



SPORTS NEWS

Presidents' Athletic Conference

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Bethany Men, Thomas More Women Earn Top Seeds for 2012 PAC Basketball Championship Tournaments

WEXFORD, Pa. – The Bethany College men and Thomas More College women are the top seeds and will have home court advantage throughout the **2012 PAC Basketball Championship Tournaments**, which take place Feb. 20-25 on campus sites. The winners of the PAC Men's & Women's Basketball Championship Tournaments will each receive the conference's automatic bid to the 2012 NCAA Division III Basketball Tournaments, beginning the weekend of March 2-3, 2012.

The defending PAC men's champion Bison, led by third-year head coach **Andy Sachs**, used a win over Saint Vincent on the final day of the regular season to clinch the top spot. All nine PAC men's teams will participate in the single-elimination tournament, beginning with an #8/#9 first round "play-in" game Monday night in New Wilmington between Waynesburg and Westminster, with the winner traveling to face the top-seeded Bison in one quarterfinal Tuesday. Other quarterfinals include #7 Washington & Jefferson at #2 Thiel, #6 Geneva at #3 Thomas More, and #5 Grove City at #4 Saint Vincent. Top remaining seeds host the semifinals Thursday at 7 p.m., with the championshipset for the highest remaining seed Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

The five-time defending PAC women's champion Saints rolled to a 15-1 league mark under first-year head coach **Jeff Hans** and will host #8 Grove City in an opening round game of the eight-team women's tournament Tuesday. If the Saints win, they will host both the "PAC Final Four" over the weekend in Crestview Hills, Ky. In other first round games, #2 Saint Vincent host #7 Washington & Jefferson, #6 Thiel is at #3 Waynesburg, and #4 Bethany hosts #5 Westminster. Semifinals are scheduled for 6 & 8 p.m. Friday, followed by the championship game on Saturday at a time TBA (between 4-7 p.m.).

Admission for all PAC Tournament games is \$5 for adults and \$2 for students, with students of host schools admitted free of charge with valid college ID. No conference or institutional passes are accepted for PAC Tournament contests.

Founded in 1955, the Presidents' Athletic Conference continues its mission of promoting intercollegiate athletics and the pursuit of academic excellence. Consisting of 10 select private institutions in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Kentucky, the PAC remains a unique organization in this day of high pressure intercollegiate athletics. With academics at the center of each member's philosophy, the PAC is built on the principle that an athletic program is a part of college life, but not an entity in itself. The PAC annually crowns champions in 19 sports (10 men, nine women) as a member of NCAA Division III.

Here are the complete 2012 PAC Men's & Women's Basketball Tournament schedules:

2012 PAC Men's Basketball Championship Tournament

First Round - Monday, February 20, 2012

#9 Waynesburg University (4-21, 1-15 PAC) at #8 Westminster College (6-19, 4-12 PAC) - 7 p.m.

Quarterfinals - Tuesday, February 21, 2012

#8/#9 winner at #1 Bethany College (22-3, 14-2 PAC) - 8 p.m.

#7 Washington & Jefferson College (8-17, 4-12 PAC) at #2 Thiel College (16-7, 13-3 PAC) - 7 p.m.

#6 Geneva College (6-19, 5-11 PAC) at #3 Thomas More College (19-7, 13-3 PAC) - 7:30 p.m.

#5 Grove City College (11-13, 7-9 PAC) at #4 Saint Vincent College (18-7, 11-5 PAC) - 8 p.m.

Semifinals - Thursday, February 23, 2012

Middle remaining seeds (at higher seed) - 7 p.m.

Lowest remaining seed at Highest remaining seed - 7 p.m.

Finals - Saturday, February 25, 2012 (at highest remaining seed)

7:30 p.m.

2012 PAC Women's Basketball Championship Tournament

First Round - Tuesday, February 21, 2012

#8 Grove City College (7-18, 6-12 PAC) at #1 Thomas More College (21-4, 17-1 PAC) - 5:30 p.m.

#7 Washington & Jefferson College (12-13, 7-11 PAC) at #2 Saint Vincent College (20-5, 15-3 PAC) - 6 p.m.

#6 Thiel College (8-17, 8-10 PAC) at #3 Waynesburg University (19-6, 14-4 PAC) - 7 p.m.

#5 Westminster College (9-15, 9-9 PAC) at #4 Bethany College (15-10, 11-7 PAC) - 6 p.m.

Semifinals - Friday, February 24, 2012 (at highest remaining seed after first round)

Middle remaining seeds - 6 p.m.

Lowest remaining seed vs. Highest remaining seed - 8 p.m.

Finals - Saturday, February 25, 2012 (at highest remaining seed after first round)

Time TBA (between 4-7 p.m.)