2008 Men’s Soccer Schedule

Aug. 23 Laroche Away 2 p.m.
Aug. 29 Point Park Home 3 p.m.
Aug. 30 Mt. St. Josephs Home 1 p.m.
Sept. 5 Capital Neutral 5 p.m.
Sept. 6 Ohio Wesleyan Away 7:30 p.m.
Sept. 10 Franciscan Away 5 p.m.
Sept. 13 Baldwin Wallace Away 7 p.m.
Sept. 17 Penn State Behrend Home 4 p.m.
Sept. 20 Penn State Altoona Away 6 p.m.
Sept. 23 Carnegie Mellon Home 4 p.m.
Sept. 27 Case Western Away 7:30 p.m.
Oct. 4 Thiel Home 2:30 p.m.
Oct. 7 Bethany Home 4 p.m.
Oct. 11 Waynesburg Away 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 14 St. Vincent Away 4 p.m.
Oct. 17 Thomas More Home 3 p.m.
Oct. 18 Alumni Home 10:30 a.m.
Oct. 21 Messiah Home 3 p.m.
Oct. 25 Wash. & Jeff. Away 1 p.m.
Oct. 28 Westminster Away 3 p.m.
Nov. 1 Geneva Home noon
Nov. 5 PAC Semifinals
Nov. 8 PAC Finals

Support this year has been outstanding as usual. Please know that your contribution is deeply appreciated.

Thank you very, very much!
Meet the seniors: 2008 leaders ready to take field

JACK ADAMS
Major: Entrepreneurship
Position: Center back

PAUL CARDINAL
Major: History
Position: Central midfielder
Notable: One-year letterwinner. Actually a super senior in 2008. 2007 was his first year with the Wolverines. Worked as an intern in the Gifts and Endowments Office of the Pinnacle Health System. Helped to coordinate the employee annual giving campaign and the organization processes found in healthcare systems.

BEN KRISTOBAK
Major: Pre-med
Position: Midfielder/forward
Notable: Originally from Titusville, Pa., where Coach Dreves started his coaching career. Participated in a biomedical internship at the Medical University of South Carolina using zebra fish as a model to understand the process of vascularization during embryonic development.

MATT SOL
Major: Mechanical engineering
Position: Wing midfielder
Notable: Three-year letterwinner. Had internship with Mechanical Engineering and Construction Corporation in Baltimore, Md. Worked mostly using AUTOCAD, a program for computer-aided design, for mechanical floor plans involving HVAC layouts.

BOB THERHUNE
Major: Mechanical engineering
Position: Outside back
Notable: Two-year letterwinner. Led a mission trip of college students to Mexico over spring break. Had an internship as an applications engineer with Traco Windows in western Pennsylvania this summer.

Team uses spring season to refocus, prepare for 2008

Each off-season, the NCAA allows Division III soccer programs time to participate in a coach led non-traditional season. This non-traditional season can last for five weeks and contains up to 15 practices and one day of competition. The timing of this season is really weather dependent, and as most alumni know, the weather in Grove City is always dependable – there is a lot of rain every spring. This spring was no different and the team had to take several training sessions inside in order to save the practice field from destruction. As the weather improved, training moved permanently outside and the team began to prepare for competition in a spring tournament at Washington & Jefferson College.

On the first day of training, Coach Mike Dreves emphasized two team targets that would become the theme for the spring season: 1.) My God, my team, myself and 2.) Make the ordinary extraordinary. Dreves explained to the team that they needed to reorder their priorities after a disappointing fall, as well as focus on doing the simple things better. In addition to these team targets, Dreves also challenged the team to improve on its combination play. With those concepts laid out in front of it, the team set to work. Because of limited numbers at times, the team primarily participated in small sided games and odd numbered exercises to goal. Each practice was divided into four blocks: soccer specific fitness, technical work, small sided games with restrictions and odd numbered games to goal. During the spring season the team also participates in a two-mile fitness test at the beginning of the spring and one at the end. The team averaged 12:20 for the first test and 12:05 for the second test.

After four weeks of training, the team traveled to Washington & Jefferson College to participate in an 11 v. 11 tournament consisting of 45-minute games. The NCAA restricts teams to 180 minutes of total play on the day of competition. Grove City battled W&J to a 0-0 draw in the first match. Goalkeeper Tim Lansing stole the show with a sparkling performance. A Lansing breakaway stop helped force the tie. It was a decent performance with which to start and from which to build. Overall the team lacked confidence, probably because it had been over six months since the last competitive 11 v. 11 match.

Please see SPRING, page 6

Making a play for 08

It’s that time again. Time for Sean Osborne ’10, tar left, and Dave Larkin ’11, left, and the rest of the men’s soccer team to take the field in 2008. The Wolverines hope to improve on a disappointing 2007 season against some tough competition.

Varsity G here to stay

The athletic department recently underwent a little cosmetic makeover. Starting in the fall of 2008, the department will have its own logo, one that takes the departments back to its roots. As many alumni will remember, the traditional symbol representing athletics at Grove City was the Varsity G. Athletes were able to earn Varsity G letters in their respective sports.

This new block capital “G” has been adopted as the symbol for the athletic department for all official correspondence, publications and teams. The College will still use the shield with the three lines on many of its other printed materials.

Look for examples of the athletic department’s new look throughout this issue of “Center Circle.”

Help build a soccer archive

As the men’s soccer family continues to grow, it is important that our history not be lost. While the long-standing nature of the program has allowed many stories and traditions to be passed on, some have been forgotten over the years.

As part of an ongoing project to build a men’s soccer archive, Coach Dreves is asking you to contribute a favorite story or piece of memorabilia. Any story, picture, video or item that you wish to donate can be forwarded to him directly at mfdreves@gcc.edu, or Box 3074, 100 Campus Drive, Grove City, PA 16127.
More seats to be added to soccer complex

For much of the last 70 years, the playing surface for the men’s soccer team has pretty much been the same. One of the biggest changes came in the mid-1990s when the team left lower campus and began playing matches at the current location on upper campus. This move was in conjunction with the new athletic facilities constructed in 1954. From that time until early this decade, there were few changes. Some new goals, fences and other items popped up here and there, but most of the changes were cosmetic.

The changes began in the summer of 2002 when the College, driven by support of alumni and friends of the soccer program, began a major renovation project. This project included widening and moving the field, installing a new playing surface, irrigation, drainage, new bleachers, a new scoreboard and most recently, a state-of-the-art press box with covered bench areas. The entire complex has come far in the last six years and has begun to blossom into a top-notch facility.

During the 2007 Homecoming festivities, Dr. Donald Lyle gave an update on making the complex more of an attractive setting to host NCAA and other postseason play. The three main areas used to evaluate facilities for hosting capabilities are the press box/media area, seating and lighting. The press box/media area was completed before the 2007 season. At Homecoming, Lyle spoke about continuing fundraising to complete the seating portion of the project to expand capacity from 300 to 1,000. At that time, $130,000 was needed. Since early October, that money has been raised or committed. Due to timing of the donations and the fall season, it is anticipated that work will begin for this phase of the project in the spring or summer of 2009.

This is another awesome display of support from the soccer alumni. Without you, none of the renovations would be possible. As you return to campus this fall for Homecoming or a match, all of you can look around with pride and know that the complex would not have happened without your generosity. Keep watching this newsletter for details about the construction of the seating phase and more news about future phases.

Tournament games highlight of spring season

From page 2

In the second match, the Wolverines came out strong against Division II opponent Seton Hill.

Grove City dominated possession and did not allow Seton Hill to leave their end for the first 15 minutes of the game.

Unfortunately for the team, the match was shortened by a severe thunderstorm; however, it was a vast improvement from the first match.

After a rain-soaked delay, Grove City took on Saint Vincent College. Again the team came out well and dominated possession early but could not score. After numerous substitutions by Grove City, Saint Vincent gained an advantage and took a 1-0 lead. The score finished 1-0, but much was learned, in particular about discipline in the defensive third.

For the final match the Wolverines faced a local club team that had drafted seven players from Division II Slippery Rock University. Grove City had its best offensive match of the game and attacked relentlessly. After repeated attacks, the team scored two goals, with one being a precision finish off the post. Late in the match, another lapse of discipline, a gamble by a center back, allowed the opponent to cut the lead to 2-1. The game finished with both teams trading chances but neither being able to capitalize again.

Overall, the tournament was wonderful and allowed the team to gain experience and truly showed its strengths and weaknesses. None of the day would have been possible without the help of our generous alumni. All of the expenses for the tournament, the fees, bus, meals, etc., were directly provided by the men’s soccer alumni. Dreves and the team are truly thankful for your faithful and generous support.

Call for help: Search for Buchanan’s relatives unsuccessful

In 2007, Bill Buchanan ’66 was inducted into the Grove City College Men’s Soccer Hall of Fame. A posthumous inductee, Buch-anan earned four letters as a halfback from 1962-65. As a senior co-captain in 1965, Bill Buchanan helped lead the Wolverines to an 8-0-1 overall record, including an invitation to the NCAA Championship Tournament. As a freshman in 1962, he helped Grove City advance to its first-ever NCAA Championship Tournament.

During his four years at Grove City, the Wolverines compiled a 29-7-2 overall record, including a 17-0-1 mark in his last two years. The 1964 team went 9-0-0, the best record, perceptionally, in Grove City history.

Buchanan perished in an automobile crash prior to graduation in May 1966. In 1967, the men’s soccer program named its Most Valuable Player and Outstanding Junior awards in his memory. During 2006 and 2007, a search for any living relatives of Buchanan was undertaken by the Hall of Fame Committee and Mike Dreves. When no living relatives were found, the committee looked through yearbooks and other archive materials.

If you have been thinking of nominating someone, there couldn’t be a better time than right now. Contact Dreves, Manley or see the Hall of Fame section of the Web site for more information.

Center Circle

In 1967, Bill Buchanan ‘66, who was inducted into the Soccer Hall of Fame as ‘Class of 2004’, leads this year’s nomination committee.

The main driving force behind the work of the committee is the nomination process. Nominations often come from those on the committee, but can also come from alumni and soccer players. Nominations can be submitted by mail or via e-mail (details are listed in this newsletter). The chair and the committee gather the nominations and do research throughout the year. In fact, this spring both Manley and Dreves visited campus and looked through yearbooks and other archive materials.

After information is gathered on each nominee, the chair and corresponds with the committee and disseminates the available statistical and anecdotal information for each candidate. At Homecoming, this list is discussed and voted on by the committee. Dreves is notified of the new members and those members are contacted in the winter of the following year and announced on the soccer Web site early in the spring.

You as alumni are vitally to the Hall of Fame bring success. As former players, it is highly probable that you would have played under the worthy of being nominated for the Hall of Fame, or maybe you have some news clippings, game season or other vital the information the committee can use as part of its research. If you have been thinking of nominating someone, there couldn’t be a better time than right now. Contact Dreves, Manley or see the Hall of Fame section of the Web site for more information.

Get inside look at Hall of Fame nominations

Dick Manley ‘67, who was inducted into the Soccer Hall of Fame with the Class of 2004, leads this year’s nomination committee.

During 2006 and 2007, a search for any living relatives of Buchanan was undertaken by the Hall of Fame Committee and Mike Dreves. When no living relatives were found, former teammate and friend Dick Manley ‘67 walked in place of Buchanan and accepted the award on his behalf. The committee would like to hold Buchanan as presenting a family member with the award.

If any alumnus could provide some information on how to help the committee in locating a relative of Buchanan, please contact Dreves by phone or e-mail. Your help is greatly appreciated.
College to induct two into Soccer Hall of Fame

Grove City College will induct two former standouts into its Men’s Soccer Hall of Fame during Homecoming Weekend October 18. Phil Donatelli ’77 and Greg Kreutzberg ’97 comprise the eighth class of inductees. Inclusion brings the total number of inductees to 23.

Donatelli captained Grove City’s 1976 squad that advanced to the NCAA Championship Tournament quarterfinals. That year, the Wolverines set a program record with 10 victories. A versatile player during his career at Grove City, he lettered three years as a midfielder, back and forward from 1973-76. The Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Soccer Conference (WPISC) honored Donatelli as First Team All-Conference following both his junior and senior seasons. Kreutzberg earned four letters as a center forward during his career (1993-96). As a senior co-captain in 1996, Kreutzberg racked up a school-record 25 goals and helped the Wolverines to a share of their first-ever Presidents’ Athletic Conference title.

Grove City capped the season by winning the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Southern Championship title. The Wolverines finished 16-2 overall and set a new program record for single-season wins. Kreutzberg finished the season with a school-record 55 points. He earned NCAA All-Region honors along with the PAC’s Most Valuable Player award in 1996. Kreutzberg also earned All-PAC honors three times in his career. His 46 career goals rank third in program history. Grove City established its Men’s Soccer Hall of Fame in 2001. The honorees will be recognized before the annual Hall of Fame Game October 18, which features alumni against current varsity players.

Goalkeeper named Man, Sportsman of the Year

Grove City College selected senior men's soccer player Michael Manahan of State College, Pa., as its 2008 Omicron Delta Kappa/Mortar Board Sportsman of the Year. Manahan received his award May 3 during the College’s Recognition Convocation in Harbison Chapel as part of Parents’ Weekend.

Manahan started each of the last three seasons in goal for the men’s soccer team and helped the Wolverines advance to the ECAC Championship Tournament in both 2005 and 2006. He earned Second Team All-PAC honors twice during his career and posted 22 total shutouts. In 2005, Manahan recorded 13 wins, 10 shutouts and an 0.83 goals-against average as the Wolverines won their first-ever outright PAC title. In 2007, Manahan earned team captain distinction. He started 17 of 18 matches in goal and picked up three shutouts.

Manahan double majored in Spanish and mechanical engineering. He is a seven-time Dean’s List honoree and has been named to the conference’s Academic Honor Roll. Manahan is also a Presidential Scholarship recipient. In September, Manahan earned the PAC SAAC Student-Athlete of the Month award.

Manahan is a member of OKD and is president of Grove City’s American Society of Mechanical Engineers chapter. He has also been inducted into the Sigma Xi research society. This summer, Manahan began his pursuit of a doctorate in mechanical engineering at Penn State University.

He also received the College’s Senior Man of the Year award at Recognition Convocation. It is the second time in the last three years that a Grove City athlete has earned this honor, as senior Greg Kreutzberg took the award in 2001. The Wolverines won their first-ever outright PAC title in 2007, and Manahan earned team captain distinction.

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