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Cedarville University

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For immediate release:

CEDARVILLE, OHIO -- Chris Friesen, a 1985 graduate of Central Valley High School, recently completed an outstanding athletic career at Cedarville College in Ohio. She was a four-year letterwinner in basketball where she is the school's second all-time leading scorer, plus she lettered twice in softball. Chris is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Friesen of Redding.

Friesen, who is a senior mathematics major at Cedarville, led the Lady Jackets to a 20-10 record this year which is the best season in the school's history. She was named the team's MVP after pacing the club with 17.0 points and 7.9 rebounds per game. Friesen will graduate as the school's second all-time leading scorer in women's basketball with 1,441 points and as the all-time leader in rebounding with 921 boards.

"Chris Friesen had a tremendous impact upon our program," declared Lady Jacket coach Bob Fires. "Her first couple of seasons were tough years, but she hung in there and was a key part of our best team. Chris is a fine example of what a student-athlete should be."

Friesen guided Cedarville to the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) national tournament in Cleveland, Tenn. where the Jackets finished second. She was named to the all-tournament team and set a tournament record by making seven three-pointers in the final game.

"I will always remember my years at Cedarville," remarked Friesen. "I wanted to go to a Christian school where I could major in math and play athletics, and Cedarville was the best choice. I have great respect for Coach Fires because he taught me a lot about basketball. The friendships developed are ones that will last a lifetime."

Friesen was named an NCCAA first team All-American as well as an NCCAA Academic All-American. She was Cedarville's first basketball player, male or female, to be named to the NAIA Scholar-Athlete Team, plus she was a first team selection in NAIA District 22, NCCAA District III, and the Western Buckeye Collegiate Conference.

Friesen was hounded by back problems for the last half of her career, and on two occasions was told by doctors that her playing days were over. She reinjured her back just prior to this spring's softball season, but she came back to start at shortstop and bat .250 for the 12-14 Lady Jackets. Last spring, Friesen hit .329 with 26 rbi's and was named to the All-WBCC team.

Cedarville is a Baptist liberal arts college located in southwestern Ohio, 25 miles east of Dayton. The school has an enrollment of approximately 1900 students.

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