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Fall 1982

## Last Season: Jackets Capture Second Consecutive District 22 Title

Cedarville University

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### Recommended Citation

Cedarville University, "Last Season: Jackets Capture Second Consecutive District 22 Title" (1982). *Men's Basketball News Releases*. 69.

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# SPORTS NEWS RELEASE

from Cedarville College Yellow Jackets

## **Last Season** ***Jackets Capture Second Consecutive District 22 Title***

When asked to briefly describe the 1981-82 season, head coach Don Callan simply called it the "Year of the Unexpected." He said he didn't expect untimely injuries like Mark Womack's thigh bruise, causing Womack to miss the last three weeks of pre-season practice and the first two games. As soon as Womack was ready to go, Drew Baker sprained an ankle. The Jackets thought they were finally at full strength until Tim Danube injured his leg with post-season play at hand. While Danube was out, the Jackets went into a three-game skid. Probably the most unexpected event, however, was when the Yellow Jackets successfully defended their NAIA District 22 Title by slaying the Tiffin Dragons 92-75 in the playoffs, a team that the Jackets had lost to three times during the season. That victory, coupled with the even more surprising Defiance upset over Walsh, set the stage for a Cedarville-Defiance District 22 Title game for the third consecutive year. The Yellow Jackets of Cedarville downed Defiance 78-73 and the dream of going to Kansas City was fulfilled for the second time in two years.

There were certainly many other highlights along the way to the 17-11 record. Cedarville opened the season and the new Athletic Center by winning the Fourth Annual Cedarville Invitational. There was the historic first match-up between the Yellow Jackets and Wittenberg staged in Springfield. Dr. Callan achieved his 300th career victory when the cagers won at St. Xavier of Chicago, 69-64. Another patented, exciting finish by the Jackets occurred at Urbana when Mike Smart's fadeaway baseline jumper at the buzzer beat the Blue Knights by an 82-80 score. All of that preceded Cedarville's district championship.

Coach Callan thought the key to the season was the great attitude of the players and the high percentage shooting. He was happy with capturing the district even though he had previously thought the team would have needed a better won-loss record to qualify. If there was one thing in which he was disappointed, it was the Jackets' performance at the NAIA National Tournament when they lost to powerful Quincy College.

Dr. Callan says, "Last year's trip to Kansas City helped to build for this year, because the young players got a taste of post-season play." He also states, "They know what winning is about and they want to carry on the tradition."

The 1982-83 edition of Cedarville Yellow Jacket basketball is sure to contain the same exciting brand of play that has characterized the team in the past few years. And with that same brand of play, this year's squad hopes to "carry on the tradition."

