



### Precious Blood Sisters elect new leadership

The Sisters of the Precious Blood of Dayton officially installed their newly elected leaders during a Sunday Mass on Aug. 7. The new leadership team includes (from left) Sister Nancy Kinross, CppS, vice president and secretary; Sister Mary Yarger, CppS, councilor; Sister Joyce Lehman, CppS, president; and councilors Sister Linda Pleiman, CppS, and Sister Cecilia Taphorn, CppS.

Sister Joyce served as director of pastoral planning for the Diocese of Toledo (2000-2010) and leader for the Secretariat for Pastoral Leadership (2007-2010). She then became director of initial formation for the congregation. Sister Linda, in addition to being principal at Toledo Little Flower School, (1987-1989), taught social studies at

Toledo Central Catholic High School (1989 -2011). Sister Nancy served as the congregation's executive director for groundwork for a just world (1996-1997); managed Franciscan Haircuts from the Heart in Cincinnati (1996-2006); and most recently directed Tech Reach at Cincinnati Elder High School (2006-2011). Sister Cecilia worked in educational ministry for many years before ministering as pastoral associate at Delaware St. Mary Church (1991-2009). Sister Mary taught in various educational settings and directed physical education programs in California and Arizona. Most recently, she was an education specialist at Sherman Indian High School in Riverside, Calif., and a liturgy coordinator at Mission San Antonio de Pala in Pala, Calif.

### Charismatic Renewal Healing Mass

The diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal will sponsor a healing Mass on Sunday, Sept. 11, at Columbus St. Peter Church, 6899 Smoky Row Road.

Father Dean Mathewson, the bishop's liaison for charismatic renewal, will be celebrating with Fathers. Joe Losh and Justin Reis and Msgr. Robert Noon as concelebrants. The Rosary will

begin at 1:30 p.m., with praise and worship at 2 and the celebration of Mass at 3.

Prayer teams will be available during praise and worship for individual prayer needs, and the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available for those with serious illnesses during Mass. Fellowship will be provided after Mass.

For more information, call (614) 237-7080.

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### EAGLE SCOUT JOSEPH HARTGE



Joseph Hartge of Boy Scout Troop 317, sponsored by Gahanna St. Matthew Church, was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout after he and several Scouts and adults upgraded a memorial to two parishioners who gave their lives in service to the United States during the war in Iraq. The installation of brick pavers and benches increased the visibility and dignity of the memorial. Joe (center) is pictured with his older brothers Michael (left) and Frank, also Eagle Scouts from Troop 317

Photo courtesy Hartge family

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## Ohio Dominican found out last fall what it's like to play in NCAA

BY DOUG BEAN



Ohio Dominican coach Bill Conley knew it would be a whole new ballgame when his team moved to NCAA Division II for the NAIA for the 2010 season. And he was right.

In their first year in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, the Panthers finished with a 2-8 record.

For a program accustomed to success at the NAIA level, the losses were tough to swallow. The offense struggled to consistently move the ball at times and the defense was overpowered by some of the more physical teams.

As Ohio Dominican prepares to open its season Saturday at home against nonconference opponent St. Joseph's (Ind.), Conley expects the Panthers to be more competitive. They return 18 starters and have added several NCAA Division I transfers and 55 freshmen.

"I was really excited that our kids were able to be in every ballgame last year and win a couple," said Conley, a former Ohio State assistant who is in his second season at ODU.

"In a lot of ways, our kids played beyond their ability physically and mentally. This year, we're starting to catch up. Now we know the game and the system. The whole program has stepped up.

"Hopefully, that experience and maturity will help out this year."

The Panthers are starting to gain respect. In the GLIAC's preseason coaches' poll, they were picked fourth in the seven-team South Division.

"For a team that's only been a Division II team for one year, we're happy about that," Conley said. "I think this is the best Division II league in the country."

After going against Division II teams with skilled scholarship players, the Panthers dedicated themselves in the spring and summer to overcoming

their weaknesses.

"They worked hard in the weight room and did a lot of film study," Conley said. "I think there's a growing confidence that we can compete in the league, and the kids are getting bigger, faster, stronger. We know we've got to be more consistent.

"You step up to Division II and the players are more athletic. I guess the speed of the game is the biggest thing. It's faster. The complexity of the game changes, too. There's a huge mental preparation and understanding everything you're trying to accomplish on the field."

Safety Dominic Clegg, a sophomore from Columbus Bishop Watterson, said knowing what expect gives the Panthers more confidence.

"The whole atmosphere is we're ready to go. I think it's more excitement," Clegg said. "Last year, there might have been a little anxiety -- not sure what was going on, a little nervousness. This year, there's a little bit more excitement to get the season going."

Conley and his staff have worked to create a buzz about the program. The huge freshmen class and transfers from the University of Cincinnati, Bowling Green, Toledo, and Iowa reflect ODU's national recruiting efforts to attract better players.

"I think as a whole, Ohio

two-deep on defense and then a regular role at safety by mid-season. In the season finale, Clegg had 10 tackles against Indianapolis.

"I feel like I'm faster and stronger and I'm understanding the defense a whole lot better than last year," the 5-foot-10, 180-pound Clegg said. "And that should help me to try and make more plays."

Clegg appreciates that football isn't everything at ODU. Conley stresses academics and service to his players. In that respect, Clegg said, ODU is no different than Watterson.

One of the Panthers' community projects this past year was helping to build a playground at a nearby elementary school.

"Coach Conley definitely makes sure you understand what the program is all about," Clegg said. "He makes sure you know you're here for a degree, first of all. He helps us learn more about the game and he helps you prepare for life."

Those principles are reflected

#### GLIAC North Division (Predicted order of finish in preseason coaches' poll)

1. Grand Valley State
2. Michigan Tech
3. Saginaw Valley State
4. Northern Michigan
5. Northwood
6. Ferris State
7. Indianapolis

#### South Division

1. Wayne State
2. Ashland
3. Hillsdale
4. Ohio Dominican
5. (tie) Lake Erie, Findlay
6. Tiffin

on the team's goal board: team GPA of 3.0 or higher, beating the Ohio teams on the schedule, winning the GLIAC title, and, ultimately, competing for a national championship.

You have to have faith when you dream big.

### NCAA Grants Franciscan University of Steubenville Full Division III Membership

Baron Teams Now Eligible for Postseason Competition

Franciscan University of Steubenville is now a full-fledged NCAA member.

The news came in an Aug. 2 letter from Azure Davey, associate director of academic and membership affairs for NCAA Division III, who said the university had been granted active membership status effective Sept. 1. Beginning in the 2011-12 academic year, it will be eligible to participate in NCAA championship events.

Full membership will allow the university full voting privileges at the NCAA convention concerning NCAA policies and regulations, Davey said.

After a 24-year hiatus, the university began its quest to return to intercollegiate athletics in the spring of 2005, when its board of trustees voted unanimously to pursue NCAA Division III athletics.

The NCAA's customary four-year provisional membership period began in fall 2007. Soon afterward, the Franciscan University Barons joined the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference, which includes 10 schools in Pennsylvania, New York, and now, Ohio.

"This is great news for our student-athletes and

coaches, and great news for Baron fans everywhere," said the university's athletic director, Chris Ledyard. "I especially want to thank all the people in our community and at the university who have supported our efforts to bring NCAA athletics to Steubenville for the first time in our community's history."

"We know we are having an impact on the culture of NCAA sports with the high emphasis we place on human and Christian virtues."

For the 2011-12 school year, more than 250 Franciscan University student-athletes will be on 13 teams competing in intercollegiate women's and men's basketball, women's and men's cross country, women's and men's tennis, women's and men's track and field, women's and men's soccer, women's volleyball, women's swimming and diving, and softball. NCAA Division III student-athletes do not receive athletic scholarships.

Men's rugby, the university's 14th intercollegiate sport, competes in the Allegheny Rugby Union. Women's and men's NCAA lacrosse programs will begin competition as early as the 2012-13 school year.