



SPORTS NEWS

Presidents' Athletic Conference
8500 Brooktree Road, Suite 130
Wexford, PA 15090
(724) 933-4630 FAX (724)933-4635
E-mail: onderko@pacathletics.org
Web: www.westminster.edu/pac

Contact: Joe Onderko
onderko@pacathletics.org

FOR RELEASE: August 2, 2006

Thiel College Picked to Repeat as PAC Football Champions in 2006

PITTSBURGH, Pa. - The Thiel College football team has been selected to repeat as champions in the Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC), according to the preseason poll released at the 2006 PAC Football Media Day at PNC Park in Pittsburgh today. Voters in the polls included conference head coaches, sports information directors, and members of the media present at the conference media day.

The defending PAC champion Tomcats of head coach **Jack Leipheimer** earned 21 of 35 first-place votes to lead the preseason poll with 228 points, edging Washington & Jefferson with 211, followed by Thomas More (165), Waynesburg (134), Westminster (108), Grove City (95) and Bethany (40).

Thiel posted a perfect 10-0 regular season record in 2005 and posted an NCAA Division III playoff win over Johns Hopkins before falling to Bridgewater in the NCAA second round. The Tomcats were joined by W&J in the 2005 NCAA Division III playoffs, making the PAC one of a handful of conferences to earn a pair of national playoff berths.

"We are humbled and honored. This is a testament to our players that have gone through the program and the hard work and dedication of our current players and staff," said Leipheimer, now entering his sixth season as head coach at Thiel.

Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) 2006 Preseason Football Poll		
	Points	2005 Record
1. Thiel (21)	228	11-1(6-0)
2. Washington & Jefferson (11)	211	9-2 (5-1)
3. Thomas More (3)	165	5-5 (4-6)
4. Waynesburg	134	4-6 (2-4)
5. Westminster	108	4-6 (2-4)
6. Grove City	95	3-7 (2-4)
7. Bethany	40	1-9 (0-6)
<i>(xx) - first place votes</i>		

Following is the voting breakdown for coaches, SIDs and media members for the football preseason poll (35 total voters - 18 media members, eight coaches, and nine SIDs):

Coaches (8)

1. Thiel (7)	55
2. Wash. & Jeff	44
3. Thomas More (1)	40
4. Waynesburg	26
5. Westminster	25
6. Grove City	23
7. Bethany	11

SIDs (9)

1. Thiel (5)	59
2. Wash. & Jeff (3)	54
3. Thomas More (1)	44
4. Waynesburg	37
5. Grove City	28
6. Westminster	22
7. Bethany	9

Media (18)

1. Thiel (9)	114
2. Wash. & Jeff (8)	113
3. Thomas More (1)	81
4. Waynesburg	71
5. Westminster	61
6. Grove City	44
7. Bethany	20