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For Immediate Release

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Baldwin-Wallace's Hedges Named September OAC Scholar-Athlete of the Month

Austintown, OH—Baldwin-Wallace senior running back **Brandon Hedges (Oregon/Clay)** has been named the Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) Scholar-Athlete of the Month for September.

In its ninth 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 of sophomore, 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.



Hedges is on the brink of making history in the tradition-rich Yellow Jacket football program, but he could care less. He enters the 2006 season 910 yards shy of breaking Mark Anders (2001-2003) career rushing record of 2,657 yards and has 1,747 rushing yards with 20 touchdowns. To Hedges, the numbers are pleasing. But what would please Hedges more is to help the Yellow Jackets win the Ohio Athletic Conference title and return to NCAA Division III Playoff contention.

“Our goal is to win the OAC title and return the program to the NCAA Division III Playoffs,” said Hedges, who carries a 3.4 grade average in sport and fitness management and is an All-OAC player and two-time Academic All-OAC and ESPN *The Magazine* Academic All-District IV student-athlete. “If setting records is a part of the success, then that is great, but my first priority is the team and helping it be successful.”

As a sophomore, Hedges was one of the best runners in both the OAC and North Region of Division III as he ran for 1,162 yards and 13 TD and was tabbed First Team All-OAC. That season, he set a school single-season record with 225 rushing attempts. A year ago, Hedges began the season with an injury and alternated most of the year with current junior Brad Rhoden. He ran for a team-high 517 yards and seven TD.

In addition to having run for 1,747 career yards, Hedges has caught 33 passes for 304 yards and two TD and has 2,072 total all-purpose yards. En route to his gaudy numbers, Hedges has twice earned the OAC Offensive Player of the Week award and in 2004 became the first B-W player to ever pull off the triple of winning the Dick Miller Community Night Player of the Game Award, the Frank Ropollo Homecoming Player of the Game and the Al Koran Temple/ Shriners' Player of the Game.

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