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SPORTS NEWS RELEASE

from Cedarville College Yellow Jackets

SPORTS INFORMATION
CEDARVILLE COLLEGE
CEDARVILLE, OH 45314
MYRON L. YOUNGMAN, DIRECTOR

1 December 1981

For immediate release:

CEDARVILLE, OHIO --- The Cedarville College Yellow Jacket soccer team leaves for the NCCAA National Soccer Tournament near Orlando, Florida, Wednesday after a season of hard knocks. The 11-6-1 record is in no way indicative of the talent and cohesiveness of the 1981 kickers.

The 2-3 loss to Denison University in the season opener was a disappointment, but was an early indication to head Coach John McGillivray of the strength and depth of the Jacket kickers. In the days that were to follow, the team won their invitational tournament, took another hard knock in the University of Dayton game when the Jackets fell in the last seconds of the double overtime 3-4, and were picked-up again with the 4-4 tie with nationally ranked Ohio Wesleyan University. The then undefeated Ohio Wesleyan had only had four goals scored against them in their eight previous games. McGillivray felt that "from that point on they could win the rest." Hard knocks continued to characterize the season, however, as the Yellow Jackets tallied a 11-6-1 record. Five of the six losses were by only one point. Those five losses and the Jackets only tie came to schools that were at one time or another during the season ranked in the top 10 of Ohio colleges and universities.

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The highlight of the season was receiving the no. 1 seed in the NCCAA District III for the first time in six years, and then to go on to win the second NCCAA District III title in the six years the Yellow Jackets have participated. "To be one of the final four is, needless to say, our biggest thrill to this point," states McGillivray.

Cedarville earned the privilege to go to national with a 2-0 win over Grace College, and a 5-4 overtime win over defending district champion Bethel College. "The tournament was a good demonstration of the team's poise and depth as the seven goals scored in the tournament was all by different members of the Jacket squad," says McGillivray, "and none of these were by leading scorer Jeff Bowser."

Jeff Bowser goes into the tourney having scored 26 goals this season, only one goal from tying the single season scoring record of 27 set by Dave Gregory in 1968.

McGillivray feels this is one of the most competitive teams he has coached. "They don't like to loose. They want to win." Though simply stated that attitude characterizes the team's determination as they head for the NCCAA National Tournament December 4 and 5.

The Jackets are seeded no. 3 as they reach the tournament of the NCCAA's final four. Cedarville opens tournament play at 8:00 p.m. Friday, December 4, facing Covenant College of Lookout Mountain, Tennessee. No. 1 seed Messiah College, Grantham, Pennsylvania plays John Brown University, Siloam Springs, Arkansas at 6:00 p.m. Finals will be held Saturday, December 5.