



SPORTS NEWS

Presidents' Athletic Conference
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Thomas More College Picked to "Four-Peat" as 2011 PAC Football Champion

LATROBE, Pa. - Three-time defending conference champion Thomas More College has been picked to again capture the 2011 football championship in the Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC), according to the preseason poll released at the 2011 PAC Football Media Day at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe today. Voters in the polls included conference head coaches, sports information directors (SIDs), and members of the media present at the conference media day.

The three-time defending PAC champion Saints of fifth-year head coach **Jim Hilvert** return 19 starters and 42 lettermen from last year's team which finished 11-1 overall, including a perfect 7-0 mark against conference competition. Thomas More earned 24 of 26 total first-place votes and 232 points in the conference poll to top second place Washington & Jefferson (200), followed by Waynesburg (165), Bethany and Grove City (tied with 117), Geneva (110), Saint Vincent (108), Westminster (78) and Thiel (43).

"It is an honor to be picked first again this year. This pick recognizes past and present players," said Hilvert. "But, last year is last year. We have a lot of hard work to do this year. We must play with a certain edge this year to accomplish the goals we set this off-season. In the PAC, you must be ready week in and week out. We must also stay healthy."

In the 2010 postseason, Thomas More topped Washington & Lee 42-14 in the NCAA first round before falling at Mary Hardin-Baylor in the second round. W&J captured the ECAC D-III Southwest Bowl with a 54-41 victory over Franklin & Marshall.

Following is the voting breakdown among coaches, SIDs and media:

Coaches

1. Thomas More (8)	80
2. Wash. & Jeff.	68
3. Waynesburg (1)	58
4. Grove City	46
5. Bethany	41
6. Saint Vincent	40
7. Geneva	32
8. Westminster	24
9. Thiel	17

SIDs

1. Thomas More (9)	89
2. Wash. & Jeff. (1)	76
3. Waynesburg	63
4t. Bethany	48
4t. Grove City	48
6t. Geneva	39
6t. Saint Vincent	39
8. Westminster	29
9. Thiel	19

Media

1. Thomas More (7)	63
2. Wash. & Jeff.	56
3. Waynesburg	44
4. Geneva	39
5. Saint Vincent	29
6. Bethany	28
7. Westminster	25
8. Grove City	23
9. Thiel	7

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Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) 2011 Preseason Football Poll		
	Points	2010 Record
1. Thomas More (24)	232	11-1 (7-0)
2. Washington & Jefferson (1)	200	9-2 (6-1)
3. Waynesburg (1)	165	6-4 (4-3)
4t. Bethany	117	5-5 (4-3)
4t. Grove City	117	5-5 (3-4)
6. Geneva	110	5-5 (n/a)
7. Saint Vincent	108	3-7 (3-4)
8. Westminster	78	2-8 (1-6)
9. Thiel	43	0-10 (0-7)
<i>(xx) - first place votes</i>		