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Timothy W. Gleason, Commissioner

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For Immediate Release
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Muskingum's Waller Named November OAC Scholar-Athlete of the Month

Twinsburg, OH- Muskingum senior football player **Mark Waller (Waterford)** has been named the Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) Scholar-Athlete of the Month for November.

In its seventh year of existence, the OAC Scholar-Athlete of the Month honors an exceptional student-athlete on a monthly basis. Criteria for the award consist of the student-athlete being a junior or senior status, competition in a sport that is in-season, sportsmanlike conduct and carrying at least a cumulative grade-point average (gpa) of 3.0.

Waller, a defensive back, is the epitome of the student-athlete. Waller, an Academic All-Ohio Athletic Conference and Academic All-District IV honoree in 2003, carries a 3.88 grade-point average in computer science and economics.

Waller's devotion on and off the field is a quality admired and respected by his teammates and coaches. In 2003, he was the Muskies' third leading tackler with 65 stops and was second on the team in interceptions with four. Additionally, Waller started all 10 games, logging four pass break-ups and recovering two fumbles, while forcing one.

"Mark has been a tremendous student-athlete for our football program over the past four years. I think the thing that comes to my mind about Mark is his total dedication in the classroom and on the field," said Head football Coach Jeff Heacock. "He's a hard worker, who is competitive, dedicated, and highly motivated to be the best he can possible be."

This season Waller demonstrated his relentless commitment as he battled back from an early-season injury, which caused him to miss four games.

"Mark fought through a stress fracture in his foot this year and never missed a practice, never missed a meeting, and was always in tune to what the team was doing. Because of that, he was able to come back as a starter and play in mid-season form," said Heacock.

Waller's outstanding achievements in the classroom and on the gridiron enabled him to attain a nationally prestigious post-graduate job with IBM in Boulder, Colorado.

"Mark is a winner in everything he does. He's a credit not only to the football program but to Muskingum College and the Ohio Athletic Conference," added Heacock.

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Muskingum Sports Information Director Tom Caudill is credited for this feature

Baldwin-Wallace College ● Capital University ● Heidelberg College ● John Carroll University ● Marietta College
Mount Union College ● Muskingum College ● Ohio Northern University ● Otterbein College ● Wilmington College