O’Keefe earns All-American

Grove City College men’s basketball player Andy O’Keefe earned College Division Academic All-America Second Team honors from the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) and ESPN The Magazine. A 6-foot-7 senior center, O’Keefe is the first Grove City men’s basketball player to earn Academic All-America honors since Curt Svoboda in 1985.

As a junior, O’Keefe earned Second Team All-PAC recognition and All-Great Lakes honors from D3Hoops.com. In the classroom, O’Keefe majored in mathematics/secondary education. He is a Dean’s List student and has been named to the PAC Academic Honor Roll. O’Keefe is a Presidential Scholarship recipient and has been inducted into the Kappa Delta Pi education honorary.

O’Keefe is the seventh Grove City men’s basketball player to earn Academic All-America honors. In 1977, Joe Burns and Dirk Vandermeer both earned Honorable Mention Academic All-America. In 1978, Bill Fox earned Third Team honors while Mike Donahoe captured First Team Academic All-America in 1979.

See O’KEEFE, page 2

Winter teams tally successful seasons

All four of Grove City College’s winter sports teams posted successful seasons during 2009-10. Both the men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams captured Presidents’ Athletic Conference titles at the Grove City Invitational/PAC Championships Feb. 20. Grove City men’s basketball team rolled past Thomas More in the PAC Championship Tournament title game 78-61 Feb. 27 in the Grove City College Arena while the women’s squad recorded an 8-6 mark in league play — good for third place in the regular season standings.

See SEASON, page 3

Intramural Room gets a facelift

In recent issues, we have featured Physical Learning Center renovations, and now, the focus is the Intramural Room, located at the end of the main hall. We have made significant changes there. Both sides now have a composition floor to make the facility more conducive for numerous activities. We also installed drop-down dividers. This allows us to separate the Intramural Room into as many as four different areas. In addition, we replaced the wooden basketball backboards on the courts. The courts now have Plexiglass backboards with breakaway rims. In the future, we plan to install remote control electric scoreboards for each court. These enhancements will help us use the room to better meet the students’ needs.

GROVE CITY COLLEGE
Varsity G

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Varsity G is the official newsletter of the Grove City College Department of Physical Education and Athletics. It is published three times a year following each athletic season: winter, spring and fall.

In this issue...

College honors Heritage winners
Hall of Famers inducted
IM Room gets makeover

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Spring 2010
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Welcome to Varsity G

Dear alumni, parents, friends and varsity athletes,

We finished the winter season on a very high note. Our men’s basketball team won the Presidents’ Athletic Conference title and qualified for the NCAA Championships Tournament. Our men’s swimming and diving team completed their season by finishing first in the conference. The women’s swimming and diving team also won the conference title.

We had six of our women’s swimmers qualify for the NCAA Championships. All six ladies earned All-American distinction at the national meet. Their effort helped Grove City finish 11th in the nation, which is the team’s best finish ever at the NCAA meet.

Presently, we lead both the men’s and women’s PAC All-Sports Trophy races.

On Jan. 30, we inducted our fourth Athletic Hall of Fame class and honored our second class of Heritage Award winners. It was a fantastic day to say the least.

We are in the process of selecting our next class of Hall of Fame inductees and Heritage Award recipients. If you would like to nominate someone for the Hall of Fame or Heritage Award, please contact the athletic department. We welcome your input.

I would like to once again ask if you would be willing to loan or donate any memorabilia from your days as a Grove City College athlete. During the past two years, we have received numerous items, including letter jackets, varsity blankets, game balls and other interesting articles. We are very interested in adding to our historical displays.

All of these items are shown in prominent areas of the Physical Learning Center. The donor’s name is displayed with the loaned/donated item.

I am currently looking for a varsity letter sweater and a varsity "G" sweater worn by the cheerleaders in the 1950s and 60s. Thanks to all of you, our athletic program is very much alive, doing well and changing to meet the growing needs of our athletes. We hope that many of you will be able to visit soon to enjoy one or more of your favorite sporting events. Please stop in and say hello when you return to campus. You are always welcome.

O’KEEFE from page 1

Mark Smith earned Third Team Academic All-America in 1983. Sweeney earned Academic All-America in both 1984 and 1985.

O’Keefe is Grove City’s 13th Academic All-American since 2002. Those 13 student-athletes have earned a total of 18 Academic All-America citations.

Men’s Basketball
Led by PAC Coach of the Year Steve Lassie ’85 and conference Player of the Year Andy O’Keefe, Grove City earned its second conference title in the last four seasons this winter.

Grove City amassed a 19-9 overall record, including a 9-3 mark in conference play. The Wolverines advanced to the NCAA Championships Tournament for the first time since 1989 by winning the league title, but dropped a 63-52 decision at No. 17 Wooster in the first round of the tournament.

O’Keefe finished his career 13th on Grove City’s all-time scoring list with 1,164 points. He also graduates as Grove City’s career leader in field goal percentage. His 490 points this year are the seventh-most in one season at Grove City.

Women’s Basketball

Grove City posted a 10-8 overall and 12-7 PAC record. The Wolverines played a school-record five overtime games this year.

That mark is believed to match the most overtime games played in one season by an NCAA Division III squad.

Junior forward Christine Slater led the conference in scoring, averaging 16 points per game. She also ranked second in the league in rebounding, averaging 8.8 per game. Slater earned First Team All-PAC honors.

She also became Grove City’s 10th all-time, 1,000-point scorer and finished the season eighth on the all-time scoring list with 1,127 career points.

Senior captains Krista Bercy and Laura Miller both earned All-PAC Honorable Mention.

from page 1

Women’s Swimming and Diving

Grove City earned its second straight league title by amassing 963.5 points over the three-day event at the James E. Longnecker Competition Pool. It is the eighth conference title in program history.

Head coach Dave Fritz ’94 earned the conference’s Coach of the Year Award while six swimmers qualified for the NCAA Division III Championships during the meet.

Sophomore Erica Gargiulo earned the Grove City Invitational’s High Point Award after posting 60 individual points in the meet. She swept the sprints, winning the 50, 100 and 200 freestyle races.

Diver Kyle Grubbs, an NCAA provisional qualifier, earned the conference’s Diver of the Year Award.

Grove City posted an 11-2 record during the regular season, including a 3-0 mark in conference meets. The Wolverines posted 15-20 in Minneapolis. The Wolverines posted their 59th consecutive winning season and their fourth straight season of 10 or more wins.

Overall, Grove City now has 21 seasons with double-digit victory totals.

By Donald L. Lyle, Ed.D.
Director of Athletics

Best regards,
Donald L. Lyle, Ed.D.
Director of Athletics

College Inducts Hall of Famers

Grove City College inducted the fourth class of honorees into its Athletic Hall of Fame Jan. 30.

The eight inductees were: Theresa Berg ’93 (basketball), Kath琳ne Brandt ’82 (basketball/softball), Peter Butter ’61 (soccer), Richard Manley ’67 (soccer), David Marovich ’66 (basketball/track), Earl May ’63 (skiing), Thomas Shear ’66 (football/track) and Karen Watkins ’82 (basketball).

The College recognized the inductees during halftime of a men’s basketball game against Waynesburg University. They formally entered the Hall of Fame that evening during the induction ceremony. More than 200 people attended the festivities.

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