

ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS (Table 2.3.3) 2002-03

It was another good year in athletics for the men and women of Oregon Institute of Technology. Top billing went to basketball where the men won their first 22 games of the season (team record), and for the first time in school history was ranked number one in the NAIA Division II poll and they stayed on top for nine weeks! Coach Dan Miles' club finished 27-7 with another trip to the national tournament where they got to the "Sweet Sixteen." Todd Matthews was named Cascade Conference Player of the Year and Kevin Baker was selected to the All-Conference team; both were named as All-Americans. Matthews, Chris Johnson and Florian Houguet were named to the NAIA Academic-All American squad.

The Oregon Tech women's program was brought back after a 12 year hiatus as coach Tom Loney's ladies surprised everyone with a second place finish. The Lady Owls achieved a 20-11 record and rewrote the record book in their first campaign in more than a decade. Jaime Stanford was selected to the Cascade All-Conference team while Katya Spiecker, Pam Frei, and Jennie Kooch were honorable mention. Spiecker and Frei were selected to the NAIA Academic All-American team.

Women's soccer, under first year coach Kevin Sims, compiled its best record in the third year of the program as Tech went 10-10. All-league selections went to: Courtney Kelley (1st team), Stacey Lambert (2nd team) and Becky Ernstrom (2nd team). Kelley, Lambert, Sacha Erb and Andrea Jackson were selected to the NAIA Academic All-American squad.

The volleyball team once again made the playoffs under first year head coach Amanda Mitzner. The team was 19-10 overall as Bree Pollard was named to the 1st team all-conference team while teammate Danielle Dobey received honorable mention. Pollard was an Academic All-American selection.

In cross country, Perry Custance qualified to run nationals for the second time in three years.

Indoor track and field saw Bryan Quinn made NAIA All-American when he finished 4th in the national championship meet. Quinn has twice been All-American in the outdoor event.

A very young softball team, with only one senior, was again in the hunt to win a Cascade Conference championship. Tech has won the championship in six of the last eight years. Lois Shoemaker and Jennifer Harris were named Academic All-Americans.

In the second year since baseball was reinstated, Oregon Tech has made a remarkable improvement as they are close to making the Region 1 playoffs this year. Senior catcher Caleb Robbins was named to the All-American squad.

Track and Field saw Kasey Jones win the Cascade Conference Heptathlon for the second consecutive year. The women's track squad won its first ever Cascade Conference championship. The men finished third in their competition. Nick Bakke became only the second OIT athlete to win a national championship. The junior from Ashland won the javelin. Bakke and Jones were named All-Americans. Bakke, Perry Custance and Deveny West were selected to the Academic-All America team.

SOURCE: OIT Athletics, Recreation and Fitness Center