

## **OEDING SELECTED TO VERIZON ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT II COLLEGE DIVISION MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK & FIELD FIRST TEAM**

LANCASTER, PA -- The College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) have announced that Franklin & Marshall College pole-vaulter **Luke Oeding (Sr., Lancaster, PA/Manheim Township)** has been named to the 2003 Verizon/CoSIDA All-District II College Division Men's Track & Field/Cross Country First Team.

He advances to the national ballot for Verizon/CoSIDA Academic All-America team consideration, as the team will be announced in early June.

A 2003 NCAA Post-Graduate Scholarship recipient, his selection to the Verizon team marks the second straight year he has earned first team recognition.

The 12th student-athlete in school history to be awarded a Post-Graduate Scholarship and a two-time NCAA provisional qualifier and a three-time Centennial Conference champion in the pole vault, he experienced a breakout season this year winning the Centennial Conference indoor track title with a height of 15' and resetting both the Franklin & Marshall and CC record in the event with a height of 15' 3".

Outdoors, he placed fifth at the Penn Relays Eastern Division Pole Vault championship as one of only two Division III vaulters competing against Division I talent. Further, he ranked first in the Centennial Conference in the vault with a height of 15' 1", finished second at the CC Championships and qualified for the ECAC Championships.

The 2002 Tom Floyd Award recipient as F&M's outstanding field event athlete, Oeding earned the honor as a junior by resetting both the indoor and outdoor pole vault records during the 2001-02 academic year. Indoors, he bettered his own school and Centennial Conference record of 14'-00" with a height of 14-7 3/4 to claim first at the Centennial Conference Indoor Track Championships last year.

As a sophomore, he finished as the Conference runner-up indoors (13' 7.75") and outdoors (14' 0") and placed fifth as a freshman (12' 6") during the outdoor season.

In addition to his athletic prowess, he serves the F&M community in a variety of functions. A Nora Lesher, Andrew C. Schaedler Foundation, Caplan, Paul & Edith Felker and John Marshall scholarship recipient, he was recently elected president of Pi Mu Epsilon Mathematics Honor Society and was inducted into Sigma Pi Sigma, a physics honor society. In addition, he received a National Science Foundation-Research Education for Undergraduates grant and is a Kershner Scholar in both mathematics

and physics.

College Division District II consists of all non-NCAA Division I colleges and universities in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia and the District of Columbia.

To be nominated for the Verizon Academic All-America program, a student-athlete must be at least a sophomore with a 3.2 cumulative grade-point average and a starter or significant reserve on his team.

This year marks the 51st year of the Academic All-America program, as the inaugural team was announced on December 6, 1952. Since that time, more than 12,000 students have been named Academic All-America team members at colleges and universities at all levels for every recognized NCAA sport.