2008 Individual and Team Statistics

Overall Record: 6-11-3  Conference: 3-2-1  Home: 4-4-1  Away: 2-6-2  Neutral: 0-1-0

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Total 20 24 10.58 249 .969 127.5 510 6 2.2

2008 PAC STANDINGS

- 1st: Bethany
- 2nd: Thiel
- 3rd: Johnstown
- 4th: Grove City

**Sharon, Pa.**
Sharon Commercial Printing & Mailing
Printer
Rebecca Miller ’04
Design
Mike Dreves ’97

Head Soccer Coach
Mike Dreves ’97

**Climbing the mountain 2008 proves difficult**

For the second time in two years, the Wolverines ended the season wondering how they could come so far but end up with little to show for it. In 2007, the Wolverines went to overtime on a third of their matches and missed out on the conference tournament.

This year, Coach Mike Dreves ’97 laid out some goals. He believed if the team was in the top three in conference scoring and defense, scored five or more goals on set pieces, conceded five or less goals on set pieces, and had the fewest yellow cards, then the team could make the conference tournament.

To prepare for conference play, the team embarked on a brutal non-conference schedule packed with six nationally rated opponents, including Messiah, the eventual national champion, and Ohio Wesleyan, a round-of-16 contestant.

Grove City dropped its first home match 1-0 against local NAIA school Point Park University and then tied Mount St. Joseph 1-1 at home. It was a disappointing start, but also a building experience. Statistically, the team dominated opponents, outscoring them 47 to 12 (23 to 5 on goal), earning 25 corner kicks while holding the opposition to five.

Please see SEASON, page 3

**Questions or comments?**
Contact Mike Dreves
Office: (724) 458-2151
E-mail: mfldreves@gcc.edu

**Inside...**

- Program marks 70 years
- A player’s perspective
- Team awards standouts
- Witt earns academic honors
- Four land on All-PAC
- Osborne at home on defense
- Find out how to give back
- Test Grove City soccer savvy

**Team honored for work in classroom**

Each season, the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, the primary organization for soccer recognition, gives out awards to college teams and players.

Some of the awards given are All-Region, All-American, Coach of the Year and a Team Ethics award.

This year, the Grove City College men’s soccer team qualified for the Team Academic Award. To qualify, a team must have a minimum grade point average of a 3.0 for fall and spring semesters.

During the 2007-2008 academic year, the Wolverines averaged 3.02 and earned the award.

Only 106 men’s teams nationwide were awarded the Team Academic Award, and Grove City was the only team from the Presidents’ Athletic Conference to earn the award.

Congratulations to the team for showing what it means to be student athletes.

**Team Academic Award**

The team was also lauded this year for its conduct on the field. Check out page 4 to read more.

**Center Circle**

Head Soccer Coach
Mike Dreves ’97

Design
Rebecca Miller ’04
Communication Associate

Prints
Sharon Commercial Printing & Mailing
Sharon, Pa.

Center Circle is the official alumni newsletter of the Grove City College Men’s Soccer Team.
The Hall of Fame ceremony, completed in under an hour, opened with greetings and remarks from Coach Michael Dreves ’97. Next, former head coach Don Lyle gave an update on the field renovation project and awarded the John Hicky ’85 Service Award to Tom Gregg ’80 and Jim Wandelcher. The Hicky Award is given to individuals who have made an impact on the soccer program. Gregg and Wandelcher serve the College in the Operations Department and have been instrumental in the ongoing renovations to the field project and day-to-day maintenance of the soccer complex. Thanks to their hard work, College Field is one of the top facilities in western Pennsylvania. A plaque honoring all of the recipients is located near the main athletic offices in the Physical Learning Center.

Following Lyle was Chairman of the Hall of Fame Selection Committee Dick Manley ’67. Manley kept the program flowing with introductions of the inductees and those individuals who would be introducing the candidates. First up was Phil Donatelli ’77. Introducing Donatelli were teammates Jim Dusel ’77 and Larry Eckert ’77. Dusel and Eckert shared some colorful stories about Donatelli, but most of the conversation involved Donatelli’s passion and love for playing. A versatile player, Donatelli lettered three years, played as a midfielder, back, and forward from 1973 to 1976. The Western Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Soccer Conference (WPISC) honored him as First Team All-Conference following both his junior and senior seasons. Donatelli accepted his award, offering some advice to the current players during his acceptance speech. Specifically, he challenged the men’s team to make their era unique and to play with a passion.

At the conclusion of Donatelli’s speech, Manley welcomed Matt Keller ’97 to the stage to introduce Greg Krutzberg ’97. Keller, a winger who contributed to many of Krutzberg’s goals, poked a bit of fun at the award winner, but described him as a confident and hard-working striker who had a huge impact on the 1996 record. His 25 goals in 1996 stand as the single-season scoring record, while his 46 career goals put him third all-time. For his performance during his senior season, Krutzberg was named team MVP, conference MVP and a Mid-Atlantic All-Region player. Krutzberg accepted his award, speaking fondly of his playing days at Grove City and discussing the confidence needed to be a top rate goal scorer. Please plan to join us in 2009. The Wolverines have tentatively scheduled a home match against PAC rival Washington & Jefferson for Oct. 2, 2009, at 4 p.m.

70 years of Wolverine trivia
Seventy years of Grove City College men’s soccer history are in the books. Think you know everything there is to know about the program? Test your knowledge of most things Wolverine with this brief quiz. When you are finished, send your answers to Mike Dreves at mfdreves@gcc.edu to see how many you got correct. Good luck.

1.) Name the three opponents the Wolverine soccer team has competed against the most.

2.) Name one captain from each decade the soccer team has played.

3.) Name the first opponent Grove City College Soccer played against in 1938 and the last opponent Grove City faced in 2008.

4.) Which of the following coaches has the best winning percentage?

5.) Which of the following is NOT a Coach Lyle saying?

By Bob Thorn

Contact Coach Dreves:
(724) 458-2151
mfdreves@gcc.edu
Alumni, friends lend helping hand with soccer expenses

The 2008-09 fiscal year looks to be another banner year for contributing to the men’s soccer team. At press time, more than 40 people had contributed to the Field Fund or Soccer Fund. Currently, there are two ways (three if you include planned giving – see the related planned giving article) you can donate to the soccer team: the Field Fund and the Soccer Fund. So far alumni and friends have been generous in both areas. The Field Fund goes to the ongoing renovation projects that have transformed our facility since 2001. Currently, we are working towards expanding seating capacity at the complex to 1,000 people sometime in 2009. So far, more than $533,000 has been raised or committed for that project. The start date is dependent on the availability of funds. In addition, the rising cost of aluminum could alter the overall cost of the project. If you feel led to donate to this area, your contribution would be greatly appreciated and welcomed.

The Soccer Fund is used for all operating expenses that the team incurs throughout the season – expenses that would be outside the normal school-alotted budget. The two main items are Homecoming and spring travel. Each fall during Homecoming, the team puts on the Alumni Game Lunch, Hall of Fame ceremony. All expenses, from the food to the T-shirts to the awards, are completely paid for by your donations. In the spring, the team participates in a non-traditional season that involves five weeks of practice and one day of competition. The day of competition is usually a tournament. All tournament fees, travel and food are paid for with the contributions that you make.

Simply put, the men’s soccer team can’t operate without the care and support of our alumni. With your help, we are able to go above and beyond and make our program the best it possibly can. Thanks so much for your continued generosity. If you would like to know more about how to help, feel free to contact Coach Michael Dreves ‘97 at michael@gcc.edu or (724) 498-2131.

Genuine generosity is a cornerstone of Grove City College. Our school is dedicated to the belief that education is about so much more than learning. It is about building character, developing leadership, and growing into a better person. In this spirit, we invite you to give to Grove City College. Your gift will help us continue our mission and make a difference in the lives of our students.

SEASON from page 1

The team then suffered two straight losses against Capital and Ohio Wesleyan the following weekend in Columbus. In the opening game, Grove City went down by two in the first 10 minutes, then scored two quick goals to knot things up at 2-2. From there on, it was all Capital, who won 6-2. On Saturday, the team faced Ohio Wesleyan. Trailing 1-0 at halftime, the team lost 3-0 after conceding two late goals, one on a corner kick that rattled around in the box.

The next week, the team dropped two more games, a 2-1 loss to Franciscan and a 4-0 loss to Baldwin Wallace, slipping to 0-3-1.

The Franciscan loss was probably the season’s low point. Leading 1-0 with three minutes to go, Grove City conceded a late goal and lost the match off a long throw-in in the second overtime.

Dreves then made changes by switching out the starting lineup, and going from a 4-4-2 to a 3-5-2. The defense defensiveby, combined with a focused team, strengthened things in the back and proved to be effective. In week four, the team got a much-needed win against visiting Penn State Behrend.

In the next half’s last eight seconds, defender Zach Barzanty dotted home a free kick in the box. But Behrend scored a late second-half goal, forcing overtime.

With 19 seconds remaining in the second overtime, senior captain Bob Itohane served a free kick into the box to freshman Zach Lavelle, who scored the game winner, his first career goal.

That weekend, the team fought to a 0-0 tie with Penn State Altoona. Again the team outshot and out-chanced their opponent.

Then, the team faced Carnegie Mellon and Case Western, both of which spent time in the national rankings. Grove City lost 5-0 at home to CMU and then dropped a road match 4-1 at Case. At this point, with a 1-7-2 record, many teams would have packed it in and given up; instead, the team entered PAC play refreshed and ready to make a run for the conference championship – knowing that a rigorous schedule had prepared it for the challenges ahead.

With that new focus, the Wolverines won three straight shutouts against Thiel, Bethany and Waynesburg while posting a tough 3-2-2 win against Saint Vincent, putting them in the conference lead.

Grove City then dropped a difficult 1-0 home game against Thomas More, but then achieved a major goal: a conference tournament berth, thanks to a 1-0 victory at Washington & Jefferson.

After dropping a 0-0 decision at Westminster, the Wolverines finished fourth in the conference with a record of 3-2-1.

All of this while having 19 freshmen and sophomores out of 28 players.

In the end, the team accomplished all of Dreves’ goals except one – they finished fifth in the conference in scoring. As the team members look forward to 2009, they know that they have climbed far up the mountain of success. All they need now is one final push to reach the summit.

From the Development Office: Discover benefits of giving wisely

Have you ever wished you could support the men’s soccer program at Grove City College and improve your financial security at the same time? Well you can. At the College, we call it “creative giving.” In fact, just one “creative gift” can return an immediate tax deduction to you, plus lifetime income for you and a loved one, plus long-term financial support to Grove City College.

That’s right. You benefit, your loved ones benefit, and the College benefits. If that isn’t creativity, we’d like to know what is.

How is this possible? By taking advantage of incentives the IRS provides, we can craft a gift that delivers exactly the benefits to us, and to you, that you have been looking for. Financial advisers call these creative techniques “planned gifts,” because with thoughtful planning, you can turn personal giving challenges into win-win solutions for you and for us.

Where to Begin?
First, keep reminding yourself that you don’t have to be wealthy to make a significant gift to Grove City College. Second, browse through the types of affordable gifts on our planned giving Web site: www.pcgcf.org. (pictured at right) or call Marcus Fish ‘97, director of planned giving, at (724) 498-2154.

Finding identity in unity

By Daniel Bernal ‘11

On paper, our season was a failure. Ending at 6-11-3 isn’t exactly a record to brag about. Those numbers will go down in the books and will forever serve as a summary of the 2008 season.

But those aren’t the only numbers worth remembering.

Our schedule was voted the third most difficult of over 40 teams in our region. We played six nationally ranked teams, one of which went on to become national champion.

We lost some games to weaker opponents, games that should have been won, yet many of our losses were against powerhouse opponents and taught us the greatest lessons we learned this season.

We aren’t content to just remember the numbers. Our team is much more than our record or our strength of schedule. We are one man, one biggest advantage we have is unity. In one of his pre-game speeches, Coach Dreves reminded us of this fact:

Please see UNITY, page 5

After a tough beginning, Grove City regrouped and turned its season around.

Following a halftime score of 1-1, the team scored three second-half goals, sending in the score column with a bang and a 4-1 win. Grove City has a 4-0-2 edge over Geneva in the last six matches.

When the team faced the No. 1-seeded Westminster Titans in the conference semi-final, Westminster roared to a 3-0 lead just after halftime. A late rally pulled the score to 3-2, but Grove City could not get the equalizer and was sent home after a disappointingly loss. Westminster won the conference and automatic playoff bid with a 2-1 overtime decision against W&J.

The 6-11-3 season was disappointing, but, in the end, the team improved on its 2007 season and was successful in conference play. Including Grove City and Saint Vincent (Presidential Division III schools), Grove City finished 5-2-1, conceding only five goals in those eight matches.

All of this while having 19 freshmen and sophomores out of 28 players.

In the end, the team accomplished all of Dreves’ goals except one – they finished fifth in the conference in scoring. As the team members look forward to 2009, they know that they have climbed far up the mountain of success. All they need now is one final push to reach the summit.
Players vote on standouts for year-end awards

At the end of each season, the players vote for the recipients of their team awards. Each year, the team selects a Most Improved Freshman (in honor of Phil Procopio, attended in the '70s), an Outstanding Junior (in honor of Bill Buchanan '67), a MVP (also in honor of Buchanan) and the David Henson Memorial Award. The Henson Award is given to the player who represents a high standard of leadership, dedication and inspiration. This year’s award recipients are:

**Adam Brewer '12**
Most Improved Freshman

**Sean Osborne '10**
Outstanding Junior

**Jack Adams '09**
Most Valuable Player

**Bob Terhune '09**
David Henson Memorial Award

Team wins first PAC Sportsmanship Award

The men’s soccer team earned the inaugural President’s Athletic Conference Sportsmanship Award for 2008. The Wolverines had no red cards and 12 yellow cards, the lowest number of the nine teams in the conference.

The team narrowly missed out on receiving a national sportsmanship award given to teams that receive 10 yellow cards or less.

Witt earns Third Team Academic All-District honors

Six Grove City College soccer players were named Academic All-District recognitions by “ESPN The Magazine” and the College Sports Information Directors of America during the 2008 season through voting by the region’s sports information directors. The lose award winner on the men’s side, sophomore forward Chuck Witt, earned Third Team Academic All-District honors. Witt is a two-year starter for Grove City. He tied for the team lead in goals with four this year and is second on the squad with eight total points. Witt started 17 of 20 matches this year.

A mechanical engineering major and Dean’s List student, he has been named to the Presidents’ Athletic Conference Academic Honor Roll. Witt, a member of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and Round Table sophomore men’s honorary, he has earned the College’s Presidential Scholarship.

UNITY from page 3

“One strength,” he said, “lies in this room. It is in your team. We are more than just the 11 players on the field.” While many individual players distinguished themselves throughout the season, we all understand that each player can do nothing without his teammates. Left back and left both contribute to victory. United teams reflect strong leadership and our seniors this year deserve recognition. During their years with us they sweated through multiple shirts, tasted victory, suffered defeat and fell on pain and lactic acid. They invested a good part of their college years and all of their hearts into the program, and the men’s soccer team would not have had as successful a season without their leadership and encouragement. We must honor them by remembering and celebrating their successes. From Bob Terhune’s missile goals to Jack Adam’s big headers and firm com mand, to Matt Soll’s double-chop signature move, to Paul Cardinal’s superior vision and distribution, to Ben Kristobak’s unrelenting work ethic, our team is in their debt. Dave Larkin, a sophomore defender says, “Our seniors this year have been outstanding. They have stepped in and time again, not only to encourage and to lead by example, but also to pick us up and to carry the team on their backs.” Yet the seniors weren’t the only ones who helped to lead the team. We all contributed. Among our ranks are men like Lucas Darway, who came in at forward and revived our team’s intensity, men like Sean Osborne, who defended the goalmouth passionately after Tim Lonsing was injured; men like Tim Boswell who pushed us all to be better in practice. The list goes on. And while all of us might not make it in print, the team is better for our involvement.

One such man cannot be missed. Jake Kern, sophomore forward, led us time and time again through his ferocity in the final third. Often our game plan rested upon his shoulders. During the Genesea game, in particular, he stood out. It was his birthday, and with a goal and an assist, he sure played like it was his day. Aside from the goals, his willingness to challenge and chase after every loose ball spurred the team to the same intensity. At one point, Jake challenged the keeper, resulting in a goal for Bob Terhune, and had to come off the field for an open head wound. As he exited the field, those on the bench welcomed him back.

“Your strength,” he said, “lies in this room. It is in your team. We are more than just the 11 players on the field.” While many individual players distinguished themselves throughout the season, we all understand that each player can do nothing without his teammates. Left back and left both contribute to victory. United teams reflect strong leadership and our seniors this year deserve recognition. During their years with us they sweated through multiple shirts, tasted victory, suffered defeat and fell on pain and lactic acid. They invested a good part of their college years and all of their hearts into the program, and the men’s soccer team would not have had as successful a season without their leadership and encouragement. We must honor them by remembering and celebrating their successes. From Bob Terhune’s missile goals to Jack Adam’s big headers and firm command, to Matt Soll’s double-chop signature move, to Paul Cardinal’s superior vision and distribution, to Ben Kristobak’s unrelenting work ethic, our team is in their debt. Dave Larkin, a sophomore defender says, “Our seniors this year have been outstanding. They have stepped in and time again, not only to encourage and to lead by example, but also to pick us up and to carry the team on their backs.” Yet the seniors weren’t the only ones who helped to lead the team. We all contributed. Among our ranks are men like Lucas Darway, who came in at forward and revived our team’s intensity, men like Sean Osborne, who defended the goalmouth passionately after Tim Lonsing was injured; men like Tim Boswell who pushed us all to be better in practice. The list goes on. And while all of us might not make it in print, the team is better for our involvement.

For this past year the numbers have been written; the book is closed. But the team remains—still united, still improving. We will worry about the numbers again next year when the book re-opens. For now we have each other. It’s time to work, to build, to push forward. We must demand more. We must become greater. As teammate Erik Beyer likes to say, “Put your hands in the air.” There is work to be done. We remember the past as we plan for the future. All this winter, spring and summer we will work to build ourselves into one man, one team. While we may strive for a championship or a national playoff debut, our unity, our bond, to one another and to Christ, will always be the most important.

Most people probably have heard a young player say he will play anywhere the team needs him. Many utter those words, but few truly mean them. Sean Osborne, a junior forward for the Wolverines, told Coach Dreves that he would help out in any way he could—and he meant it. After playing forward during the first five matches of the year, Osborne started the sixth match against Baldwin Wallace about 60 yards away from his normal starting position, as a goalkeeper. While Osborne had experience between the pipes in his younger days, it had been about six years since he had seen serious game action. Without hesitation, he stepped into the role and performed admirably. During conference play, he had four shutouts and only conceded five goals in eight matches.

For his stellar play, Osborne was named back-to-back PAC Defensive Player of the Week for the weeks of Oct 6 and 13. He performed so well during the 2008 season that he was decided to play the entire 2009 season as a goalkeeper. Hopefully, these two awards are simply the start of many to come.

Converted forward lauded for defensive prowess

CHUCK WITT ’11

In August, the Wolverines added forward Adam Brewer to their roster. Brewer, a two-year starter, was named a Most Improved freshman. Brewer was also named a Most Valuable Player by the PAC coaches.

There are few players who have given as much effort as Brewer. Brewer has always been a hard worker, and his efforts have paid off. His work ethic is what sets him apart from the rest.

Converter forward lauded for defensive prowess

SEAN OSBORNE ’10

Sean Osborne ’10 took a stand between the pipes during the 2008 season. Despite not being a starting goalkeeper, Osborne stepped into the role and performed admirably. During conference play, he had four shutouts and only conceded five goals in eight matches.

For his stellar play, Osborne was named back-to-back PAC Defensive Player of the Week for the weeks of Oct 6 and 13. He performed so well during the 2008 season that he was decided to play the entire 2009 season as a goalkeeper. Hopefully, these two awards are simply the start of many to come.