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The first-ever Yellow Jacket NCAA lacrosse team prepares for its inaugural contest in 2013

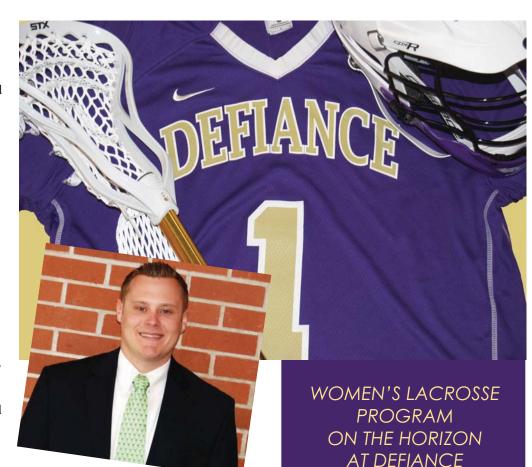
Defiance College announced in February, 2011 that it would add men's lacrosse as the 21st varsity collegiate program. Now that vision became a reality, as the first-ever Yellow Jacket men's lacrosse team descended on the Defiance College campus in August to begin training for the inaugural contest on February 23 of 2013. The inaugural class includes students from California, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, New York, and Texas.

The game will be held in Pontiac, Michigan, with Defiance taking on Albion. After the historic opener, the schedule will offer another key milestone, as the Jackets will come home to host Calvin College on March 2 at 1:00 pm for the first home NCAA lacrosse game in the history of Defiance Athletics. In all, the 2012-2013 schedule will feature eight home contests, a pair of extended trips to Wisconsin, and road games with more familiar foes such as Transylvania, Hanover and Wilmington.

The Yellow Jackets will compete as a member of the Midwest Lacrosse League and will open their first quest for the MLC crown on March 23, when they host Aurora for a 1:00 pm start. Other conference opponents will include Fontbonne, Hanover, Concordia, Mount St. Joseph, Carthage and the Milwaukee School of Engineering. Defiance will then wrap up its historic first season at the MLC Tournament on May 1 and 4.

Head Coach Ryan Kuhn (pictured) will lead the Yellow Jackets into battle, after coming to Defiance in February. Kuhn previously served as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at the College of Mount Saint Vincent and Hendrix College. Kuhn helped launch the men's lacrosse program at Hendrix, before moving to MSV for four seasons.

Kuhn's coaching career started at Suffolk Community College in 2007, following a



successful playing career at Manhattanville College, where he graduated with a degree in history.

Kuhn will look to draw from his experiences as an NCAA Division III student-athlete and his five years of collegiate coaching to help the Yellow Jackets make the 2012-2013 men's lacrosse campaign not just a memorable season, but a successful one as well.

Fans can follow all of the latest lacrosse news at www.DefianceAthletics.com/mlacrosse and by following the Jackets on Facebook (Defiance-Athletics) and Twitter (dc athletics).

Defiance College will also be adding a women's lacrosse program during the 2013-2014 campaign and will field a club program in the upcoming 2012-2013 year. Head Coach Jason Allen joined the DC Athletics staff last November coming from Tiffin University and Notre Dame Academy in Toledo, Ohio. The Lady Jackets will become the 22nd varsity sport offered at Defiance College and the fourth new program added in a three-year span.