



# Lady Patriots Record Historic Season

## Women's Soccer Advances to NCAA DII Regional Tournament

The 2012 season was a benchmark and year of firsts for the Dallas Baptist Lady Patriot Soccer Team. Among numerous team and individual honors and recognitions, the Lady Patriots earned their first Heartland Conference Tournament Title, hosted an NCAA Division II Regional for the first time, and finished the season with an NCAA Division II ranking of 17.

DBU started 2012 with a bang, running off four straight wins in non-conference play. The following week produced a pair of tough losses, first to the University of Central Oklahoma and then in the conference opener at St. Edward's.

Following the St. Edward's loss, Patriot Head Coach Michelle Lenard made the statement, "we'll bounce back," and her Lady Patriots did that and more. Following the two losses, DBU rattled off 14 consecutive wins, 10 of those in shutout fashion.

After earning the Heartland Conference Regular Season Co-Championship, the Lady Patriots traveled to St. Edward's for the conference tournament and avenged their earlier

loss to the Hilltoppers, winning 1-0 for the Heartland Tournament Title.

Following the conference tournament, the DBU club hosted the NCAA South Central Regional for the first time, but were upset by 15th-ranked Colorado School of Mines in the second round. Heading into the tournament, the Lady Patriots reached their highest ranking of the season, topping at No. 4 in the national poll.

"Although it was not the finish we hoped for, we are very proud of the season we had," said Lenard. "We are still very young, but we will learn from this experience and be better next year."

Junior Danielle Presley was the top scorer on the 2012 squad, earning a team-leading 19 goals, good enough for Heartland Conference Offensive Player of the Year honors.

Sophomore Jake Cox was named Heartland Co-Defensive Player of the Year, with Lindsey Eccles named Co-Freshman of the Year. Presley and Cox were joined by Sophomore Lea Sedwick, Freshman Annie Wells, Senior Andrea Hutchins, and Sophomore Kerry Edwards on the All-Conference First Team.

Senior Baylie Hill and Freshman Ashley Cox were each named to the Heartland All-Conference Second Team. Hill was a repeat winner, along with Sedwick and Hutchins. Edwards, 18-3-0 with 11 shutouts in goal, and Jake Cox improved on their Second Team awards from last season.

Likewise, Hutchins was named to the NCAA Division II Women's Soccer All-American Second Team by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. Sedwick was named an NCAA Division II Second Team All-American, while Presley was named a Third Team All-American.

Sedwick was also recognized by

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#### LADY PATRIOT VOLLEYBALL

- Finished regular season with an 11-3 record in conference play.
- Advanced to Heartland Conference Tournament as No. 2 seed.
- **Kristin Secord** (Senior): All-Heartland Conference Team.
- **Erika Papadeas** (Sophomore): All-Heartland Conference Team.

Capital One CoSIDA, being named to their Academic All-District Team, finishing the year with 12 goals, second on the team, while carrying a sparkling 4.0 grade point average.

The Lady Patriots graduate just three seniors from the 2012 club,

## Volleyball Advances to Heartland Tournament

The 2012 Lady Patriot Volleyball season was quietly one of the most successful in program history. Head Coach Cathy Kokel and her team lost only nine matches on the season to go along with 19 wins. The team finished the regular season of Heartland Conference play as the second-place team and the No. 2 seed in the conference tournament. The Lady Patriots never lost more than two matches in a row and, at one point, the Lady Patriots put together a seven-game winning streak, including wins in their first four Heartland Conference contests. "This was a team that would not quit," said Kokel. "The season was a grind, and we had to fight through some injuries, but this group of ladies had a great competitive spirit and put together a season that this program can be proud of."

During the regular season, several Lady Patriots garnered individual weekly honors with Freshman Tadam Mergener picking up an early season Heartland Conference Hitter of the

and next year will have 10 returning players who started at least 10 games in 2012. The 2013 Patriots will enter with more experience, looking to improve on a solid 18-3-0 record, and defend their Heartland Conference Championship.

Week award, with Senior Kristin Secord and Junior Cameron Hartson closing out the regular season with Hitter and Libero of the Week awards, respectively.

Even though the season ended with a first-round loss in the conference tournament, the eight losses in the regular season is the lowest total in the program's NCAA history. Senior Kristin Secord and Sophomore Erika Papadeas were both named to the All-Heartland Conference Team for their efforts with Secord finishing her final season as a Lady Patriot by ranking in the Top 3 among conference participants in attack percentage, kills per set, and blocks per set. "Kristin is going to be hard to replace," said Kokel. "But to have the type of season we had and only have one senior on the court is exciting for the future of DBU Volleyball. We will return a lot of key players next fall, and we are looking forward to getting back on the court and getting back to work."

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## LADY PATRIOT SOCCER

- Finished the season with an overall 18-3-0 record.
- Earned club's first Heartland Conference Tournament Championship.
- Advanced to and hosted the 2012 NCAA Division II Women's Soccer South Central Regional Tournament.

## HONORS & AWARDS

- **Lea Sedwick** (Sophomore): Division II Second Team All-American; Capital One CoSIDA Academic All-District for her 4.0 GPA; Heartland All-Conference First Team.
- **Danielle Presley** (Junior): Division II Third Team All-American; Heartland Conference Offensive Player of the Year; Heartland All-Conference First Team.
- **Andrea Hutchins** (Senior): NSCAA Division II Second Team All-American; Heartland All-Conference First Team.
- **Jake Cox** (Sophomore): Heartland Co-Defensive Player of the Year; Heartland All-Conference First Team.
- **Lindsey Eccles** (Freshman): Heartland Conference Co-Freshman of the Year.
- **Kerry Edwards** (Sophomore) and **Annie Wells** (Freshman): Heartland All-Conference First Team.
- **Baylie Hill** (Senior) and **Ashley Cox** (Freshman): Heartland All-Conference Second Team.

