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Media Release

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Benedetti named Outstanding Woman Scholar Athlete

LONDON, ON –The University of Western Ontario has chosen lacrosse star Anne Benedetti as its Outstanding Woman Scholar Athlete for the 2002-2003 academic year.

Benedetti will be recognized at the *Chatelaine Women of Influence Luncheon*, along with scholar-athletes from all the universities in Ontario. The event is set for November 20th at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre.

The Cambridge, ON native is synonymous with women's lacrosse at Western. As a coach, captain and player, she was instrumental in establishing an outstanding tradition at the university. Team MVP during her last three seasons, Anne was a two-time first team OUA all-star. Last year, she led the Mustangs to an OUA silver medal. In 2001, she guided the team to a bronze medal. A member of the Canadian Lacrosse Team, Anne represented Canada at the 2001 Women's Lacrosse World Cup in England.

Benedetti has earned many awards including being named OUA/Chatelaine Magazine's Choice as Western's Outstanding Female Scholar Athlete; being named Western Gazette's and Queen's Journal's Athlete of the Year; and being named Most Valuable Player five times, through peer recognition. In addition, she has been on four OUA all-star teams. She was the recipient of the Stacey Levitt Memorial Scholarship and was also selected as a CAAWS Female Sports Role Model.

Following the completion of her concurrent bachelor of education and honours bachelor of Arts degree from Queen's, Anne came to Western where she earned her bachelor of law degree (LLB) in 2003.

Benedetti received the Western Law Entrance Award in 2001 and was the recipient of the Mary Warner Prize in Human Rights 2003 (a peer choice award). She was on the Dean's honour list, and received The Law Society of Upper Canada Prize in 2003, for standing in the top 10 per cent of the graduating class.

At Western, Benedetti was both the captain and head coach of the women's varsity lacrosse team, and she was awarded a prestigious Western Athletics Purple Blanket in 2003. Benedetti also served as a student volunteer for Community Legal Services, for which she informed callers of their rights under the Tenant Protection Act, and for the Sport Solution Clinic, which was responsible for representing the interests of Ontario Athletes during the 2001 Canada Summer Games.

Benedetti is currently articling at the Toronto-based Goodmans LLP/ Barristers & Solicitors. Following her admission to the Bar of Ontario, she will continue her studies at Trinity College in Oxford, England.

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