

September 24, 2007



Miami University Dance Team

The Official Dance Team of Miami Athletics

2007-2008 Officers

- Shoko Yoshitake, Captain
- Rachael Gilpin, Captain
- Megan Snider, Marketing Chair
- Laura McCann, Social Chair



Attention, Alumni!

As part of our attempt to stay connected to our members, please send your name, home address, and e-mail address to sniderm3@muohio.edu. We will hopefully be able to let you know about upcoming performances, alumni events, and much more!

DT ❤️

DT Reaps Big Rewards at NDA Camp

After a huge 5th place finish at Nationals 2007 in Daytona Beach, the Miami Dance Team had big shoes to fill at its annual summer camp in Louisville, KY. With a change in the bid process and the video entry eliminated, the Dance Team had one opportunity to receive a full paid bid to nationals in just two short days.

The young team, comprised of seven freshmen and eight upperclassmen, was able to win several team and individual awards, and also secured one of two full paid bids awarded at camp.

Sophomore Laura Siedlecki and Senior and Captain Rachael Gilpin were named NDA All-American after a tryout process. This was Siedlecki's second year in a row to be named All-American.

After the initial team evaluation, Miami was given a superior rating, the highest rating possible. For the team



The 07-08 Miami Dance Team poses for a picture at camp in Louisville, KY.

competition, Miami received 3rd place in Division 1-A, Most Collegiate, Best All-Around Team, and the full paid bid to Nationals 2008.

Members of the 2007-2008 Miami Dance Team include Seniors Rachael Gilpin and Shoko Yoshitake, Juniors Dana Benczkowski, Laura McCann, and Bree McLaughlin, Sophomores

Valerie Gascon, Laura Siedlecki, and Megan Snider, and First-Years Kendall Ederer, Kaitlyn Jones, Liz Mazgaj, Hailey McFarland, Justine Pavlioda, Brenna Romig, and Catherine Sturik.

The Dance Team will travel to Daytona April 9-12 to compete at NDA Nationals.

Dance Team Kicks off School Year with Several Events

Just two short weeks into classes, the Dance Team is keeping busy by participating in many events across campus.

The team has been a part of the Pigskin Picnic, Convocation, RedHawks United Pep Rally, Culture of Champions event and dinner,

Megafair, and getting ready to perform at football games.

This year, the women are looking to expand their program and reach out to the community more than ever. This fall they will also be holding a camp for Monroe High School, danc-

ing at the Latin and Caribbean Festival, and performing at Bandstand.

The program is also beginning to implement a new alumni system to keep our old DT ladies updated on what they've been up to. Keep checking the website for more updates!

Dance Team Performs at Football Games

**“We hope to increase school spirit and also provide collegiate entertainment to enhance Game-Day Experience for all of our fans...”
-Shoko Yoshitake**

On Saturday, September 15th, Yager Stadium was a different place. The first home football home game for 2007 was a big event for the university with the addition of Tailgate Town, Swoop’s new look, and the rivalry between Miami and the University of Cincinnati. The start of the 2007 football season was also special for the Miami Dance Team, as it was the performing debut for the women at all home football games. Before the women had the opportunity to cheer on the sidelines at games, they participated in several events to increase school spirit. The ladies kicked off the Game-Day Experience by

performing two days before the game at the RedHawks United [pep rally](#). The team, headed by seniors and captains Rachael Gilpin and Shoko Yoshitake, led the crowd in chants and cheers before they performed a short routine. Captain Shoko Yoshitake was thankful for the opportunity to participate, “...as a spirit squad for the university, we are happy to be given the opportunity to participate in this season’s home football games. We hope to increase school spirit and also provide collegiate entertainment to enhance the Game-Day Experience for all of our fans”. On game day, the team arrived early morning to greet fans and participate in Miami’s new Tailgate Town. The women had several



The Dance Team closely watches a play on the sidelines of Yager Stadium

chances to meet fans and administrators on campus before cheering on the RedHawks from the sidelines.

With all of the new events the team is participating in and the flourishing environment of Yager Stadium, they are hoping now, more than ever, to increase school spirit and awareness of Oxford and surrounding communities. The team anxiously and excitedly awaits the rest of the upcoming season.



Members of the Dance Team meet President Hodge at the first football game.