



OAC Scholar-Athlete-of-the-Month
Austin Stiles, Wilmington ★ Track/Cross Country

Courtesy of Wilmington Sports Information Department

Wilmington College senior Austin Stiles has been named the Ohio Athletic Conference Scholar-Athlete-of-the-Month for February.

In everything he does, Stiles (Johnstown/Johnstown-Monroe) is in it for the long run. As an athlete, he has established himself as one of the top distance runners in school history. In the classroom, the senior maintains a 3.7 GPA as a communications/public relations major.

On campus, Stiles is ubiquitous.

“It was important to me to be active on campus,” Stiles said. “As soon as I got here I started building my resume’. I wanted to be a part of as many things as I could. I wanted to make a difference.”

Mission accomplished. A full-time occupant of the Dean’s List, Stiles has been involved with Athletes In Action, Student Government Association, and is sports editor of the WC student newspaper The Witness. Stiles also has been actively involved in recruiting other student-athletes to Wilmington.



“It’s been fun to help people find Wilmington,” Stiles said. “They can relate to athletes on the phone. It’s different than just talking to a coach all the time.”

Stiles is coming off an incredible 2009 year that included a place on the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Association All-Academic Team. Stiles also earned Academic All-OAC honors and garnered his third All-OAC cross country honor. He closed the year by setting a new Wilmington College indoor mile record.

How does Stiles follow up on a dazzling 2009? Begin 2010 as the OAC Scholar-Athlete-of-the Month. And there will likely be more distinctions ahead.

“This is a great honor for Austin and for our program,” Wilmington cross country and track and field head coach Ron Combs said. “This just illustrates why he is such a success, both as a runner and a student. He works really hard at it, and that’s why he is so successful in both facets of his life. Austin is a quiet, but strong leader. He steps up and leads by example. He just sets a great example for the rest of the team to follow.”

Thoughts for the Month



Enough is what most of us would be glad to have if we didn’t see others with more.



Your worst enemies are not those who disagree with you -- they’re the ones who pretend to agree with you.



OAC Track Coaches’ Proposal on Hold

The proposal to allow each OAC member to enter four athletes per event instead of having to achieve performance standards for both the indoor and outdoor championships has been put on hold. The OAC Presidents Council will decide the matter at its spring (May 26) meeting.