

CONFERENCE

CHAMPS!

An update on your Yellow Jackets

The Defiance College Yellow Jacket Athletic Program wrapped up a very successful winter and spring by claiming three more conference championships to bring the total to four in the 2013-14 academic calendar. Yellow Jackets Athletics saw visible growth in many of the winter and spring sports to carry a very successful athletic year.

Following the first-ever Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Championship in program history for volleyball in the fall, the men's basketball team went on to win a share of the HCAC Regular Season Championship after a 20-5 (15-3 HCAC) record in the regular season under Kyle Brumett. The men's basketball season also saw the passing of 100 career victories for the Purple and Gold under Brumett.

The men's basketball program began the 2013-14 season with one of the best starts in program history. Brumett's squad started the season 7-0, including a Washington & Lee Tip-Off Tournament Championship. The 7-0 start matched Defiance's best start in 40 years and was the best start in program history in the NCAA era. Defiance rode the success of the fall semester to a strong HCAC campaign in 2014. Defiance went on to finish 8-1 at home in conference play with a 10-2 mark overall. Defiance's fan base held an average attendance of 928 in the 12 home dates.

Ryan Hicks, who was named the Washington & Lee Tip-Off Tournament MVP at the beginning of the season, was one of two Yellow Jackets to be named to the All-HCAC First Team. Hicks went on to become the 46th member of the 1000-point club at DC during the season. In his final game, Hicks joined elite status at DC, becoming just the third player in school history to record at least 1000 points, 500 rebounds, 75 steals, and 75 blocks.

While basketball gave DC its second championship of the year, it was the success of the women's track and field team that earned the Yellow Jackets a pair of HCAC Championships in both the indoor and outdoor seasons,

Outdoor Women's Track & Field



Indoor Women's Track & Field



Men's Basketball



Volleyball



bringing the Purple and Gold's total to four in 2013-14. The Indoor Championship was the Yellow Jackets' first-ever in program history.

A mixture of senior leadership with the injection of a freshman core of athletes helped Defiance to an upset victory in the indoor championship before turning it into a sweep with a decisive outdoor victory. During the indoor campaign, school records were set in nine different events, including sophomore newcomer Eme Miller (three events) and freshman Micah Wilson (two events).

In the outdoor season, senior Kim Bingley put herself in the ranks for National Championship selection after scoring a team and conference high in points to lead Defiance to a 62.5-point victory. Defiance claimed five individual championships, including two from Wilson and a conference record from Kali George. Margaret Sarifino and Miller also took outdoor championships.

Defiance athletics claimed five more individual conference champions in the winter and spring with the men's track and field teams. Joe Davis won the mile run indoors and followed it up with a 1500-meter championship in the outdoor season. Troy Parrett claimed both 800-meter championships and Anthony Nolfi won the hammer throw championship in the outdoor season.

While there were several championships to measure the growth of some DC sports in 2013-14, there was also some growth with some of the newest sports at Defiance College. The 2013-14 year was the third season for DC's swimming and diving teams, and second season under head coach Athena Miller. The program showed strong signs of development from year one to year two under Miller, as DC set a record number of personal and school bests throughout the season.

Defiance wrapped up the season with a record-setting weekend at the OAC Championships. Over the three-day event, Defiance's men's and women's programs combined for 15 school records and 27 personal best times. Defiance also re-broke three records that were set earlier in the meet, totaling 18 record-setting swims for the Purple and Gold in one event. At season's end, Defiance had set records in 21 of the 40 possible events.

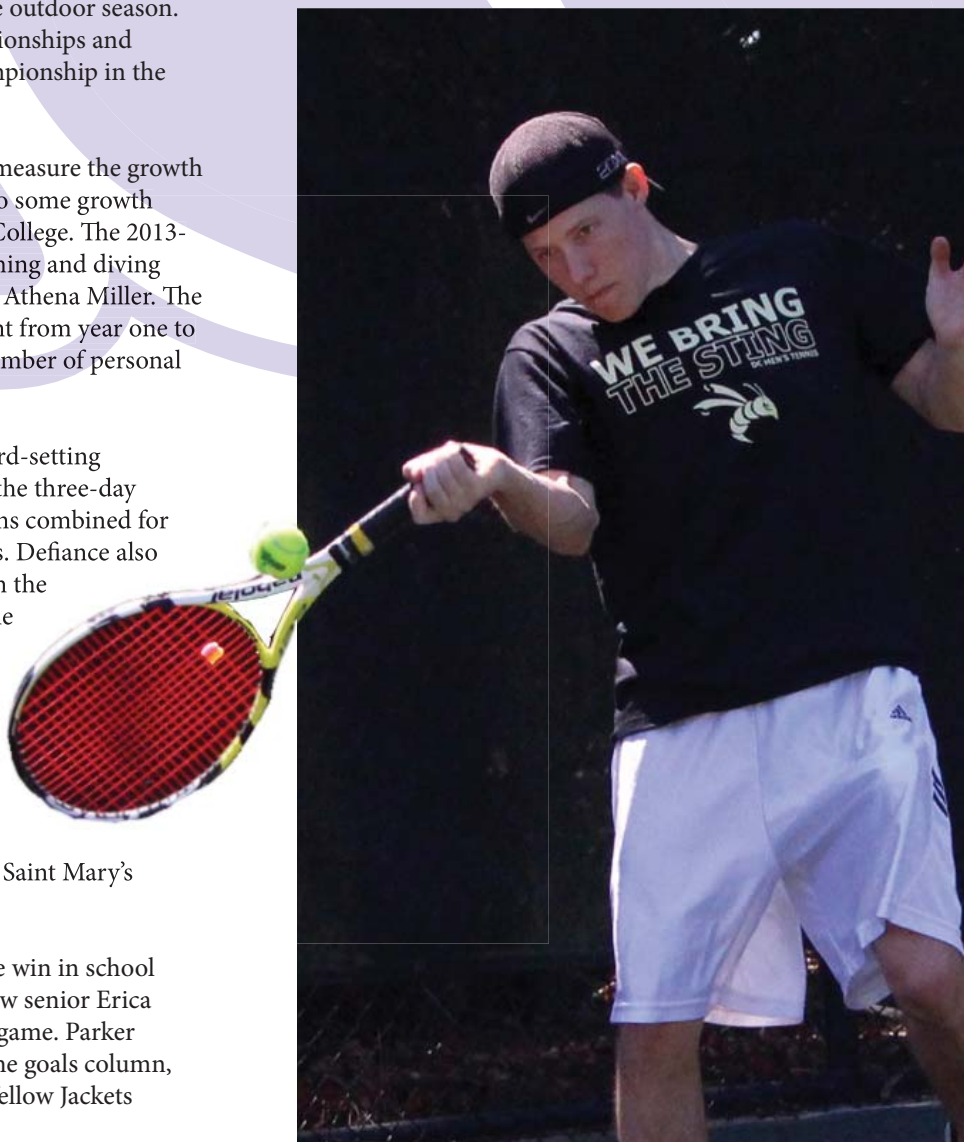
Women's lacrosse also had its inaugural season under head coach Jason Allen. The Yellow Jackets went on to finish with a 2-14 record. The program's first win came against Saint Mary's (Ind.), a 9-5 victory in Memphis, Tenn.

The Yellow Jackets picked up their first home win in school history with a 12-11 overtime thriller that saw senior Erica King score a season high seven goals in one game. Parker Smith led the way for the Yellow Jackets in the goals column, scoring 29 in the maiden season. Six other Yellow Jackets scored at least five goals on the season.

The men's tennis team also saw some major strides in 2014 under first year head coach Tyler Ault. Defiance claimed its first top-half finish in the standings since Ault was a player for the Yellow Jackets in 2009-10. DC finished with a 5-3 record in HCAC play to take fourth overall. Early in the season, the Yellow Jackets picked up a big 6-3 win over Franklin, which was just the third time the Purple and Gold had knocked off Franklin College since tennis was re-introduced at Defiance. The momentum from the first victory carried DC to its second straight post-season appearance.

Mike Ross went on to earn First-Team All-HCAC, and James Demeo became the first Yellow Jacket to go undefeated (8-0) in HCAC singles play since Tyler (5-0) and Trevor Ault (6-0) both went undefeated in the 2010 season.

Defiance College wraps up the 2013-14 season with four team conference championships, 15 event championships, an NCAA statistical champion, two 1,000-point scorers, a 1,000 kills scorer, 38 school records and three conference records.



Mike Ross earned First-Team HCAC honors.