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# The Sting: Summer 2002

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# STING

The Sports Information Publication of Cedarville University

Summer 2002

Vol. 21, No. 2

## Nehus, Reyes named CU Athletes of the Year

**W**omen's distance runner Erin Nehus and men's track standout Sergio Reyes have been named the Cedarville University Athletes of the Year for the 2001-02 season. The two were selected in voting by the Yellow Jacket coaching staff.

Nehus, a junior from Gallipolis, OH, led the Lady Jacket cross country team to the NAIA national championship in the fall which was Cedarville's first in any sport. She earned NAIA All-America honors for the third straight year after placing third in the national meet. She was the NCCAA as well as the American Midwest Conference champion upon leading CU to the team title in both events.

Nehus was an NAIA Indoor Track & Field All-American in the 3,000 meter run. During the spring outdoor season, she was an NAIA Outdoor All-American in both the 3,000 and 5,000 meters, and she was the NCCAA champion in the 3K and 5K while setting meet records in both events. She also won the 1,500 and 3,000 meter runs in the AMC Championship.



Sergio Reyes, wearing #11, was the national champion in the NAIA 10,000 meter run. (Photo by Casey Paugh)

Reyes, a senior from Los Osos, CA, took the men's honor for the second straight year. He was the NAIA national champion in the outdoor 10,000 meter run and also earned All-America recognition in the 5,000 meters.

Reyes was named the Outstanding Performer of the Meet at the 2002 NCCAA Championships. He won the 5K and 10K with meet records in both events. He was also the AMC champion in the 1,500 and 5K. During the winter season, Reyes repeated as an NAIA Indoor All-American in the 5,000 meter run and was the All-Ohio indoor champion in the 3,000 meters.

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Christian coaches get tired, cranky, and disinterested even if they are winning and seemingly doing well. The world is saying, "What have you done for me lately?" Those who are losing are on a fast track to discouragement and a defeated spirit.



Dr. Don Callan

Perhaps you are a little bored with the process. Are you just going through the motions? Are you just fulfilling a responsibility? If you say "yes," join the crowd. There are many who have recognized they are in that funky time of their career, and some have even called it the mid-life crisis. Christian workers, coaches, laymen, even pastors have such times. The problem with such a mental state is you may not just be hurting yourself. What about those you are working with, serving or coaching? Have we forgotten why we chose to become coaches?

I remember in my early days of coaching how I was driven with the desire to serve God and make an impact for Him in the lives of the players I worked with. I can also remember the times of discouragement when I thought, "Is this all there is to life? Why do I have to be the one to take the pressure, abuse and blame for less than successful outings?" When such times came, I would sometimes increase the emphasis by cranking up the emotions, and the physical training and pressure on the players. All this was usually to the detriment of the times of spiritual training. I would become complacent about the spiritual development and obsessed with the process of trying to win. We should give maximum time and effort to both processes.

Complacency is known to slowly numb our spirit until we just don't care anymore. We just don't want to be bothered with the challenges and responsibilities of being a Christian coach. The Bible calls that being "lukewarm." In Revelation 3:15-16, John writes the Lord's words, "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So because you are lukewarm - neither hot nor

cold - I am about to spit you out of my mouth. You say, I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing, but you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked." Then in the next verse (18) the Lord says, "buy from me."

The only cure for such a malady as complacency seems to be to begin to look at life from God's perspective, a perspective of love, and as a result you will grow in your relationship with Him. Growth only takes place, however, with regular study of the scriptures, fervent and specific prayer, fellowship with believers, and regular worship of God in your personal and church life. Everyone struggles with dry spells, but the key to overcoming such times is to allow God to fill your heart and life with His love, and then you will overflow with a desire to please Him in all that you do or say.

Hebrews 12:1-2 says, "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

*Dr. Don Callan is the Dean of the School of Health and Human Performance at Cedarville University. He previously coached the Yellow Jacket men's basketball team for 35 years and is a member of the NAIA Hall of Fame.*

## STING

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## Ruhlman, Bailey receive Callan Awards

Women's soccer standout Michelle Ruhlman and men's tennis player John Bailey are the recipients of the Donald E. Callan Awards at Cedarville University for the 2001-02 academic year. The awards are given in the name of Dr. Don Callan, who is the Dean of the School of Health and Human Performance and has served in various capacities in athletics during his 42 years at the school.

The awards recognize student-athletes who have participated all four years at the school with an emphasis on Christian service, academics, leadership, and athletic accomplishment.

Ruhlman, a senior Dean's List student as a nursing major from Shoreline, WA, finished her career as a four-time NCCAA All-American and a four-time team MVP for the Lady Jackets. She is CU's all-time leader in goals scored (34), assists (27), and points (95).

Off the field, Ruhlman was involved in the children's church program at First Reformed Church in Xenia. She was also a member of the Seattle Spring Break Team in 2000.

Bailey, a senior Dean's List student as a mechanical engineering major from Brownsburg, IN, was a four-year varsity member of the men's tennis squad with 49 career singles victories to his credit. He was a NCCAA All-American in doubles this spring and was a two-time All-American Mideast Conference performer.

Bailey has been involved in numerous ministry activities including Open Heirs and AWANA at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Xenia. He also traveled to Guatemala in the summer of 2001 for a five-week engineering missions trip with Students International.

## Guiler recognized for sports ministry

Women's soccer player Miss Walker and men's basketball player Greg Guiler are the recipients of the Don and Nedra Callan Sports Ministry Awards at Cedarville University for the 2001-02 academic year. The honor recognizes student-athletes for their evangelism in and through sports activities while at the institution.

The awards are given in the name of Don and Nedra Callan, who have been committed to worldwide sports evangelism for more than four decades. Dr. Callan is the Dean of the School of Health and Human Performance and has served in various capacities in athletics during his 42 years at Cedarville.

Walker, a senior Dean's Honor List student as a technical writing major from Brownsburg, IN, was a four-year member of the Lady Jacket soccer team. She was a two-time NAIA and NCCAA All-America Scholar-Athlete and started 21 matches last fall during CU's 11-9-2 season. She played in 67 career matches with four goals and six assists to her credit.

Among her various ministries, Walker traveled with the Missions Involvement Services soccer team to South Korea during spring break. She also plans to teach in China beginning with the 2002-03 school year.

Guiler, a sophomore Dean's Honor List student from Canal Winchester, OH, is a two-year starter for the Yellow Jacket basketball team. He has played in all 67 games during his career while averaging 9.3 points and 4.1 assists per game. The six-foot guard helped CU to a 21-16 record this season and a third-place finish at the NCCAA National Tournament.

Guiler traveled with the men's basketball team on a MIS trip to Brazil this summer. He was also part of the Athletes for Christ basketball team to the Philippines during the summer of 2001.



*Michelle Ruhlman (left) and John Bailey (right) stand with Dr. Don Callan following the 2002 Cedarville University Athletic Honors and Appreciation Banquet.*



*Mrs. Nedra Callan (far left) and Dr. Don Callan (far right) congratulate Miss Walker and Greg Guiler, who received the Callan Ministry Awards, at the 2002 Cedarville University Athletic Honors and Appreciation Banquet.*



*Graduating seniors who were recognized at the Athletic Honors and Appreciation Banquet at Cedarville University include (Row 1, l-r) Jennifer Walker, soccer; Amanda Porter, soccer; Jessica Alexander, soccer; Michelle Ruhlman, soccer; Lisa Hockenberry, soccer; Bekah Millet, track & field; Pattie Schryer, basketball; Jenni Gerber, cross country; Cheryl Meyer, volleyball. (Row 2) Jason Gray, track-cross country; Lael Bryant, soccer; Ben Saturley, baseball; Amy Gregory, tennis; Kate Beatty, track & field; Amy Martin, volleyball-basketball; Debbie Krick, softball; Mike Poelzer, golf; Chad Hofstetter, baseball; Justin Geer, soccer; Josh Radcliffe, soccer. (Row 3) Sergio Reyes, track & field; Justin Gerber, track-cross country; Mike Marsh, track & field; Curt Fleck, basketball; Bryan Mangin, baseball; Drew Bennett, baseball. (Row 4) Ken Loescher, cross country, Carl Traub, track & field; Jody Fox, track-cross country; Andy Paugh, track & field; David Dingeman, basketball; John Bailey, tennis.*



# SPRING SPORTS ACTION



*Craig Bennington, a junior from Massillon, Ohio, carded rounds of 78-75-73 for a 226 total which placed fourth in the American Mideast Conference Championship. He became Cedarville's first all-conference golfer in 12 years.*



*Tom Simon, a junior from LaGrange, Ohio, became just the third Yellow Jacket golfer to be recognized as an NAIA All-America Scholar-Athlete.*



*Rachael Castro, a freshman from Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania, was an NAIA All-American in her first-ever season competing in the pole vault. She tied for the top spot at the NAIA Nationals by clearing 11-feet 11 3/4-inches, but finished second in the nation based on total misses. (Photo by Casey Paugh)*



*Kate Beatty, a senior from Shamong, New Jersey, was a five-time NCCAA champion and successfully defended her high jump title at the 2002 meet.*



*Josh Mark, a junior from New Carlisle, Ohio, was an NCCAA At-Large All-American in the 3,000 meter steeplechase for having one of the top 20 efforts all-time in the event at the national meet.*



*NCCAA All-American Dave Dice, a sophomore from Salem, Illinois, was presented the Sportsmanship Award following his play at the NCCAA National Tournament.*

# SPRING SPORTS ACTION



All-American Mideast Conference men's tennis player Dan DeHaan, a junior from Elgin, Illinois, won 12 matches at #4 singles and owns 44 career victories.



Amy Gregory, a senior from Hudsonville, Michigan, was named to the All-American Mideast Conference Team in both singles and doubles, and she completed her career as CU's all-time leader with 51 singles victories.



Kristi Shuck, a freshman from Brownsburg, Indiana, moved right into the Lady Jackets' #1 singles position and helped CU win the American Mideast Conference and NAIA Region IX titles.



Winamac, Indiana product Scott VanDerAa, one of five seniors on the Yellow Jacket baseball roster, completed his career as Cedarville's all-time leader in innings pitched at 269 1/3.



NCCAA All-America First Team first baseman Sarah Tsermengas, a junior from Ecorse, Michigan, paced the Lady Jackets in hitting with a .357 batting average.



Natalie Fox, a freshman from Temecula, California, helped Cedarville to a school-record 30 softball victories by leading the American Mideast Conference with 19 pitching victories. She was named to the All-AMC First Team and the NCCAA All-America Second Team.

# SPRING SPORTS *Recap* SPRING SPORTS

## Women's Track & Field

Erin Nehus had a pair of 2nd-place finishes, and Cedarville had five All-America performances in all, as the Lady Jackets finished in a best-ever 8th place at the NAIA Track & Field Championships. Nehus was the runner-up in the 3,000 meter run in 10:10.83 and also finished 2nd in the 5,000 in 17:45.15. She was joined on the All-America unit in the 5K by Sarah Roberts, who placed 5th in 17:53.24. The top six finishers in each event are All-Americans.

Rachael Castro completed her incredible rookie season by placing 2nd in the pole vault by clearing 11-feet 11.75-inches which broke her own school record by a foot. The other CU All-American was Jennifer Tetrick, who was 4th in the 10K in 37:50.36.

Doane NE won the team title with 67 points while Azusa Pacific CA and Central State tied for 2nd with 60. Cedarville tallied 35.5 points.

Nehus established new meet records in the 3,000 and 5,000 meter runs at the NCCAA National Championships. She repeated as champion for both events in winning the 3K with a time of 10:08.68 and the 5K in 17:22.52. Kate Beatty won the 100 meter hurdles for the third straight time in 15.27 seconds and also repeated as high jump champion by clearing 5-feet 6-inches.

Cedarville finished second at the American Mideast Conference Championships where Michalina Gluchowski set a new meet record in the hammer throw with a heave of 156-5. The Lady Jackets had winners in six other events.

## Men's Track & Field

Sergio Reyes paced the Yellow Jackets to an 18th-place tie at the NAIA National Track & Field Championships by winning the 10,000 meter run and finishing 3rd in the 5,000. Reyes won the 10K with a time of 30:13.42 to pick up 10 points for CU. He became just the second Yellow Jacket to be an NAIA champion joining Chad Eder, who won the 5K race walk in 1996. Reyes registered Cedarville's other six points upon placing 3rd in the 5K in 14:27.39.

Reyes was voted the Outstanding Performer of the Meet after setting records in the 5K and 10K at the NCCAA National Championships. He won the 10K in a school-record time of 30:01.77 which eclipsed the 24-year old record of Brian Hull by eight seconds. Reyes also took the 5K with a time of 14:34.98. Cedarville had 2nd-place finishes from Josh Mark in the 3,000 meter steeplechase (9:24.30), Mike Marsh in the long jump (21-9), and Carl Traub in the hammer throw (159-9). The Yellow Jackets placed 4th out of 17 schools.

Malone edged defending champion Cedarville by five points to win the American Mideast Conference championship. The Pioneers finished with 154 points while CU tallied 149 in the nine-team event. Reyes repeated as champion in both the 1,500 (4:04.57) and the 5,000 (14:59.38). Andy Paugh won the high jump at 6-feet 6-inches and the 4 x 800 meter relay unit of Justin Whitaker, Jeremy Hilty, Sergio Reyes, and Drew Nelson was a winner in 7:57.07.



*Sarah Roberts*

## Women's Tennis

The Lady Jackets set a school record for most victories in a season with their 18-5 record. They repeated as American Mideast Conference champions with an unblemished 10-0 league mark and they claimed the NAIA Region IX Tournament title. That outcome gave Cedarville, ranked No. 23 in the NAIA, a berth in the NAIA National Tournament in Georgia. The Jackets also participated in the NCCAA National Invitational at Gardner-Webb University in North Carolina where they placed third.

AMC Coach of the Year Pam Johnson picked up her 200th career victory with the team's season-opening 9-0 win over Wilmington. Senior #2 singles player Amy Gregory, who was 17-3 this spring, wrapped up her career as CU all-time singles victories leader with 51. She was named to the All-AMC Team and to the NCCAA Invitational All-Tournament Team in both singles and doubles.

Joining Gregory on both teams were freshman #1 Kristi Shuck and sophomore #3 Carrie Hartman. Shuck stepped right into the top spot and recorded a 15-4 mark while Hartman rolled to an 18-3 record.

Juniors Diana Locke and Amanda Olsen were recognized as NAIA All-America Scholar-Athletes which honors juniors and seniors who maintain a minimum 3.50 cumulative grade point average. Cedarville was honored as a NAIA Scholar-Team with its 3.43 combined GPA.

## Men's Tennis

Cedarville enjoyed another winning season by going 14-11 overall and 5-1 in the American Mideast Conference. The Jackets were the runner-up in the AMC and NAIA Region IX. They placed fourth at the NCCAA Nationals and were recognized as an NAIA Scholar-Team with a 3.36 combined grade point average.

Sophomore #1 player Dave Dice was voted an NCCAA All-American in both singles and doubles. He received the Sportsmanship Award at the NCCAA National Tournament and was also selected to the All-AMC Team in both singles and doubles.

Senior #3 John Bailey was named to the NCCAA All-America unit in doubles. He garnered a spot on the All-AMC Team in singles and finished his career with 49 victories.

Sophomore Gertjan Flikweert moved up to the #2 spot on the team and was voted to the All-AMC Team in singles. Junior Dan DeHaan was an All-AMC selection in doubles.



*John Bailey*

## Women's Softball

Cedarville's 30-22 overall mark broke a 12-year old school record for most wins in a season by one. The Jackets tied for third in the American Mideast Conference with a 19-9 record and qualified for the NAIA Region IX Tournament where they split four games. CU was the NCCAA Midwest Region runner-up and advanced to the NCCAA Nationals as an at-large entry.

## SPRING SPORTS *Recap*

Junior first baseman Sarah Tsermengas batted a team-high .357 and was named to the NCCAA All-America First Team as well as to the All-Midwest Region Team. She was also tabbed an NAIA and NCCAA All-America Scholar-Athlete.

Freshman righthander Natalie Fox was the #1 hurler in the pitching rotation. Her 19-6 record led the AMC in victories and she ranked second in ERA (1.30) and strikeouts per 7 innings (6.45). Fox was an NCCAA All-America Second Team selection, an All-AMC First Team pick, and she grabbed a spot on the All-AMC Freshmen Team.

Senior third baseman Debbie Krick ended her stay at Cedarville with a .320 career batting average. She repeated as an NAIA and NCCAA All-America Scholar-Athlete.

Sophomore shortstop Ashley Smith was named to the All-NCCAA Midwest Region Team despite an injury-plagued season. Sophomore center fielder Ginger Keithley established a new CU single-season stolen base record with 43.



*Debbie Krick*

### Baseball

The Yellow Jacket baseball team struggled to a 15-30 overall record and a 4-18 finish in the American Midwest Conference. Cedarville nearly won the NCCAA Midwest Region title by defeating No. 2 seed Spring Arbor, 6-3, but losing an 11-10 decision in 10 innings to host and top seed, Indiana Wesleyan.

Sophomore righthander T.J. Couch was voted to the All-AMC Second Team as a reliever. He made a team-high 20 appearances with a 1-4 record, a 4.60 ERA, and seven saves.

Couch was named to the All-NCCAA Midwest Region Team along with junior first baseman Jameson Adams and senior catcher Ben Saturley. Adams and Saturley tied for the highest team batting average with identical .338 marks.

Senior pitcher Scott VanDerAa had a 5-4 record and again led the team with 54 1/3 innings pitched. He finishes his career as CU's all-time leader with 269 1/3 innings pitched. Senior Drew Bennett was honored as an AMC Scholar-Athlete.

### Men's Golf

Craig Bennington finished 4th in the American Midwest Conference championship to earn All-AMC honors and the Yellow Jackets placed 6th out of 11 teams. Bennington carded rounds of 78-75-73 for a 226 total which was two shots off of medalist honors. He is the first all-conference golfer for Cedarville in 12 years.

Bennington, a junior and three-year letter winner, led the squad with a 77.8 stroke average per 18 holes. Nine of his 13 rounds were in the 70's including a pair of season-low 73's.

Junior #3 player Tom Simon, who carried an 81.2 average, was recognized as an NAIA and NCCAA All-America Scholar-Athlete. The honor recognizes juniors and seniors who maintain a minimum 3.50 cumulative grade point average.

## Cagers Set Three NAIA Records

The Yellow Jacket men's basketball squad completed an outstanding season with a third-place finish at the NCCAA National Tournament at Gardner-Webb University in North Carolina. Cedarville copped the NCCAA Midwest Region title and finished 21-16 overall and 10-8 in the American Midwest Conference.

The Jackets' long-range attack produced three NAIA national records for a single season among Division II schools. Cedarville established new marks for most three-point field goals made (428), most three-point field goals attempted (1,219), and most three-point field goals attempted per game (32.9).



*Josh Gast*

Sophomores Josh Gast and Barry Chamberlin were both named to the NCCAA National All-Tournament Team and to the All-NCCAA Midwest Region Team. Freshman point guard Jason Weakley was also selected to the Midwest Region squad. Gast, who was tabbed the team's MVP, was an All-AMC Second Team pick.

## Rossotti named NAIA All-American

Cedarville forward Kirsten Rossotti was named to the NAIA Division II All-America Second Team in women's basketball for the 2001-02 season. She is only the second Lady Jacket basketball player to ever earn the honor. Rossotti, a six-foot senior, who will return for her fourth year of athletic eligibility next season, came back to the hardwood after taking a year off from basketball to average 19.5 points and 10.4 rebounds per game.



*Kirsten Rossotti*

Rossotti was voted the American Midwest Conference Player of the Year after leading Cedarville, 23-10 overall, to the most victories in school history. She was also named to the National Christian College Athletic Association All-America First Team after being tabbed the NCCAA Midwest Region Player of the Year. Selected to the NCCAA All-America Second Team was 5-6 sophomore guard Julie Stauffer, who averaged 14.4 points per game.

In just three seasons, Rossotti is Cedarville's sixth all-time leading scorer with 1,515 points and she rates eighth in rebounding with 819 boards. The only other Lady Jacket to be named an NAIA All-American was Amy Zehr, who earned a spot on the First Team following the 1992-93 campaign.

## DiCuirci hands over pep band baton

Mike DiCuirci, who developed the renowned Yellow Jacket Pep Band into arguably the finest basketball pep band at any level of college basketball, has decided to resign his post after 23 years at the helm. Former Xenia High School band director John Harner will take over when the 2002-03 hoop season gets underway.



DiCuirci started with a small group of 35 members in the old Student Center Gymnasium upon his arrival on campus in 1979 and saw the pep band expand to have as many as 160 on the roster. The result was an unmistakable sound that turned the Cedarville University home game atmosphere into a happening.

"In recent days due to health concerns and changing priorities, I have had to take a hard look at my life and schedule," said DiCuirci. "I believe it is time to resign as pep band director. I do this with a feeling of sadness, but I do believe it is the right thing to do."

The pep band produced a CD entitled "Blue and Gold" in 1999. That same year, DiCuirci was inducted to the Cedarville University Athletic Hall of Fame for his leadership as director.

DiCuirci, a 1971 graduate of the University of Michigan, will continue his role as a Professor of Music at the University and director of the symphonic band.

## Cedarville University Athletic Hall of Fame



The four newest members of the Cedarville University Athletic Hall of Fame were inducted in a banquet held on February 1 during Alumni Weekend. The quartet includes (from l-r) Dr. Shirley Schneider, meritorious service to men's basketball for over 30 years; Melissa Hartman, who played women's volleyball, basketball, and tennis from 1992-96; Steve Brumbaugh, a member of the Yellow Jacket men's tennis team from 1986-90; and Norris Smith, a former member of the basketball and baseball squads from 1959-63.

## Jim Clark moves to sports information office

Jim Clark will move into the Cedarville University sports information office beginning July 1. He has agreed to become the school's first full-time assistant sports information director working alongside SID, Mark Womack.

Clark, who is a 1975 graduate of Cedarville College, has held the title of assistant SID on a part-time basis for the past five years. During that time, he has served full-time as the Admissions Production Coordinator.

Clark will continue to assist his wife Teresa, who is the Lady Jacket head volleyball coach. While he will contribute in many areas of the sports information office, a primary focus will be to organize and design all publications produced by the Yellow Jackets. Clark accumulated 21 years of business experience in the areas of newspaper publishing, advertising sales, marketing, computer graphics and design, desktop publishing, and journalism in Fort Wayne, IN prior to coming to Cedarville in 1996.



## Johnson honored for 200 victories



Cedarville University women's tennis coach Pam Johnson was recognized for her 200th career dual match victory with a plaque presented to her from athletic director Pete Reese at the Athletic Honors and Appreciation Banquet. Johnson has a 217-103 record in 26 seasons at the helm after leading the Lady Jackets to a best-ever 18-5 mark this spring.

After winning the American Midwest Conference and NAIA Region IX titles, Johnson's teams own two region championships, seven NAIA District 22 championships, two AMC titles, two Mid-Ohio Conference titles, and two Western Buckeye Collegiate Conference crowns. She has taken ten teams to the NAIA National Tournament and has coached 21 NAIA All-America Scholar-Athletes. Johnson has served as the NAIA National Tournament Director since 1989.