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Otterbein University Athletics

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Cardinal Athletics



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WOMEN'S LACROSSE COMES TO OTTERBEIN

Otterbein University has named Stephani Schmidt its first head coach for women's lacrosse. Otterbein will begin varsity competition in spring of 2012.

"We are happy to have someone of Stephani's experience and success to establish our women's lacrosse program," Otterbein Athletic Director Dick Reynolds said.

Schmidt, 37, comes to Otterbein from Denison University where she has been head women's lacrosse coach and associate professor since 2001. She guided the Big Red to North Coast Athletic Conference (NCAC) championships and into the NCAA Division III tournament in 2001 and 2006. In 2006, she was named West Region Coach of the Year by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association and was also named coach of the year in the NCAC. Her teams finished first in the NCAC in six of 10 seasons, compiling a 49-16 record in conference play over her career at Denison.

"I would like to thank Dick Reynolds, Connie Richardson (associate athletic director), and the rest of the search committee for giving me the opportunity to start the women's lacrosse program at Otterbein," Schmidt said. "I am extremely excited

and look forward to the challenge to grow the program into one that can one day be competitive in Ohio and the West region.



Stephani Schmidt

"I am thrilled to become a part of the Otterbein community and look forward to building a team that provides student-athletes with an excellent academic experience, as well as the opportunity to play on a competitive team," she continued.

Prior to Denison, Schmidt served as the assistant women's lacrosse coach at her alma mater, The Ohio State University, from 1997 to 2001. She was the team's defensive coordinator.

A 1997 graduate of Ohio State, Schmidt earned her bachelor's degree in education. While an undergraduate, she was a two-year varsity member of the Ohio State women's lacrosse team, including the team's inaugural 1996 season. She served as captain her senior season. She also played on three United States Women's Lacrosse Association Great Lakes I national tournament teams, as well as two seasons of club lacrosse at Ohio State.

Schmidt earned her master's degree in sports and exercise studies from Ohio State in 1999.

A native of Hopatcong, N.J., Schmidt resides in Westerville.

story submitted by Ed Syguda



OTTERBEIN
UNIVERSITY

ATHLETICS

Message from Athletic Director Dick Reynolds

Have faith, spring is coming! All of us at the 'Bein are quite tired of the winter weather and are looking forward to spring quarter and all our teams competing.



All of the spring sports enjoyed a southern trip and are now getting into conference play. Lacrosse, men's and

women's tennis, men's and women's track, men's and women's golf, baseball and softball have all enjoyed the warmer weather for spring break competition.

Our women's lacrosse coach, Stephani Schmidt, is on board and recruiting for spring 2012 competition. Sports Medicine has the challenge of servicing 550 plus athletes as well as monitoring the spring practice of volleyball, football and men's and women's soccer.

We look forward to your nominations for the Hall of Fame for the fall induction and encourage you once again to complete our online athletic history. Go to www.otterbeincardinals.com and click on "inside athletics" and then "alumni survey."

We are all eagerly awaiting the change from quarters to semesters and the challenges that will bring.

As always, we do appreciate your support and do let us know where you are and what you have been doing since your days at Otterbein.

Dick Reynolds

ATHLETES DO A LOT MORE THAN COMPETE



Softball players Paige Hamon, Casey Clarridge and Krista Chapman interact with residents of Columbus Colony, a nursing and rehabilitation center in Westerville.

Students at Otterbein are encouraged to engage in The Five Cardinal Experiences. They are: community engagement, undergraduate research and creative work, internships and professional experiences, global and intercultural engagement, and leadership and citizenship.

Each Experience is designed as an opportunity for the student to practice intensive hands-on work that shapes them not only for their future career but for life as an informed and engaged member of our global society. The Athletics Department



Soccer player Chelsea DeLay gives pointers to two young students from Rhodes Middle School in San Antonio. The team spoke to the students while in San Antonio for the NCAA Fianl Four.

and individual programs within provide each student-athlete with opportunities to participate in community engagement throughout their career at Otterbein. Listed below are just some of the activities that our athletes have become engaged in recently.

Football

Lauren's First and Goal, a summer football camp hosted by Otterbein, raises funds to benefit pediatric



brain cancer and cancer services. We were fortunate to have Coach Jim Tressel serve as the guest speaker

for the inaugural camp. This year the guest speaker will be Archie Griffin. The 2010 camp raised over \$20,000.

Also, members of the team are active in giving assistance to Oakstone Academy, a private charter school



Otterbein baseball players work with young players of the Miracle League.

located in Westerville founded on the principles of providing a truly inclusive environment for children with autism. The annual spring service project involves the entire team and coaching staff in cleanup activities as well as painting and building maintenance. In addition, every team member and coach volunteers a minimum of one day throughout the spring to work with Oakstone students one-on-one.

Softball

The softball team and coaches visited Columbus Colony, a nursing and rehabilitation center in Westerville, for a day of games, the making of Halloween cards, and painted fingernails. Softball team members also contributed to the Westerville Area Resource Ministry (WARM),

providing over 500 canned good items. Team members also served as bell ringers for the Salvation Army, contributed to Good Will, Angel Tree (a program that provides gifts for needy children at Christmas), Miracle League (see below under Baseball), and some members also serve as Big Sisters.

Women's Soccer

Players take time to work with Worthington's Special Olympic Soccer Team, a team of special needs children.

Baseball

Miracle League was founded in 2004 with the mission of raising funds to build a unique baseball field for children with disabilities. Each year the



Looks like Otterbein soccer player Laura Vasbinder has two big fans as she leads them in game of soccer.

baseball team invites these children and their families to campus for a day of fun games, learning and developing a special bond between player and child.

Volleyball

Each year the team partners with a local Special Olympics volleyball team whereby practices are combined, games are played and the team is invited to a varsity game followed by a reception. This year the Lady Cardinals are in the planning stage with The Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) to bring a Special Olympics Volleyball Tournament to our facilities.

Volleyball players partner with Special Olympics players every year. They are working on bringing a Special Olympics volleyball tournament to Otterbein's facilities this year.



Women's Basketball

Team members and coaching staff work with the Westerville Parks & Recreation Bantam Basketball Clinic. Children in grades 3-7 are instructed in technique and game skills.

Men's Basketball

Each year members of the team conduct a clinic at Otterbein for Westerville area youth.

Team Members also assist in running physical education programs for grades 1-6 in the Big Walnut school system.

Men's Lacrosse

The Otterbein University men's lacrosse team volunteered to participate in the Wilder Elementary School Secret Santa event on Nov. 18. During the event at the Westerville elementary school,

team members helped the elementary students choose gifts for their family members, manage the money they

were able to spend on the gifts, and run games for the students to play.



Men's lacrosse team members participate in the Wilder Elementary School Secret Santa event this past November.

WINTER SPORTS WRAP-UP

The 2011 Otterbein men's and women's indoor track and field teams concluded their seasons with a great showing at the recent OAC Indoor Championships held at Baldwin-Wallace. The women's team finished in second place, while the men took third. Hurdlers Austin Curbow and Sarah Petraitis advanced to the NCAA Championships, that were held March 11-12 at Capital University, where Austin placed fourth in the 55-meter hurdles. For his performance at the NCAA Championship, Austin earned his second all-America award.

The 2011 men's basketball team finished their season with an overall record of 13-13. Seeded sixth going into the OAC Tournament, the Cardinals faced Capital in round one where they lost to the Crusaders. The outlook for 2012 is promising as many key players return for the 2012 season.

The 2011 women's basketball team concluded their season with an overall record of 11-15. Seeded eighth going into the OAC Tournament, the Lady Cardinals faced number one seed, Mt. Union, but could not keep up with the nationally ranked Lady Raiders. With a strong recruiting class expected and key returning players, the Lady Cards look forward to an exciting 2012 season.



Austin Curbow leaps out ahead in the preliminaries at the NCAA Indoor Championships. He placed fourth overall in the 55-meter hurdles and earned his second all-America award.

EQUINE RIDERS SUCCESSFUL IN COMPETITIONS

On February 26th and 27th Otterbein hosted two IHSA Zone 6 Region 2 horse shows. Seven colleges and universities attended, with over 280 individual entries. Not only did Otterbein run a great show, the team also won many top honors including Reserve Champion Team. First place prizes went to: Rebecca Gross, open flat; Jackie Moog,

advanced walk trot canter; Julia Spatt, novice flat; Jane Sarosy, novice fences; Iris Morrison, intermediate flat; and Kim Cutshall, advance walk trot canter. Now that the regular season is over, Otterbein is off to the Regional Championships with eleven talented riders. Those who qualified are: Sean Bryant, walk trot; Anna Beckman, advanced walk

trot canter; Emily Brediger, advanced walk trot canter; Jacqueline Farrell, advanced walk trot canter; Jillian Blades, novice flat; Julia Spatt, novice flat; Jane Sarosy, novice fences; Heather Crather, intermediate flat; Annie Garrett, intermediate flat; Rebecca Gross, open flat; and Tenley Struhs, open flat.

Otterbein's dressage riders headed to Miami University March 27. They toughed out a cold day. While riding amongst snow flurries and strong winds, the team successfully placed third overall. Junior Mary Evert and sophomore Anna Beckman received second placed ribbons in their respective divisions.

The two day dressage show at the University of Kentucky on April 2 and 3 was a huge success! Otterbein's equestrian team received Reserve Champion Team on Saturday, and Champion Team on Sunday. Junior Mary Evert, junior Annie Garrett, and freshman Iris Morrison all received first place prizes, and sophomore Anna Beckman earned an Individual Reserve Champion award.

Otterbein's Hunt Seat riders hosted the IHSA Zone 6 Championship horse show on April 9. Four Otterbein riders have qualified, junior Tenley Struhs, junior Heather Crather, sophomore Jillian Blades, and freshman Jane Sarosy. This newsletter went to press before results were available, but you can check results online at **www.otterbein.edu/equine**.

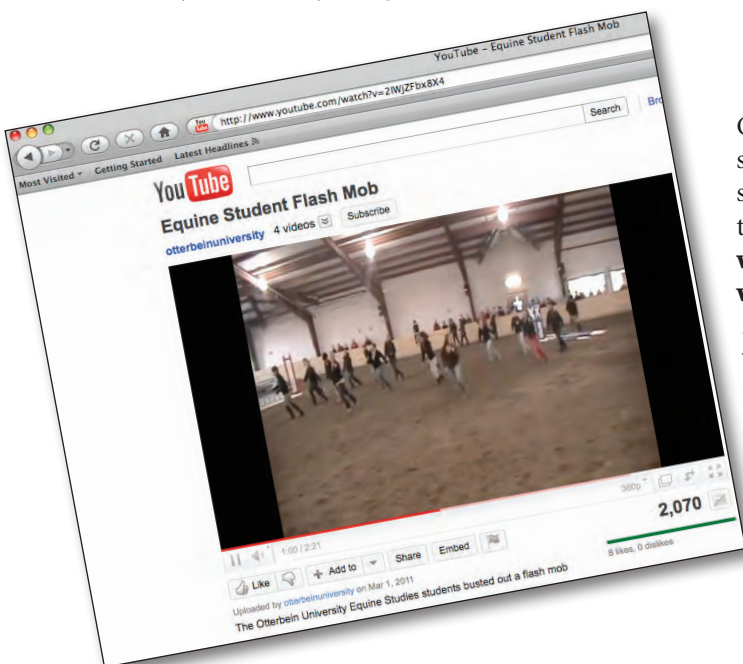
The dressage team has qualified for the National Championship horse show April 30-May 1. They will compete at the Canterbury Show Place in Newbury Florida.

Look for Otterbein's Equine Team at the Rolex in Kentucky on April 30. They will be tailgating on the cross country course.

For more details, visit www.otterbein.edu/equine.



Junior Annie Garrett rides Lucky to a first place finish in the dressage show at the University of Kentucky on April 2 and 3.



Check out YouTube and see how Otterbein's riders spend some of their free time! Go to: **<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2IWjZFbx8X4>**

Join the group on Facebook!





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ATHLETICS
1 South Grove Street
Westerville, OH 43081-2006
614-823-3530

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The 2010 Otterbein Women's Soccer Team was recognized at the first Women's Greater Columbus Sports Commission Sports Report, celebrating the athletic successes and achievements of women and girls in Central Ohio. The Lady Cardinals were one of three teams honored. The reception was held March 15, 2011, at The University Plaza and Conference Center in Columbus, Ohio. Pictured are: Alyssa Hale, Tara Carter, Rachel Denz, Abby Misch, Sara Wolfe, Megan Cooper '10, Jill Knox, Jenn Kline and Ashley Ignelzi '07, who works for ESPN the Magazine and co-hosted the event.



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