OCC Athletics Finished Number Seven Nationwide

Ocean County College finished this season ranked #7 in the country as an athletic program for success in championship competition by the National Alliance of Two Year College Athletic Administrators (NATYCAA).

NATYCAA is the professional organization of two year college athletic administrators, and membership is open to all two year institutions from throughout the country (www.natycaa.com).

NATYCAA is one of 11 professional associations that fall under the umbrella of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA, www.nacda.com).

The NATYCAA Cup program began in 2004 and recognizes excellence in two-year college athletics based on success in championship competition.

For full results, visit www.nacda.com/sports/natycaa

The golf team performed well at the National Championship in upstate New York in the first week of June, finishing 10th in the nation as a team (and great finishes individually). As the team entered playoff rounds to qualify for the National Championship, they came up with some outstanding team achievements.

The first tournament to prepare the team was the Garden State Athletic Conference (GSAC)/Del-Penn Tournament at High Bridge Hills Golf Club on April 30, 2012. The team won the tournament with a score of 320. OCC had the lowest score of all GSAC teams in the event. By winning the GSAC Tournament, OCC earned the GSAC Revolving Cup for the first time in the cup’s 36 year history. OCC keeps the cup until the next GSAC Tournament.

Hoops Players Each Score 1,000 Points

This past winter was a milestone season for Viking basketball players Elizabeth Lawler (center) and JaMario Clayton (guard). Both athletes hit the 1,000-point mark in their college athletic careers, placing them on OCC’s list of elite players.

On February 9, in a game against Gloucester County College, Clayton became one of just six male athletes in the history of OCC sports to score 1,000 points. Clayton explained how it all happened: “In that game, I remember saying to everyone, ‘I’m not going to force it, I’m going to let the game come to me,’ and as soon as we ran our play, the first look I got I shot the ball and it was all net,” a three-pointer that brought his total to 1,001. “It was one of the most thrilling moments of my life.”

A graduate of Southern Durham High in Durham, North Carolina, Clayton learned of OCC from an alumnus that worked at his school. “I heard a lot about the program from my trainer, and I then played in a summer league in Cape May and met the coaches for OCC” – Head Coach Taurean Fisher and Assistant Coach Jeff Mogila.

“OCC is the love and support we got from the Board, the Athletic Department, and each other,” Clayton remarked. “I felt as if we were a true family.”

Clayton graduated from OCC in May, and this fall he will enroll at C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University in New York, to which he received an athletic scholarship. “After that,” he noted, “I want to play pro basketball overseas.”

Less than a month after Clayton scored his 1,000th point, Lawler reached...
1,000 POINTS, continued from page 1

1,000 points for the Viking Women’s Basketball Team in a March 3 Region XIX Championship game against Northampton Community College. “The game before [the regional semi-final] I didn’t know I only had two points left to reach 1,000 points,” said Lawler, a Forked River resident who attended Lacey Township High School. “I had so many chances,” she added with a laugh.

In the following game, the regional final, Lawler and her teammates were well aware that she was almost at 1,000 points, though she didn’t want that to be their focus.

A few minutes into the game, Lawler took a pass down low. “I turned and banked it in,” she recalled, and an announcement about her achievement came over the loudspeakers as the game continued. “What a feeling that was,” she said. “There’s this heaviness to it that I didn’t think I’d encounter, but I did.”

The women’s team, which had won the Garden State Athletic Conference, ended up losing that regional final game by just two points, so the day was “bittersweet,” Lawler noted, “but I was in a state of contentment because I left it all on the court.”

Lawler, who has four siblings, said she comes from “a basketball house,” and started playing the game in fifth grade. “I learned a lot from my dad and the rec teams I played on. Basketball is such a mental game. It’s so technical. It takes a lot out of you. But I love it.”

She went on to play at Lacey High School for four years, first as a shooting/power forward. When the varsity team lost its center to graduation, Lawler, the tallest player at 5’11,” stepped in to fill that role. “I fell in love with it,” she stated.

When deciding to continue her education at OCC, Lawler knew that “financially it would be best, but for so many reasons, I’m so thankful I went there,” starting with the Jumpstart Program in September 2010 through her graduation this past May. She has decided to attend Georgian Court University, but has not decided whether she’ll play basketball or soccer – she was a standout player in both at OCC.

Lawler thanked OCC President Dr. Jon Larson, Athletic Director Ilene Cohen, Vice President of Student Affairs Don Doran, her coaches – Head Coach Dana Kovich and Assistant Coach Nicole Ciocher – teammates, and her family for their support. “I truly am so blessed and thankful for the encouragement from all corners.”

The two athletes were each named Region XIX “Player of the Year” for 2011-2012, and were selected as National Junior College Athletic Association Division III Basketball First Team All-Americans.

Clayton, a second-year selection as an NJCAA All-American, played in 51 games during his time at OCC, accumulating 1,165 points – with a 22.8 points per game average – and 123 steals.

Lawler, who was named OCC’s “Woman Athlete of the Year” and was recognized by the Garden State Athletic Conference at the New Jersey National Girls and Women in Sports Day celebration at Seton Hall University in February 2012. She competed in 52 games for the Women’s Basketball Team over her two years at OCC. She scored 1,010 points, with a 19.42 points per game average, and pulled down 901 rebounds.

Also this year, Lawler was selected to have her Vikings jersey hang in “The Ring of Honor” section of the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tennessee, which consists of more than 100 jerseys that represent the top high school and college players from each season. Lawler’s jersey will hang until May 2013.

“Elizabeth is the first OCC athlete to receive this honor, and we again congratulate her on yet another recognition of her outstanding accomplishments,” Dr. Larson said in his April President’s Report. “We could not be more proud of JaMario and Elizabeth,” the President stated. “They have been exceptional representatives for their teams and the College.”

“They are two great student-athletes that helped put Ocean County College on the map,” said Cohen. “They are very talented individuals in their own ways, and I wish them the best of luck in all that they do.”

In addition to her 1,000 points, Elizabeth Lawler was selected OCC’s “Woman Athlete of the Year” and was honored at Seton Hall University at the National Girls and Women in Sports Day Celebration in February 2012. (L to R) Women’s Soccer Coach, A.J. Trump; Student-Athlete, Elizabeth Lawler; Women’s Basketball Coach, Dana Kovich; and Athletic Director, Ilene Cohen.

Lawler was also selected to have her OCC Viking jersey hang in “The Ring of Honor” section of the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tennessee, which represents the top high school and college players from each season. Elizabeth’s jersey will be hung through May 2013.
Womens Basketball Goes Undefeated in Conference Play

The Vikings of Ocean CC went 17 – 0 in the Garden State Athletic Conference this past winter season earning the title of GSAC Champions in 2012. Overall the team had a tremendous season finishing 2nd in Region XIX with a record of 24 – 3.

Congratulations to the players and the coaching staff of head coach, Dana Kovich, and assistant coach, Nicole Ciocher, for guiding the team to such a successful season.

GOLF, continued from page 1

cup until next year’s GSAC Tournament where they will try to regain it. Brandon Waunsch (fr.) shot 78 and Wil Hawthorne (so.) shot 79 to both finish in the top ten earning ALL-GSAC honors.

In addition to winning the GSAC Tournament, OCC also won the GSAC season championship which is based on points accumulated throughout the season. This is the 2nd GSAC Conference Championship in the last three years for OCC. The team then competed in the two-day Region XIX championship finishing with a team score of 633; just one point behind Bucks CC (632).

In addition to Hawthorne and Waunsch, the team is led by sophomores Bobby Waszak (All-Region), Nick Abbatemarco, freshman Jacob Murgio (All-Region), and Donald McElroy. Head Coach Kevin Beirne was named GSAC “Coach of the Year” for the 2012 season.

NJCAA Player of the Week Recognitions

JAMARIO CLAYTON
DIVISION III PLAYER OF THE WEEK
MEN’S BASKETBALL, week of Jan 23-30, 2012 – Ocean County College, N.J., Guard (Durham, N.C.; Southern High School)

Despite his height, Clayton (5’ 6”) played larger than life during the week of 1/23 in Ocean County’s three games. The sophomore recorded 17 points, five rebounds and five assists against Camden CC (N.J.), but the Vikings fell short 70-60. En route to an 86-69 win over Cumberland CC (N.J.), Clayton hit 12-of-23 shots from the field for 31 points. Clayton led the Vikings to a 71-66 win over Atlantic Cape CC (N.J.) with a triple-double including 29 points, 13 boards and 13 assists.

ELIZABETH LAWLER
DIVISION III PLAYER OF THE WEEK
WOMEN’S BASKETBALL, week of Jan 23-30, 2012 – Ocean County College, N.J., Center (Lacey, N.J.; Lacey High School).

With double-doubles in three Ocean County wins in one week, Lawler (5’ 10”) solidified herself as one of the top post players in Division III. Lawler totaled 22 points and 16 rebounds in the Vikings’ 71-36 thrashing of Camden CC (N.J.). The sophomore came back two nights later to score 28 points and corral 17 rebounds in an 81-50 win over Cumberland CC (N.J.). Closing out the week with a 67-49 victory over Atlantic Cape CC (N.J.), Lawler registered 25 points and 28 rebounds.

MEGAN QUINLAN
DIVISION III PLAYER OF THE WEEK
SOFTBALL, week of Apr 18, 2012 – Ocean County College, N.J., Pitcher (Manasquan High School)

Megan Quinlan earned three wins during the week prior to April 18 with some exceptional pitching for the Vikings. The sophomore dealt 11 shutout innings in a double-header against Camden CC (N.J.), gave up three hits in the two games, striking out 13. In a 15-2 win over Montgomery CCC (Pa.), Quinlan struck out nine in five innings and gave up only one hit in the appearance.

The previous week (week ending April 10) Quinlan was also named the GSAC Player of the Week. She went 5-1 on the week including 12 strikeouts vs. Cumberland CC and a 2-hit shutout vs. Brookdale Community College.

GSAC Player of the Week Recognitions

AMANDA FERNANDEZ
GARDEN STATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE PLAYER OF THE WEEK, WOMEN’S BASKETBALL—Amanda Fernandez of Toms River, NJ was named “Female Athlete of the Week” for the week ending Feb 19. Fernandez, a sophomore for Ocean County College, helped lead the Vikings to a 21-1 league record, while averaging over 13 points per game during their current 15-game winning streak. Congratulations to Amanda and the team for their outstanding season!

CHRISTINA POLIHROM
GARDEN STATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE PLAYER OF THE WEEK, SOFTBALL – Christina Polihrom of Ocean County College has been named GSAC Softball “Player of the Week.” Polihrom, a freshman third baseman from Howell, NJ, went 10 for 19 (.526) with 2 runs scored, 4 doubles, 1 homerun, 7 RBI and 4 walks for the Vikings. Congratulations to Christina.

OCC Viking Athletics

Like us on Facebook!

Summer 2012 Athletics Update
Viking Athletes Earn Academic Honors

NJCAA ATHLETES OF DISTINCTION: NATIONAL ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
(Must have completed a minimum of 45 semester credit hrs.)

PINNACLE AWARD
for Academic Excellence (4.00 GPA)

Nick Vargovic,
M Swimming, M Tennis
Toms River South HS

Mary Kate Geisinger,
W Softball,
Lacey HS

SUPERIOR AWARD
for Academic Achievement (3.80 – 3.99 GPA)

Kaitlyn Scrudato,
W Tennis,
Manchester HS

James DiPiazza,
M Baseball,
Central Regional HS

Chelsey-lynn Friggle,
W Soccer,
Central Regional HS

Elizabeth Lawler,
W Basketball, W Soccer,
Lacey HS

Joanna Simonovich,
W Soccer,
St. Rose HS

Robert Waszak,
M Golf,
Toms River North HS

EXEMPLARY AWARD
Academic Achievement (3.60 – 3.79 GPA)

Stephanie Paluchowski,
W Cross Country,
Jackson Liberty HS

Katelyn Christie,
W Tennis,
Brick Memorial HS

John King,
M Swimming,
Toms River North

Maggie Frey,
W Softball,
Fair Lawn HS

Carol Ann Carlson,
W Soccer,
Brick Township HS

Nicole Haines,
W Swimming,
Jackson Memorial HS

Samantha Sabo,
W Swimming,
Brick Township HS

Amanda Fernandez,
W Basketball,
Toms River South HS

Megan Quinlan,
W Softball,
Manasquan HS
**NJCAA 2011-12 “ALL-ACADEMIC TEAMS”** Holding a 3.0 or better Team GPA

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<td>Women’s Basketball</td>
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**SPRING SEMESTER ACADEMIC All-Region (3.25 GPA or higher during season) and All-Garden State Athletic Conference (3.0 GPA or higher during season)**

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**Summer 2012 Athletics Update**

**Baseball**
- John Applegate, Brick Township
- Jonathan DeValle, Brick Memorial
- James Dipiazza, Central Regional
- Michael Donnelly, Central Regional
- Antonio Gonzalez, Lakewood

**Softball**
- Joanna Fleck, Lacey
- Maggie Frey, Fair Lawn
- Mary Kate Geisinger, Lacey
- Patricia Keene, Lacey
- Christina Polihrom, Howell
- Megan Quinlan, Manasquan
- Heather Tice, Central Regional

**Men’s Tennis**
- Gordon Fordyce, Central Regional
- Lorenz Macasadia, Toms River South
- Nick Vargovic, Toms River South

**Women’s Basketball**
- Justina Del Rio, Hunterdon Central
- Elizabeth Lawler, Lacey
- Caitlyn Testa, Jackson Memorial

**Golf**
- Robert Waszak, Toms River North

**Men’s Swimming**
- Nicholas Esposito, Brick Memorial
- John King, Toms River North
- Corey Matthews, Toms River North
- Gene Tutzauber, Toms River North
- Nick Vargovic, Toms River South

**Women’s Swimming**
- Nicole Haines, Jackson Memorial
- Patricia Keene, Lacey
- Alexandra Penczuk, Toms River North
- Samantha Sabo, Brick Township
- Brianne Voorhees, Southern Regional

**Men’s Basketball**
- JaMario Clayton, Southern Durham

**Women’s Basketball**
- Kelly Collins, Point Pleasant Boro
- Maegan Higham, Toms River North
- Jenna Oslovich, Central Regional
- Christina Reilly, Brick Memorial

**Golf**
- Jacob Murgio, Jackson Memorial

**Women’s Swimming**
- Jenny Hulse, Jackson Liberty
OCC Cheerleading Squad Earns First Place at Nationals

The Ocean County College Viking Cheerleaders won 1st Place in their division at the 32nd Annual NCA/NDA Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championship, April 11 through 14 in Daytona Beach, FL! Performing twice in two days in the Intermediate All-Girl II Division, the Vikings outscored teams representing four-year Universities in North Carolina, Massachusetts, Georgia and Texas, earning the coveted title of National Champions.

This was OCC’s second time competing at the National level in this competition. OCC Cheerleading Club had a tremendous year performing both locally and nationally this season. The team was committed to rigorous practice sessions (held regularly at the Spirit Factory in Toms River) and the classroom, which was their secret to their success. Coached by Maureen Williams, the team competed hard and performed well at all events entered. Locally they have showcased at the Spirit Unlimited, Pine Belt Arena, Atlantic City Boardwalk and area high schools preparing for and qualifying to compete at the National Championship. Congratulations to the squad on a great season!

Sailing Club 2012 News: Spring Recap

OCC sailing club sets new milestone with the number of skippers sailing in a MASIA regatta this spring. This season we were fortunate to have nine skippers and another three developing skippers. So we had a pool of 12 skippers to choose from. This year 2012 we had the following nine skippers compete in a Maisa regatta: Zac Schippe, Rayann Ashworth, David Desiome, Jenny Kempton, Kyle Johnstone, Nick Rinaldi, Rebecca Johnson, Mike Suchernick, Dean Sevcik. The following crewed in a Maisa regatta: Andrew DePonte, Anthony Favo, Danielle Wittman, David DeSmone, Hanna Saunders, Jenny Kempton, Katie Wickel, Kristina Severino, Kyle Donnelly, Kyle Johnstone, Mary Norcia, Nick Rinaldi, Sean Hartigan.

The season began with a solid 3rd place finish in the OCC team race regatta sailed on the Toms River. The season ended with OCC tying for first place in the Army regatta sailed at West Point on the Hudson River and winning the Drexel regatta sailing on the Delaware River. The OCC team won both divisions with Zac Schippe and Andrew Deponte winning “A” Division and Jenny Kempton and Kyle Donnelly winning “B” division.

OCC competes in Region XIX of the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA).

Below is a complete list of Region XIX member schools:

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| Mercer                           | Ocean                                   | |
| Middlesex                        | Passaic                                 | |
| Ocean                             | Raritan Valley                          | |
| Passaic                          | Salem                                  | |
| Raritan Valley                   | Sussex                                 | |
| Salem                            | Union                                   | |
| Sussex                           |                                        | |
| Union                            |                                        | |
Coaching Milestones: Career 200 Wins and 150 Wins

Although Coach Ed McRae and Coach Robert Mazanec have not been at OCC long but they are no strangers to the game. Ed earned his 200th career win as a college coach on Saturday March 24, 2012 when Ocean County College won both games of the doubleheader against Delaware County Community College. Those wins earned him his 200th and 201st win in college baseball with a record of 201-94–2 on this level. Coach McRae was the head coach at Middlesex CC for 12 years and before that coached high school baseball teams and has notched his overall wins as a coach to 384 in total.

Coach Robert Mazanec reached a milestone on Saturday April 21, 2012, earning his 150th career win as a college coach when Ocean County College won both games of the doubleheader against Bergen County Community College. These games earned him his 149th and 150th win in softball on the college level. Coach Mazanec was the head coach at Georgian Court University and College of St. Elizabeth before coming to coach at Ocean County College in the 2010 season.

Swim Teams Save the Best Performances for Postseason

This year’s teams led by the coaching staff of Steve Stout and Lauren Stoltzfus came on strong at the end of the season where many of the swimmers earned their personal best times while at the NJCAA National Championships in Ft. Pierce Fl.

The mens team finished 3rd in the Non-Scholarship Division and 10th overall at the championship meet, while the womens team finished 6th in the Non-Scholarship Division and 12th overall representing Ocean County College on the National level. Congratulations to the teams on their successful season.

Swim Team Honorable Mention All Americans: Alexandra Penczuk, Patricia Keene, Brianne Voorhees, Nicole Haines, Samantha Sabo, Gene Tutzaur, Kyle Everson, Nicholas Brow, Corey Matthews, Andrew Bajor, Raymond Newman, Paul Samaniego

OCC Viking Athletics Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Athletic Director</td>
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<td>Darlene LaMonica</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kirk Pericciuoli (Head Coach)</td>
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<td>Steve Stout (Head Coach)</td>
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<td>Lauren Stoltzfus (Assistant Coach)</td>
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Summer 2012 Athletics Update
By the Numbers:
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2011-12 ATHLETIC SEASON AT OCEAN COUNTY COLLEGE

94 Academic All-Conference student-athletes (3.0+ GPA)

68 Academic All-Region student-athletes (3.25+ GPA)

9 Teams with a 3.0+ team GPA

31 All-Region athletes

27 All-Conference athletes

22 All-American athletes

17 Academic Achievement Honoree Awards (3.60-4.00 GPA with 45 or more credits)

3 Players selected in their own sport as Region XIX Player of the Year: Taylor Mize (Soccer); Elizabeth Lawler and JaMario Clayton (Basketball)

3rd Place Women’s Soccer finished at NJCAA Nationals; the team was also Region XIX & GSAC Champions

3rd Place Women’s Cross Country finished at NJCAA Nationals; the team was also Region XIX Champions

3 Tennis players won their flights and were named NJCAA National Champions: Mikaela Louise Chua, Annmarie Wodell, and Kaitlyn Scrudato

3rd Place Women’s Tennis finished at NJCAA Nationals; the team was also GSAC Champions

6th Place that Men’s Cross Country finished at NJCAA Nationals; the team was also Region XIX & GSAC Champions

10th Place that Men’s Golf finished at NJCAA Nationals; the team was also GSAC Champions

10th Place that Men’s Swimming finished at NJCAA Nationals (and 3rd in the non-scholarship division)

12th Place that Women’s Swimming finished at NJCAA Nationals (and 6th in the non-scholarship division)

1 Regional Championship Tournament held at OCC. The Region XIX Men’s & Women’s Soccer Tournament was held in October 2011; the 2012 tournament will also be held at Ocean County Stadium on Oct. 26-27.

For More Information:
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Office Manager:
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- Athletic Department 732.255.0345
- www.ocean.edu (click “Athletics” in the Quick-link area)
- OceanTV20 on Comcast
- www.njcaa.org
- www.region19.org

Visit Ocean County College’s “First Year Student” website at www.ocean.edu/fy.

With explanations of what should be completed in each phase of your first year at the college, the website answers what you want to know and what you should know to succeed.