Courage, Carter named College’s top athletes

Grove City College honored senior swimmer Caleb Courage and senior cross country/track and field performer Kristen Carter as its respective Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year for 2008-09. Courage concluded his career as a three-time NCAA Division III champion in the 200 freestyle. Last March, Courage won the NCAA title with a time of 43.62 seconds in the finals. He also owns the Division III record in that event with a time of 43.60, set in the preliminaries at the NCAA Championships. A Shippenburg, Pa., native, Courage also won NCAA titles in 2006 and 2007. He spent the 2007-08 year training for the United States Olympic Trials and the 2007-08 year training for the United States Olympic Trials. At this year’s NCAA Championships, Courage earned All-America honors in the 50 and 100 freestyle races at the NCAA Championships. Courage also won NCAA titles in 2006 and 2007. He spent the 2007-08 year training for the United States Olympic Trials and the 2007-08 year training for the United States Olympic Trials. At this year’s NCAA Championships, Courage earned All-America honors in the 50 and 100 freestyle races at the NCAA Championships. Courage also won NCAA titles in 2006 and 2007. He spent the 2007-08 year training for the United States Olympic Trials and the 2007-08 year training for the United States Olympic Trials.

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This spring, he set new single-season school records with 13 home runs and 52 RBIs. Magister led Grove City in hitting (.443), total bases (194), slugging percentage (.852), on-base percentage (.506) and tied for the team lead with 43 runs scored.

Magister led the Presidents’ Athletic Conference in home runs, slugging percentage and sacrifice flies (8) this year and earned First Team All-PAC recognition. A converted outfielder, Magister earned the season with 54 total hits. He also finished third in the PAC in batting average and fourth in on-base percentage.

Marcus Magister ‘12 led the Presidents’ Athletic Conference in home runs, slugging percentage and sacrifice flies this year.

See MAGISTER, page 2

Magister powers to All-American season

D3Baseball.com, one of the leading authorities on Division III baseball, selected Grove City College sophomore catcher Marcus Magister as a Third Team All-American.

Magister emerged as one of the nation’s top power threats in 2009 as he posted one of the top offensive seasons in Grove City history.

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See STANDOUTS, page 3

VARSITY

The Official Newsletter Of Grove City College’s Department of Physical Education and Athletics

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See STANDOUTS, page 3
College posts strong All-Sports finishes

Grove City College's men's and women's sports teams posted strong finishes in the respective Presidents' Athletic Conference All-Sports Trophy races.

Grove City's men's teams placed second with 48.5 team points. On the men's side, the Wolverines won conference titles in cross country, swimming and diving, track and field and tennis during the 2008-09 academic year.

The women's teams finished third with 51.5 points this year as a mere five points separated the top three teams in the standings.

Grove City won conference titles in women's cross country, women's tennis and women's swimming and diving.

Overall, Grove City led the conference with seven total titles.

Washington & Jefferson won the Men's All-Sports Trophy with 56.5 points. Westminster recorded that same total in winning the Women's All-Sports Trophy.

We recently selected our eight Hall of Fame inductees and the four Heritage Award recipients for 2010. This year’s Hall of Fame class includes: Theresa Berg '93 (basketball); Kathie Brandt '82 (basketball/softball); Peter Buttner '61 (soccer); Richard Manley '63 (diving); Thomas Shear '66 (football); and Karen (Watkins '82) Sparks (basketball).

Our Heritage Award recipients are: Dr. Ted Penar '42, Tom Place '49, Esther Post '25 and Steven Stepanian '22.

The Hall of Fame Induction and the Heritage Award Ceremony will be held Jan. 30, 2010. If you are interested in attending, please contact me at dllyle@gcc.edu or (724) 458-2122. The cost is $25 per person, which includes the reception, dinner and induction ceremony.

During the next year in Varsity G, we are going to feature the many changes that have been made to our indoor and outdoor athletic facilities. In this issue, we are featuring our Hall of Fame and Heritage Hall.

With all of the improvements to our facilities, you really need to see the projects firsthand to appreciate all that has occurred. Homecoming would be a great time to visit your alma mater and catch up with old friends and see all of these projects. If Homecoming doesn’t work for you this year, please visit at any time.

When you are on campus, please stop in the Physical Education and Athletic Department to appreciate all that has occurred. Homecoming would be a big change. We have display cases around the room with memorabilia from each inductee’s time at the College. The College Maintenance Department spent countless hours renovating the display cases, erecting a wall and building enough additional cases to extend the life of the room for the next 15 years. We have an informational computer monitor on the inside wall that is devoted to our Hall of Fame inductees. During the peak recruiting times, the monitor focuses on the Athletic Department and provides contact information for each member of the department.

All of the display cases and trim have been stained a golden oak color to match the Hall of Fame plaques and Wendell August bronze athletic accents throughout the room. This theme has been carried out into the main hallway and into the newly-christened Heritage Hall (the old mailroom hallway). In this area, we display the Heritage Award plaques. The plaques include a framed picture and biography of each recipient, along with our new “G” logo in bronze.

Further down the hall in the display cases, we have photos of various sport teams, individual athletes, even trophies, medals and other memorabilia dating back to 1892. We also have on display the original or oldest team picture for each of our current or discontinued varsity sports. It is an interesting walk through time, and it gives visitors a taste of our rich athletic history.

We encourage you to visit campus and see these two venues as well as all of the other changes that are occurring. You will see how we are honoring our past, remembering our traditions and building on that rich history of excellence to enhance all future generations of Grove City College alumni.

Best regards,
Donald L. Lyle, Ed.D.
Director of Athletics
PAC titles, national tourney highlight year-end

Two Grove City College teams captured Presidents' Athletic Conference titles this spring in highlighting another strong season for the College’s athletic program.

The men’s tennis team earned its 19th straight league title by posting a perfect team score of 54 points. One week later the men’s track and field team accumulated 201 team points in rolling to its fifth straight title.

In addition, the women’s water polo team qualified for the College’s III Women’s Water Polo Championships since 2002.

Men’s Tennis

Grove City swept the nine championship flights at the PAC Championships in Erie, Pa. Senior John Moyer earned PAC Player of the Year for the second straight year while head coach Joe Walters received the conference’s Coach of the Year award.

Grove City finished the season with a 9-5 overall record, including a 5-0 mark in conference play. The Wolverines posted seven shutout victories in 2009 along with a 6-3 shutout in its final five conference games.

Catcher Marcus Magdiger set a new single-season program record with 13 home runs. He earned D3Baseball.com All-America honors (see related story) along with ECAC All-South Region recognition.

Shortstop Ben Wilson graduated as the program’s all-time leader in games played (138) and runs scored (111).

Softball

Grove City opened conference play with a 6-0 win, which represented the best Pac start in program history.

Senior infielder Amy Fisher graduated as Grove City’s all-time leader with 135 games played. Sophomore left fielder Brittany Young hit a program-record four home runs this season. She won three PAC titles that afternoon. Senior infielder Amy Fisher graduated as Grove City’s all-time leader with 135 games played. Sophomore left fielder Brittany Young hit a program-record four home runs this season. She won three PAC titles that afternoon.

Women’s Golf

A youthful Grove City squad earned second place at the spring-ending PAC Championships in West Middlesex, Pa. Freshman Arielle Goycuastra and junior Shayla Benninger both earned First Team All-PAC honors while sophomore Jessica Johansen and junior Michelle Peck each earned Second Team.

Grove City won the Thiel Invitational and also posted runner-up finishes at the Grove City Invitational and the Saint Vincent Invitational this spring.

Men’s Golf

Despite having just one senior on the roster, the men’s golf team assembled a solid season that culminated in a fourth-place finish at the PAC Championships.

Andrew Shaley earned Second Team All-PAC honors after tying for eighth overall. Grove City closed the season strongly, posting runner-up finishes at the Notre Dame (Ohio) Invitational and the Wolverines’ own McBride-Behringer-Aiken Invitational at the Grove City Country Club.

Baseball

The Wolverines advanced to the PAC Championship Tournament for the second straight season and ultimately finished third in the league.

The third-place finish capped a strong ending for Grove City, which earned the fourth and final berth in the tournament by winning its final five conference games.

Senior outfielder Tim Whiteman is the College’s all-time leader with 135 games played.

Women’s Track and Field

The men’s track and field team won its fifth straight PAC title, while men’s tennis won its 19th consecutive title.

In cross country/track and field, junior Derek Kruse is a First Team selection while senior Julia Seward landed on the Second Team.

Fisher starred all 36 games for Grove City this spring and hit .371. She led the team with 43 total hits, 14 extra-base hits, 62 total bases and 24 RBIs.

Fisher earned First Team All-President’s Athletic Conference at second base following the season. She majored in mathematics/secondary education.

Risbon earned her third career Academic All-District citation. She started all 36 games in right field, leading the team with 11 walks and recording a .313 on-base percentage. A four-year letter-winner and three-year starter, Risbon earned a molecular biology degree.

Koontz hit .274 this year as Grove City’s primary designated hitter. A four-year letterman, Koontz has played second base, third base, shortstop, outfield and also pitched. He earned an electrical engineering degree.

Fisher -943 with a school-record 13 home runs this season for Grove City. A molecular biology major, he is a Dean’s List student. The Academic All-District award is just one of several honors Magdiger earned in 2008. (see related story).

Patterson took over as Grove City’s starting second baseman early this season and finished with a .378 batting average. He also struck out just five times in 113 total plate appearances. Patterson is a molecular biology major. He is a Dean’s List student and has been named to the PAC Academic Honor Roll.

He is the vice president of Round Table sophomore men’s honorary.

STANDOUTS from page 1

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Athletes earn All-District honors for work in classroom

Ten Grove City College student-athletes earned Academic All-District honors from the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) and “ESPn The Magazine.”

In softball, senior Amy Fisher earned First Team All-District while classmate Rachael Risbon received Second Team.

Three baseball players earned Second Team All-District senior Cody Koontz, sophomore Mar- cus Magdiger and sophomore Andrew Patterson.

In the men’s All-League division, senior men’s tennis player Jeremy Dwyer and junior swimmer Patrick Albertson both earned First Team recognition. Senior swimmer Tim Whiteman is a Second Team honoree.

Amy Fisher ’09

Athletic Director Don Lyle (right) was on hand to congratulate Caleb Courage and Kristen Carter, both of Class of 2009.

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See DISTRICT, page 6

in the 1500-meter run, including the 2009 championship, during her career. She owns the school record in that event with a time of 4:43.75.

Carter also won two conference titles in the 5000. As a freshman in 2006, she finished sixth in the 1500 and eighth in the 5000 at the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championships. Carter earned four cross country titles and three letters in track and field.

She excelled in both the Grove City student-athletes to earn the NCAA Sportman- ship Award. She received the award in February for her sportsmanlike actions after the 2007 PAC Cross Country Championships.

This winter, she became the first Grove City student-athlete to earn the NCAA Sportmanship Award. She received the award in February for her sportsmanlike actions after the 2007 PAC Cross Country Championships.

A marketing management/communication studies graduate, Carter has been named to the Dean’s List and is a College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-America candidate. She is the daughter of Carrie and John Carter.

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Koontz hit .274 this year as Grove City’s primary designated hitter. A four-year letterman, Koontz has played second base, third base, shortstop and outfield and also pitched. He earned an electrical engineering degree. Magdiger hit .433 with a school-record 13 home runs this season for Grove City. A molecular biology major, he is a Dean’s List student. The Academic All-District award is just one of several honors Magdiger earned in 2008. (see related story).

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