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For Immediate Release

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OAC Announces Baseball Special Awards and All-OAC Teams

Twinsburg, OH -- Marietta swept the 2005 Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) baseball player special awards with senior outfielder **Chris Sidick (Cecil, PA/Canon McMillan)** being voted the 2005 Jack Rafeld OAC Player-of-the-Year and junior hurler **Mike DeMark (Jeanette, PA/Penn-Trafford)** being named the 2005 Kent Tekulve OAC Pitcher-of-the-Year. Wilmington Head Coach **Tony Haley** was voted the 2005 OAC Don Schaly Coach-of-the-Year. All awards are voted on by the League coaches at their annual spring meeting held in conjunction with the OAC Tournament.

Jack Rafeld OAC Player-of-the-Year

Marietta senior outfielder **Chris Sidick** became the fourth Pioneer to be named the Jack Rafeld Player-of-the-Year in back-to-back years. He joins Joe Thomas who won two straight POY awards in 1996 and 1997, Josh Streit in both 1998 and 1999 and most recently, Jay Coakley capturing this honor in 2001 and 2002. It is the 28th annual award presentation of the Jack Rafeld Award, which honors the OAC's most outstanding baseball player.

The award is named in honor of one of Mount Union's most successful coaches. Jack Rafeld served in various capacities from 1946-79 in Mount Union's physical education and athletics department. In 30 years as the baseball coach, Rafeld guided the Purple Raiders to a 304-220-3 overall record.

As of May 12, Sidick was leading the team in batting average (.391), slugging percentage (.775), on-base percentage (.509), runs scored (51), triples (7), home runs (11), total bases (107), walks (31) and stolen bases (26). Sidick was ranked in the top-five of the Conference in batting average, hits, runs scored, triples, home runs, total bases and stolen bases. Sidick was named to the Rawlings ABCA All-America Second Team a year ago.

Sidick is the 16th Pioneer player to be named the Jack Rafeld OAC Player-of-the-Year. Since 1996, either a Marietta or Heidelberg student-athlete has been awarded this honor.

Kent Tekulve OAC Pitcher-of-the-Year

Marietta junior pitcher **Mike DeMark** has been named the 2005 Kent Tekulve Pitcher-of-the-Year for the first time in his career. He is the fourth Pioneer hurler to earn this award. A Pioneer has earned this award eight out of the 11 years in which this honor has been presented.

The award is named after 1969 Marietta graduate Kent Tekulve, who spent 21 seasons playing professional baseball, including 17 seasons with the Pittsburgh Pirates. He was a key member of the Pirates' 1979 World Series championship team, setting a major league record with three saves in the Series against Baltimore. He broke Hoyt Wilhelm's record of 1,018 career relief appearances. Tekulve finished his professional career with 1,050 games played, 184 saves and a 94-90 record.

DeMark improved his overall mark to 10-0 after a complete-game win on the opening day of the OAC Tournament. Overall, DeMark has appeared in 16 contests, starting 10, with four complete games and two saves in 73.2 innings of work. He leads the team and the OAC with 74 strikeouts on the year. DeMark was named to the Rawlings ABCA All-America Second Team a year ago.

Don Schaly Coach-of-the-Year

Wilmington Head Coach **Tony Haley** has been selected as the Don Schaly OAC Coach-of-the-Year for the first time in his career. Haley has led the Quakers to four straight winning seasons, including two seasons with 20 or more wins (2003 and 2005). On April 28, Haley picked up his 100th career win. Haley led the Quakers to their first-ever OAC Tournament appearance in 2005.

The award is named in honor of one of the OAC's and NCAA's most successful coaches, Marietta's Don Schaly. Schaly, who passed away earlier this year, graduated from Marietta in 1959 and coached at the school for 40 years. On May 4, 2002, Schaly became just the third coach in NCAA baseball history to amass 1,400 career victories. His .814 winning percentage (1,442-329) ranks him as the winningest baseball coach in the NCAA (all divisions).

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2005 All-OAC Baseball Teams

Twinsburg, OH -- A pair of seniors, Heidelberg third baseman **Jon Hatfield (Crestline)** and Marietta outfielder **Chris Sidick (Cecil, PA/Canon McMillan)**, have been named to the All-Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) Baseball First Team for the third straight year. A total of 45 student-athletes have been selected to the three teams.

The All-OAC Baseball Team is selected by League coaches at their annual spring meeting held in conjunction with the OAC Tournament. The 2005 All-OAC Baseball Teams are listed below.

FIRST TEAM

<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Name, School</u>	<u>Yr.</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
DH	Bobby Wright, Otterbein	So.	Grove City/Westland
UT	Ryan Gelhaus, Heidelberg	Sr.	Columbus/St. Charles
UT	Mike Turchan, Baldwin-Wallace*	Sr.	Mayfield Hts./Mayfield
C	Lee Guerrero, Marietta	Jr.	Wolcott, CT
1B	Tyler Shaw, Otterbein	Sr.	Delaware/Olentangy
2B	Mike Satanek, Otterbein %	Sr.	North Olmsted/St. Edward
3B	Jon Hatfield, Heidelberg *+	Sr.	Crestline
3B	Scott Ringhiser, Muskingum *	Sr.	Grove City/Orient
SS	Bill Rockwell, Muskingum	So.	Mentor/Mayfield
OF	Adam Hesler, Muskingum \$	Jr.	Pleasant/Marion
OF	Chris Sidick, Marietta *+	Sr.	Cecil, PA/Canon McMillan
OF	Jimmy Williams, Heidelberg *@	Sr.	Mansfield/Madison
P	Mike DeMark, Marietta *	Jr.	Jeanette, PA/Penn-Trafford
P	Mike Mooney, Marietta *#	Sr.	Pittsburgh, PA/Shady Side Academy
P	Justin Papania, Marietta ^	Sr.	Butler, PA

SECOND TEAM

DH	Mike Cafarella, Wilmington	Jr.	Beavercreek
C	Ben Butler, Wilmington	So.	Beavercreek/Carroll
1B	Nathan Prati, Muskingum #	Sr.	Tiltonsville/Buckeye Local
2B	Kyle Leatherman, Heidelberg \$	Sr.	Ottawa/Ottawa-Glandorf
3B	Ben Buehner, Wilmington ^	Jr.	Germantown/Valley View
SS	Zack Welch, Marietta	Fr.	Vincent/Warren
OF	Jacob Butler, Capital	So.	Newark/Licking Valley
OF	Dan Melito, Baldwin-Wallace ^	Jr.	Massillon/Washington
OF	Tony Piconke, Marietta	Fr.	Clinton Twp., MI/Clintondale
OF	A.J. Schlea, Heidelberg \$	Jr.	Gibsonburg/Woodmore
P	Robert Benjamin, Otterbein ^@!	Sr.	Powell/Olentangy
P	Matt Fort, John Carroll	Fr.	Garfield Hts./Trinity
P	Jamison George, Wilmington	So.	Washington C.H./Miami Trace
P	Greg McKenzie, Muskingum	Sr.	Mansfield/Madison
P	Dan Remenowsky, Otterbein	Fr.	Cincinnati/Moeller

HONORABLE MENTION

C	Tyler Tocco, Heidelberg	So.	Dublin/Coffman
1B	Eric Floriani, John Carroll ^#	Sr.	Greensburg, PA/Hempfield
2B	Ryan Belanger, Marietta	So.	Coldwater, MI
2B	Ryan Hutchison, Capital	Fr.	Columbus/Whitehall-Yearling
3B	Graham Holmberg, Capital	So.	Newark
3B	Justin Steranka, Marietta	Jr.	Pittsburgh, PA/Mt. Lebanon
SS	Paul Day, Ohio Northern	So.	Dayton/Carroll
SS	Greg Krieger, Wilmington	So.	Bellefontaine
SS	Ben Titus, Otterbein	Fr.	Bowling Green
OF	Brent Bird, Wilmington	Sr.	Columbus/Hilliard Darby
OF	Mike Farrell, Baldwin-Wallace ^	Jr.	Wickliffe
OF	Matt Hunter, Otterbein @	Sr.	Norwalk
P	Shawn Kerek, Mount Union	So.	Stow
P	Jeff Long, Heidelberg *	Sr.	Hudson
P	Tim Newman, Mount Union	Sr.	Canton/GlenOak

KEY: *2004 First Team ... ^2004 Second Team...\$2004 Honorable Mention...+2003 First Team...

@2003 Second Team...#2003 Honorable Mention...!2002 First Team...%2002 Second Team