

VARSETY

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

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Carter earns All-America



JUNIOR CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER KRISTEN CARTER EARNED ALL-AMERICA HONORS AFTER PLACING 26TH IN THE NCAA DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Grove City College junior cross country standout Kristen Carter earned NCAA Division III All-America honors Nov. 17 after placing 26th in the NCAA Championships at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn. Carter finished the six-kilometer course in 22 minutes, earning her first NCAA All-America honor.

Junior Julia Seward debuted at the national meet and finished 129th out of 280. She recorded a time of 23:12.

Carter is the second NCAA All-American in Grove City women's cross country history, joining Elisa Pedersen, an All-American in 2004 and 2005.

Carter's success at the national championships capped a banner year. During the 2007 season, Carter won four straight individual titles Sept. 28-Oct. 27. She began by winning Lehigh University's Paul Short Invitational Sept. 28 in Bethlehem.

The next week, Carter stormed to a 26-second victory at the Slippery Rock University Open. Her personal win streak reached three Oct. 13 with the individual title at the Gettysburg Invitational.

See **CARTER**, page 5

Matt Gregg plays in Aztec Bowl

Senior center Matt Gregg helped the United States earn a 39-17 victory over the Mexican All-Stars in the Aztec Bowl Dec. 8 in Chihuahua, Mexico.

The Aztec Bowl is the traditional season-ending game for Mexico's college football season. The game has been played 36 times since 1947, with the last 11 meetings featuring a team of Division III all-stars playing the Mexican College All-Stars.

Gregg was one of 50 NCAA Division III players selected to play in the Aztec Bowl by the



SENIOR MATT GREGG HELPED THE U.S. TO A 39-17 WIN OVER MEXICO.

American Football Coaches Association.

"It was an honor to be able to represent the school and our country," Gregg said. "Since football isn't played in the Olympics, it's one of the few chances somebody gets to represent our country in football."

Gregg played extensively at center for the U.S. squad and helped the Americans accumulate 397 yards of total offense.

"It was great to get out there and have a say in bringing home a victory for the United States," Gregg said.

See **GREGG**, page 3

Serving up the cure



Pictured are the Grove City College and Westminster College volleyball teams following their match Oct. 20 in the Grove City College Arena. The Presidents' Athletic Conference rivals teamed up for "Volley for the Cure" and raised more than \$1,100 for the Susan G. Komen Foundation for breast cancer awareness and research. Both teams wore commemorative pink jerseys for the match.

Grove City in All-Sports hunt

Grove City is in the thick of the race for the Presidents' Athletic Conference's All-Sports Trophies at the conclusion of the 2007 fall sports season. Grove City currently sits in second place on both the men's and women's side.

On the women's side, Grove City accumulated 27 points during the fall and trails Westminster by just one point. Grove City earned conference titles in women's tennis and women's cross country this autumn.

Grove City's three men's teams combined to pick up 15 points during the fall. Grove City earned seven points for its men's cross country title while the football team picked up five points for its third-place finish.

Washington & Jefferson leads the men's race with 20 points.

Teams are awarded points based on their finish in each sport. Women's champions receive eight points. The point scale descends incrementally to where eighth-place gets one point.

The men's scoring system is based on seven teams, with champions receiving seven points.

Inside...

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Welcome to 'Varsity G' | 2 |
| Flowers honored | 2 |
| First night game success | 3 |
| Walters inducted at SRU | 3 |
| Roberts, Lamie get key wins | 3 |
| Fall sports wrap-up | 4 |
| PAC honors rundown | 5 |
| Grove City 2nd in All-Sports | 6 |

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GROVE CITY COLLEGE **Varsity G**

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SENIOR ALIX FLOWERS IS THE SECOND WOMEN'S SOCCER PLAYER TO EARN ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA HONORS.

Alix Flowers named to Academic All-America

Senior women's soccer player Alix Flowers earned Third Team Academic All-America honors from "ESPN The Magazine" and the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) through voting by a panel of sports information directors nationwide. It is Flowers' first Academic All-America citation.

Flowers started at outside back each of the last three seasons and earned four letters at Grove City. This season, Flowers helped Grove City to a 16-4-1 overall record, including the top seed in the season-ending Eastern College Athletic Conference Southern Championship Tournament. She played in 20 matches this year and played an integral role in a defense that posted 11 shutouts.

In the classroom, Flowers owns a 3.95 cumulative grade-point average while majoring in Christian thought. She is a six-time Dean's List selection and has been named to the Presidents' Athletic Conference Academic Honor Roll three times.

Flowers is also a Presidential Scholarship recipient and has been inducted into the Theta Alpha Kappa religion honorary.

As a sophomore in 2005, Flowers received Third Team Academic All-District honors. She then earned First Team Academic All-District last season.

Flowers is Grove City's second all-time women's soccer Academic All-American. Meg Tilley '04 earned Academic All-America in both 2002 and 2003. She is also the ninth different Grove City student-athlete to earn Academic All-America since 2002.

Welcome to 'Varsity G'

Dear Varsity Athletes, Alumni, Parents and Friends,

Grove City College hosted its first-ever night football game on Sept. 22. Approximately 5,100 fans watched a very exciting football game between Waynesburg and Grove City under the lights at Robert E. Thorn Field.

The College made the evening a fall festival for the College and local community with free admission to the game. An all-College picnic was held before the game and a fireworks display after the game closed the night. The students really supported the day, calling for a "White Out" in support of the game. The Zeta Zeta Zeta sorority sold "White Out" T-shirts, which were a huge success. The College also purchased spirit towels for everyone entering the game. The evening was the largest-attended athletic event in the history of the College. The game was action-packed and the air was electric to say the least.

Our women's soccer team hosted the ECAC Southern Championship Tournament Nov. 8-11. They earned the No. 1 seed out of eight teams and were chosen to host the entire tournament.

Thanks to the College and alumni donations, we were able to make the necessary renovations to College Field that allowed us to meet the facility standards needed to host a Championship event.

We continue to make improvements to the facility. The next phase is to expand the bleacher area from 300 to 1,000-seat capacity to meet the minimum requirements to host NCAA Tournament matches.

The baseball and softball fields have also been enclosed and new scoreboards installed. In addition, our department is going through a new branding process to make all of our logos and lettering for uniforms and advertisements consistent with the College.

Homecoming was very exciting. Many of our sports teams hosted alumni games or gatherings to celebrate the weekend. Our 1982-83 men's basketball team returned to celebrate the 25th anniversary of its historic season. The men's soccer team held its annual Hall of Fame Game as the 72 alumni players defeated the varsity team, 3-1. The women's soccer, volleyball and women's water polo teams also had alumni games or gatherings throughout the day.

We are in the process of preparing to induct our second class into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony is Feb. 16. If you are interested in attending, the cost is \$25 per person, which includes the reception, dinner and induction ceremony.

To place a reservation, please contact me at dllyle@gcc.edu or call (724) 458-2900. All reservations must be made by Jan. 17.

We are in the process of developing the Grove City College Athletic Heritage Award and Athletic History display, which will be housed in the Physical Learning Center.

We are looking for any trophies, pins, pictures, awards or memorabilia you would like to loan or donate for display. Anything you could share verbally or tangibly would be very much appreciated. Please contact me: Don Lyle, Grove City College, 100 Campus Dr., Grove City, PA 16127 or at (724) 458-2122 or dllyle@gcc.edu.

Please stop in when you are on campus. You are always welcome.



Donald L. Lyle

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

PAC honors go to 26 Grove City athletes

Twenty-six Grove City College fall sports athletes earned All-Presidents' Athletic Conference honors from the sports coaches in the conference. Four players from the men's and women's soccer teams earned All-PAC status while three volleyball players also received All-Conference recognition.

In women's soccer, junior forward Stephanie Wild, junior back Kristin Colley and freshman midfielder Emily Ostlund earned First Team All-PAC honors. Sophomore midfielder Elise Bender earned Second Team honors.

Four Grove City men's soccer players received Second Team All-PAC honors: junior back Jack Adams, senior midfielders Tommy Bresson and Barry Snyder and freshman forward Jake Kern.

In volleyball, junior middle hitter Natalie Liberati earned First Team All-PAC honors from the conference's volleyball coaches while senior setter Kim Walsh earned Second Team. Senior Jen Plyler received Honorable Mention.

Six Grove City football players earned either First or Second Team All-PAC distinction. Senior center Matt Gregg earned First Team honors for the second straight season.

Senior nose tackle Justin Fowler, senior linebacker Bill Waugh and junior cornerback Mike Baker all earned First Team on the defensive side of the ball.

Junior guard Dave Salera and freshman kicker Chris Haley earned Second Team honors.

Colley started all 21 matches at center back for the women's soccer team while helping the Wolverines record 11 shutouts this year. She is a two-year starter for the Wolverines.

Ostlund led Grove City in scoring with 15 goals and 31 total points this year. She started all 21 matches and led the team with five game-winning goals. Wild is a First Team All-PAC pick for the second consecutive season after recording 12 goals and five assists. She recorded four game-winners while starting all 21 matches.

Bender led Grove City with six assists. Like Grove City's other three All-PAC honorees, Bender started all 21 matches this year.

Adams earned his second straight Second Team All-PAC honor after anchoring the Grove City defense from his center

back position. He started all 18 matches this year and helped the Wolverines notch three shutouts.

Bresson is also a two-time Second Team All-PAC selection. He started 15 matches this season and scored two goals.

Bresson started at back in each of his first three seasons this year but moved to midfield this year. An injury sidelined Bresson for the final three matches of the season, snapping his streak of 79 consecutive starts at Grove City.

Snyder played both defender

and midfielder for Grove City this year and shared the team lead in assists with three. He started all 18 matches and earned the team's Most Valuable Player award this year.

Kern made an immediate impact in his rookie season at Grove City, leading the Wolverines in goals (6) and total points (14). Kern closed his season by recording a hat trick at Thiel Oct. 27.

Liberati helped the volleyball team to its second straight 20-win season and lead the squad with an average 3.71 kills and

0.85 blocks per game. Liberati earned Second Team All-PAC as a sophomore last year.

Walsh led the PAC in assists per game, averaging 11.99. She set Grove City records for single-match assists (69), single-season assists (1,403) and career assists (4,409). Walsh is a two-time Second Team selection.

Plyler was among the conference leaders in both kills and digs this fall. She averaged 3.01 kills and 4.98 digs per game.

A three-year starter, Gregg anchored a youthful Grove City offensive line this season. Gregg started all 10 games for the second straight season and earned his third All-PAC honor.

Fowler led Grove City in tackles for loss (7.5) and quarter-

back sacks (5.5) this season. He started all 10 games at nose tackle and recorded 54 total tackles.

Waugh started 30 straight games over the last three seasons at weakside linebacker and finished second on the team

with 84 tackles. Waugh had one interception, a forced fumble and four pass breakups this season.

Baker emerged as one of the region's top cornerbacks in 2007 as he led the PAC in interceptions (5), pass deflections (11) and total passes defended (16). Baker also had 58 total tackles, including a team-leading 43 solo stops.

Salera earned All-PAC honors as a first-year starter. He started nine games at right guard, solidifying the offensive line. Haley handled both place-kicking and punting chores for Grove City. He made seven of 11 field goal attempts, including a conference-best 49-yard field goal against Waynesburg Sept. 22.

Nine other Wolverine players earned Honorable Mention: senior fullback Wes Basham, sophomore defensive tackle Tony Clark, sophomore quarterback Andrew DiDonato, junior linebacker Adam Eichler, junior guard Brandon McHugh, junior tailback Brian Mercer, sophomore cornerback Randy Santina, senior wingback Ian Tobin and senior split end Jay Yanak.



JUSTIN FOWLER '08



KIM WALSH '08



JACK ADAMS '09

Carter named All-American; Seward earns All-Region honors

From page 1

Carter wrapped up her win streak Oct. 27 by capturing her second straight Presidents' Athletic Conference title at Saint Vincent College. She then qualified for the NCAA Championships by taking fifth at the NCAA Midwest Regional

Championships.

After missing the 2006 season due to injury, Seward excelled throughout 2007. She placed 12th at the Midwest Championships, earning All-Region honors and a trip to the NCAA Championships.

This is the first season Grove City has had multiple qualifiers for the NCAA Division III Women's Cross Country Championships. Carter also qualified for the 2006 NCAA Championships and placed 175th.



THE WOLVERINES PAUSE AFTER THE COLLEGE'S FIRST NIGHT GAME TO WATCH THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

First night game makes history

Grove City College played its first-ever night football game at Robert E. Thorn Field Sept. 22 against visiting Waynesburg. A Thorn Field-record crowd of 5,100 attended the historic event that featured a post-game fireworks display.

The Wolverines rallied from a 14-0 first-quarter deficit to take a 23-20 lead in the fourth quarter. However, Waynesburg running back Robert Heller scored on a one-yard touchdown run with 13 sec-

onds left to secure a 27-23 victory.

Grove City installed lights at Thorn Field in August 2006, after the 2006 schedule had been cemented. A change in the Presidents' Athletic Conference code prior to the 2007 season gave teams the liberty to select the starting time for home games.

In October 2006, Grove City High School played the first night game at Thorn Field after rain flooded its field.

Roberts earns No. 500 at Grove City; Lamie tallies No. 150

Two Grove City coaches recorded milestone victories during the 2007 season. Head volleyball coach Susan Roberts earned her 500th win at Grove City Sept. 18 while head women's soccer coach Melissa Lamie notched No. 150 Sept. 29.

Roberts reached the 500-win plateau in Grove City's come-from-behind 3-2 victory at Penn State Behrend. Grove City trailed 11-4 in the final game but scored 11 of the final 13 points to secure the match.

She now has a 509-310 mark in 23 years as Grove City's head volleyball coach. Overall, Roberts owns a 561-344 record in 25 years as a collegiate volleyball coach.

Roberts is the first Grove City coach to



SUSAN ROBERTS



MELISSA LAMIE

reach the 500-win mark in one sport.

Roberts also has 676 total coaching victories at Grove City. She coached the women's basketball program to 101 wins from 1985-93 and also coached the softball team to 66 wins from 1994-98.

Roberts is the only active coach in the

Matt Gregg helps U.S. win 39-17 over Mexico in Aztec Bowl

From page 1

"Matt played very well," Grove City head coach Chris Smith, who accompanied Gregg to Mexico, praised. "He represented our program and our country very well."

Gregg started each of the last three seasons at center for Grove City. He earned First Team All-

Presidents' Athletic Conference honors in both 2006 and 2007 after earning Second Team All-PAC in 2005. Gregg lettered in each of four seasons and served as a team co-captain this year. He started his final 28 games.

Gregg stabilized a youthful offensive line this season and

earned Grove City's Offensive Player of the Year award from his teammates. He twice earned the team's Offensive Player of the Week award.

He is the fourth Grove City player to participate in a postseason all-star game this decade. In 2000, fullback R.J. Bowers

played in the Hula Bowl while cornerback Brock McCullough played in the Aztec Bowl. Two years ago, safety Aaron Margo also played in the Aztec Bowl.

The U.S. team is 3-0 with a Grove City player on the Aztec Bowl roster, winning 27-26 in 2000 and 53-15 in 2005.

Walters inducted

Slippery Rock University inducted Grove City College Associate Director of Athletics for Men Joe Walters into its Athletic Hall of Fame Sept. 22.

Walters earned three letters as a defensive lineman and punter on the Slippery Rock football team in the mid-1960s. As a senior in 1967, he was the team's Most Valuable Player.

Walters is in his 36th year in the Grove City athletic department. He has guided the men's tennis team to a 305-114 record and 17 consecutive Presidents' Athletic Conference titles in 35 years as head coach.

He also coached Grove City's women's tennis team to an 11-1 record in 2004.

As associate athletic director, Walters is the department's compliance coordinator. The Lewistown, Pa., native is also responsible for facility and event management and is an associate professor of physical education.

Walters also spent 24 years as an assistant football coach.



JOE WALTERS

Presidents' Athletic Conference to win conference titles in three different sports.

As volleyball coach, Roberts has guided Grove City to nine PAC titles and seven postseason appearances.

Lamie became the first Presidents' Athletic Conference women's soccer coach to reach the 150-win mark Sept. 29 with a 3-0 victory at Bethany.

As head women's soccer coach, Lamie has compiled a 157-113-18 overall record. She has led the Wolverines to five conference titles and four postseason appearances.

She coached the women's basketball team from 1992-2006 and is also that program's all-time wins leader with 157 victories.

Fall sports wrap up record-setting seasons

Women's Soccer – Grove City capped one of the finest seasons in program history by hosting the Eastern College Athletic Conference Southern Championship Tournament Nov. 7-11 at College Field.

Grove City earned the top seed in this year's tournament after a 15-2-1 regular season. The Wolverines downed Juniata in the quarterfinals, 3-2, before falling to Catholic in the semi-final round, 1-0.

Defensively, Grove City recorded 11 shutouts this season and held opponents to an average of 0.85 goals against. Junior goalkeeper Bethany Preston

recorded a 9-2-1 record in goal while classmate Diana Prugel went 7-2.

Grove City opened the season 12-0-1, which is the best start in program history. The Wolverines were the final team in the Great Lakes Region to lose a match this year.

Volleyball – Grove City posted the program's best start since 1985 on its way to a second consecutive 20-win season. Grove City opened the season 8-0 and won team titles at the Ohio Wesleyan Bishop Invitational and the Penn State Behrend Invitational.

Head coach Susan Roberts earned her 500th win as Grove City head coach on Sept. 18 as the Wolverines rallied for a 3-2 win over host Penn State Behrend in Erie.

Meanwhile, senior setter Kim Walsh capped her career as the program's all-time leader in assists with 4,406. She broke the mark of 4,288, held by Cara Denniston '03.

Football – Grove City produced one of the program's most exciting seasons in recent memory as seven of the Wolverines' 10 games were decided by 10 points or fewer.

Grove City reclaimed the Mercer County Cup Oct. 13 in Greenville. Junior tailback Brian Mercer scored on a pair of four-yard touchdown runs in the first half while junior defensive end Ryan Rylands tipped a potential game-tying extra point with three minutes left in regulation.

Grove City also earned a 36-15 Homecoming win over Bethany Oct. 6 as the Wolverines broke the game open with three touchdowns in a five-minute span during the second half. Free safety Zach Fulmer highlighted the win by intercepting two passes.

Sophomore quarterback Andrew DiDonato became the program's all-time leader in passing yardage with 3,120 yards, which surpasses the park of 3,006 set by Jeff Cass '89.

Women's Tennis – Grove City's dominance of the Presidents' Athletic Conference continued in 2007 as the Wolverines picked up their 21st straight league title Oct. 20 in Erie. Grove City won four of six singles crowns and all three doubles titles at the conference championships.

Junior Tamara Nations earned the conference's Player of the Year award after winning the conference title at first singles.

Nations also teamed with Erin Bennett to win the PAC's

first doubles title. Kait Garcia and Chris Sager won the PAC second doubles title while Julie Bellissimo and Kristin Taylor won at third doubles.

Bennett won the PAC's fourth singles title while Taylor prevailed at No. 5. Sager captured the sixth singles crown.

Grove City opened the season 9-0, which is the program's best start since the 1996 team finished 9-0. The Wolverines finished 10-2 overall.

Men's Soccer – A youthful Grove City squad finished the 2007 season by winning its final two regular-season matches away from home. Grove City blanked Geneva, 2-0, then earned a season-ending 4-2 victory at Thiel.

Six of Grove City's 18 regular-season matches went to overtime this season. Freshman Jake Kern led Grove City with six goals while seniors Eli Lamborn and Barry Snyder shared the team lead with three assists. Twelve different Grove City players scored goals during the season.

The Wolverines finished 6-8-4. **Men's Cross Country** – The Wolverines earned their 17th straight Presidents' Athletic Conference title Oct. 27 by winning the conference championships at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe.

Juniors Brett Kelly, Dan Spaulding and Tim Su earned First Team All-PAC honors as did freshmen Garrett Cichowitz and Gordon Grob.

Cichowitz earned All-Mideast Region honors Nov. 10 by placing 30th at the NCAA Mideast Regional

Championships in Bethlehem, Pa. His effort helped Grove City place ninth out of 43 teams in the region.

Grove City also finished the season ranked ninth in the Mideast Region by the United States Track and Field/Cross Country Coaches Association.

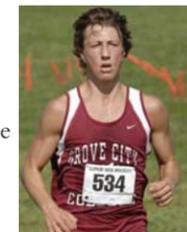
Cichowitz and Spaulding tied for the individual title Sept. 8 at the California University of Pa. Invitational, leading Grove City to the team title at the eight-team event. Grove City accumulated a mere 22 team points in winning the title.

Women's Cross Country – Grove City successfully defended its conference title Oct. 27 in Latrobe as the Wolverines won their 19th straight league crown.

Five Grove City runners earned First Team All-PAC honors, led by conference champion junior Kristen Carter. Carter earned her second straight individual title. Junior Julia Seward placed second in the conference meet while freshmen Brigitte Fryan, Emily Pierce and Jessica Vernon also all earned First Team All-PAC.

Carter and Seward earned All-Region honors at the Mideast Championships and helped the Wolverines to a sixth-place finish at the 41-team event.

Grove City also won the California University of Pa. Invitational Sept. 8 and added a runner-up finish at the 39-team Lehigh Paul Short Invitational Sept. 28.



GARRETT CICHOWITZ '11



JAKE KERN '11



TAMARA NATIONS '09