

May 3, 2003
For Immediate Release
Contact: Julie Work

OAC Announces 2003 Softball Award Winners



Ohio Athletic Conference

Baldwin-Wallace College



Capital University



Heidelberg College



John Carroll University



Marietta College



Mount Union College



Muskingum College



Ohio Northern University



Otterbein College



Wilmington College

Timothy W. Gleason
Commissioner

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 400
Twinsburg, Ohio 44087

Phone: (330) 963-0444

Fax: (330) 963-0459

Web Site: www.oac.org

Commissioner's E-mail:
twg@oac.org

General E-mail:
oac@oac.org

Twinsburg, OH -- Muskingum and Baldwin-Wallace each had players earn an Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) 2003 softball special award. Muskingum senior first baseman **Mandy Carnes (Weirton, WV/Weir)** was voted the 2003 Gayle Lauth OAC Player of the Year and freshman pitcher **Erica Hoyt (Tipp City/Bethel)** is the recipient of the 2003 John Wells OAC Pitcher of the Year award. Baldwin-Wallace freshman catcher **Nicole Loudin (Sheffield Lake/Elyria Catholic)** was voted the 2003 Bob Jordan OAC Rookie of the Year. All three awards are voted on by the league coaches.

Gayle Lauth OAC Player of the Year

Senior first baseman **Mandy Carnes** earned this award for the second straight year. Carnes set the NCAA Division III mark for career home runs earlier this season, smashing her 50th homer on April 1. As of May 1, Carnes has 58 career home runs.

Carnes batted .547 in 18 Conference games this season. She blasted eight home runs, racked up 27 runs and 25 RBI against OAC competition. Carnes became the first Musky softball player to be named a Division III Louisville Slugger/NFCA Player of the Week in 2002 and again was awarded that honor in 2003.

Carnes is a three-time National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-America selection and is looking to make a fourth straight bid for the honor.

John Wells OAC Pitcher of the Year

Muskingum freshman **Erica Hoyt** made an immediate impact on the mound for Musky softball program this season. In her rookie year, Hoyt tallied a perfect 10-0 mark against Conference competition, allowed just six earned runs en route to a 0.77 earned run average against OAC opponents. Prior to the OAC Tournament, Hoyt was leading the Conference with 16 overall wins.

This is the second straight year that a Muskingum player has earned this honor.

Bob Jordan OAC Rookie of the Year

Baldwin-Wallace freshman catcher **Nicole Loudin** helped lead the Yellow Jackets to their 14th appearance in the OAC Tournament. In 16 Conference games played, Loudin led the squad with a .442 batting average. She tallied 23 hits, including six home runs, 13 runs scored and 22 runs-batted in. Loudin set the school record for homers in a season with nine and RBI with 39.

All three awards are in their second year of existence.

The Player of the Year award is named in honor Gayle Lauth, who was an administrator of women's sports at Ohio Northern for 32 years. The Pitcher of the Year award is named in honor of the late John Wells, long-time pitching coach at Muskingum College. The Rookie of the Year award is named in honor of the late Bob Jordan an assistant coach Mount Union College.

**NOTE: OAC Coach of the Year will be announced
on Monday, May 5.**

#jw#

All-OAC Softball Team

Carnes Becomes Third Muskingum Player to Four-Peat on All-OAC Softball First Team

Twinsburg, OH -- Muskingum senior first baseman **Mandy Carnes (Weirton, WV/Weir)** became the third Muskingum player to make four straight appearances on the All-Ohio Athletic Conference First Team.

Carnes joins former Muskie standouts **Amy Tostenson (1987-90)** and **Melissa Fisher (1985-88)** as the three Muskingum players to earn All-OAC First Team honors all four years.

Carnes, a three-time National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-America selection, hit .547 in 18 OAC regular-season games played. She hit a league-leading 12 home runs against league opponents, while scoring 45 runs and tallying 42 runs-batted in. Carnes helped the Muskies to their fourth undefeated league season in 2003 (2000, 1999 and 1992).

The All-OAC Softball Team is selected by the league coaches. The following lists the 2002 All-OAC Softball Team.

FIRST TEAM

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Name, School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
C	Nicole Loudin, Baldwin-Wallace	Fr.	Sheffield Lake/Elyria Catholic
1B	Mandy Carnes, Muskingum +^*	Sr.	Weirton, WV/Weir
2B	Abby Jackson, Ohio Northern	Jr.	Wauseon
SS	Evie Evans, Baldwin-Wallace !^\$	Sr.	Painesville/Harvey
3B	Amanda Carroll, Capital +	Jr.	Grove City
OF	Justyn Hayes, Otterbein	Sr.	Baltimore/Liberty Union
OF	Bridget Knazek, John Carroll	So.	Parma Hts./Valley Forge
OF	Erin Zupko, Muskingum !^	Jr.	Girard/Liberty
DP	Nicole Blubaugh, Muskingum	So.	New Lexington
UP	Kara Kreisher, Ohio Northern	Fr.	Conneaut/Edgewood
	Zakiya Murphy, Mount Union	Sr.	Columbus/Northland
P	Candice Miller, Marietta	Jr.	Cuyahoga Falls
P	Erica Hoyt, Muskingum	Fr.	Tipp City/Bethel

SECOND TEAM

C	Amy Orahoad, Capital +\$	Sr.	Grove City
1B	Cari Dean, Otterbein !^	Sr.	Canal Winchester
2B	Danielle LoVaglio, John Carroll	Jr.	Cincinnati/Mt. Notre Dame
SS	Katie Fazekas, Heidelberg	Jr.	Tiffin/Columbian
3B	Shauna Jellison, Muskingum	Jr.	Zanesville/Maysville
OF	Seka Lewis, Heidelberg	Sr.	Proctorville
OF	Candace Frederick, Mount Union	Sr.	Vermilion
OF	Kim Petro, John Carroll	Fr.	Brooklyn/Holy Name
DP	Jamie Wallace, Capital	So.	Wintersville/Indian Creek
UP	Bridget Knazek, John Carroll	So.	Parma Hts./Valley Forge
P	Angie Lowe, Otterbein !%	Sr.	Sullivan/Black River
P	Deana McKee, Capital +	Jr.	Utica/Licking Valley

KEY:

+2002 First Team !2002 Second Team ^2001 First Team
 %2001 Second Team *2000 First Team \$2000 Second Team