

2008 PAC Football Release Week 6 - October 6



Presidents' Athletic Conference
8500 Brooktree Road, Suite 130
Wexford, PA 15090
Web: www.pacathletics.org

Contact: Joe Onderko
(724) 933-4630
onderko@pacathletics.org

2008 PAC FOOTBALL STANDINGS (through October 5)

School	PAC Games			PF	PA	All Games				
	W	L	Pct.			W	L	Pct.	PF	PA
Thomas More	3	0	1.00	107	48	3	1	.750	121	89
Washington & Jefferson	2	0	1.00	83	45	5	0	1.00	224	115
Grove City	1	1	.500	62	84	3	2	.600	115	140
Westminster	1	1	.500	26	41	3	2	.600	90	129
Waynesburg	0	1	.000	26	34	2	2	.500	87	105
Bethany	0	2	.000	47	83	1	3	.250	88	142
Thiel	0	2	.000	34	50	0	5	.000	69	118
Geneva*						1	3	.250	69	135
Saint Vincent*						1	4	.200	78	139

* - NCAA Division III provisional member - not eligible for 2008 PAC championship or player of the week honors

LAST WEEK (October 4)

Grove City 27, SAINT VINCENT 12*
WESTMINSTER 16, Thiel 10*
Thomas More 42, BETHANY 12*
Washington & Jefferson 43, GENEVA 14*
Waynesburg - idle

THIS WEEK (October 11)

Bethany at Thiel* - 1:30 p.m.
Geneva at Grove City* - 1:30 p.m.
Saint Vincent at Thomas More* - 1:30 p.m.
Westminster at Waynesburg* - 1:30 p.m.
Washington & Jefferson - idle

Offensive Player of the Week

CRAIG BESONG

Wash. & Jeff.

Senior WR

6-3, 210

Baden, Pa.

Ambridge H.S.



Besong posted the second-highest single game receiving yardage total in school history, as he caught eight passes for 213 yards (26.6 avg.) and two touchdowns (63, 7) for undefeated and nationally-ranked W&J in a 43-14 win at PAC rival Geneva.

Also nominated was junior WR **Matt Cruse** of Bethany, senior TB **Brian Mercer** of Grove City, freshman RB **Anthony Knott** of Thomas More, and junior QB **Kevin Franz** of Westminster.

Defensive Player of the Week

CORY MEEKER

Westminster

Sophomore LB

6-1, 215

Glen Dale, W.Va.

John Marshall H.S.



In his second career start, Meeker posted six tackles (1.5 for losses), 1.5 QB sacks for -13 yards, and his first career interception in the Titans' 16-10 PAC win over Thiel. His pickoff, which he returned 27 yards, snuffed out a potential game-tying Thiel drive at the Titan 7-yard line.

Also nominated was freshman WLB **Jason Ferguson** of Grove City, freshman DL **Justin Smith** of Thomas More, and senior LB **John Fahey** of Washington & Jefferson.

Special Teams Player of the Week

DEUCE DOUCETTE

Thomas More

Freshman KR

5-9, 180

Florence, Ky.

Boone County H.S.



Doucette returned four kickoffs for 146 yards (36.5 avg.), including an 83-yard return for a touchdown in the second quarter of the Saints' 42-12 PAC victory at Bethany.

Also nominated was freshman K **Evan Plescia** of Bethany, junior OLB **James Jennings** of Grove City, freshman DB **Neil Sorice** of Washington & Jefferson, and junior PR/KR **Jon Gubish** of Westminster.

PAC FOOTBALL 2008 - Week 6 Conference Notes

HALFWAY HOME: As PAC football approaches the halfway point in the 2008 season, the conference race remains largely unchanged from a week ago ... W&J and Thomas More each remained tied atop of the conference standings with impressive road wins against league opponents, as the Presidents downed Geneva 43-14 and the Saints rolled past Bethany 42-12 ... Grove City overcame four first half turnovers in a 27-12 win at Saint Vincent, while Westminster scored 16 unanswered points and held off a late rally to topple Thiel 16-10.

WHO'S HOT: Junior QB **Kevin Franz** broke the Westminster career record for completions with 497, after completing 22-of-29 passes for 270 yards and two TDs in the Titan win over Thiel ... Thomas More freshman RB **Anthony Knott** rushed 13 times for 110 yards and two TDs (40, 33) against Bethany ... Grove City senior TB **Brian Mercer** rushed 23 times for 118 yards and a touchdown against Saint Vincent ... W&J senior LB **John Fahey** posted six tackles, a sack and a forced fumble against Geneva.

AROUND THE LEAGUE: Saint Vincent freshman QB **Jake Smith** posted a career-high 19 completions against Grove City, while Bearcat LB **Mike Speal** recorded 10 tackles in the loss to the Wolverines ... **Solomon Hejirika** blocked a punt for Geneva against W&J, setting up a touchdown for the GTs ... Senior DT **Matt Turek** and sophomore LB **Matt Saur** each blocked field goals for Thiel against Westminster ... Freshman **Evan Plescia** became the first Bethany kicker to boot two field goals in a game (26, 25) since 2004 against Thomas More.



**Bethany
Bison
(1-3, 0-2 PAC)**



Matt Cruse broke one school record and **Taylor McNeil** tied another, but the Bison were beaten 42-12 by Thomas More for Homecoming at Bison Stadium ... Cruse, who had 4 catches for 136 yards, caught a 55-yard TD pass from **Chad Smith** for his 19th career touchdown catch to break the record set by **T.J. Parker** (2003-06) ... It was also Cruse's third TD this season and his shortest, with his other scores covering 57 and 78 yards ... McNeil hauled in 13 passes for 82 yards to equal the single-game reception mark, one he previously tied last year at W&J ... Smith completed 28-of-45 passes for 288 yards and the score to Cruse ... The 28 completions was the third-highest in a game in Bethany history ... SS **John George** led the defense with nine tackles.

**Geneva Golden
Tornadoes
(1-3)**



Geneva ran into an offensive machine Saturday night as the Golden Tornadoes dropped a 43-14 decision to Washington & Jefferson on homecoming night 2008 ... The 9th-ranked Presidents rolled up 470 yards of total offense, including 334 yards through the air ... The GTs countered with the "Matt and Matt" backfield combination in **Matt Barge** and **Matt Dean** ... Both backs scored a touchdown and Dean accounted for 77 yards on just six carries on the ground ... Barge added 49 yards rushing and 41 yards receiving ... One of Geneva's bright spots in 2008 continues to be the special teams ... For the third consecutive game, Geneva managed to block a kick ... Against W&J, it was **Solomon Hejirika** who blocked a punt that led to Geneva's second touchdown of the game.

**Grove City
Wolverines
(3-2, 1-1 PAC)**



Grove City made its first visit to Saint Vincent since 1932 and improved to 3-2 with a 27-12 victory ... The GCC defense racked up four sacks and three turnovers and limited the Bearcats to just 56 yards rushing ... **Zach Fulmer** returned a second-quarter pick 60 yards for a TD ... Freshman LB **Jason Ferguson** intercepted a pass, recovered a fumble and made eight tackles in his second career start ... **Kevin Twarek** recorded 1.5 sacks and three tackles for loss ... The Wolverines had 10 total tackles for losses ... Offensively, **Brian Mercer** ran for 118 yards and a touchdown ... He also caught a 15-yard TD pass ... **Andrew DiDonato** threw TD passes to Mercer and **Zach Summy** ... **Stephen Mercer** caught five passes for 50 yards ... **Danny Van Dyke** caught a two-point conversion, his first points of the season.

**Saint Vincent
Bearcats
(1-4)**



Grove City handed the Bearcats a 27-12 defeat on Homecoming Day at Saint Vincent ... Grove City held the Bearcat ground game to just 56 yards, but the SVC defense was strong, forcing four turnovers, including two forced fumbles by linebacker **Jeff Graham**, and interceptions by **Alex Rowan** and **Roscoe Barber** ... Freshman QB **Jake Smith** posted career highs in yards (146) and completions (19), including a 22-yard touchdown toss to **Dan Blaszkowski** in the fourth quarter ... In all, seven different SVC receivers made at least two catches ... Sophomore K **Aaron Jones** converted a pair of field goals (26, 37) to improve to 5-of-6 on the season ... LB **Mike Speal** led the team with 10 tackles, while Rowan made six stops, including two for a loss, to go with his interception.

**Thiel
Tomcats
(0-5, 0-2 PAC)**



Thiel couldn't manage to complete a comeback over Westminster as the Tomcats fell 16-10 Saturday ... With the loss, Thiel dropped to 0-5 for the first time since 1995 ... On special teams, senior DT, **Matt Turek** and sophomore LB **Matt Saur** each blocked field goals ... Junior DT **William Haase** amassed five tackles, 2.5 tackles for loss and a sack ... Saturday's game was the fourth consecutive in a row that Haase registered two or more tackles for losses ... He currently has 13.5 tackles for losses this season - only four away from current Thiel coach, **Dante Darby's** all-time single season mark ... Senior SS **Matt Joy** cemented his name in Thiel College football, becoming the all-time leader in punt return yards (547) by returning two punts for 23 yards.

**Thomas More
Saints
(3-1, 3-0 PAC)**



Thomas More College remained undefeated (3-0) in Presidents' Athletic Conference play as it defeated Bethany College, 42-12 ... Junior QB **Trevor Stelman** was 14-of-18 passing for 105 yards and added 27 yards rushing and two rushing touchdowns ... Freshman RB **Anthony Knott** carried the ball 13 times for 110 yards and two touchdowns ... Freshman KR **Deuce Doucette** returned four kicks for 146 yards, including an 83-yard return for a touchdown ... The Saints had four players lead the team in tackles as sophomore defensive back **Aaron Monk**, sophomore defensive back **Wade Begley**, sophomore linebacker **Matt Clark**, and freshman defensive lineman **Justin Smith**, all finished with eight tackles.

**Washington & Jefferson
Presidents
(5-0, 2-0 PAC)**



W&J rolled to a 43-14 win at Geneva Saturday night in Beaver Falls ... Washington & Jefferson is ranked ninth by the AFCA and 10th by D3football.com ... The Presidents racked up their fourth 40-point effort of the season ... Junior WR **Craig Besong** collected the second-best receiving day in school history on amassing 213 yards on eight catches, two of which went for touchdowns ... W&J outgained GC by a 470-224 margin and picked up 19 first downs ... Senior QB **Bobby Swallow** threw a touchdown pass for the 25th consecutive game and finished with 327 yards and four scores ... Senior LB **John Fahey** paced the defense with six tackles (two for a loss), a forced fumble and a sack.

**Waynesburg
Yellow Jackets
(2-2, 0-1 PAC)**



After having this past Saturday off for their bye week, the Waynesburg Yellow Jackets jump back into PAC play this Saturday when they host the Westminster Titans for homecoming ... Waynesburg's last game played was on Sept. 27, when they beat Saint Vincent 21-12 on the road.

**Westminster
Titans
(3-2, 2-1 PAC)**



Westminster defeated Thiel Saturday, 16-10, improving its record to 3-2 overall and 1-1 in the PAC ... Junior QB **Kevin Franz** completed 22-of-29 passes for 270 and two TDs ... Franz threw TD passes to junior WR **Chad Rosatelli** (22) and sophomore WR **John Baummer** (32) ... It was Baummer's first career touchdown reception ... Junior TB **Nick McKolosky** finished the day with 159 total yards, catching four passes for a season-high 67 yards and rushing for 92 yards on 26 carries ... The big play on defense was when sophomore LB **Cory Meeker** intercepted a pass on Westminster's 7-yard line in the second quarter as Thiel was driving ... Leading the defensive line was senior DE **Andrew Robison** (who posted two sacks) and sophomore NT **Jeff Beaver** (who had a half sack and three pass break-ups).

PAC FOOTBALL GAME PREVIEWS - WEEK 6



Bethany (1-3, 0-2 PAC) at Thiel (0-5, 0-2 PAC)

Saturday, Oct. 11 - 1:30 p.m.
Alumni Stadium (1,400/turf) - Greenville, Pa.



Radio/TV: WPIC-AM (790) in Hermitage; www.teamline.cc (code 3724); www.790wpic.com;

Series Record: Thiel leads 36-28-1

Game Notes: Thiel hosts Bethany in a battle of teams still looking for their first conference win of the season Saturday ... The Tomcats have taken five straight from the Bison by an average of 28.4 points per game, including a 37-13 triumph last season ... Turnovers have been a huge part of the Bison's problems with Thiel recently, as BC has turned it over 22 times in the last five meetings, with five of those being returned for scores ... Last season, **Taylor McNeil** scored on a 49-yard reverse and **Marcus Santini** ran for 78 yards, but the Tomcats pounded out 425 rushing yards and forced four turnovers in their Homecoming victory ... Thiel has averaged 260.8 rushing yards in the last meetings with Bethany ... The series dates back to the 1917 season ... Thiel's longest winning streak in the series came when the Tomcats won nine in a row from 1930 to 1954 ... The Bison won 11 consecutive meetings from 1992 to 2002.



Geneva (1-3) at Grove City (3-2)

Saturday, Oct. 11 - 1:30 p.m.
Robert E. Thorn Field (3,500/turf) - Grove City, Pa.



Radio/TV: WBVP-AM (1230) in Beaver Falls; WMBA-AM (1460) in Ambridge; WSAJ-FM (91.1) in Grove City; www2.gcc.edu/sports; www.msasportsnetwork.com;

Series Record: Geneva leads 41-35-7

Game Notes: Grove City hosts Geneva this Saturday in the 84th renewal of a rivalry that began in 1893 ... Geneva leads the all-time series 41-35-7, including a 13-12 win last year ... The teams had not played since 1983 prior to last year's game ... Grove City last defeated Geneva in 1979, 26-25 ... This is Geneva's first trip to Grove City since 1982 ... Geneva is the Wolverines' third-most frequently-played opponent ... It is the first of two straight home games for the Wolverines ... The series started with a scoreless tie in 1893 ... In last year's victory, **Nick DiPietro** kicked a pair of field goals and **Luke Duriancik** pulled in a pass from **Bobby Bondi** for the deciding touchdown in Geneva's one point victory.



Saint Vincent (1-4) at Thomas More (3-1)

Saturday, Oct. 11 - 1:30 p.m.
Bank of Kentucky Field (2,500/turf) - Crestview Hills, Ky.



Radio/TV: WCNS-AM (1480) in Latrobe; www.redzonemedia.com

Series Record: Thomas More leads 1-0

Game Notes: The Saint Vincent Bearcats will travel to Crestview Hills, Ky., to take on PAC co-leader Thomas More ... Last season's week-six meeting was the first ever between the two squads ... The game was tied at halftime before the Saints scored 27 unanswered points, all in the fourth quarter, for the 44-17 win ... **Jake Gabelt** made four grabs for 28 yards for the Bearcats, while **Mike Wampler** caught a 24-yard second quarter touchdown ... SVC has played well in its first two road games of the year, defeating Gallaudet University in week two before dropping a close 31-24 contest at Westminster three weeks ago ... Thomas More enters the game with a 3-1 overall record and a 3-0 Presidents' Athletic Conference record and on a three-game winning streak after defeating Bethany College, 42-12, on October 4 ... Thomas More is the top-ranked scoring defense in the PAC as it has only given up 22.2 points per game and has the second ranked scoring offense as it averages 30.2 points per game.



Westminster (3-2, 1-1 PAC) at Waynesburg (2-2, 0-1 PAC)

Saturday, Oct. 11 - 1:30 p.m.
John F. Wiley Stadium (4,000/turf) - Waynesburg, Pa.



Radio/TV: WWNW-FM (88.9) in New Wilmington; WCYJ-FM (88.7) in Waynesburg; www.titanradio.net; www.waynesburg.edu; Westminster Cable Network (WCN) - tape delay Sunday night

Series Record: Westminster leads 35-28-3

Game Notes: Waynesburg and Westminster will renew one of the longest-running rivalries in the region Saturday as they meet for the 67th time since 1910 ... While the Titans hold the advantage in the series, the Yellow Jackets have been more successful in recent years, winning the last five meetings ... While the game is part of Waynesburg's school homecoming ceremonies, it will be something of a homecoming for Westminster head coach **Jeff Hand**, who coached the Jackets from 2001 to 2004. In 2003, Hand guided Waynesburg to its first, and only, outright PAC title and a berth into the NCAA tournament ... Westminster is 3-2 after five games for a second straight year ... This is the fourth time in the last 10 years that a Westminster team won at least three of its first five games (the other two were 3-2 in 2002 and 4-1 in 2000) ... Westminster is 8-1 all-time when junior TB **Nick McKolosky** gets at least 22 carries ... McKolosky had 26 carries for 92 yards vs. Thiel last week and last year in a 54-13 loss at Waynesburg he had 21 carries for 76 yards ... Junior QB **Kevin Franz** threw for 270 yards and two TDs last week vs. Thiel and 134 yards and two scores at Waynesburg last year. ... The last Westminster win at Waynesburg was a 16-14 decision in 2001.

**Bethany Bison
1-3, 0-2 PAC****September**

6 at Otterbein L 7-40
 13 KENTUCKY CHRISTIAN W 34-19
 20 at Grove City* L 35-41
 27 Open Date

October

4 THOMAS MORE* L 12-42
 11 at Thiel* 1:30 p.m.
 18 at Westminster* 1:30 p.m.
 25 WAYNESBURG* 1 p.m.

November

1 GENEVA* 1 p.m.
 8 at Wash. & Jeff.* 1:30 p.m.
 15 SAINT VINCENT* 1 p.m.

**Geneva Golden Tornadoes
1-3****September**

6 SETON HILL L 18-27
 13 at Salisbury L 6-48
 20 Open Date
 27 at Thiel* W 31-17

October

4 WASH. & JEFF.* L 14-43
 11 at Grove City* 1:30 p.m.
 18 WAYNESBURG* 7 p.m.
 25 at Saint Vincent* 1 p.m.

November

1 at Bethany* 1 p.m.
 8 THOMAS MORE* 1:30 p.m.
 15 WESTMINSTER* 1:30 p.m.

**Grove City Wolverines
3-2, 1-1 PAC****September**

6 at Dickinson L 7-34
 13 CARNEGIE MELLON W 19-10
 20 BETHANY* W 41-35
 27 at Wash. & Jeff.* L 21-49

October

4 at Saint Vincent* W 27-12
 11 GENEVA* 1:30 p.m.
 18 THOMAS MORE* 2 p.m.
 25 Open Date

November

1 at Waynesburg* 1:30 p.m.
 8 at Westminster* 1:30 p.m.
 15 THIEL* 1 p.m.

**Saint Vincent Bearcats
1-4****September**

6 MCDANIEL L 7-38
 13 at Gallaudet W 23-22
 20 at Westminster* L 24-31
 27 WAYNESBURG* L 12-21

October

4 GROVE CITY* L 12-27
 11 at Thomas More* 1:30 p.m.
 18 at Wash. & Jeff. 2 p.m.
 25 GENEVA* 1 p.m.

November

1 THIEL* 1:30 p.m.
 8 Open Date
 15 at Bethany* 1 p.m.

**Thiel Tomcats
0-5, 0-2 PAC****September**

6 MARIETTA L 18-21
 13 at Albion L 0-16
 20 WASH. & JEFF.* L 24-34
 27 GENEVA* L 17-31

October

4 at Westminster* L 10-16
 11 BETHANY* 1:30 p.m.
 18 Open Date
 25 at Thomas More* 1:30 p.m.

November

1 at Saint Vincent* 1:30 p.m.
 8 WAYNESBURG* 1:30 p.m.
 15 at Grove City* 1 p.m.

**Thomas More Saints
3-1, 3-0 PAC****September**

6 JOHN CARROLL L 14-41
 13 Open Date
 20 at Waynesburg* W 34-26
 27 WESTMINSTER* W 31-10

October

4 at Bethany* W 42-12
 11 SAINT VINCENT* 1:30 p.m.
 18 at Grove City* 2 p.m.
 25 THIEL* 1:30 p.m.

November

1 WASH. & JEFF.* 1:30 p.m.
 8 at Geneva* 1:30 p.m.
 15 MOUNT ST. JOSEPH 1:30 p.m.

**Wash. & Jeff. Presidents
5-0, 2-0 PAC****September**

6 at Oberlin W 49-35
 13 FROSTBURG STATE W 49-21
 20 at Thiel* W 34-24
 27 GROVE CITY* W 49-21

October

4 at Geneva* W 43-14
 11 Open Date
 18 SAINT VINCENT* 2 p.m.
 25 WESTMINSTER* 7 p.m.

November

1 at Thomas More* 1:30 p.m.
 8 BETHANY* 1:30 p.m.
 15 at Waynesburg* 1:30 p.m.

**Waynesburg Yellow Jackets
2-2, 0-1 PAC****September**

6 WOOSTER L 6-27
 13 at Hanover W 34-32
 20 THOMAS MORE* L 26-34
 27 at Saint Vincent* W 21-12

October

4 Open Date
 11 WESTMINSTER* 1:30 p.m.
 18 at Geneva* 7 p.m.
 25 at Bethany* 1 p.m.

November

1 GROVE CITY* 1:30 p.m.
 8 at Thiel* 1:30 p.m.
 15 WASH. & JEFF.* 1:30 p.m.

**Westminster Titans
3-2, 1-1 PAC****September**

6 at Heidelberg L 27-62
 13 ALLEGHENY W 6-2
 20 SAINT VINCENT* W 31-24
 27 at Thomas More* L 10-31

October

4 THIEL* W 16-10
 11 at Waynesburg* 1:30 p.m.
 18 BETHANY* 1:30 p.m.
 25 at Wash. & Jeff.* 7 p.m.

November

1 Open Date
 8 GROVE CITY* 1:30 p.m.
 15 at Geneva* 1:30 p.m.