



Carter recognized by NCAA for sportsmanship

The NCAA honored Grove City College senior cross country runner Kristen Carter with the organization's 2007-08 Division III Sportsmanship Award Feb. 7, during the College's basketball doubleheader with Thomas More College.

Carter received the honor for her compassionate actions following the 2007 Presidents' Athletic Conference Cross Country Championships in Latrobe, Pa.

Carter owned a sizeable lead and appeared to be on her way to setting a new course record. With about a half-mile remaining in the race, a meet worker inadvertently pointed Carter in the wrong direction on the course.



Cross country runner Kristen Carter '09, right, receives the Division III Sportsmanship Award from Fredina Ingold, Penn State Altoona athletic director, on Feb. 7.

The meet director realized the error and re-directed Carter onto the proper course. Carter's lead had diminished significantly and any shot at a course record evaporated by the time she

got back on track.

Carter recovered to win the race and after learning that the meet worker had been admonished for her error, Carter sought out the employee.

Carter consoled the dis-

traught meet worker and assured her that she was not upset by the error.

PAC Executive Director Joseph M. Onderko nominated Carter for the Sportsmanship Award after witnessing her actions.

In his nomination, Onderko wrote, "It was one of the most refreshing and heartwarming acts of individual sportsmanship I have personally witnessed in over 15 years as a full-time athletic administrator."

Penn State Altoona athletic director Fredina Ingold represented the NCAA and presented Carter with her award. Carter is the first Grove City student-athlete to receive that honor.

Swim team records historic finish

The Grove City College men's swimming and diving team recorded the program's best-ever national finish at the NCAA Division III Championships in Minneapolis March 18-21.

Grove City accumulated 168 team points over the four-day event to finish sixth. Eleven Grove City athletes earned NCAA All-America honors.

Senior Caleb Courage highlighted the four-day event for Grove City by capturing the national title in the 100 freestyle March 21.

Courage won the NCAA crown with a time of 43.62 seconds in the finals. In the preliminaries, Courage set a new Division III record in the



Caleb Courage '09 ended his Grove City career as an 18-time NCAA All-American.

100 free with a 43.60 clocking.

Courage won the 100 free national title in 2006 and 2007.

He also earned All-America honors in two other individual events. Courage

finished second in the 50 free with a Grove City-record time of 19.97 seconds and also placed 10th in the 100 backstroke.

See NATIONALS, page 4

Honorees inducted into Hall of Fame

Grove City College inducted its third class of honorees into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame on Feb. 7.

Retired head coaches John Barr (men's basketball/cross country) and Patti Zbell-Henry (women's tennis) joined former standout athletes Ross Emerson '57 (soccer), John "Dutch" Leonard '59 (basketball), William McGarry '66 (swimming), Charles Purdue '70 (football/wrestling), Jerry Smoyer '62 (football/track) and Natalie (Sutyak '83) Watkins (volleyball/basketball) to make up the Class of 2009.

The College recognized the eight inductees during

See page 3 for more info and photos of the Feb. 7 festivities on campus.

halftime of the men's basketball game against Thomas More College. More than 200 guests attended the dinner and induction ceremony that evening. College President Richard Jewell '67 served as master of ceremonies. The College has now inducted 29 total individuals and one team into the Athletic Hall Fame.

In June 2006, Grove City established an Athletic Hall Fame to honor men and women who have achieved excellence in the field of athletics or coaching at Grove City College or who have made a significant impact on its athletic program.

Inside ...

Harris earns coaching honors	2
Hall of Fame honors standouts	3
Gibson joins 1,000-point club	3
Swimmers dominate PAC	4
Cagers earn All-PAC, ECAC	5
Carter receives NCAA award	6

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GROVE CITY COLLEGE **Varsity G**

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Harris earns honors

Women's basketball head coach Sarah Harris earned Coach of the Year recognition from the Presidents' Athletic Conference and D3Hoops.com after guiding Grove City to its best PAC season since 2005.

The Wolverines finished fourth in the PAC, with a 7-7 record in conference play, and hosted a PAC Championship Tournament game for the first time since 2004, despite having just seven healthy players for the majority of the season.

Harris, who completed her third year as head coach, is the first Grove City women's basketball coach to earn PAC Coach of the Year since Melissa Lamie received the award at the end of the 2002-03 season.



Sarah Harris

Grove City opened the season 0-5 but rebounded by winning six of its next nine games. The Wolverines (11-15 overall) swept longtime rivals Geneva and Westminster this year. Grove City also defeated North Coast Athletic Conference runner-up Allegheny.

Senior guard Raeann Szelong led the conference in minutes played, averaging 36.5 per game. The Wolverines allowed just 58 points per game this year.

Szelong led Grove City with 52 assists while four other players had at least 41 assists during the season. Grove City finished 6-5 on the road.

Women lead All-Sports

Grove City's women's sports teams currently lead the race for the Presidents' Athletic Conference Women's All-Sports Trophy. Grove City has earned 37½ points through the end of the winter sports season and owns a one-point lead over Westminster.

Grove City surged into the lead after a strong winter season. Grove City earned eight points for winning the conference title in swimming while the women's basketball team captured five points.

On the men's side, Grove City is third with 25½ points. Washington & Jefferson leads with 30½ points while Westminster is second at 27. W&J earned five points for finishing third in the three-team PAC Wrestling Championships.

Welcome to 'Varsity G'

Dear alumni, parents, friends and athletes,

We recently completed a very successful winter sports season here at Grove City College and are enjoying the start of spring sports competition.

Both the men's and women's swimming and diving teams won Presidents' Athletic Conference titles in February after three days of record-breaking action. The men went on to record a historic sixth-place finish at the NCAA Division III Championships.

The men's basketball team qualified for the ECAC Championship Tournament for the third straight year, and the women's basketball team finished 7-7 in the PAC. The women also hosted a PAC Championship Tournament game for the first time in five years.

Our baseball, softball and golf teams all traveled south in late February and got off to promising starts in the spring season.

We inducted our third class of honorees into the Athletic Hall of Fame on Feb. 7. The inductees were recognized during halftime of our men's basketball game with Thomas More during the afternoon.

That night, the College also presented the inaugural Grove City College Athletic Heritage Awards in conjunction with the Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

In addition, the College dedicated its newly-refurbished Heritage Hall, which is located in what many of you remember as the mail hall. Heritage Hall contains numerous photos, news clippings and other memorabilia of our athletic history going back to the 19th century.

It was a truly exciting, successful and memorable day for the College and the Athletic Department.

Although the Class of 2009 has just entered the Hall of Fame, we are already making preparations for the Class of 2010. If you would like to nominate someone for Hall of Fame or Heritage Award consideration, please contact me via phone at (724) 458-2122. You may also e-mail me at dllyle@gcc.edu.

Nominations also will be accepted through the Hall of Fame and Heritage Award pages on the College's athletic Web site, www.gcc.edu/sports.

Additionally, we are looking for any trophies, pins, pictures, awards or memorabilia that you would like to loan or donate to the athletic department for display. It has been a real thrill to be able to piece together our athletic history, which dates back 125 years. Any items that you could share verbally or tangibly would be greatly appreciated.

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



Donald L. Lyle

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

Basketball players earn All-PAC

Three Grove City College men's basketball players earned All-Presidents' Athletic Conference recognition from the conference's head coaches while two members of the women's basketball program received postseason recognition.

Senior guard Ryan Gibson earned First Team All-PAC honors while junior center Andy O'Keefe is a Second Team selection. Senior guard Joe McCoy earned Honorable Mention.

On the women's side, sophomore forward Christine Slater earned Second Team All-PAC and head coach Sarah Harris captured the conference's Coach of the Year award.

Gibson averaged 12.4 points per game this season for the Wolverines, which ranked second on the squad. He also led Grove City in assists (62) and minutes played (791) while starting all 25 games.

Gibson is 17th all-time at Grove City with 1,079 points. His 325 career assists are fourth in Grove City history. He earned Second Team All-PAC honors in 2007 after helping the Wolverines earn the PAC title.

O'Keefe is earning his first All-PAC

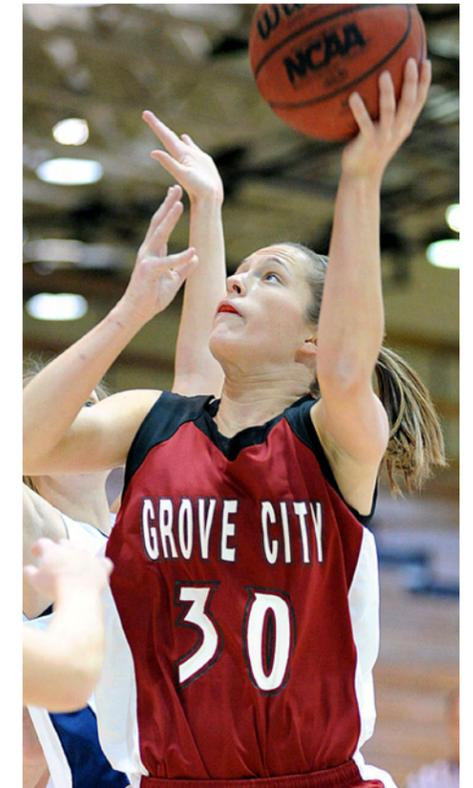
honor. He led Grove City in scoring average (12.8) and rebounding (4.6) while finishing second on the squad with 57 assists. O'Keefe also blocked a team-high 23 shots this year, helping the Wolverines lead the conference in field-goal percentage defense.

O'Keefe started all 25 games this year and shot 59.0 percent from the field, which ranked second in the conference. He also placed fourth in the conference in blocked shots.

McCoy led the conference in foul shooting by draining 90 percent (74 of 82) of his attempts at the line. For the season, McCoy fired in a team-high 48 three-goals this year and averaged 11.0 points per game. He shot 46 percent from the field.

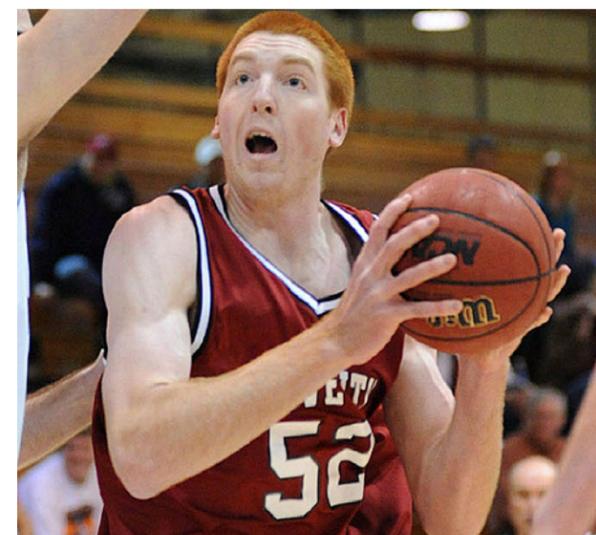
Slater is a Second Team All-PAC selection for the second consecutive season. This year, Slater led the conference with 11 double-doubles. She ranked third in the league in scoring, averaging 15.4 points per game.

Her 9.9 rebounds per game ranked second in the conference. Slater also ranked third in minutes played, averaging 34.5 per game. She drained 20 three-point goals.



Christine Slater '11 led the Presidents' Athletic Conference with 11 double-doubles and ranked third in scoring.

This year, Slater became the fifth Grove City player to score 400 points or more in a season. Her 400 points this year is the eighth-highest single-season total in program history.



Center Andy O'Keefe '10 led the team in scoring average and rebounding.

Men's basketball makes third straight ECAC trip

The Grove City men's basketball team made its third straight appearance in the Eastern College Athletic Conference Southern Championship Tournament March 4 as the Wolverines earned the No. 7 seed in the eight-team tournament.

Grove City (12-13) fell to second-seeded Catholic in the quarterfinal round 75-59. The Wolverines

went 6-6 in the Presidents' Athletic Conference this winter. Grove City also swept longtime rival Geneva for the second consecutive season.

The men's basketball program has now made 12 postseason appearances since joining the NCAA in 1956.

Senior Joe McCoy's 95 career three-pointers ranks sixth in Grove City history.

Men, women sweep PAC swimming crowns

Grove City's men's and women's swimming and diving teams both captured 2009 Presidents' Athletic Conference titles in February at the Grove City College Pool.

The men earned their second straight conference title after accumulating 949 team points during the three-day conference championships, which was held in conjunction with the Grove City College Invitational.

Meanwhile, the women's team won its first PAC title since 1999. The women earned 833½ team points to out-distance longtime rivals W&J and Westminster.

Senior Caleb Courage earned the Invitational's Most Outstanding Performer award on the men's side. He also earned MVP honors from league head coaches for his performance.



The women's team broke 13 school records at the Presidents' Athletic Conference Championships

Head coach Dave Fritz earned PAC Coach of the Year honors for his efforts. Grove City swimmers broke 13 school records during the three-day competition. Fifteen Grove City

athletes surpassed NCAA Championships qualifying standards at the meet.

The women's team also broke 13 school records at the Championships. Eight swimmers surpassed NCAA qualifying standards and head coach John Richards earned the Invitational's Coach of the Year award.

The conference championships capped outstanding regular seasons for both teams. The men went 12-2 in dual-meet competition and clinched their 58th consecutive winning season.

Meanwhile, the women's team set a new program record with 12 dual-meet victories during the 2008-09 season. Grove City's 12-3 record is the program's best record percentage-wise since the 1996-97 team went 11-1.



Clay Beckner '12



Ben Bowser '12



Cam Coppelli '11



Caleb Courage '09



Kirk Gagliardo '12



Nick Hamilton '12

This year's 11 All-Americans include seven first-time honorees. Grove City now has a total of 58 NCAA All-Americans.



Bennett Keefer '11



Peter Larsen '09



Nate Nielsen '11



Drew Snyder '09



Tim Whitbeck '09

NATIONALS from page 1

Senior Tim Whitbeck captured All-America honors in the 50 free by finishing third. Whitbeck also achieved All-America in the 100 free with a 15th-place finish.

Grove City's five relay squads also all earned All-America distinction. Courage, Whitbeck, senior Drew Snyder and freshman

Kirk Gagliardo teamed for a third-place finish in the 200 free relay.

Courage, Whitbeck, Gagliardo and Peter Larsen combined for a third-place finish in the 400 free relay while Courage, Gagliardo, sophomore Nate Nielsen and freshman Nick Hamilton earned 12th in the 800 relay.

Grove City's two medley relays also earned

All-America status. The 400 medley relay team of Courage, sophomore Bennett Keefer, freshman Ben Bowser and Whitbeck placed eighth.

The quartet of sophomore Cam Coppelli, freshman Clay Beckner, Larsen and Whitbeck finished 12th in the 200 medley relay.

Courage finishes his career as an 18-time All-American while Whitbeck owns 14

All-America honors. Snyder graduates as a six-time All-American while Larsen has four All-America citations to his credit.

Beckner, Bowser, Coppelli, Gagliardo, Hamilton, Keefer and Nielsen all made their debut at the national meet this year. Grove City now has a total of 58 NCAA All-Americans in men's swimming and diving.

Grove City College Athletic Hall of Fame



The eight-member Class of 2009 was inducted into the Hall of Fame Feb. 7. Pictured from left are: President Richard Jewell '67, John "Dutch" Leonard '59, Jerry Smoyer '62, Ross Emerson '57, Charles Purdue '70, Patti Zbell-Henry, William McGarry '66, John Barr, Natalie (Sutyak) '83 Watkins and Director of Athletics Don Lyle.

Athletic Heritage Awards presented

Grove City College presented its inaugural Athletic Heritage Awards Feb. 7 to Trustee Emeritus Harvey Miller '40 and to the families of posthumous honorees Dr. James Loveless and Benjamin Jones '23.

Miller played on the College's first varsity soccer team in 1938 and lettered on the 1939 squad. He also played tennis and competed on the swim team as a student-athlete. Miller began a career in law after graduation and became a long-time Trustee of the College.

Loveless coached football, basketball, swimming and track and field at Grove City from 1937 to 1954. He also worked as assistant athletic director until leaving to become athletic director at DePauw University, his alma mater.

Jones played football at Grove City from 1919 to 1922 and helped Grove City to a 20-9-3 aggregate record during his career.

He then became a pioneer in the early days of the National Football League. Jones spent six years in the NFL from 1923 to 1928. As a rookie, he earned All-NFL after helping the Canton Bulldogs



President Richard Jewell '67, left, and Athletic Director Don Lyle, right, honored Ryan Gibson '09 as the 23rd 1,000-point scorer.

Join the club

Senior guard Ryan Gibson became Grove City's 23rd men's basketball player to surpass 1,000 career points on Feb. 7. Gibson fired in a team-leading 20 points in a 73-59 home loss to Thomas More. The Feb. 7 game was marked by Senior Day festivities and the Hall of Fame ceremonies.

Gibson finished his career as No. 17 in Grove City's 1,000-point club with 1,079 points.



Harvey Miller '40 and the families of the late Dr. James Loveless and Benjamin Jones '23 accepted the inaugural Heritage Awards.

to an 11-0-1 record and the NFL title.

He also won NFL titles with the Cleveland Bulldogs in 1924 and the Frankford Yellow Jackets in 1926. Jones led the Yellow Jackets with nine touchdowns during their title season.

The Athletic Heritage Award is designed to honor players, coaches, administrators and those individuals who have contributed to the inception and/or growth of the Grove City College athletic program.