

OAC Scholar-Athlete-of-the-Month

Andie Pautsch, Otterbein ♦ Cross Country



Courtesy of Otterbein Sports Information Department



Andie Pautsch

Otterbein junior distance runner Andie Pautsch (Reynoldsburg/Reynoldsburg H.S.) has been named the Ohio Athletic Conference Scholar-Athlete-of-the-Month for January.

Pautsch, an athletic training major who has appeared on the Dean's List all seven terms since arriving

at Otterbein, has most definitely performed at a high level both on and off the running surface.

Preparing to begin her third indoor track season, she will be looking to build on last year's campaign in which she earned All-OAC honors by finishing second in the 5,000 meters.

In addition to capturing all-conference and all-region honors in cross country this past fall, she won the 3,000 meter steeplechase at last spring's OAC outdoor meet.

However, it may be her approach and mentality off the field that makes her such a special student-athlete.

In addition to running year round and staying responsible with her studies, Pautsch also serves as a student trainer with the Otterbein women's soccer team. Required to log 150 athletic training hours per quarter, or the equivalent of 12-16 per week, the Reynoldsburg native has made sure to manage and devote her time accordingly.

"When I'm running, I'm focusing on running; when I'm with the soccer team, I focus on them; when I'm doing school work, I focus on that," Pautsch explained. "Each different part of my life needs 100 percent of that time, so I can't worry about something else during those times. I just have a great passion for all of it, so I find a way to get it done."

Due to various obligations and responsibilities that accompany her major, Pautsch has been unable to

attend track and cross country practices on a regular basis. Therefore, she is often forced to train on her own time.

"When you get into that situation, it takes a lot of discipline," said head coach Dave Lehman. "You're on your own, so it can be easy to miss a workout because you don't have your teammates there to run with. She's been very dedicated to get out there and get her training done."

Pautsch also reflected on her situation of having to train independently.

"I know that if I want to compete at a high level, I have to get out there and run at any time, whether it's 6 a.m., after dinner, or any other time," she said. "I have to find it within myself to have that drive."

With Pautsch having more than a year still remaining at Otterbein, Lehman recognizes the special athlete that he's been fortunate enough to coach.

Thoughts for the Month



Until you do little details carefully, you will never do the big things correctly.

Why is it that when people tell us something for our own good, they never seem to have anything good to tell us.

