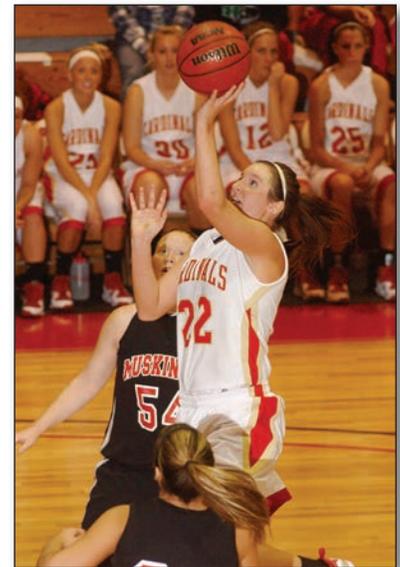
Sarah Petraitis, of the Women's Indoor Track team, scored a provisional qualifying mark for the NCAA meet in the 55M hurdles with a time of 8.52 seconds.

Men's basketball broke the existing school record of 13 three-pointers made in a game with 15 during the win over cross-town rival Capital University.

Senior Katy Miller, of the Women's Basketball team topped the 1,000 point plateau during their contest against Heidelberg. Katy finished her career with 1,136 points!



Sarah Petraitis



Katy Miller



Joe Nemith III

NEW FOOTBALL COACH FOR THE DEFENSE

Joe Nemith III, has joined our football staff as the new co-defensive coordinator. He replaces Randy Moore, who recently accepted the head football coaching position at Hiram College.

Nemith comes to Otterbein from Ohio Dominican University where he served as associate head coach and defensive coordinator since 2004. He coached defensive backs and also coordinated

the strength program at ODU. Overall Joe brings over 11 years of coaching experience to his new position.

A 1997 graduate of Malone College with a bachelor's degree in communications, Nemith was a 3-year starter at strong safety, earning all-conference honors in 1995 and 96.

We are pleased to have Joe in our department and look forward to working with him.



OTTERBEIN

Continue to check our website
for upcoming events and news at
www.otterbein.edu/athletics

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Alumni Weekend 2010

Friday, June 11–
Sunday June 13, 2010

For detailed information,
please check out the alumni
website at:

[www.otterbein.edu/alumni/
alumniweekend2010](http://www.otterbein.edu/alumni/alumniweekend2010)

Class of '60 50th REUNION DINNER

June 12, 6:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn, Worthington
(hotel reservations 614-436-0700)

“I certainly want to encourage the other class reunion years to participate in the Alumni Weekend events. Those years celebrating are 1970, 1965, 1960, 1955 and 1950. You can view reunion details and weekend activities including tours of the new Center of Equine Studies and Science Center at www.otterbein.edu/alumni.”
Becky Smith, Director of Alumni Relations.



DANCE TEAM NOW PART OF ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Under the tutelage of long-time dance team advisor, Susie Crum, the Otterbein dance team now falls under the athletic department umbrella.

A provider of awesome entertainment, the dance team performs at several home basketball games during the year and continues their tradition of performances at the home football games.

We look forward to enhancing the program by providing venues in which to showcase their talents!