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# PATRIOT & LADY PATRIOT SOCCER

The 2013-14 Men and Women's Soccer Teams found a high level of success this season both collectively and individually, with the women's team competing for a national title and the men's team building upon the success of their inaugural season.

On the women's side, the team finished their campaign one win shy of an NCCAA National Championship, falling to Azusa Pacific in overtime. This thrilling game capped off a historic and memorable season.

The 2013 season was full of dramatic wins and late-game heroics, perhaps none more-so than sophomore, Dixie Kurrus' goal at the NCCAA National Tournament, when she knocked in the game-winning shot in the final 39 seconds of a 1-0 win over Palm Beach Atlantic.

Another thrilling finish occurred in the Patriots home opener when sophomore Lindsey Eccles netted the game-winning goal in a 1-0 overtime win over West Texas A&M. Overall, DBU finished 4-4 in contests decided by one-goal this year and were 1-1-1 in three overtime matches.

Senior Danielle Presley, who boasted a team-high in several categories for the offense, led the Patriots offensively

in 2013, totaling 42 points including 17 goals and eight assists. Sophomore Ashley Cox joined Presley as the only other Patriot to score in double-digits in goals, netting 10 goals and matching a career-high 26 points. DBU finished the season 10-0 in matches that Cox scored in.

On the defensive side, junior Kerry Edwards collected a career-high 16 shutouts at goalkeeper. The three-year starter grabbed 57 saves on the year and broke the 200-save mark in the NCCAA National Tournament.

During the NCCAA tournament several DBU players were named to All-American and All-Tournament Teams, including All-America First Team members Presley, Edwards, and Lea Sedwick, and All-Tournament Team members Ashley Cox joined Presley and Sedwick.

Sedwick was also announced as the Most Outstanding Defensive Player of the NCCAA National Championship Tournament. As a program, the Dallas Baptist Team earned the NISOA Sportsmanship Award.

Following the 2013 season, several members of the Dallas Baptist Women's Soccer Team earned Heartland Conference recognition. Eight players were named to the All-Heartland

Conference Team, including First Teamers: Danielle Presley, Ashley Cox, Lea Sedwick, Megan McDermand, and Emile MacDonald. Three Patriots were also named to the Second Team including: Jessica Salas, Jake Cox, and Kerry Edwards. Presley and MacDonald earned Heartland Conference Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year, respectively.

As six-year head coach, Michelle Lenard stated following the championship match, "This was another record year for the program, and we certainly continue to move in the right direction."

Meanwhile, in 2013, the Dallas Baptist Men's Soccer Team entered their second season in the Heartland Conference and NCAA Division II level. After posting four wins in their inaugural season, DBU topped that record with six victories in 2013, including four coming in the Heartland. The Patriots claimed a winning record at home (4-3) and finished .500 in conference action (4-4-1); which were both first-time achievements for the program.

"It was a good year for the guys," said Patriots' Head Coach, Chris Crawford. "We lost nine games overall, and six were by one goal, with half of those



Lea Sedwick

coming in overtime.”

A telling stat to the season was their 3-6 record in one-goal games.



Four of those six losses did come on the road, where the Patriots struggled to a 2-6-1 record away from Patriots Soccer Field. “Every game the guys fought hard,” Coach Crawford emphasized. “We just have to finish on the chances we are given.”

Sophomore Chuck Schober and freshman Mason Stringer split time at the goal keeper position. Schober recorded 43 saves in 10 starts, while Stringer preserved the team’s only shutout in a 4-0 win at McMurry.

The team’s offensive leader by the end of the year was sophomore Brian Robertson, who scored a team best 24 points and seven goals. Junior, David Balyeat, was right behind Robertson, scoring five goals on the season. Fellow freshman, Riley Alvey, also provided plenty of fireworks in his first year with three goals, including a last second goal that sent a game versus Oklahoma Christian into overtime.

The Patriots had a flair for the late heroics this season. Senior Rodrigo Barrientos found himself in the middle of the action knocking in his first career goal against Harding as a game-winner in a 3-2 final. Barrientos also hit the winning goal in his only multi-scoring contest with

a 3-1 victory over Newman. Finally, the Carrollton, Texas, native scored his team-tying fourth goal in a 1-1 draw at Texas-Permian Basin in the final minute of regulation.

There was a moment during the year that signified the team’s season as a turning point. Sitting at 1-4 amidst a four-game losing streak early in the season, including three straight losses by one goal, the Patriots returned for their home opener versus McMurry, claiming a 3-2 victory. Twelve days later, the Patriots would face McMurry on the road in the Heartland Conference opener, with DBU staking a 4-0 win.

The Patriots would finish out the season winning three of their last seven.

At the conclusion of the season, a number of players from the DBU Men’s Soccer Team earned post-season accolades. Balyeat led the way, claiming Second Team spots on the NSCAA and NCCAA South Central All-Region Teams, while also being named First Team All-Heartland Conference.

Robertson was named First Team NCCAA South Central All-Region and Second Team All-Heartland, after his career season. Sophomore, Alex Becerra, earned a spot on the NCCAA South Central All-Region Second Team.