

2008 PAC Football Release Week 12 - November 17



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 (regular season final)

School	PAC Games			PF	PA	All Games			PF	PA
	W	L	Pct.			W	L	Pct.		
Thomas More	6	0	1.00	222	105	8	2	.800	302	170
Washington & Jefferson	5	1	.833	242	103	9	1	.900	455	193
Grove City	3	3	.500	140	176	6	4	.600	231	245
Westminster	3	3	.500	129	202	5	5	.500	219	319
Waynesburg	2	4	.333	191	191	5	5	.500	286	290
Bethany	1	5	.167	172	257	3	7	.300	280	368
Thiel	1	5	.167	147	209	2	8	.200	218	299
Geneva*						5	5	.500	236	288
Saint Vincent*						1	9	.100	160	367

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

LAST WEEK (November 15)

BETHANY 44, Saint Vincent 14*
GROVE CITY 20, Thiel 14*
Wash. & Jeff. 42, WAYNESBURG 9*
GENEVA 29, Westminster 26*
THOMAS MORE 19, Mt. St. Joseph 0

THIS WEEK (November 22)

NCAA Division III Playoffs

Chris. Newport at Wash. & Jeff. - noon
Thomas More at North Central - noon CST
(1 p.m. EST)

Offensive Player of the Week

TAYLOR MCNEIL

Bethany
Senior WR
5-10, 170
Old Saybrook, Conn.
Old Saybrook H.S.



McNeil broke the Bethany single-game record with 279 receiving yards on 10 receptions with two touchdowns (60, 88) in the Bison's 44-14 win over PAC rival Saint Vincent. He broke the previous BC single-game mark of 225 yards set by **Dan Reilly** in 1989 and became just the seventh BC receiver to surpass 100 career receptions (106) in the victory.

Also nominated was senior WR **Stephen Mercer** of Grove City, junior RB **Cordario Collier** of Thomas More, senior WR **Luke Espe** of W&J, sophomore WR **Ray Hightower II** of Waynesburg, and junior WR **Jon Gubish** of Westminster.

Defensive Player of the Week

DAVID GITLITZ

Wash. & Jeff.
Senior LB
6-3, 245
Columbus, Ohio
Bexley H.S.



Gitlitz posted 10 tackles, including 3.5 for losses of 41 yards, and a quarterback sack to led W&J to a 42-9 PAC victory at Waynesburg. He moved into third place on the W&J career tackle list with 287 stops.

Also nominated was senior CB **Brandon Zeman** of Bethany, freshman NT **Jarred Frawley** of Grove City, sophomore MLB **Bobby Shew** of Thiel, sophomore LB **Matt Clark** of Thomas More, senior DL **D.J. DeWitt** of Waynesburg, and senior DT **Matt Jaworski** of Westminster.

Special Teams Player of the Week

CRAIG BICEHOUSE

Grove City
Sophomore K
5-9, 170
Prospect, Pa.
Slippery Rock H.S.

Bicehouse kicked two first half extra points and then added a 42-yard field goal just before half-time to give Grove City a 17-7 advantage, then added a 29-yard field goal with 1:35 left to lift the Wolverines to a 20-14 PAC win over Thiel.

Also nominated was senior WR **Brad Zink** of Bethany, senior P **Zach Zebrasky** of Washington & Jefferson, senior KR/PR **Scott Cree** of Waynesburg, and freshman K **Trevor Young** of Westminster.

PAC FOOTBALL 2008 - Week 12 Conference Notes

TWO TABBED FOR NCAA: For the second time in the past four years, a pair of PAC football teams have been selected to compete in the NCAA Division III playoffs ... PAC champion Thomas More will open the playoffs at North Central (1-0) in Naperville, Ill. ... PAC runner-up Washington & Jefferson will host Christopher Newport in another first round matchup ... Also on Sunday, Thiel announced that head coach **Jack Leipheimer** had stepped down after seven seasons to become AD and will be replaced by assistant coach **Kurt Reiser**.

WHO'S HOT: PAC champion Thomas More held rival Mount St. Joseph to 80 yards of total offense in a 19-0 Saint shutout victory ... Grove City senior WR **Stephen Mercer** caught 14 passes for 171 yards and a touchdown in a 20-14 win over Thiel ... W&J senior LB **David Gitlitz** posted 10 tackles (including 3.5 for losses) and a sack in the Presidents' 42-9 win over Waynesburg ... Saint Vincent freshman HB **Jairus Marlow** set a modern day school record with 130 yards on 13 carries, while also adding a 38-yard reception in a 44-14 loss to Bethany.

AROUND THE LEAGUE: Westminster junior WR **Jon Gubish** had 10 receptions in a 29-26 loss to Geneva, giving him a school-record 64 catches on the season ... Waynesburg sophomore WR **Ray Hightower II** had nine receptions for 82 yards in a 42-9 loss to Washington & Jefferson ... Senior CB **Brandon Zeman** of Bethany return an interception 39 yards for a touchdown in a 44-14 win over Saint Vincent ... Thiel WR **Brendan Taylor** caught seven passes for 135 yards and a touchdown for the Tomcats in a 20-14 loss at Grove City.



**Bethany
Bison
(3-7, 1-5 PAC)**



Bethany closed out the season on a high-note with a 44-14 victory over Saint Vincent in "The Green Game" ... WR **Taylor McNeil** celebrated Senior Day by catching 10 passes for a school-record 279 yards and 2 touchdowns (60, 88) ... In the process, he became the 7th receiver in BC history to go over 100 career receptions (106) ... QB **Chad Smith** threw for 392 yards, the 2nd-highest total in school history, and 3 TDs to give him 17 for the year ... In addition to catching a TD pass, RB **Eric Walker** rushed for 117 yards and a score to tie the Bison single-season mark for rushing TDs (10) ... CB **Brandon Zeman** capped his career with a 39-yard interception return for a score ... Bethany had 3 INTs and 2 sacks, both by **Brad Raghianti**, while recording season-lows in points and yards allowed.

**Geneva Golden
Tornadoes
(5-5)**



Geneva's incredible turnaround season ended with its fourth consecutive victory on Saturday ... The Golden Tornadoes defeated Westminster 29-26 in the 111th edition of "The Game" ... After starting the season at 1-5, Geneva and head coach **Geno DeMarco** were able to right the ship in finish in style ... On Saturday, Geneva used another solid ground attack to get past the Titans. Geneva rushed for 231 yards, including a 128 yard effort from **Matt Barge** ... **Gerard Muschette** put the game away with an 88 yard touchdown run early in the fourth quarter. Geneva's defense was led by **Derek McElhaney's** 12 tackles. Geneva forced a pair of turnovers, including **Marcus Costanza's** first collegiate interception.

**Grove City
Wolverines
(6-4, 3-3 PAC)**



Grove City retained possession of the Mercer County Cup Saturday by pulling out a 20-14 home victory over Thiel at Robert E. Thorn Field ... QB **Andrew DiDonato** set a new single-season passing record with 1,923 yards after his career-high 278-yard effort Saturday ... He also went over the 5,000-yard mark for his career ... Senior end **Stephen Mercer** caught 14 passes for 171 yards and a touchdown ... He also threw a touchdown pass to DiDonato ... Mercer's 67 catches this year are the third-most in one season at Grove City ... The Wolverines owned a 16-minute edge in time of possession and converted 10-of-16 third downs ... **Craig Bicehouse** booted two field goals for the Wolverines ... **Adam Eichler** finished with a PAC-leading 104 tackles this year ... **Zach Fulmer** led the conference with five interceptions.

**Saint Vincent
Bearcats
(1-9)**



The Bearcats wrapped up the season on a losing note, falling 44-14 vs. Bethany Saturday ... Freshman HB **Jairus Marlow** set a modern day school record with 130 yards on 13 carries, while also adding a 38-yard reception ... The Bearcats ended the day with a 188-119 advantage in rushing yards, but Bethany out-passed SVC 392-136 ... S **Josh Diamond** led the Bearcat defense with 10 tackles, including one for loss, for his fifth straight 10+ tackle game, while **Armando Fortunato** added six stops, including two TFLs ... DLs **Mike Nadeau** and **Calvin Demillion** each recorded a sack ... After the first 100-yard performance of his career, Marlow finishes the year as his team's leading rusher, gaining 458 yards on just 59 carries, good for 7.8 yards per try, as well as a team-high five touchdowns.

**Thiel
Tomcats
(2-8, 1-5 PAC)**



Grove City downed Thiel, 20-16, to win the Mercer County Cup for the second consecutive year at dreary Robert E. Thorn Field Saturday... The Tomcats finished the season with a 2-8 record (1-5 PAC)... QB **Willie Bova** overcame a driving rain to complete 21-of-31 pass attempts for 235 yards and a TD ... WR **Brendan Taylor** caught a TD pass for the third consecutive game ... He caught five TD passes in Thiel last three games ... Taylor finished with seven catches for 135 yards ... **Bobby Shew** had a monster day on defense, racking up a game-leading 17 tackles including a five-yard sack ... Junior **William Haase** registered two sacks for a combined 11 yards to highlight a nine-tackle day ... His 20 tackles for a loss this season is a Thiel record ... The game was the last for coach **Jack Leipheimer**.

**Thomas More
Saints
(8-2, 6-0 PAC)**



Thomas More held across-the River rival, Mount St. Joseph to 80 offensive yards as it shutout the Lions, 19-0, in Bridge Bowl XIII at The Bank of Kentucky Field ... It was the Saints' first shutout since Oct. 25, 2003 when they shutout Kentucky Wesleyan, 37-0, on Homecoming 2003 ... The Saints were led by junior QB **Trevor Stellman**, who was 19-of-31 passing for 220 yards and one TD and also ran the ball 12 times for 22 yards and a score ... Junior RB **Cordario Collier** crossed the century mark on the ground as he had 165 yards on 20 carries and also had five catches for 44 yards ... **Nick Dew** finished the day with nine catches for 114 yards and one TD... Defensively, sophomore LB **Matt Clark** led the Saints with 14 tackles (seven solo, seven assisted) and three pass break-ups.

**Washington & Jefferson
Presidents
(9-1, 5-1 PAC)**



The Presidents closed the season with a 42-9 victory over Waynesburg in the PAC Backyard Brawl ... Senior QB **Bobby Swallow** passed for 250 yards and four TDs, including the 100th of his career ... He is the 16th player in NCAA Division III history to pass for 100 touchdowns ... Swallow also moved within 63 yards of passing **Chris Edwards** for second on the W&J career passing yardage list ... Senior WR **Luke Espe** and junior WR **Craig Besong** each caught a pair of scoring tosses, while senior RB **Curt Jones** gained 120 yards and scored two touchdowns ... With one TD in the NCAA playoffs, Jones will tie for the third-highest single-season touchdown total (20) in school history ... Senior LB **David Gitlitz** moved into sole possession of third place (287) on the W&J career tackle list.

**Waynesburg
Yellow Jackets
(5-5, 2-4 PAC)**



The Waynesburg football season came to a rough end Saturday with a 42-9 loss to Washington & Jefferson ... The loss gives the Yellow Jackets a final overall record of 5-5 and a 2-4 mark in the PAC ... One of the highlights of the game was the performance of some of the team's younger players ... Sophomore WR **Ray Hightower** led all player in both catches (9) and receiving yards (82), while freshman LB **Scott Bogdan**, who made his first collegiate start, led the team in total tackles (8) and solo tackles (7) ... Junior DB/KR **Scott Cree** also returned his third kickoff for a touchdown on an 88-yard jaunt to the end zone early in the contest ... He finishes the season with five total special team touchdowns and a sixth on one of his five interceptions.

**Westminster
Titans
(5-5, 3-3 PAC)**



Westminster football absorbed a season-ending, 29-26 loss at Geneva Saturday ... Westminster finished the season with a 5-5 record, giving the program its 52nd non-losing season in the last 58 years ... Junior WR **Jon Gubish** scored his first career touchdown on his 83rd reception of his career ... Gubish finished the day with 10 catches for 91 yards and set the school record for receptions in a season with 64, surpassing **Tim McNeil's** mark of 61 catches in 14 games in 1994 ... Junior QB **Kevin Franz** also set a single-season record after completing 22-of-40 passes for 203 yards and two TDs ... Franz's 230 completions throughout the year eclipsed **James Graham's** previous record of 218 in 1999 ... Freshman WR **Justin Morgano** was the recipient of one of Franz's two touchdowns ... Senior DT **Matt Jaworski** made two sacks.

PAC FOOTBALL GAME PREVIEWS - 2008 PLAYOFFS



2008 NCAA DIVISION III PLAYOFFS - FIRST ROUND Christopher Newport (8-1) at Washington & Jefferson (9-1)

Saturday, Nov. 22 - noon
Cameron Stadium (3,500/turf) - Washington, Pa.

Radio/TV: WJPA-AM (1450) in Washington; WNJR-FM (91.7) in Washington; www.wjpa.com; www.msasportsnetwork.com

Series Record: Washington & Jefferson leads 3-0

Game Notes: W&J and Christopher Newport will meet for the fourth time in the NCAA Playoffs, including the third first-round matchup ... The two schools have met on the even years every season since 2002 ... W&J has won all three previous meetings, two of which occurred at Cameron Stadium ... Washington & Jefferson holds a 19-19 record throughout history in the NCAA Division III playoffs ... The Presidents are one of five teams (W&J, Mount Union, Mary Hardin-Baylor, Hobart, Curry) to participate in each of the past five NCAA Division III Tournaments ... The Presidents are 10-9 at home in the NCAA playoffs all-time, including a 6-5 record in first-round home games at Cameron Stadium ... The Captains are led by junior tailback **Tunde Ogun**, the nation's leading rusher heading into last Saturday's action.



2008 NCAA DIVISION III PLAYOFFS - FIRST ROUND

Thomas More (8-2) at North Central (10-0)

Saturday, Nov. 22 - noon CST (1 p.m. EST)
Benedetti-Wehrili Stadium (5,500/turf) - Naperville, Ill.

Radio/TV: WONC-FM (89.1) in Naperville; www.wonc.org

Series Record: First meeting

Game Notes: Thomas More College (8-2) will make its third appearance in the NCAA Division III Playoffs when it travels to Naperville, Illinois to play No. 2-ranked and top seeded North Central College (10-2) in a first round game ... Both teams earned their conference's automatic bid (Pool A) to the Playoffs as Thomas More won the Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) title and North Central won the College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (CCIW) title This will be the first-ever meeting between the two schools on the gridiron.

Bethany Bison
3-7, 1-5 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* L 44-50 (4ot)
 18 at Westminster* L 43-46
 25 WAYNESBURG* W 31-24

November

1 GENEVA* L 23-38
 8 at Wash. & Jeff.* L 7-54
 15 SAINT VINCENT* W 44-14

Geneva Golden Tornadoes
5-5**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* L 13-38
 18 WAYNESBURG* L 28-34
 25 at Saint Vincent* W 42-19

November

1 at Bethany* W 38-23
 8 THOMAS MORE* W 17-13
 15 WESTMINSTER* W 29-26

Grove City Wolverines
6-4, 3-3 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* W 38-13
 18 THOMAS MORE* L 14-35
 25 Open Date

November

1 at Waynesburg* W 23-19
 8 at Westminster* L 21-24
 15 THIEL* W 20-14

Saint Vincent Bearcats
1-9**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* L 7-34
 18 at Wash. & Jeff. L 20-72
 25 GENEVA* L 19-42

November

1 THIEL* L 22-36
 8 Open Date
 15 at Bethany* L 14-44

Thiel Tomcats
2-8, 1-5 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* W 50-44 (4ot)
 18 Open Date
 25 at Thomas More* L 14-45

November

1 at Saint Vincent* W 36-22
 8 WAYNESBURG* L 35-50
 15 at Grove City* L 14-20

Thomas More Saints
8-2, 6-0 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* W 34-7
 18 at Grove City* W 35-14
 25 THIEL* W 45-14

November

1 WASH. & JEFF.* W 35-29
 8 at Geneva* L 13-17
 15 MOUNT ST. JOSEPH W 19-0
 22 at North Central^ 1 p.m. EST

Wash. & Jeff. Presidents
9-1, 5-1 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* W 72-20
 25 WESTMINSTER* W 34-7

November

1 at Thomas More* L 29-35
 8 BETHANY* W 54-7
 15 at Waynesburg* W 42-9
 22 CHRIS. NEWPORT^ noon

Waynesburg Yellow Jackets
5-5, 2-4 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* W 63-26
 18 at Geneva* W 34-28
 25 at Bethany* L 24-31

November

1 GROVE CITY* L 19-23
 8 at Thiel* W 50-35
 15 WASH. & JEFF.* L 9-42

Westminster Titans
5-5, 3-3 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* L 26-63
 18 BETHANY* W 46-43
 25 at Wash. & Jeff.* L 7-34

November

1 Open Date
 8 GROVE CITY* W 24-21
 15 at Geneva* L 26-29