

Coaching Staff

Phil O'Neill

Head Coach Phil O'Neill is in his 14th year with the Villanova Cheerleading Program. He graduated in 1996 with a B.A. and again in 1999 from the MBA program. He was a member of 10 consecutive nationally ranked top ten Division 1 teams. He has come up through the ranks as mascot, team captain, and Assistant Coach. He is a former UCA staff member and is AACCA, and USASF Safety certified. He has judged competitions on the local regional and national level and is a partner in Liberty Cheer Institute, an All-Star Cheerleading Gym located in Broomall, PA.

Tyler Ladd

Assistant Coach Tyler Ladd graduated from Villanova in 2002 and served as team captain during his four year tenure with the team. Tyler was a member of Three nationally ranked top ten Division 1 teams and is AACCA certified.

Angela Olshefski

Assistant coach Angela Olshefski is in her fifth year with the Villanova program. A former cheerleader at Drexel University and AACCA Certified, Angela oversees the All girl team.

Adam McLaughlin

Assistant Coach Adam McLaughlin is in his fourth year with the Villanova Program. A former Cheerleader and captain at Villanova, Adam was a member of four nationally ranked teams. Adam is Also AACCA Certified

Brynn Gentile

Assistant Coach Brynn Gentile is in her Third year with the Villanova Program. A former Cheerleader at Villanova, Brynn is currently attending Law School. Brynn is AACCA Certified

Tryouts

Tryouts are held three times a year in the spring, summer, and fall. **Fall 2009 tryouts will be conducted on Monday August 31st 2009. Spring 2010 Tryouts are Set for Saturday, April 24th, 2010. Interested cheerleaders can tryout in person or via video tape.** To tryout in person, interested parties should contact Coach Phil O'Neill directly. In order to tryout, through video tape, students must be admitted to Villanova University and in good academic and disciplinary standing. **Incoming freshmen are eligible to tryout in the spring before their freshmen year but must present a letter of acceptance from the University's admissions office.** At the tryout Students will be asked to demonstrate some or all of the following skills:

- One Sideline
- Six - Eight Counts of a fight song (or dance).
- Best running and standing tumbling
- Best Jump
- 2 best stunts (either co-ed or all girl)
- Interview

Those who wish to tryout through video should also email Head Coach Phil O'Neill at VillanovaCheer@aol.com. You will be given several questions to answer during your interview section.

Tapes should be mailed to:

Phil O'Neill—Head Cheerleading Coach
Athletic Department - Villanova University
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085

Contact Information

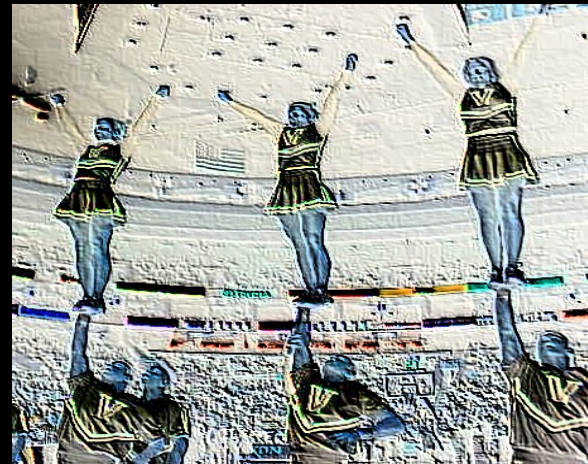
Phone: 610-519-8079

Email: VillanovaCheer@aol.com

Web: athletics.villanova.edu/cheerleading

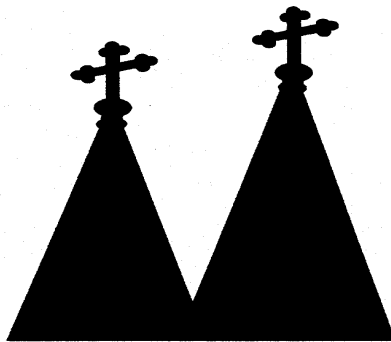


VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY CHEERLEADING TEAM



VILLANOVA
V
CHEERLEADING

2009-2010



Mission

The Villanova University Cheerleading Program is committed to developing well rounded student athletes who are dedicated to supporting the athletic teams at Villanova. We strive to represent our community in an honorable manner that is indicative of the Augustinian tradition upon which the university was founded. We are focused on building character and self-confidence within our members and through our participation we expect to learn life lessons that help us grow as a team, individuals, and as student athletes.

Philosophy

The Wildcat coaching staff is committed to developing not only the athlete but the entire person. Head Coach Phil O’Neill believes in emphasizing cheerleading skills as well as strong academics, community service and a family environment. There are many lessons that can be learned from a student-athlete’s involvement in cheerleading. Through our daily regimen, team members are taught about the importance of teamwork, commitment, focus, positive reinforcement and respectful communication.



Overview

The program consists of two teams, a co-ed and an all girl squad. Each year the squad attends UCA summer camp at Scranton University. Both squads cheer at football games and share responsibilities for men’s and women’s basketball season. One of the perks of team membership is traveling throughout the country in support of our athletic teams.

The squad travels to

- All away football games
- Men’s Big East Basketball Tournament held in New York City
- Women’s Big East Tournament
- Men’s and Women’s NCAA tournaments around the country.
- College Cheerleading Nationals in Florida!!!

Academics

Members of the team are exposed to one of the nation’s premier academic institutions and also enjoy the benefits of a competitive cheerleading environment. One of the biggest concerns of incoming students is the ability to manage a demanding course load and a rigorous practice schedule. In order to facilitate academic efforts, members of the team are given a schedule 6-8 weeks in advance and a reduced schedule during midterms and finals. Should a member of the squad have any form of academic trouble, tutors sponsored by the athletic department, are available. **The Team typically maintains a solid 3.5 overall GPA including several students with a perfect 4.0!!!!**



Nationals

Each year the team competes at the UCA College Nationals. For each of the past 14 years the team has been ranked among the top ten teams in the country. 2004 marked our highest finish with the team placing 2nd in the country. They followed up with a 4th place finish in 2005 and 5th in 2006. Both teams qualified for finals in 2007. 2006 marked the first year the All girl Team competed as well. They were a national finalist at NCA Nationals in April. Traditionally many of the family, friends, and alumni of the team accompany us on our journey.



Facilities and Practice Regimen

The team practices in the beautiful air conditioned Pavilion on Villanova’s campus. We have access to a full competition sized cheerleading floor and take tumbling classes weekly at Liberty Cheer Institute. In addition, the cheerleading team trains in the Powerhouse Varsity Weight Room twice a week. Should an injury occur, members of the team are have access to and are treated by a top notch medical staff.

Visiting Campus

We would love to have you come visit us and sit in on a practice. If you give us enough time, we can arrange for you to have lunch with some members of the team before or after your tour. Please email head coach Phil O’Neill a few weeks before you plan on visiting campus.