

VARSITY

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

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Ten earn Academic All-District, lead PAC

Ten Grove City student-athletes earned College Division Academic All-District II honors from *ESPN The Magazine* and the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) this fall.

In men's soccer, senior Ian Lamborn earned First Team Academic All-District while senior Jonathan Breese achieved Second Team Academic All-District honors.

Two women's soccer players also earned All-District honors. Junior defender Alix Flowers earned First Team Academic All-District while senior defender Jessica Van Sichel landed on the Second Team.

In football, senior linebacker Garret Choby and junior Matt Weil each earned First Team



Alix Flowers '08 earned All-District honors and joined three others on the national ballot.

All-District honors while senior defensive linemen Jordan Johnston and Richard Welch received Second Team recognition. It is the second straight year that those four players have earned Academic All-District.

Junior Heather Fraiz and

junior Kim Walsh both earned Second Team All-District for volleyball.

Choby, Flowers, Lamborn and Weil all advanced to the national Academic All-America ballot.

Lamborn is a two-year letterwinner at forward. He is a molecular biology/chemistry double major and owns a 3.78 cumulative grade-point average. Breese is a four-year letterman and three-year starter at mid-fielder for the Wolverines. He has achieved a 3.74 GPA while majoring in finance.

A two-year starter and three-year letterwinner, Flowers started 16 of 18 games for Grove City's women's team (9-7-2

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Grove City in hunt for All-Sports trophies

Grove City captured a conference-leading three titles during the fall sports season, helping both the men's and women's teams move into prime position in the battle for the Presidents' Athletic Conference's All-Sports Trophies.

On the women's side, Grove City captured conference titles in both cross country and women's tennis to earn a share of the All-Sports

For a complete look at the fall sports results, turn to page 4 for a season wrap-up.

lead with Westminster. Both schools have 23 total points. In addition to earning seven points each for the conference titles, Grove City also earned five points for women's soccer and four for

volleyball.

Grove City is currently third in the Men's All-Sports Trophy competition. Grove City has 13½ points and trails leader Washington & Jefferson by 2½ points. Westminster is second with 15 points.

Grove City earned seven points for its PAC title in men's cross country. Grove City also earned five points in men's soccer and 1½ points in football.



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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.

Three inducted into Soccer Hall of Fame

Grove City College inducted Vaughn "Stu" Irwin '53, Jon Bornholm '78 and retired head coach Dr. Don Lyle into its Men's Soccer Hall of Fame during Homecoming Weekend Oct. 14. They are the 16th, 17th and 18th individuals to enter the Hall.

Irwin earned four letters as a goalkeeper in the early 1950s. Known for both his leadership qualities and athletic ability, Irwin started in goal for the program's first undefeated team in 1952 (6-0-0). In 1952, Irwin earned three shutout wins in goals and allowed just five goals in the team's six matches.

For his career, he posted a 1.2 goals-against average. The Wolverines went 16-7-5 during his four years at Grove City.

A defensive standout, Bornholm twice earned Grove City's Most Valuable Player award during his career at Grove City from 1974-77. He anchored the Wolverine defense in 1976, helping Grove City advance to the NCAA Division III quarterfinals. As a junior that season, Bornholm's teammates elected him as the squad's outstanding junior.



Above, Jon Bornholm '78 (left) and Vaughn Irwin '53 joined retired coach Dr. Don Lyle (at right) in the Soccer Hall of Fame.



As a senior in 1977, Bornholm earned First Team honors from the West Penn Intercollegiate Soccer Conference. He also earned Honorable Mention Regional All-America recognition from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) following the season.

In 34 years as head coach, Lyle guided Grove City to 277 victories and six postseason berths. Grove City advanced to the NCAA quarterfinals in 1976 while his 1996 team won the Eastern College Athletic Conference Southern Championship

Tournament.

In 2005, his final year as head coach, the Wolverines won the Presidents' Athletic Conference title and advanced to the ECAC finals. Grove City also won three conference titles (1 WPISC, 2 PAC) under his direction.

Lyle also helped foster the development of the College's men's soccer alumni program. He was also heavily involved in the development of local soccer programs. For his efforts in the community, Lyle earned the Florence MacKenzie Campus-Community Award in 1988.

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McNees' record-setting season leads All-Region soccer honors

Senior men's soccer player **Bob McNees** earned All-Region honors from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) and D3Kicks.com Dec. 1.

Three Grove City College women's soccer players also earned All-Great Lakes Region honors from D3Kicks.com: sophomore goalkeeper **Diana Prangel**, freshman midfielder **Hannah Yang** and senior midfielder **Maia Siber**.

The NSCAA and adidas recognized McNees as All-Mid-Atlantic Region Third Team at forward while D3Kicks.com honored McNees as Second Team All-Mid-Atlantic at forward.

McNees helped lead Grove City to an 11-7-2 record in 2006. He earned his second straight Presidents' Athletic Conference Player of the Year award after scoring a conference-best 17 goals this year. He also led the PAC with eight game-winning goals. McNees earned PAC Player of the Week honors four times in 2006.

McNees became Grove City's all-time leading scorer Sept. 2 as he recorded a hat trick in a 3-0 win over Pitt-Bradford. He finished his career with 63 total goals. McNees led Grove City in scoring each of his four years and earned First Team All-PAC in each of his final three seasons.

The Wolverines advanced to the semifinals of the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Southern Championship Tournament this season. In 2005, McNees helped Grove City to its first PAC Championship Tournament crown and a berth in the ECAC finals.

McNees is the first Grove City player to earn NSCAA All-Region since Mike Koper in



Bob McNees '07 earned All-Region honors this season and was twice named PAC Player of the Year.

2003. This is the first year that D3Kicks.com has award All-Region honors.

For women's soccer, Prangel and Yang each earned Second Team recognition while Siber received Third Team status from D3Kicks.com.

Prangel started all 18 matches in goal for Grove City (9-7-2) this season. She earned First Team All-Presidents' Athletic Conference this season and posted a 1.73 goals-against average this season. Prangel twice earned PAC Defensive Player/Goalkeeper of the Week in 2006.

Yang emerged as the season progressed and started the final eight games of the season. She played in all 18 matches this year and finished with six goals and two assists. Yang earned First Team All-PAC honors from the league coaches following the season. She also earned PAC and Eastern College Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Week honors Oct. 29.

Siber started all 18 matches for Grove City and had one goal and three assists. She earned First Team All-PAC. A four-year starter, Siber helped Grove City to the NCAA Championship Tournament in 2003.

Welcome to 'Varsity G'

Dear Alumni, Athletes, Parents and Friends,

It is hard to believe that the fall season is over, and 2007 is upon us. As you will read in this newsletter, our fall sports teams have had a very successful season. At the conclusion of the fall sports season, we are ahead of last year's pace in our quest for the Presidents' Athletic Conference All-Sports Trophies. With our winter sports teams well into their respective seasons, we are particularly excited about our chances of winning both the men's and women's All-Sports Trophies this year.



Donald L. Lyle

Preparations are well under way for the inaugural induction ceremony for the Grove City College Athletic Hall of Fame Feb. 17, 2007. We will be spending the next few months preparing the awards and the new location that will house the Hall of Fame awards. The Hall of Fame dedication ceremony will be at 2 p.m. in the new Hall of Fame venue located in the Physical Learning Center. At half-time of the men's basketball game against Thomas More (approximately 3:45 p.m.), all inductees will be introduced and recognized during the Hall of Fame March.

As you can imagine, Feb. 17 promises to be a very exciting day for the inductees, their family, guests and Grove City College. If you would like to make reservations to attend the formal reception, dinner and induction ceremony, please contact my office at (724) 458-2122 or e-mail me at dllyle@gcc.edu. The cost for the evening is \$25 per person. This includes the 5 p.m. reception, 6 p.m. dinner and the induction ceremony. For those interested in attending, we need your reservation(s) and payment for the reception/dinner/induction ceremony by Jan. 17.

In an effort to provide special recognition for our athletic program, I have started a new award, the "Varsity G Commemorative Coin." The purpose of this award is to provide recognition to athletes, alumni and friends of the Athletic Department.

As you will see from the picture, the front of the coin displays the varsity "G" in red. Around the edge of coin is the phrase "Grove City College Athletic Department - Striving for Excellence." The back of the coin displays the College shield and the five characteristics which I believe our athletes most represent: Character, Integrity, Faith, Scholarship and Work Ethic.

I believe these characteristics lay the foundation for what makes our athletes special. It is the development of these characteristics that carry us through life. The lessons and principles that are learned and developed in an athletic environment will touch our lives forever.

I want to personally wish everyone a Happy New Year.

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



All-conference honors given to 27 Grove City fall athletes

A total of 27 fall sports athletes earned All-Presidents' Athletic Conference honors from conference coaches in their respective sports in November.

Seven members of Grove City's women's soccer team earned All-PAC honors while six men's soccer players earned All-PAC recognition. The Grove City volleyball team also placed three players on the All-PAC squads. Eleven Grove City football players also earned All-PAC honors Nov. 13.

Senior forward **Bob McNees** earned his second straight PAC men's soccer Player of the Year award after leading the conference with 17 goals in 2006. McNees became Grove City's all-time leading goal-scorer with 63 career goals. He also earned First Team recognition for the third straight season.

Also, senior midfielder **Jonathan Breese** started 20 matches and earned First Team honors. Breese earned Second Team recognition in 2005.

Four members of the Wolverines' suffocating defense earned Second Team honors: junior goalkeeper **Michael Manahan**, senior defender **Brendan McCommas**, junior stopper **Tommy Bresson** and sophomore sweeper **Jack Adams**. Manahan started all 20 matches in goal this season and yielded just 0.94 goals per game. He posted seven full shutouts and contributed to two other shutouts this year. Manahan, a Second Team All-PAC pick in 2005, stopped 85 percent of shots faced this year.

Adams, Bresson and



Defensive tackle Jordan Johnston '07 (left) and middle hitter Carlie Roberts '07 were named to First Team All-PAC teams for football and volleyball respectively this year.

McCommas formed an iron-clad backline that helped limit opponents to just 0.92 goals per match this season. McCommas started all 20 matches at outside back while Adams made 19 starts on defense. Bresson started all 20 matches.

Grove City placed four women's soccer players on the PAC's First Team. Senior midfielder **Maia Siber**, sophomore midfielder **Stephanie Wild**, sophomore goalkeeper **Diana Prangel** and freshman **Hannah Yang** all earned First Team honors. A four-year starter for Grove City (9-7-2 overall in 2006), Siber had one goal and three assists this year. Siber also earned First Team All-PAC honors as a sophomore in 2004.

Wild led Grove City in scoring with nine goals in 14 matches this year. Yang, meanwhile, had six goals in 18 matches this year. Prangel posted nine wins in goal this year for Grove City, posting a 1.79 goals-against average. She helped the Wolverines to six shutout victories in 2006.

Junior midfielder **Bethany**



Peck, sophomore forward **Laura Shipley** and sophomore defender **Kristin Colley** all received Honorable Mention. Led in part by its three All-Conference selections, the Grove City volleyball team finished 20-11 in 2006. Senior middle hitter **Carlie Roberts** earned First Team honors for the second straight season. Roberts averaged 3.14 kills and 0.96 blocks per game this year.

Junior setter **Kim Walsh** and sophomore middle hitter **Natalie Liberati** each received Second Team honors. Walsh set new Grove City single-season records for total assists (1,333) and assists per game (11.69) this year. Liberati, meanwhile, averaged 3.05 kills per game this year.

Two Grove City football players earned First Team All-PAC honors Nov. 13, junior center **Matt Gregg** and senior punter **Henry Johnston**.

Gregg is a two-year starter at center for Grove City (3-7 in 2006). He started all 10 games this season, helping anchor an offensive line that featured several different com-

binations due to injury. Gregg earned Second Team All-PAC in 2005.

Henry Johnston led the PAC in punting, averaging 38.6 yards per punt. He also led the league in net punting, averaging 33.8 yards net. Johnston also placed 14 of his 51 punts inside the opponents' 20-yard line. He had just one touch-back this year.

Senior offensive tackle **Bob Perri**, junior defensive tackle **Justin Fowler** and senior cornerback **Chris Schwamberger** all earned Second Team recognition. Perri is a three-year starter at right tackle for Grove City. Like Gregg, he started all 10 games and was a stalwart along the offensive line. Perri earned All-PAC Honorable Mention in 2005.

Fowler flourished in his first year as a starter for Grove City. He started nine games at defensive tackle and finished with 42 total tackles. Fowler also had three sacks and forced three fumbles. In addition, he also blocked seven extra-point attempts this season. That is believed to be an NCAA Division III single-season record.

Schwamberger tied for the PAC lead with a career-high five interceptions this season. His five picks were the most for a Grove City player since Gene Iannuzzi had five interceptions in 2002. Schwamberger also broke up eight passes.

Sophomore safety **Shane Coughlin**, freshman quarterback **Andrew DiDonato**, senior split end **Scott Fichter**, senior nose tackle **Jordan Johnston**, junior linebacker **Bill Waugh** and junior tailback **Matt Weil** all earned Honorable Mention.

Fall athletes lead PAC in All-District academics

From page 1

overall) this season. She helped Grove City record six shutouts on the season. Flowers has a 3.98 grade-point average as a Christian thought major. She earned Third Team Academic All-District in 2005.

Van Sickel is a three-year starter and four-year letterwinner at defender for the Wolverines. She has a 3.84 GPA while majoring in biology.

Choby is a four-year letterman and two-year starter at middle linebacker for Grove City. Choby owns a 3.66 cumulative grade-point average while majoring in biology.

He is president of Grove City's Student Government Association (SGA). It is Choby's second consecutive First Team All-District selection.

Weil is a two-year starter and three-year letterman in the Wolverine backfield. A mechanical engineering major, Weil owns a 3.35 grade-point average. He earned Second Team All-District in 2005.

Johnston earned his second straight Second Team All-District selection. A four-year letterman and three-year starter at



Tailback Matt Weil '08 (No. 32) advanced to the Academic All-America ballot.

defensive tackle, he majoring in elementary/early childhood education Johnston owns a 3.37 cumulative GPA.

Welch is a three-year letterman and two-year starter at defensive end for Grove City. He owns a 3.38 GPA in business management. Welch studied in Namibia during the spring 2006 semester and earned First Team Academic All-District honors last season.

Walsh earned her second straight All-District honor. She earned Third Team recognition in 2005. A three-year starter at setter, Walsh set a new Grove City single-season record with 1,333 assists in 2006. She has a 3.93 cumulative grade-point average as a communication studies major.

Fraiz is a two-year starter and letterwinner at outside hitter for the Wolverines. Fraiz has achieved a 3.91 GPA as an elementary/early childhood education major.

Grove City's 10 total All-District II selections led the PAC. The seven other PAC members had a combined 11 Academic All-District honorees.

District II includes all non-NCAA Division I colleges and universities in Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. To be nominated for the CoSIDA Academic All-America program, a student-athlete must be at least a sophomore with a 3.2 or higher cumulative grade-point average and be a starter or significant reserve.

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Fall sports season finishes strong, three teams crowned PAC champs

Three Grove City fall sports teams captured Presidents' Athletic Conference titles while three other Wolverine teams remained in contention until the final week of the season.

The men's soccer team advanced to the ECAC Southern Championship Tournament for the second straight year while individually, numerous Grove City athletes made history this fall as several long-standing records fell.

Women's Tennis

Grove City's women's tennis team secured its 20th consecutive PAC title Oct. 21 in Erie as Wolverine players won eight of nine possible flights. Freshman Nicole Andreini captured the conference's Player of the Year award after winning the PAC title at both first singles and first doubles.

Junior Kristin McNally earned PAC titles at both second singles and second doubles while sophomore Tamara Nations picked up titles at third singles and first doubles. Senior Lindsey Hosler, the team's lone senior, also earned two league titles by winning at second doubles and fifth singles. Junior Julie Bellissimo won the conference's No. 6 singles title while junior Erin Bennett and freshman Kristin Taylor combined to win the third doubles championship.

Andreini also won the consolation bracket of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Southeast Regional Championships Championship draw in Fredericksburg, Va. Sept. 25. Andreini went 5-1 at the three-day event and knocked off two ranked players.

Grove City went 8-5, including a 5-0 record in PAC play.

Men's Cross Country

The Wolverines earned their 16th straight PAC title Oct. 28 at Waynesburg College. Sophomore Daniel Spaulding earned PAC MVP honors after finishing third in the overall race. Saint Vincent runners placed first and second in the race but were not eligible for

All-Conference recognition due to SVC's provisional status in NCAA Division III.

Junior Joey Cortez, sophomore Brett Kelly, sophomore Nathan Johnson and freshman Royce Hyland all joined Spaulding on the PAC's seven-man First Team. Rookies Frankie Hourigan, Joshua Lauer and Jonathan Srour all achieved Second Team honors.

Grove City capped its season Nov. 11 with a 10th-place finish at the NCAA Midwest Regional Championships in Waynesburg, Pa. It is Grove City's best finish at the regional meet since a ninth-place finish in 1999. Spaulding narrowly missed earning All-Region honors with a 36th-place finish while Hyland received Freshman All-Region recognition.

Women's Cross Country

Grove City earned its 18th consecutive conference title Oct. 28. The Wolverines accumulated 32 team points while host Waynesburg had 35 total points.

Sophomore Kristen Carter captured the conference's MVP award by winning the individual race by 22 seconds. Senior Cara Pierce and junior Sarah Sharp both earned First Team All-PAC also. Second Team honors went to junior Candice Coholich, senior Alex Anderson, sophomore Tarah Just and junior Rachael Smith.

Carter qualified for the NCAA Division III Championships by finishing seventh overall in the Midwest Regional Championships at Waynesburg Nov. 11. She placed 175th overall at the national championships.

As a team, Grove City placed 12th in the 41-team field.

Men's Soccer

For the second straight season, Grove City (11-7-2) advanced to the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Southern Championship Tournament. The Wolverines ousted top-seeded Swarthmore in the quarterfinals Nov. 8 in a double-overtime shootout. Grove City's bid for an ECAC title

came to an end Nov. 11 with a 2-0 loss in the semifinals to Gettysburg.

Under the direction of first-year head coach Mike Dreves '97, the Wolverines had their 10th winning season in 12 years. It is the team's fourth straight season with at least 10 victories.

Senior forward Bob McNees became Grove City's all-time leading scorer with 63 career goals. He surpassed the record set by Ross Emerson '57, who scored 48 goals in 27 matches during his career (1953-56).

Volleyball

The Wolverines posted their best record since 2001, going 20-11 overall and 8-4 in the Presidents' Athletic Conference. Grove City swept Washington & Jefferson during the regular season and also earned the program's first-ever win over Thomas More on Senior Night Oct. 27.

Junior setter Kim Walsh set a new school record with 1,333 assists this season. Her PAC-leading 11.69 assists per game is also the highest average in program history. Junior Heather Fraiz led the Wolverines with 3.32 kills per game and was second in digs (3.51).

Grove City went 8-2 at home this year, the Wolverines' best mark in the College Arena since 2000.

Football

Grove City closed the 2006 season with back-to-back wins over Case Western Reserve (40-33) and the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (14-6). The Wolverines also earned their first win over Westminster since 1979 with a 21-20 triumph Sept. 30 at Robert E. Thorn Field.

Freshman quarterback Andrew DiDonato set new single-season passing records at Grove City with 151 completions and 275 pass attempts. Grove City had five different players catch at least 20 passes this year this season.

Meanwhile, junior defensive tackle Justin Fowler set a new school and unofficial NCAA Division III record with seven blocked extra points this season.



Ian Lamborn '07



Nicole Andreini '10



Kristen Carter '09