

# Center Circle

Winter 2010  
 Vol 4, No. 2

Grove City College Men's Soccer Alumni News

## 2009 Individual and Team Statistics

Overall Record: 8-10-1 Conference: 3-3-0 Home: 4-3-1 Away: 4-7-0 Neutral: 0-0-0

No.	Name	GP-GS	G	A	Pts	Sh	Shot%	SOG	SOG%	GW	PK-ATT	No.	Name	GP-GS	G	A	Pts	Sh	Shot%	SOG	SOG%	GW	PK-ATT
13	Andrew Quinn	19-10	5	0	10	47	.106	26	.553	4	0-0	6	Dave Larkin	14-14	0	0	0	7	.000	6	.857	0	0-0
5	Chuck Witt	18-18	3	1	7	38	.079	20	.526	1	0-0	26	Alex Moore	14-3	0	0	0	2	.000	1	.500	0	0-0
15	Austin Bernal	19-6	2	0	4	13	.154	7	.538	1	0-0	16	Tim Boswell	11-0	0	0	0	2	.000	1	.500	0	0-0
19	Brian Eckenhoff	19-6	1	2	4	23	.043	14	.609	0	0-0	14	Ben Wagner	11-0	0	0	0	2	.000	1	.500	0	0-0
11	Mack Lloyd	16-5	1	1	3	10	.100	9	.900	0	0-0	25	Jesse Ingram	18-18	0	0	0	1	.000	0	.000	0	0-0
7	Alex Ford	16-8	1	1	3	9	.111	6	.667	1	0-0	17	Zach Lewallen	3-0	0	0	0	1	.000	0	.000	0	0-0
20	Ben Kuniholm	18-12	1	0	2	15	.067	8	.533	0	0-0	22	Evan Harding	9-2	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0-0
24	Zach Barzanty	19-19	1	0	2	8	.125	3	.375	1	0-0	21	Evan Bjorndal	5-0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0-0
28	Alex Ayer	16-12	1	0	2	4	.250	3	.750	0	0-0	3	Mark Leach	6-1	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0-0
23	Connor Baer	8-0	1	0	2	3	.333	1	.333	0	0-0	2	Erich Beyer	11-3	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0-0
10	Adam Brewer	19-19	0	2	2	14	.000	6	.429	0	0-0	1	Sean Osborne	19-19	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0-0
18	Daniel Bernal	15-2	0	2	2	2	.000	1	.500	0	0-0	0	Nick Bell	1-0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	.000	0	0-0
9	Evan Moore	19-19	0	0	0	32	.000	11	.344	0	0-0	<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>.069</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>.524</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0-0</b>	
12	Joel Metz	18-13	0	0	0	13	.000	5	.385	0	0-0	Opponents	19	27	17	71	233	.116	111	.476	10	2-2	

GOALS BY PERIOD	1st	2nd	OT	OT2	Total
Grove City	7	10	0	0	17
Opponents	13	13	1	0	27
SHOTS BY PERIOD	1st	2nd	OT	OT2	Total
Grove City	113	132	0	1	246
Opponents	119	110	3	1	233
SAVES BY PERIOD	1st	2nd	OT	OT2	Total
Grove City	42	41	0	1	84
Opponents	53	58	0	1	112
CORNER KICKS	1st	2nd	OT	OT2	Total
Grove City	53	49	0	0	102
Opponents	48	41	0	0	89
FOULS BY PERIOD	1st	2nd	OT	OT2	Total
Grove City	81	101	0	2	184
Opponents	79	114	3	3	199

No.	Name	GP-GS	Minutes	GA	Avg	Saves	Pct	W	L	T	Sho
1	Sean Osborne	19-19	1655:21	26	1.41	80	.755	8	10	1	7
0	Nick Bell	1-0	29:52	1	3.01	2	.667	0	0	0	0
	Team		0:00	0	0.00	2	1.000	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1685:13</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>.757</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	
	Opponents	29	1730:13	17	0.88	112	.868	10	8	1	10

2009 PAC STANDINGS	
1. Thomas More	5. Waynesburg
2. Westminster	6. Bethany
3. Washington & Jefferson	7. Thiel
<b>4. Grove City</b>	8. Geneva (provisional member)
	9. Saint Vincent (provisional member)

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

**Inside ...**  
 Players honor teammates **3**  
 Academic, All-PAC named **3**  
 Recent grads take up coaching **3**  
 PAC switches region **4**  
 Players put it in perspective **5**  
 2009 by the numbers **6**

## Center Circle

**Head Soccer Coach**  
 Mike Dreves '97

**Design**  
 Rebecca Miller '04  
*Assistant Director of Communications*

**Printer**  
 SCP Group, Sharon, Pa.

*Center Circle is the official alumni newsletter of the Grove City College Men's Soccer Team.*



## '09 close, not far enough

The 2009 soccer season can be summed up with one phrase: so close, but yet so far. The Wolverines entered the year with high hopes only to end up losing in the conference semi-final for the second straight year.

Overall, the team performed well, but eventually ended the regular season 8-9-1 after a defeat at the hands of local rival, Westminster.

The biggest problem that faced the team for the majority of the season was finding a way to win the close matches.

**See SEASON, page 4**

## Alumni top varsity 5-4



Tim Boswell '12, center, battles Bob Kildea '76 for the ball during the 2009 Hall of Fame alumni game Oct. 3. The alumni triumphed, thanks to a late two-goal boost from Mike Koper '04. For more details, see page 2.

## Senior reflects on Grove City College career

I have just recently completed my fourth season on the men's varsity soccer team and will now begin to refer to myself as a "washed up varsity athlete." Although I may be losing my fitness and soccer skills every passing day since the season ended, being a Grove City soccer player has given me many things that I will never lose.

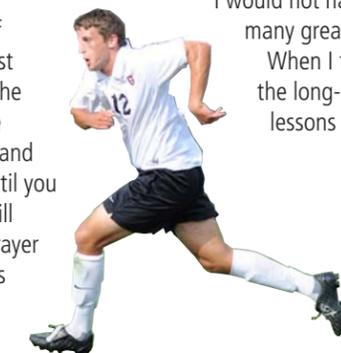
As a freshman, I decided to try out for the soccer team because I enjoyed playing and I thought it would be a great way to make friends, and I was right.

More than anything else, when I think of Grove City soccer, I think of the real men who play for it. Not just the players, but the actual people. The men who will push you through the painstaking pre-season camp runs, and critique your playing on the field until you get better. But also the men who will gather with you after practice for prayer and thank the Lord for the blessings He's given us and the soccer team

He has brought together. The men who hang out with you in the locker room not just to prepare for soccer and shower afterwards, but to laugh and joke and share ridiculous stories and wear ridiculous things.

These men are some of my best friends and have challenged me, developed me and helped me grow to be a strong Christian with leadership, discipline and integrity. Without Grove City soccer, I would not be who I am today, I would not have the strong character necessary for success further down the road, and I would not have such great relationships with so many great men of God.

When I think of Grove City soccer, I think of the long-lasting friendships I have and the life lessons it has taught me.



Joel Metz (pictured) is a native of Kittanning, Pa., and studies mechanical engineering. For more players' perspectives, see page 5.

- Joel Metz '10



The alumni game attendees pose with Hall of Fame honorees Bob Bishop '66 and Joy Zembower, who represented her late husband, Glenn '48.

## Alumni come 'home,' honor standouts

On Oct. 3, over 50 soccer alumni returned to campus for this year's Homecoming activities. While attendance was down slightly this fall, the alumni are still averaging over 60 strong for the last four years.

Many of those who returned saw the varsity team drop a close 1-0 decision to visiting Washington & Jefferson the day before. Friday's weather was fairly awful, as rain soaked the field throughout most of the match. W&J was able to pull out the victory on a direct kick in the 82nd minute. The rain did not stay around for the weekend, however, as the College was graced with abundant sunshine for Saturday's activities.

The Homecoming events start each year with a processional march honoring the Hall of Fame inductees. Annually, the march is led by Brian Wilkins



Brian Wilkins '98, left, plays his bagpipes during the Hall of Fame processional.

'98 playing his bagpipes, followed by the inductees and then the men's team organized in two-by-two fashion. This year, Glenn Zembower '48 and Bob Bishop '66 were honored for their outstanding achievements as players. Zembower, who passed away several years ago, was represented by his wife, Joy, in the processional.

Following a brief bio on the inductees, a group prayer and an

alumni photo, the game began at 10:30 a.m., with the alumni team defending the west end (side closest to the baseball field). Play was spirited from the start, but as the game wore on the varsity team began to build quite a lead. This continued throughout the first half and carried over into the second. Even the numerous line changes weren't providing a lift for the alumni.

Although they were able to

slowly claw back, the alumni were still behind 4-3 in the final 10 minutes of the second half. Around that point, one alumnus decided enough was enough and promptly took over the game. Mike Koper '04 stepped up his game and demonstrated why he was named to the All-Region team in 2003. Koper proceeded to score two goals in the final six minutes of action and led the alumni team to a 5-4 win.

After the match, there was a time of food and fellowship and the day concluded with the award ceremony honoring Zembower and Bishop. Hall of Fame Committee President Greg Lucht '99 led the ceremony and had the honor of introducing both inductees. Overall, it was a wonderful day to reconnect with friends and teammates. If you were not able to make it, you surely missed something special.

## Grounds crew honored for service at Homecoming

Each fall at Homecoming, the men's soccer team presents the John Hickly Service Award. The award, which originated in 2004, is given in honor of long time employee John Hickly, who passed away that same year. The recipient of the award is someone affiliated with the men's soccer team whose efforts have had a lasting impact on the program. Recent recipients have included former team managers, College employees and long time

supporters.

This fall, Coach Mike Dreves and Athletic Director Don Lyle presented the award to the grounds crew at the College. The men on the grounds crew work tirelessly to keep campus looking its best all year round. In addition to landscaping and snow removal, they do all of the field maintenance on campus.

Since the game field renovations began in 2001, their efforts have been paramount in

allowing Grove City to have one of the premier grass fields in the area. Numerous times they have gone above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that the field was ready.

At the awards portion of the Hall of Fame ceremony at Homecoming, crew member Mike Lengauer accepted the award. In addition, the grounds crew will be forever recognized on a plaque in the Physical Learning Center.

## Players put it in perspective

### Surviving the rigors of preseason camp

*"Therefore, I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that ... I myself will not be disqualified for the prize."*

These are the words of the Apostle Paul in his letter to the church in Corinth where he encouraged the body of believers to work hard and fight for their faith so that they can receive a crown which will not perish.

As a freshman, I came into camp without much knowledge of what to expect during the opening days of what would soon become my first year as a member of the Grove City College men's soccer team. I, like all the other players, had received a workout packet at the beginning of the season that was more

of a teaser to training camp than a thorough explanation (perhaps that is because coach wants freshmen to attend the camp and not be frightened out of attending). In this packet, coach informed future players that they would have the privilege of testing their fitness in the 120-by-10 sprints and the mile test. Thus, seemingly aptly informed of the upcoming opportunities, I proceeded to camp somewhat confident of my ability to pass these tests after a summer of training. Coach, unfortunately, had failed to mention the captain's run in the packet.

The first few days of camp



Alex Moore '13

were tough but endurable. Things were interesting to say the least. Between the morning devotionals with the team and Erich Beyer screaming in my face to "WORK HARDER," I experienced both joy and rage to their fullest. That was until I heard stories of previous captain's runs: then I felt horror (an emotion very similar to the one I experienced after being told about the infamous senior run).

Needless to say, all the hype failed to truly depict the intensity of the captain's run. It was much worse than I expected. Every step I took during the captain's run was a battle with my aching body. I longed to quit and settle for jogging when I was told to sprint, but I knew that fighting through the pain of ridiculously sore legs was of

much greater value than the few minutes of rest I would have gained by giving up. Soccer, like so many other sports, is not just about the fun of the game, it is about the life lessons learned through training and playing.

The captain's run and preseason taught me the meaning of Paul's words in I Corinthians 9:20-21. Those five days taught me the importance of training in order to be prepared for the hard times to come. Those five days taught me that fighting for my faith is worth infinitely more than conceding to the trials of the moment, and for that I am grateful, because I now know to continue to fight for my faith so that "I myself will not be disqualified for the prize."

- Alex Moore '13

### Summer south of the Equator

When I first met Isaac Enseñat, I was a little frustrated with him. He was supposed to pick us up from the airport in Panama City. It was hot, we were tired, and he was nowhere to be found.

I was in Panama to play soccer and share my faith. Encouraged by a former teammate, Barry Snyder '08, I had signed up for a trip to South America with a group called Athletes in Action. The team, made up of students from across the United States and Canada, played matches against university teams and held soccer clinics for local children. Everywhere we went, we shared personal stories of God's work in our lives as well as the gospel message.

I quickly warmed up to Isaac after that first encounter. He and



Chuck Witt '11

others like him taught me much during the seven weeks I spent in Paraguay and Panama. The enthusiasm and zeal with which he united his passions for both God and the game of soccer made a lasting impression on me. Moreover, the love he had for his friends was clear, exhibited in an emotional night during which we were able to play a match against his own university team and then jointly share with them the story of God's love and saving action through Jesus Christ.

At Grove City, we often speak about honoring God with our pursuit of soccer. I was blessed to be able to witness that desire in action in my South American friends this summer.

- Chuck Witt '11

### Building Homecoming bond

Homecoming weekend this past season (my sophomore season) was an opportunity for me to better understand the storied tradition carried by our soccer program.

Not knowing anyone in the alumni game last year besides Coach Dreves, I was merely a player in a game of soccer. This past year, however, I was a participant and contributor in the stories, laughter and good times that Homecoming weekend provides.

The alumni game gave me the chance to be on the same field again with captains from my freshman year. It also provided time to talk with and listen to alumni who have graduated Grove City long before. In those conversations, there was a certain type of camaraderie instantly built. Even if we had nothing in common other than Wolverine soccer, that was enough.

It was this past Homecoming weekend that I finally began to understand why the alumni come back year after year. They have poured their hearts and souls out onto the fields at Grove City, and they take a much deserved pride in this devotion. In the years that Grove City has had an established men's soccer program, tradition, excellence and pride have been handed down year after year.

Because of Homecoming weekend, I know that if I am able to make a small contribution to that tradition, then it will all have been worthwhile.



Brian Eckenhoff '12

- Brian Eckenhoff '12



Coach Mike Dreves '97 has served as PAC rep.

## PAC switches regions; Dreves serves as rep

Each fall, numerous coaches throughout the country meet via conference call to rank the best teams in each region. The country is divided into eight regions loosely based on geographic locations. Prior to 2009, Grove City College was located in the Mid-Atlantic region. This season, the Wolverines, along with the rest of the Presidents' Athletic Conference, moved into the Great Lakes region.

For the past three seasons, Coach Dreves has served as the PAC representative on the ranking committee and will rotate off for the 2010 season. The

committee has access to a large amount of data to compare teams including winning percentage and opponents' winning percentage. A considerable amount of weight is put into each team's strength of schedule. The weekly rankings become more important as the season goes along and are the primary criteria for selecting playoff teams that do not have an automatic qualifier in their conference and for ranking all teams that eventually qualify for the NCAA tournament.

Members of the committee also serve as site representatives during NCAA tournament matches.

### SEASON from page 1

Of its nine regular season losses, four were 1-0 defeats. Out of the four defeats, three were a direct result of the other team scoring on set pieces.

Defensively, the team was solid throughout the year with seven shutouts. With a defense that included two All-Conference selections, the team built from the back forward. Unfortunately, while one end of the field was solid, the team struggled at the other end. The Wolverines were only able to score 17 goals. They were led by freshman Andrew Quinn, who had five goals, all of which came in the second half of the season.

After securing qualification into the conference semi-final, the team entered the final game of the season with a chance at finishing second or third with a win and the possibility of hosting the



semi-final match. An unfortunate 3-0 setback against the Titans put the Wolverines in fourth place and forced them to travel to Thomas More College for the second time in the 2009 season. Most away trips in the Presidents'



Defender Dave Larkin '11, left, midfielder Alex Ayer '13, above, and the 2009 Wolverines fought their way through a tough season, recording seven shutouts.

Athletic Conference are not too bad, with the exception being the almost six-hour bus trip to Thomas More. While the team played early and only trailed 1-0 at halftime, it couldn't catch the eventual PAC champion and lost 3-0.

Hopefully, the men have gained some maturity and can find a way to be on the other end of some of those 1-0 games in the 2010 season. With 19 returning letter-winners and 11 seniors, experience should not be a problem.

### Mark your day planner:

## Homecoming

**Oct. 8:** Home match vs. Geneva, 4 p.m.

**Oct. 9:** Alumni game, 10:30 a.m.

### Donations welcome

If you would like to support the men's soccer program, make checks payable to Grove City College with "Men's Soccer" on the memo line. Mail to: Advancement Office, Grove City College, 100 Campus Dr., Grove City, PA 16127.

## Players honor teammates with 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:



**Alex Ayer '13**  
Most Improved Freshman



**Evan Moore '11**  
Outstanding Junior



**Sean Osborne '10**  
Most Valuable Player



**Joel Metz '10**  
David Henson Memorial Award

## 4 earn regional academic accolades Players make All-Conference team

Four members of the men's soccer team earned Academic All-District honors from ESPN The Magazine and the College Sports Information Directors of America through voting by the region's sports information directors.

Junior forward Chuck Witt earned First Team All-District and advanced to the national Academic All-America ballot.

Sophomore forward Brian Eckenhoff is a Second Team selection. Junior midfielder Austin Bernal and senior midfielder Joel Metz both landed on the Third Team.

Witt maintains a high grade-point average as a mechanical engineering major. He has been named to the Dean's List and the Presidents' Athletic Conference Academic Honor Roll. Witt is also involved with Grove City's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and has been inducted



**Austin Bernal '11**

into the Omicron Delta Kappa honorary.

He earned Second Team Academic All-District as a sophomore.

Eckenhoff has a perfect GPA while majoring in business management. He is a Dean's List student and has achieved PAC Academic Honor Roll distinction.

An entrepreneurship/Spanish major, Bernal is a Dean's List student and has been named to the PAC's Academic Honor Roll.

A team co-captain, Metz has achieved a high GPA while majoring in mechanical engineering. Metz is a Dean's List student and has been named to the conference's Academic Honor Roll.

Metz is also involved in SAAC and has been inducted into the Roundtable men's honorary.

At the annual Presidents' Athletic Conference coaches meeting, five Wolverine soccer players were selected to the All-Conference team.

Freshman and leading scorer Andrew Quinn was the lone Wolverine selected to the First Team.

Quinn not only led the team in scoring, but was clutch late in the season when he scored four game-winning goals.

Senior goalkeeper Sean Osborne, defender Adam Brewer and midfield captain Evan Moore were awarded Second Team honors.

Rounding out the awards was junior midfielder Chuck Witt who earned Honorable Mention.



**Andrew Quinn '13**

## Recent grads join college coaching ranks

Sometimes your senior season doesn't have to be the end of your soccer career. Two

recent graduates, Barry Snyder '08 and Jack Adams '09, have proven that while the senior run may be the end of your competitive playing career, it doesn't have to be the end of your soccer career.

Snyder, a former defender and 2008 MVP, entered the coaching ranks in 2008 as the head women's soccer coach

at Mount Aloysius College. "The Mount" is a small Division III college located in central Pennsylvania and competes in the Allegheny Mountain Athletic Conference.

Adams, also a former defender and 2009 MVP, entered the coaching ranks this year and is charged with developing the men's and women's

soccer programs at Penn State New Kensington, a two-year branch campus of Penn State University. This fall, Adams is heavily involved in recruiting and working through all of the logistics of building two programs from the ground up. His teams are scheduled to begin competition in the 2010 season.