



POWER PLAY

**Women's sports
hit their stride at Ohio**

Photographs by Scott Gardner

The women of Ohio Athletics are racking up the accolades. Building off last year's success, which saw the Bobcats capture the department's second-ever Jacoby Trophy, awarded to the Mid-American Conference school that best exemplifies excellence in women's athletics, the Ohio women have captured MAC championships in four sports this year: cross country, field hockey, swimming and diving, and volleyball (regular season).

It was the second-straight year that cross country and field hockey collected the league's crown, while swimming and diving won its 10th league title in school history and volleyball nabbed its fifth-consecutive regular-season trophy.

More than a few outstanding individual performances have highlighted the year. Field hockey goalkeeper Jesse Martin and volleyball standout Melissa Griffin both were named MAC Player of the Year, and Griffin was tabbed an honorable mention All-American by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

The honors have not been limited to Ohio's student-athletes. Cross country coach Clay Calkins and swimming and diving head coach Greg Werner both captured MAC Coach of the Year honors, while field hockey skipper Neil Macmillan was named West Region Coach of the Year.

— Jason Corriher



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Field hockey player Rachelle Coetzee takes command against a pair of Radford University opponents; Carime Reinhart (left) and Annie Beecham lead the pack at a cross country meet; and backstroker Leah Giancarli slices through Aquatic Center waters.

Calling all fans and friends

Are you interested in showing your support for women's sports? Ohio University's Women in Philanthropy has established a fund to support excellence and acknowledge strength and perseverance in women's athletics.

The Jody Galbreath Phillips Giving Circle is named for the first female chair of Ohio University's Board of Trustees and the largest individual donor in Ohio Athletics' history. Phillips passed away in April. (In Memoriam, Page 46.)

Contributions totaling nearly \$19,000 already have the fund well on its way toward a \$50,000 goal.

"We want to elevate the type of programs that we have and what we offer to the athletes to the level of the highest national institutions," says Stacia Taylor, BSC '82, chair of the effort.

To contribute to the Phillips Giving Circle, contact Maura Murphy, director of development for athletics, at 740-593-1119 or murphym@ohio.edu.

— Kylie Roman