

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!

Women's Cross Country Wins 2009 NJCAA Nat'l Championship; Jen Nelson Takes 1st in the Women's Race!

The Ocean County College Women's Cross Country Team had a great deal of success in its first season of competition since 1995. The program was reinstated after a 13 year break and made school history in its first season back under Head Coach Ed Baynes, as the women won the Garden State Athletic Conference, Region XIX, and NJCAA National Championships.

The Region XIX Cross Country Championships were held on October 24th at Gloucester County College. All seven of OCC's women runners placed in the top 12 and earned All-Region honors. Jennifer Nelson won the individual title, while Alyssa Collier and Erine O'Connor backed her by finishing 2nd and 3rd respectively. Priscilla Robinson (6th) and Lauren Ashman (7th) completed scoring for the Vikings. Taylor Madden and Elaine Josefowski were 9th and 12th overall. On the men's side, Mike Neigel finished the race 6th followed by Ray Mamazza (10th), Jarryd Novin (18th), and Michael Romano (33rd). Neigel and Mamazza earned All-Region honors for their excellent performances.

After winning the Region XIX Championship the team went on to Finger Lakes Community College in Canandaigua, NY on November 7, 2009 and won the first ever Women's Cross Country National Championship for Ocean County College. Jennifer Nelson outlasted all 115 runners to win the Individual Title in a time of 19:48 on a tough 5k course. Jennifer is the first ever Individual National Champion for Ocean County College Cross Country. Nelson was supported by Erine O'Connor (21:18) and Alyssa Collier (21:19), who finished 12th and 13th respectively. Nelson, O'Connor, and Collier earned All-American honors for their efforts.

Priscilla Robinson (21:37) was 17th, and Lauren Ashman (22:32) finished 30th to seal the victory for the Vikings. Taylor



(Above) NJCAA National Championship First-place finisher Jennifer Nelson.

Madden and Elaine Josefowski also had fantastic races, finishing 42nd and 68th overall. The men's team also had a strong showing at the National Championships. Mike Neigel (30:14) finished 35th overall and Jarryd Novin (31:59) finished 55th overall in the men's race. Mike Romano battled the hilly course on a bad knee to finish 105th.

Head Coach Ed Baynes was named Region and National Coach of the Year in his first year at the helm. He has done an excellent job recruiting the local talent from Ocean County High Schools and plans on building a lasting tradition of excellence in the Cross Country program at OCC.

The Women's Cross Country Team was recognized at the December 2009 New Jersey General Assembly meeting and in January 2010 at the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders meeting. The Athletic Department and the team members were honored to be recognized both at the Statehouse and the County Municipal Complex.



(Top) The OCC Women's Cross Country Team poses with the NJCAA National Championship Trophy. Members of the team were honored in January by the Ocean County Freeholders (middle) and in Trenton by the NJ State Assembly (bottom). Each received a Proclamation from the State and a certificate from Ocean County.

OCC extends their gratitude to the Assembly and Assemblyman Dave Wolfe and to the Freeholders of Ocean County for a wonderful experience.

FALL 2009 ATHLETIC AWARD WINNERS

NJCAA ALL-AMERICANS



Women's Cross Country

Alyssa Collier, *Toms River North*
Jennifer Nelson, *Barneгат*
Erine O'Connor, *Toms River South*

Women's Soccer

Alyssa Keating, *Brick Memorial*
Kristina Laureigh, *Lacey*

ALL-REGION



Men's Cross Country

Raymond Mamazza, *Jackson Liberty*
Michael Neigel, *Brick Township*

Women's Cross Country

Lauren Ashman, *Toms River South*
Alyssa Collier, *Toms River North*
Elaine Josefowski, *Southern Regional*
Taylor Madden, *Toms River East*
Jennifer Nelson, *Barneгат*
Erin O'Connor, *Toms River South*
Priscilla Robinson,

Men's Soccer

Mike Carletta, *Jackson Memorial*
Eric Istvanditsch, *Toms River North*
Ryan O'Donnell, *Toms River North*
Matt Riley, *Jackson Memorial*
Daniel Wroblewski, *Brick Township*

Women's Soccer

Teresa Cambra, *Monsignor Donovan*
Kaitlyn Femano, *Toms River North*
Alyssa Keating, *Brick Memorial*
Kristina Laureigh, *Lacey*
Alexandria Montalto, *Brick Memorial*
Sarah Yeager, *Toms River East*

ALL-GSAC



Men's Soccer

Mike Carletta, *Jackson Memorial*
Eric Istvanditsch, *Toms River North*
Ryan O'Donnell, *Toms River North*
Matt Riley, *Jackson Memorial*
Daniel Wroblewski, *Brick Township*

Women's Soccer

Teresa Cambra, *Monsignor Donovan*
Kaitlyn Femano, *Toms River North*
Alyssa Keating, *Brick Memorial*
Kristina Laureigh, *Lacey*
Alexandria Montalto, *Brick Memorial*
Sarah Yeager, *Toms River East*

Women's Soccer Repeats as Region XIX Champions



OCC Women's Soccer finished the season ranked 5th in the nation after winning the Region XIX Championship. The team defeated Brookdale 4-0 in the semifinals, and entered the Region finals against Camden.

A scoreless draw through two overtime periods led to a tiebreaker, and members

of the squad took penalty kicks (in order; Kate Femano, Alyssa Keating, Carly Lages, Briann Bradley, and Teresa Cambra). OCC came out on top 5-4, as Cambra clinched the win with her final kick. Sarah Yeager (OCC Goalie) recorded her 13th shutout for the Vikings. The victory makes back-to-back Region titles for OCC.

Fall 2009 ACADEMIC Award Winners

ACADEMIC ALL-REGION AND ALL-CONFERENCE

Academic All-Region (3.25 GPA or higher)

Women's Cross Country

Alyssa Collier, *Toms River North*
Elaine Josefowski, *Southern Regional*
Jennifer Nelson, *Barneгат*

Women's Cross Country & Swimming

Lauren Ashman, *Toms River South*
Brittany Nycz, *Toms River East*
Erine O'Connor, *Toms River South*

Men's Cross Country

Raymond Mamazza, *Jackson Liberty*

Men's Soccer

Richard Baiata, *Point Pleasant Beach*
Nicholas Crenshaw, *Toms River North*
Michael Dinsmore, *Jackson Memorial*
Joseph Kocher, *Brick Memorial*
Robert McCombs, *Toms River North*
Emmanuel Mends, *St. Mary's*
Ryan O'Donnell, *Toms River North*
Daniel O'Neill, *Toms River North*
Matthew Riley, *Jackson Memorial*
Joseph Shore, *Toms River East*

Women's Swimming

Marion Burke, *Red Bank Catholic*
Alyssa Giglio, *Central Regional*
Jennifer Huff, *Central Regional*
Samantha Stutler, *Manchester*

Women's Basketball

Alicia Leonard, *Barneгат*
Cayla Linfante, *Monsignor Donovan*
Kristie Martino, *New Egypt*
Nicole Nelson, *Brick Memorial*

Men's Swimming

Brian Mahoney, *Central Regional*
Richard Maier, *Toms River South*
John O'Keefe, *Toms River South*
Zachary Saunders, *Toms River North*

Men's Basketball

Raymond Bickel, *Brick Memorial*
Nathan Gray, *Cypress Bay*
Charles Olsen, *Toms River East*

Women's Soccer

Corinne Anderson, *Manchester*
Sara Blackburn, *Toms River East*
Victoria Gemma, *Toms River East*
Kristen Graham, *Toms River North*
Morgan Kearns, *Brick Township*
Christie Knee, *Monsignor Donovan*
Carissa Krapf, *Jackson Memorial*
Alyssa MacNeil, *Pinelands Regional*
Alexandria Montalto, *Brick Memorial*
Lysette Reid, *Brick Memorial*

Academic All-Conference (3.0 GPA or higher)

Men's Soccer

Eric Istvanditsch, *Toms River North*
Ernest Smith, *Point Pleasant Beach*

Women's Soccer

Hillary Spratford, *Toms River North*
Sarah Yeager, *Toms River East*

Women's Soccer & Swimming

Kristina Laureigh, *Lacey*

Women's Swimming

Jaimie Hinshelwood, *Lacey*

Women's Basketball

Erin Applegate, *Toms River South*

Men's Basketball

Charles Kelley, *Toms River North*
Tom Paterno, *Brick Township*

Men's Swimming

Steven Chalfant, *Toms River North*
William de Rouville, *Toms River North*
Sean Hirtes, *Toms River North*
Mark Madjeski, *Toms River East*
Anthony Porzio, *Toms River North*

Athletes Give Back to the Community

Athletes of Ocean County College gave back to the community this holiday season by collecting can goods and donations in support of Ocean County Hunger Relief and Kevin's Kids for Christmas Drive 2009. The players staffed home events and set up tables in the Student Center to collect for these local groups. The teams also raised funds in October to help with the fight against breast cancer.

In all, over \$500 was donated to Kevin's Kids for Christmas Drive and more than five shopping carts of food were donated to Ocean County Hunger Relief.



The Athletic Department would like to thank everyone who helped make this possible!

Men's Soccer and Women's Tennis Compete in Region Tournaments

The OCC Men's Soccer program was ranked as one of the top 10 teams in the nation for the majority of the season under new head and assistant coaches Kirk Periccioli and Sal Colino. The team made it to the Semi-Final round of the Region XIX tournament by defeating Bergen 3-1 on October 25, 2009.

The team went on to lose a heartbreaker, 1-0 in the Region Semi-Finals to County College of Morris. Mike Carletta, Eric Istvanditsch, Ryan O'Donnell, Matt Riley, and Daniel Wroblewski went on to

earn All-Conference and All-Region honors for their excellent seasons.

The OCC Women's Tennis program had the honor of breaking in the new tennis complex at Ocean County College. The team completed their season by participating in the Region Tournament in late October. Congratulations to Kathy Avalos, Jackie Britton, Larissa Burgdorfer, Koryne Kovacofsky, Corrine Miller, Larissa Segui, and Head Coach Stan Friedman on all their hard work this season.

Athletic Facilities CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



Construction of OCC's new athletic facilities are moving along. The new student parking lot and six lighted tennis courts were completed during the Fall 2009 semester and are currently in use.

Next up is the multipurpose complex for outdoor competitions, which will include lights, artificial turf, a press box and restrooms. The artificial turf complex will be lined to host soccer and lacrosse. These updated facilities will enable OCC to be a host site for numerous college-level and high school tournaments.

Overall, this is an exciting time to be a part of the OCC Athletics Department!

Ashley Bechtle and Steven Kennelly Selected CAANJ Male and Female Scholar Athlete of the Year

Ashley Bechtle and Steven Kennelly were honored as the Collegiate Athletic Administrators of New Jersey Scholar-Athletes of the Year at the CAANJ Awards Luncheon on October 8, 2009. This is the first time in school history that two award winners came from OCC.

The CAANJ Male and Female Scholar Athlete of the Year Awards are given annually to one male and one female student from New Jersey Colleges in the following divisions: NCAA DI, DII, DIII, and NJCAA. The criteria consists of a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher, academic achievement, athletic achievement, and campus/civil involvement.

Ashley Bechtle was a standout OCC women's soccer athlete and student. Her excellence in the classroom earned her Cum Laude honors as well as being named an NJCAA Academic All-American. As a NJ STARS student, Ashley was



selected to speak in front of Governor Corzine's NJ STARS commission in defense of the program. She is also a member of OCC's award-winning chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK). As an athlete, Ashley was selected to the NJCAA Soccer All-American and All Region Teams in the Fall of 2008, and named a member of the Garden State Athletic Conference Team in 2007. During Ashley's 2-year career she led the team to a 2nd place finish in the 2008 National Championships, where she was named a member of the

All-Tournament team. Ashley graduated in May 2009 with an AA in Liberal Arts and is currently attending Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

Stephen Kennelly excelled in the classroom and on the golf course in his two years at OCC. He earned Summa Cum Laude honors as well as being named as an NJCAA Distinguished Academic All-American. On the golf course Stephen led the team to Nationals in 2008 and qualified as an individual in 2009, finishing 35th in the country. Stephen was selected as the #1 golfer in Region XIX, finishing that tournament with scores of 71/72 at Cape May National Golf Course. While attending OCC Stephen was also a member of PTK and an NJ STARS student. Stephen graduated from OCC in May 2009 with a BS in Business Administration and 4.0 GPA. Stephen is now attending Montclair State University.

Golf Coach Participates in 100 Hole Marathon Golf Day

Ocean County College Golf Coach Kevin Beirne completed a 100 Hole Golf Marathon and raised \$3,155.00 for the NJ Golf Foundation in support of The Special Olympics, The First Tee Programs, and Golf in Schools Programs throughout the state.



Kevin Beirne

The marathon golf round was played on a cold and rainy day and it took Coach Beirne 8½ hours to play until completion. Congratulations to Coach Beirne for his hard work in raising funds for NJ Golf Foundation.

Sailing Club Team Has an Impressive Fall '09 Sailing Season



The sailing team began at Cornell in mid September, finishing 7th of the 18 teams participating, then went on to sail throughout the Fall, ultimately qualifying for the MASIA Championships. On November 8 & 9 OCC hosted the MAISA Club Championships finishing 4th of the 18 clubs in the MASIA Conference. Sailing in the Championships for the OCC team in the A division were Tyler Kennedy and Sarah Salter; and Holden Muehleisen and Autumn Hoover. Sailing in the B division were Bradford Wright and Jamie Wasco; Derek Douglas and Emily Bowen; and Kristin Kilar and Breanna Bruns. The Team will be practicing and set sail in March for the spring 2010 season.

Three Receive Weekly Honors During Fall 2009 Season

Alyssa Collier



**Week of October 21
Runner of the Week
NJCAA DIII Cross Country**

Alyssa was chosen NJCAA Runner of the Week for her consistency and excellence throughout the season for the Vikings. With a time of 21:37 she was a critical part of the Vikings 1st place team finish at the Region XIX Championship held at Gloucester CC.

Kristina Laureigh



**Week of October 14
Player of the Week
NJCAA DIII Women's Soccer**

Kristina led the defensive effort for Ocean County College as they went 3-0 this week. The sophomore captain directed a defense that allowed only two shots on goal over the three games. With ten team shutouts to date on the season, Ocean had allowed only five shots in their past six games. OCC Women's Soccer was currently ranked #3 in the NJCAA DIII National Soccer Poll and had a record of 11-2-1.

Jennifer Nelson



**Week of October 14
Runner of the Week
NJCAA DIII Cross Country**

Based on her performance in the Monmouth Invitational 5k race with a time of 19:51, the teams 1st place finish at the event, and her excellent season, Jennifer earned NJCAA Runner of the Week Honors. OCC Women's Cross Country was currently ranked number 1 in the NJCAA DIII National Poll and Jennifer was recognized as one of the top runners in the nation at this level.

OCC Athletic Department Receives Region XIX Champions of Character Award

The Athletic Department of Ocean County College was honored to receive the 2009 Region XIX Champions of Character Award at the 2009 Region Awards Dinner on October 8th, 2009. This award recognizes a Region XIX Athletic Program for outstanding results in character development of its student athletes and coaches by embracing the true spirit of competition through the five core values of respect, responsibility, integrity, servant leadership, and sportsmanship. The recipients also demonstrate outstanding involvement in the community, which results in positive character development thru sport.

OCC Athletic Administration Ilene Cohen (Athletic Director) and A.J. Trump (Asst. Athletic Director) felt that stressing character in and out of uniform, sportsmanship on the field, and instilling the concept that it is a privilege to wear the Viking uniform helped OCC earn the 2009 Region XIX Champion of Character Institutional Award. Sporting eleven athletic teams, OCC proudly promotes the fact that not one athlete or coach was ejected from a contest during the year. Accompanying that feat is that the Viking soccer and bas-



Members of the OCC Coaching Staff and Administration proudly display the Region XIX Champions of Character Cup.

ketball teams were among the teams to receive the fewest yellow cards and technical fouls in their respective sport.

Eight of OCC's eleven teams received team grade point averages of 3.0 or better this past year with the men's soccer team ranked 3rd in the country. Twenty-one Viking student-athletes earned the distinction of Academic All-American with ten being Distinguished Academic All-Americans.

OCC student-athletes have used their role to also be active within the community, taking on many community service and volunteer initiatives during the year.



...Supports OCC Athletics!

4-time winner of the "Best Subs Award"
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