

Fall 1982

Last Season's Results

Cedarville College

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NEWS RELEASE

from Cedarville College Yellow Jackets

LAST SEASON'S RESULTS

The Yellow Jacket soccer team closed their 1981 season on December 5 in the Championship Game of the National Christian College Athletic Association in Orlando, Florida. It would have been great for the kickers to come home yelling "We're number 1," but the satisfaction of an extremely well played game out-weighed the disappointment in the loss.

It was a long road to nationals, a road that had its ups and downs in the early part of the season.

A 6-1 victory over Walsh in an intensely played game, defeating Bluffton 12-1 and avenging last year's loss to Central State University 3-0 were high points in the road, but the 1 goal loss to Malone College putting the Yellow Jackets in a 3-way tie for first in the Mid-Ohio Conference, and a 1-2 loss to Wilmington which knocked the Jackets out of a chance to travel to NAIA Nationals, were low points in the season.

Five of the Yellow Jackets six losses were by only one goal. 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 all Ohio colleges and universities, evidence of the stiffness of the soccer team's schedule. It was some of these low points in the road to Nationals that caused the self-evaluation and determination that fueled the kicker's momentum through the next seven matches to the National Championship game.

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, a big thrill," stated McGillivray.

Cedarville earned the privilege to go to nationals 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 were all by different members of the Jacket squad."

The Jackets went into their tournament seeded no. 3. They upset the no. 2 seed Covenant College 2-1 following a 0-1 halftime deficit. The win over Covenant launched the Jackets into the NCCAA National Championship.

Team play was demonstrated in rare form and in a way that all Yellow Jacket fans would have been proud to say you were from Cedarville College. The Yellow Jackets were not intimidated by Messiah College, a team familiar with NCCAA Nationals, there were no errors, the Yellow Jackets were mentally and emotionally more intense than they had ever been before. The Jackets exploded to a 1-0 lead at half time over Messiah, but the determined and talented Messiah squad countered in the second half with two goals.

There was great satisfaction in the team's play throughout the tournament. It was a long road to nationals and an exciting road.

The ups and downs through the season were the hard knocks that chipped away the rough edges and polished the gem that glistened in the Florida sun December 4 and 5. Yellow Jacket Soccer was number 2 in the NCCAA in 1981. Runner-up in the NCCAA National Tournament is farther than any other Cedarville College soccer team has ever gone. The 1981 squad scored more goals (68) than in any other season and had the second most wins (12) behind the 1974 performance of 13 wins.

