

## 2009-2010 Basketball Schedule

The Wolverines invite you to come out and see a game during the 2009-2010 season. Mark your calendars for when Grove City College is playing near you or come to campus to see the ladies play. Please let Coach Harris know if you are ever in the area, on campus or would like to see a game.

Nov. 17	@ Allegheny College	6 p.m.
Nov. 20	@ Behrend Tournament	TBD
Nov. 21	@ Behrend Tournament	TBD
Nov. 24	Carnegie Mellon	6 p.m.
Dec. 2	Thomas More*	6 p.m.
Dec. 5	@ Washington & Jefferson*	TBD
Dec. 9	Hiram College	7:30 p.m.
Dec. 12	@ Waynesburg*	TBD
Dec. 29	@ Wittenberg Tournament	TBD
Dec. 30	@ Wittenberg Tournament	TBD
Jan. 5	@ Chatham*	TBD
Jan. 7	Bethany*	6 p.m.
Jan. 9	@ Thiel*	TBD
Jan. 13	Geneva	6 p.m.
Jan. 16	@ Saint Vincent*	TBD
Jan. 20	Westminster*	6 p.m.
Jan. 23	@ Thomas More*	TBD
Jan. 27	Washington & Jefferson*	6 p.m.
Jan. 30	Waynesburg*	1 p.m.
Jan. 31	@ Washington & Jefferson*	TBD
Feb. 3	Chatham*	6 p.m.
Feb. 6	@ Bethany*	TBD
Feb. 10	Thiel*	6 p.m.
Feb. 13	Geneva	TBD
Feb. 17	Saint Vincent (Pink Zone game)	6 p.m.
Feb. 20	@ Westminster*	TBD

\* denotes Presidents' Athletic Conference rival

## 1977: 1st varsity women's team



Row 1, from left: Ellen Boros '78, Karen (Sundberg '78) Sewell, Angie Caliendo '78, Lynn (Dougherty '80) Warner, Merilee Melia and Lois (Houck '80) Mulholland. Row 2: Head Coach Terry Ellis, manager Margaret Beckman '77, Lynn Emerson '79, Beth Brandt, Nancy (Faloon '79) Dodd, Sue (Bell '80) Merchant, Wendy (Taylor '78) Metcalf and Julie Jones.

## 400 reasons to celebrate women's basketball

On Dec. 3, Grove City notched a 68-58 victory over Geneva College. The 10-point victory marked the Wolverines' first victory of the season and the start of a three-game win streak. The win also marked the

women's basketball program's 400th overall victory.

Since its inception in 1976, the women's basketball program has experienced 17 winning seasons in its 33-year existence and currently has a 410-344 record.

# FULL COURT PRESS

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Grove City College  
Women's Basketball  
Alumni News

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## Quick Click ...

Bookmark these links on the Grove City College Web site, located at [www.gcc.edu](http://www.gcc.edu).

- **Sports**  
[www.gcc.edu/sports](http://www.gcc.edu/sports)
- **Alumni & Friends**  
[www.gcc.edu/alumni](http://www.gcc.edu/alumni)

## FULL COURT PRESS

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100 Campus Drive  
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**WOLVERINES**  
GROVE CITY COLLEGE



## Seven: team's magic number

Seven can be a very powerful number. There were seven wonders in the ancient world; the number seven is symbolic for completion and perfection in Christianity; and seven is also the largest number of players that dressed for a women's basketball game this season.

Despite the small roster size, Grove City posted an 11-15 overall record and a 7-7 conference record. Its fourth-place finish in the Presidents' Athletic Conference was Grove City's best conference finish since the 2004-05 season and earned the Wolverines home court advantage in the PAC tournament quarterfinals.

The often undersized Wolverines struggled with their small roster at the beginning of the season, losing their first five games before winning three straight games against Geneva, Westminster and Allegheny prior to Christmas. Without any roster depth and further hampered by losing starter Jenna Johnston to an ACL injury on Jan. 5, the team struggled to gain momentum in the second half of the season.

**Please see SEVEN, page 2**



Raeann Szelong '09 provided veteran leadership on this year's under-manned squad.

## Players work hard in 'off-season'

After the mayhem commonly known as March Madness settles down, basketballs are put into storage and the sounds of squeaky sneakers and bouncing basketballs dim, thoughts often turn away from basketball toward warm weather and other activities. At Grove City College, basketball "off-season" is just another phase of being a part of the basketball program.

For some athletes, the weeks and months following the season are used to rest and heal aching bodies and injuries, however, the



Christine Slater '11, right, excels on the basketball court and the softball field at Grove City.

women's basketball team continues to prepare for next season

while also pursuing their studies and other activities.

For example, sophomore Christine Slater has never experienced an "off-season" at Grove City College. The two-sport athlete and math major from Aliquippa, Pa., has excelled on both the basketball court and the softball field in her time at Grove City College.

This past season, Slater led the hoops team in scoring and rebounding while earning all-conference and all-region recognition.

**Please see PREPARE, page 4**



Christine Slater '11 led the PAC with 11 double-doubles.

## Slater, Harris earn honors

Christine Slater earned Second Team All-Presidents' Athletic Conference for her efforts this season. The sophomore forward averaged 15 points and 10 rebounds per game, leading the Wolverines in both statistics. She also led the PAC in double-doubles with 11. Her 400 points on the season is the seventh-highest total in program history, and she is the fifth Wolverine to score at least 400 points in a season, following Jody Imbrie (1980-82), Christine Carlson (1991), Kathy Hair (1992) and Theresa Berg (1992-93). In addition to her all-conference recognition, Slater was named Third Team All-Region by D3hoops.com.

Head Coach Sarah Harris joined Slater on the postseason awards roll. The Wolverines' coach was named 2009 Presidents' Athletic Conference Coach of the Year and Great Lakes Region Coach of the Year by D3hoops.com.

## Coach's Corner

It is a joy to share our first issue of "Full Court Press" with you. As alumnae of the basketball program, you must find that many of the events of our program resonate with your own playing experience.

While many faces change during the years, one constant remains: Grove City women's basketball continues to strive for excellence on and off the basketball court. As a coach, it is my privilege to work with the talented women who step onto the court each day. They are an extremely dedicated group who love the game of basketball and desire to achieve success through the sport. More than what they do on the court, they are a fun-loving, passionate team who will accomplish great things because of what they learned and encountered on the basketball court. It is fun to share a little of what we experienced together with you.

Our current players and coaches also recognize how important you are to the legacy and future of the women's basketball program at Grove City. We never would have been able to reach 400 program wins without you! We appreciate all you did for the program as a student and truly desire for you to continue to be a part of Wolverine hoops! There are a number of ways in which you can continue to be involved in our program.

I am always looking for talented basketball players who want a first-class education. If you know of any potential student-athletes who might contribute to our program, please refer them to me. Also, please keep us updated on your life and achievements. We have shared what the present players and coaches have been doing, but would love to hear from you! Finally, please continue to support us. Your presence and cheers from the stands motivate us, your encouragement and prayers sustain us and your financial contributions enable us to continue to provide an outstanding experience for future players. GO WOLVERINES!



Sarah Harris

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# Basketball, baloncesto y la entrenadora

## Harris coaches Spanish summer basketball camps

When the school year ends, the members of the women's basketball program return to their hometowns to find summer jobs, serve internships and take an occasional class. While her players are absent from campus, Coach Sarah Harris takes the opportunity to coach in a very different setting, country and language.

Having graduated as a Spanish major in college, Harris wondered how she could incorporate her love for the Spanish language with her passion for coaching basketball. The answer came four years ago when she traveled to Spain to conduct basketball clinics at L'Arcada camp. Since her initial trip, Harris has returned each year to direct two weeks of basketball camp at L'Arcada during the month of July.

Located outside of Banyoles, Spain, about two hours north of Barcelona in the foothills of the Pyrenees Mountains, L'Arcada hosts two weeks of residential basketball camps that are conducted entirely in the Spanish and Catalan languages. About 120 campers from the Catalan region attend the basketball camps. L'Arcada functions under the umbrella ministry of Greater Europe



Coach Sarah Harris, right, helps run summer basketball camps north of Barcelona, Spain. Top right: Harris, center, with the L'Arcada camp staff. Bottom right: A view of the basketball courts at L'Arcada.



Mission and uses camp ministry to present the gospel and discipleship to Spanish youths.

The experience is more than simply adjusting to language differences, international basketball rules and a Spanish style of basketball. Harris notes, "The weeks I coach in Spain are a humbling experience. I find myself tripping over my tongue and struggling to communicate the game of basketball far more than when I'm speaking English. However, the excitement the kids bring to the game is contagious, and it is a blessing to discover how basketball bonds us despite

our different cultures and languages."

Harris also acknowledges that it is a unique privilege to use the sport she loves to share her faith with athletes who attend camp. She adds that coaching in Spain has served as a reminder that basketball is a great sport and vehicle for learning about life and oneself in every language and culture.

The Grove City basketball team has become accustomed to hearing Harris incorporate Spanish into practice on occasion and now knows that when she yells, "¡Que nunca pares jugar!" it means to never give up!



## SEVEN from page 1

Despite a season of adversity, the Wolverines matched the previous season's record and finished in the top half of a Presidents' Athletic Conference that sent two teams to the NCAA national tournament and saw conference champion Thomas More reach the Sweet Sixteen.

The Wolverines bid a sad farewell to lone senior Raeann Szelong but return seven players for the 2009-10 season. The women's basketball team looks forward to continuing to build upon the successes of this past season.

Row 1, from left: Krista Beechy '10, Raeann Szelong '09 and Laura Miller '10. Row 2: Assistant Coach Elizabeth Fox, Jenna Johnston '11, Christine Slater '11, Head Coach Sarah Harris, Jayme Caldwell '12, Megan Gebrosky '12 and Assistant Coach Chelle Fuss.

## GEBROSKY from page 3

I learned that I am much more capable of things than I realized and when I push myself, I can accomplish pretty much anything.

I made a great group of friends from the team, people who I am very close with now, who I probably would not have met if I didn't play.

I was coached by three amazing coaches who helped

me out so much and pushed me when they knew that I could give more.

Overall, I would not have asked for any different season. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity and I loved every minute of it. And I would not have experienced that if I went to another college.

Going to Grove City College was the right choice for me, and I am glad that I decided to come here.

## SZELONG from page 3

The fight was about the team; we would not stop playing just because we were small in number. We would not stop playing ... period. The passion we had as a team was evident for all of our fans, coaches, professors and opponents.

I've learned more from the game of basketball than I could ever imagine ... most of it from this season alone. I became a witness to girls play-

ing a game they truly love for teammates they would give anything for. The bonds and strength we built this season will carry on much past our four years at Grove City. One of my proudest times during these years was playing for this program with an immense sense of honor for all the athletes who lived it before me. I hope that someday another player graduates from Grove City and grasps this sense of pride for my team this season.

# Team goes pink for a good cause

Grove City's women's basketball team joined efforts with more than 1,636 teams and organizations Feb. 13-22, by participating in the Women's Basketball Coaches Association's Pink Zone to raise awareness and money for breast cancer research. The combined efforts of these groups raised more than \$1.3 million.

During this period, the Wolverines and their opponents in the Presidents' Athletic Conference sported pink warm-up shirts and shoelaces.

Grove City got into the spirit even further when the women's basketball team hosted Saint Vincent College on Feb. 18. Partnering with the



Zeta Zeta Zeta sorority, the Wolverines used the game to raise awareness of breast cancer research and collected dona-

tions for the cause. Diana King, a staff member in the office of Student Life and Learning who is a breast cancer survivor,

served as an honorary coach. The NCAA joined the cause with its "Calling for a Cure" campaign, and all the officials made their calls during the game using pink whistles.

Proceeds from the Pink Zone event were given to the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund. Named after the former North Carolina State University women's basketball coach who passed away from breast cancer in January, the Kay Yow/WBCA Cancer Fund is a charitable organization that is committed to funding scientific research, assisting the underserved and unifying people in the fight against women's cancers.

# Coming & Going

Within a season of competition and an athlete's career, each person takes away a variety of experiences. Freshman Megan Gebrosky and senior Raeann Szelong each share their perspective on being a part of Grove City College women's basketball this season.

By Megan Gebrosky '12

I had a wide variety of college options that I could go to: Penn State, Seton Hill, Ohio University, Indiana University of Pennsylvania and Grove City. So why did I choose to come to a small, Christian school?

To start, a lot of my family members have gone here in the past, so I knew when I was growing up that Grove City would always be an option for me. My mother, Joyce (Weingartner '81) Gebrosky, came here, and she told me about her experience, and I have seen where it has gotten her, so that was a plus for me.

**“ I learned that I am more capable than I realized ... when I push myself, I can accomplish anything. ”**

I knew that my classes were going to be tough and I was going to have to work very hard, but I knew that in the end, going to Grove City

would give me the best options when I graduated. And it didn't hurt that I was able to play basketball either!

The reason that I chose to continue to play basketball at the collegiate level is because I could not imagine my life without basketball. I knew that balancing the workload here with practices was going



Megan Gebrosky '12

to be tough, and that I was going to have to adjust to everything because it would be completely different than high school, and boy, was I right.

We started out with having a big roster in pre-season, but by the time we were ready to start things off, we ended up with only seven people. I realized then that I was going to be getting a lot of playing time, something I was not expecting as a freshman. But it brought on a new challenge for me, and I was ready to face it head on.

This season as a freshman threw a lot of obstacles at me. I wasn't used to only having seven people on a team and I had no idea how practices were going to work, or if I was going to be able to make it through the whole season in one piece. The only thing I had, going into the season, was that I was on a short team in high school, so I knew that we were going to have to use our speed to win games.

By Raeann Szelong '09

What some might have seen as an incredible challenge, I quickly learned was just an opportunity disguised as unfair and difficult. This season was anything from ordinary, in practically every way possible for me. I'm Raeann Szelong and the only senior on this year's basketball team. That was the easy part though. I have been playing for Grove City since my freshman year.

So I showed up in the fall and expected everyone else to also. But as preseason approached, our team dwindled. We started the season with seven girls on the roster.

Going into preseason, I was skeptical and didn't know how I was going to find success. Tough games, tough opponents, tough practices ... all of these were typical of a season. I could barely comprehend the idea of playing with just two substitutes. Yet, within one month of practicing with these six other individuals, I knew something special was in the works. Sticking together as a team and getting that big win made all of the "tough times" seem minimal.

After the initial shock and demand of playing with a limited number, I realized there was more to this team than just basketball. This was the one thing missing from



Raeann Szelong '09

many of my other seasons and it made all the statistics and records less important. These seven individuals became more than just my teammates. The experience we went through is unique and not many can say they accomplished what we did. I am incredibly grateful to be a part of it.

**“ I learned that hard work and heart may not always beat talent, but it sure makes a good fight. ”**

We were often criticized and underestimated. I learned that hard work and heart may not always beat out talent, but it sure makes a great fight. I believe individually and collectively we all learned about this fight. The fight to play more minutes than most of our opponents. The fight to resist fouling too much or take on a position we were not comfortable playing.

Please see GEBROSKY and SZELONG, page 5

## PREPARE from page 1

Following the basketball season, she transitioned to the softball diamond where she earned PAC First Team All-Conference honors at third base.

Sometimes the two sports do overlap, though. Less than 12 hours after she played in the Presidents' Athletic Conference tournament quarterfinal basketball game, Slater promptly rejoined the softball team on their spring trip in Kissimmee, Fla.

Slater readily admits that playing two sports requires a great deal of discipline and commitment. She also notes that playing on two teams offers her double the benefits of teammates and bonding experiences.

She also gets to spend two seasons with Chelle Fuss, as the assistant basketball coach also serves as Grove City



Jayme Caldwell '12 and Laura Miller '10 prepare to begin the triathlon.

College's head softball coach.

Other members of the basketball team have continued to stay active. Junior Laura Miller and freshman Jayme Caldwell decided to incorporate their conditioning with training for a local triathlon, along with assistant coach Elizabeth Fox.

Rather than lacing up hightops, they donned swim caps and running shoes and pushed each other in another form of teamwork and competition — a mini triathlon in Slippery Rock called Brian's Ride.



Assistant coach Elizabeth Fox and Jayme Caldwell '12 run 2.5 miles.



Above: Jayme Caldwell '12 swims 400 yards.



Right and far right: Laura Miller '10 and Elizabeth Fox bike 10.5 miles.