

VARSITY



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GROVE CITY COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND ATHLETICS

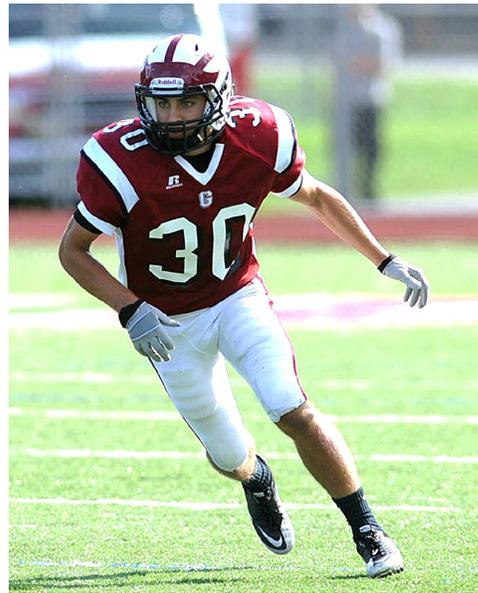
Winter 2014 • Vol 8. No. 1

GIBBS NAMED ACADEMIC ALL-AMERICA

Grove City College senior football player Chris Gibbs earned First Team Division III Academic All-America honors from Capital One and the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

Gibbs earned his second straight Capital One/CoSIDA Academic All-America award after earning Second Team recognition last year. He is the first Grove City football player to become a two-time Academic All-American.

Gibbs started all four seasons in the secondary, having played cornerback, free safety and strong safety for the Wolverines. In 2013, he started nine



Senior cornerback Chris Gibbs

games at strong safety and recorded 80 total tackles. He led all Presidents' Athletic Conference defensive backs in total tackles. Gibbs also led the conference with three forced fumbles.

see **GIBBS** on page 2

WOMEN LEAD ALL-SPORTS RACE; MEN IN THICK OF COMPETITION

The Grove City College women's sports teams lead the competition for the Presidents' Athletic Conference Women's All-Sports Trophy while the Wolverine men's teams are just 3.5 points out of first place.

During the fall, the women's programs

accumulated 33 total points and now own a four-point lead over Westminster. Saint Vincent is third with 27.5 points.

Grove City earned 10 points for winning the cross country championship and nine points each for runner-up finishes in women's tennis and women's soccer.

see **ALL-SPORTS** on page 2

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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.

WELCOME TO 'VARSITY G'

Dear Varsity Athletes, Parents, Alumni and Friends,

The fall semester has drawn to a close and as you will read in Varsity G, we have had a very successful and busy fall season at the College.

We had a very successful Homecoming weekend in early October. The men's soccer program inducted Harvey Miller '40, Tom Fleming '75 and Matthew Towle '93 into the Men's Soccer Hall of Fame and over 50 alumni competed against the current varsity team in the annual Hall of Fame Game.

Our women's soccer, volleyball, water polo and basketball teams also held alumni games or gatherings during the weekend.

We are working on several displays in the athletic building that will further feature the historic and current accomplishments of the athletic department, our teams and student-athletes. It is through your generosity that we have been able to expand and enhance these exhibits.

The College will induct its eighth class of honorees into the Athletic Hall of Fame Feb. 22, 2014. We are making final preparations for the Hall of Fame inductions and the Heritage Award presentations. If you are interested in attending, the cost is \$25 per person. This includes the reception, dinner and induction ceremony the night of the 22nd.

To place a reservation, please contact me at dllyle@gcc.edu or at 724-458-2900. All reservations must be made by Feb. 10.

We are always looking for any trophies, pins, pictures, awards or memorabilia that you would be willing to donate to the department for display. Piecing our history together has been a fun process and anything you could share verbally or tangibly would be very much appreciated.

We have received a number of historic items, including letter jackets, sweaters, blankets and programs. All of these items are prominently displayed in the building. If you would have any memorabilia that you would like to donate, please send it to the address in the red box below:



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GIBBS (continued)

Gibbs led Grove City with 79 tackles in 2011 and ranked second with 68 stops last year. He made 34 career starts.

Last year, Gibbs became the first junior Grove City football player to be named a CoSIDA Academic All-American. He also earned Academic All-District in 2011, 2012 and 2013.

Gibbs has achieved a 3.93 cumulative GPA as a biology major. He is a Dean's List student and has been named

to the league's Academic Honor Roll. He is also a Presidential Scholarship recipient. This past summer, he spent 10 weeks working in genomic research at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

All-time, Grove City has produced 41 Academic All-Americans, including 23 since 2002. Those 23 Academic All-Americans have accounted for 31 total Academic All-America honors. Grove City has had at least one Academic All-American in each of the last 12 seasons.

ALL-SPORTS (continued)

The men's teams have 18 points after the conclusion of cross country, football and soccer in the fall. Thomas More leads the Men's All-Sports competition with 21.5 points.

Grove City has a conference-best 51 total All-Sports points this season.

Grove City is the defending Women's All-Sports Trophy

champion. The men's teams earned runner-up in 2012-13.

Conference champions in women's sports receive 10 points and the point scale descends incrementally until the 10th-place team receives one point. The men's point scale is based on nine teams, thus, men's conference champions receive nine points.

ROBERTS RETIRING AFTER 29 SEASONS AT GROVE CITY

Grove City College volleyball coach/associate director of athletics Susan Roberts will retire from the College at the end of the 2013-14 academic year.

Since taking over as head coach in 1985, Roberts has directed Grove City to nine Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) championships along with three Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Southern Championships.

She has guided Grove City to 13 20-win seasons and eight total postseason appearances. Roberts owns a 583-424 (.579) record in 29 seasons as Grove City head volleyball coach. She earned her 500th win as Grove City volleyball coach Sept. 18, 2007 as the Wolverines defeated Penn State Behrend.

Roberts became Grove City College's all-time leader in total coaching wins Oct. 28, 2008 when the Wolverines downed Bethany. She has 750 wins as a head coach at Grove City.

On Oct. 5, 2011, Roberts recorded her 600th win as a collegiate volleyball coach when the Wolverines earned a 3-2 win at Waynesburg. Overall, she has a 635-448 career record in 31 years as a head volleyball coach.

Roberts made an immediate impact on the Grove City program, leading Grove City to a 41-1 record in 1985, including the program's first PAC title and a berth in the NCAA Championship Tournament. Roberts earned the Collegiate Volleyball Coaches Association's Division III Coach of the Year award following the 1985 season.

Grove City finished the regular season ranked No. 1 nationally in the AVCA poll that year.

Grove City closed the 1980s as the PAC's dominant program, winning conference titles in 1985, 1986, 1987 and 1989. That dominance continued into the 1990s as the Wolverines won conference crowns in 1992, 1993 and 1995. The 1994 team became the first College team to earn an ECAC title as the

Wolverines swept Washington & Jefferson and Rutgers-Newark for the ECAC Southern Championship crown.

Grove City then repeated as ECAC champion in 1995.

Grove City returned to the top of the PAC in 2000, capturing the program's eighth conference title under Roberts' guidance.

The Wolverines advanced to the ECAC Southern Championship Tournament semifinals before falling to top-seeded Carnegie Mellon.

The following year, the Wolverines stormed to their ninth PAC title and returned to the ECAC Tournament. Entering as the sixth seed in the six-team tournament, the Wolverines upset Johns Hopkins, Franklin & Marshall and host Moravian to clinch their third ECAC title in seven years.

From 1985-93, Roberts coached Grove City's women's basketball team to a 101-78 overall record. The 1986-87 team won the program's first PAC title.

She then coached the softball program from 1994-98, compiling a 66-48 mark. Her 1998 squad set a new program record with 20 wins and won the conference title.

Roberts is the only active coach in the Presidents' Athletic Conference to win conference titles in three different sports currently sponsored by the league.

Her 36-year coaching career began at Davidson College, where she started the field hockey program and worked as the first full-time women's basketball coach.

Roberts then spent two years as head women's basketball coach at Furman University before working as head volleyball coach and head basketball coach at King College for two years.

A native of Ontario, Ohio, Roberts added the role of associate director of athletics in 1998. She also holds the rank of professor of physical education.

She earned her undergraduate degree in physical education from Ohio University in 1975 and then earned her master's degree in biomechanics from the University of Arizona.



Head Coach Susan Roberts

RABENOLD, McRAE COMPETE AT NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Two Grove City College cross country runners competed in the NCAA Division III Cross Country Championships Nov. 23 at Hanover College. Sophomore Emily Rabenold represented the Grove City women's program and senior Arleigh McRae competed on the men's side.

Rabenold took 179th out of 280 runners at the meet. She completed the six-kilometer course in 23 minutes, 12 seconds. Meanwhile, McRae placed 103rd out of 275 runners with a time of 25:54.9 for eight kilometers.

Rabenold earned Presidents' Athletic Conference Most Valuable Performer honors at the conference championships after winning the individual race. She earned All-Mideast Region honors after taking 10th at the Mideast Championships.

McRae placed second individually at the conference meet and earned First Team All-PAC. He captured 15th at the Mideast Championships, earning All-Region recognition.

Both McRae and Rabenold made their first appearance at the NCAA Championships.

FALL SPORTS RECAP



Senior Arleigh McRae

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Five Grove City runners finished in the top 25 at the conference championships Nov. 2, helping the Wolverines capture second place in the nine-team field.

Senior Arleigh McRae took second place overall and earned First Team All-PAC honors. Freshman Dan Christiansen (5th place) joined McRae on the First Team while senior Alec Schultz received Second Team recognition.

Grove City capped the season by earning 14th place in a 54-team field at the NCAA Mideast Championships in Bethlehem, Pa., Nov. 16.

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

The Grove City women's cross country team captured its 25th straight conference title Nov. 2 in Gibsonia, Pa., by placing 10 runners in the top 25.

Sophomore Emily Rabenold earned conference MVP honors after winning the individual race. Rabenold, sophomore Stevie Huston and senior Laurel Skorup all earned First Team All-PAC while sophomore Lydia Hogan, junior Kara Cremean and senior Austin Powell merited Second Team.

The Wolverines concluded the season by taking 15th out of 52 teams at the NCAA Mideast Championships Nov. 16 in Bethlehem, Pa.

MEN'S SOCCER

Grove City went 8-5-6 overall in its 75th anniversary season and tied the NCAA all-divisions record by playing in 11 overtime matches in 2013.

Grove City closed the season on a nine-match unbeaten streak, going 5-0-4. The Wolverines advanced to the conference tournament semifinals and battled W&J to a 0-0 draw. W&J moved on to the finals via penalty kicks.

Sophomore Seth Loew led the Wolverines (4-1-3 PAC) with nine goals, three assists and 21 total points and Loew earned NSCAA All-Great Lakes Region Third Team honors.

Defensively, Grove City posted seven shutouts and limited opponents to just 15 goals for the season.

FOOTBALL

Grove City finished the 2013 season 5-5 overall, including wins over longtime rivals Carnegie Mellon, Westminster and Thiel.

The Wolverines opened the season Sept. 7 with a 28-10 win over CMU in the home opener. Grove City then downed Westminster in the annual Homecoming game Oct. 5, 24-21, by blocking a field goal attempt in the final minute.

The Wolverines closed the campaign Nov. 16 by rallying for a 50-44 overtime win at Thiel in the 30th Mercer County Cup game.

Senior wide receiver Anthony Ritchie and senior linebacker Ben Manwaring both earned Second Team All-PAC honors.

VOLLEYBALL

Grove City made its first postseason appearance in 12 years this fall as the Wolverines qualified for the ECAC Southwest Championship Tournament in Bethany, W.Va., Nov. 16. The Wolverines went 1-1 that day, earning third place.

Senior Ashley Branch led the Wolverines in kills, hitting percentage and blocks and earned First Team All-PAC honors. Senior Tierza Rangel captured Second Team All-Conference recognition.

Grove City finished 16-16 overall and 8-10 in the conference.



Senior Ashley Branch returns a volley for a spike



Senior Sarah Cessar

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Grove City posted a 12-9-1 overall record and advanced to the semifinal round of the Eastern College Athletic Conference Championship Tournament.

Senior Becky McManus led Grove City with 11 goals and 22 points while senior Sarah Cessar added seven goals and six assists. Senior forward Chelsea Tarolli led Grove City with seven assists.

Cessar earned NSCAA All-Great Lakes Region for the second straight year. Cessar and senior defender Jessica Heck both earned All-ECAC South Region honors.

Defensively, the Wolverines posted five shutouts and an aggregate 1.26 goals-against average this year.

The Wolverines went 7-2 in conference play and advanced to the conference tournament finals.

In the ECAC Tournament, Grove City rolled Juniata in the quarterfinals, 6-0, before battling top-seeded Stevenson to a 2-2 draw in the semifinals Nov. 16. Stevenson advanced via penalty kicks.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Grove City posted a 9-3 overall record this fall, including an 8-1 mark in Presidents' Athletic Conference play. The Wolverines punctuated the fall by taking second place at the season-ending conference championships Oct. 18-19 in Erie, Pa.

Grove City won conference titles in four of the nine flights of competition. Freshman Linnea Peters won the fifth singles title while junior Leah White prevailed at sixth singles.

In doubles play, Peters and sophomore Kendra Tetrick claimed the second doubles title while junior Caroline McGuire and sophomore Karolina Lagerquist won the No. 1 doubles championship.

Grove City finished the two-day tournament with 48 points. Westminster won the title with 54 points.

FIVE EARN ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT

Five Grove City College football players earned Capital One/College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Division III Academic All-District IV honors through voting by the region's sports information directors.

Senior safety **Joe Diani**, senior safety **Chris Gibbs**, sophomore defensive tackle **Ryan Hickey**, junior wingback **Sam Ivan** and senior wide receiver **Anthony Ritchie** all earned First Team All-District honors.

Diani and Gibbs each earned their third Academic All-District award. Ivan and Ritchie are both two-time honorees.

Diani started all 10 games at free safety this season for Grove City. He led the Wolverines with four interceptions this year. He also recorded 51 tackles. A three-year starter and four-year letterwinner in the defensive backfield, Diani led Grove City with five interceptions last year. In 2011, Diani tied for the team lead with three picks.

In the classroom, Diani has earned a 3.67 cumulative grade-point average while majoring in mathematics. He has been named to the Dean's List and the conference's Academic Honor Roll.

Gibbs (see related story) is a four-year starter in the secondary, having played cornerback, free safety and strong safety in his career. He also earned Academic All-America honors in early December.

Hickey started six games at defensive tackle this year after playing extensively as a reserve in 2012. Hickey collected 15 total tackles, including three for loss. He appeared in nine games as a freshman and tallied eight tackles.

Hickey owns a 3.80 grade-point average while majoring in mechanical engineering. He has been named to both the Dean's List and the conference's Academic Honor Roll.

The versatile Ivan played in all 10 games for Grove City and ranked third on the team in rushing with 130 yards on 24 carries. He averaged 5.4 yards per carry. Ivan also caught 14 passes for 167 yards and a touchdown.

Ivan is a three-year letterwinner and two-year starter in the backfield for the Wolverines. He also earned Academic All-District recognition last year after ranking third on the team in rushing and fifth in receptions.

Ivan has achieved a 3.77 grade-point average while majoring in molecular biology. He is a Dean's List honoree and has also been named to the conference Academic Honor Roll.

Ritchie is in his third season as a starting wide receiver for Grove City. He led the Wolverines with 55 receptions for 774 yards and five touchdowns. Ritchie tied the program's career touchdown reception mark with 17.

Ritchie led Grove City with 41 catches in 2011 and then had a team-high 43 receptions last year. His 144 career receptions rank third all-time at Grove City. Ritchie is also third in program history with 1,801 receiving yards.

He has earned a 3.57 GPA while majoring in mechanical engineering. Ritchie is a Dean's List honoree. He has also been named to the conference Academic Honor Roll.

HALL OF FAME, HERITAGE AWARDS SET FOR FEBRUARY 22

Grove City College will induct the Class of 2014 into its Athletic Hall of Fame February 22, 2014 in conjunction with Grove City's Presidents' Athletic Conference basketball doubleheader against longtime rival Thiel College. The sixth group of Athletic Heritage Awards will also be presented that night.

This year's Hall of Fame inductees are:

- ***Dave Baughman '78 (wrestling)** – Two-time NCAA All-American at 167 pounds.
- ***Barb Beck '86 (volleyball)** – AVCA All-American; first Presidents' Athletic Conference volleyball MVP.
- ***Jay D'Ambrosio '94 (swimming)** – Six-time NCAA All-American in backstroke.
- ***Karin Hendrickson '99 (basketball)** – Four-time All-PAC; 1999 PAC MVP; 1,081 career points.
- ***Richard Jewell '67 (diving)** – Two-time Penn-Ohio diving champion; Penn-Ohio conference record-holder; longtime College ambassador who became Grove City's eighth President.
- ***Bill Juergens '87 (soccer)** – NSCAA All-American; Three-time First Team All-PAC selection.
- ***Jody (Swauger-Simms '98) Armstrong (soccer/basketball/track)** – Earned 10 total letters; PAC women's soccer MVP.
- ***Joseph Walters (coach)** – Compiled 422 total wins as men's and women's tennis coach; also assistant football coach and associate athletic director.

Three men will be honored with the College's Athletic Heritage Award:

- ***Alex Eggers '51 (soccer)** – Inducted into Men's Soccer Hall of Fame in 2010; Four-year letterwinner at goalkeeper and forward.
- ***Dr. Herbert Harmon (coach)** – Coached football and baseball from 1906 to 1916; professor at Grove City until retiring in 1946.
- ***Dr. Weir Ketler '08 (coach)** – Coached men's basketball team to 32-7 record from 1910 to 1913. Became College's third president in 1916.

Tickets for the event are \$25 and can be reserved by calling 724-458-2900.



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