



# MEN'S BASKETBALL 2003-04

Presidents' Athletic Conference

Joe Onderko, Information Director

Phone - (724) 946-6357

Fax - (724) 946-7187

E-Mail: onderkjm@westminster.edu

Web: www.westminster.edu/pac

## CURRENT REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS (through February 15, 2004)

School	PAC Games			All Games		
	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Pct.</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
Bethany College	7	1	.875	17	6	.739
Westminster College	6	2	.750	11	12	.478
Grove City College	5	3	.625	11	12	.478
Waynesburg College	3	5	.375	9	14	.391
Thiel College	2	6	.350	8	15	.348
Washington & Jefferson College	1	7	.125	7	16	.304

### LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

#### **Monday, February 9**

BETHANY 93, Hood 90 (OT)

#### **Wednesday, February 11**

BETHANY 74, Waynesburg 65\*

GROVE CITY 100, Westminster 95\*

Thiel 77, WASHINGTON & JEFFERSON 72\*

#### **Saturday, February 14**

Bethany 87, WASHINGTON & JEFFERSON 85\* (OT)

Grove City 75, THIEL 64\*

Waynesburg 94, WESTMINSTER 88\*

### UPCOMING SCHEDULE

#### **Wednesday, February 18**

Grove City at Waynesburg\* - 7:30 p.m.

Bethany at Thiel - 8 p.m.

Washington & Jefferson at Westminster\* - 8 p.m.

#### **Saturday, February 21**

Washington & Jefferson at Grove City\* - 3 p.m.

Westminster at Bethany\* - 4 p.m.

Thiel at Waynesburg\* - 7:30 p.m.

**END OF 2003-04 REGULAR SEASON**

## PAC MEN'S BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE WEEK

### **MATT PHILLIPS**

#### **Grove City College**

6-3 Sophomore Guard/Forward  
Bainbridge, Ohio/Kenston H.S.

Phillips led Grove City to PAC wins over then-unbeaten Westminster (100-95) and Thiel (75-64) last week, averaging 22.5 points and 5.0 rebounds in the two wins. He shot 62.5 percent from the field (15-of-24), including 67 percent from three-point range (4-of-6). Phillips tallied a career-high 31 points in the win over the Titans, then made 10 straight free throws in the second half of the Thiel win.

Also nominated was sophomore G/F **Matt Drahos** of Bethany, senior F **Mike Banach** of Thiel, freshman G **Jon Koch** of Washington & Jefferson, freshman G **Jeff Nero** of Waynesburg, and junior G **Ed Pagley** of Westminster.

## PAC MEN'S BASKETBALL NOTES

### *Bethany Bison*

The Bison have won four consecutive games and have moved into first place in the PAC after a 3-0 week, combined with Westminster's loss to Waynesburg over the weekend ... The squad pulled out two OT victories last week, at home against Hood, 93-90, and at W&J, 87-85 ... **Josh Polantz** and **Matt Drahos** played the hero in the two wins ... Polantz nailed a 30-foot shot at the buzzer to defeat Hood, while Drahos converted a reverse lay-up with 4.8 seconds left to defeat PAC rival W&J ... Sandwiched between those games was a home win vs. Waynesburg ... The Bison held Yellow Jacket leading scorer **Mike King**, who recorded 21 points against the Bison in the first meeting, to zero points on 0-of-6 shooting.

### *Wash. & Jeff. Presidents*

W&J has lost 10 of its last 11 contests, including seven in a row, but put a scare into league-leading Bethany on Saturday as the Bison scored with under five seconds left in overtime to earn the win ... W&J fought back from a 12-point deficit with just over five minutes remaining to forced the extra session ... The Presidents scored the first four points of overtime before BC scored the final six ... Freshman G **Brandon Studer** led W&J with 21 points, while classmate **Jon Koch** added 18 points and nine rebounds ... Koch paced the Presidents with 13 points and six boards in the loss to Thiel on Wednesday ... Junior F **Steve Button** added 12 points and seven boards, while sophomore F **Phil Maslar** provided a spark off the bench with 10 points.

### *Grove City Wolverines*

Grove City picked up a pair of victories over local rivals last week ... **Matt Phillips** fired in a career-high 31 points to help lead Grove City past Westminster Wednesday night ... It was the third straight game that Phillips scored a career high ... **Tanner Prosser** tied a career high with 19 rebounds and also threw down 18 points while fellow F **Ryan Eller** scored 20 points ... At Thiel Saturday, **J.D. Collar** fired in 21 points, his highest output in the last 21 games ... Phillips added 14 points, including 10 straight free throws in the second half ... Eller had 15 points and a career-high six assists ... Despite season-long struggles at the foul line, Grove City made 33 of 39 (85 percent) second-half foul shots last week.

### *Waynesburg Yellow Jackets*

Waynesburg went 1-1 on the road this week against the two best teams in the PAC, and in the one loss the Jackets had first-place Bethany tied at halftime after the Bison went up 20-3 in the first half ... Waynesburg lost to Bethany, 74-65, as leading scorer **Mike King** was held scoreless for the second time this season ... Against Westminster on Saturday, King redeemed himself with a team-high 24 points ... The Jackets were able to keep pace with the Titans, who made 22 three-pointers on an incredible 77 attempts ... Two freshmen guards—**Jeff Nero** and **Marc Lodovico**—keyed in the win over Westminster with 14 and 17 points, as the Jackets went on a 15-2 run to end the game.

### *Thiel Tomcats*

The Tomcats went 1-1 in PAC play last week, defeating W&J on the road 77-72 on Wednesday before losing at home on Saturday to Grove City 75-64 ... **Jon Koch's** three brought the Presidents back to within three (75-72) with nine seconds to play but a pair of free throws from junior G **Daryl Moore** to give the Tomcats their second PAC victory ... Sophomore F **Stephen Laird** scored a career-high 19 points, including five treys, for Thiel while senior F **D.J. Gambridge** added 18 ... Senior F **Mike Banach** totaled 14 points, nine assists, five rebounds and five steals ... Banach had 12 points and seven rebounds against GCC, while Gambridge added 11 points and five rebounds while Moore had 10 points.

### *Westminster Titans*

The Titans fell out of first place in the conference after PAC losses at Grove City (100-95) and at home to Waynesburg (94-88) ... Junior F **Pat O'Connor** led the team with 26 points, including seven three-pointers, at GCC ... Other double-digit scorers included junior G **Ed Pagley** with 18, sophomore F **Dom Joseph** with 14, and junior G **Chris Hatch** with 13 ... Joseph hauled in a team-best nine rebounds and tied sophomore G **Mark DeMonaco** for team assist honors with seven apiece ... Pagley led the way vs. Waynesburg with a game and season-high 26 points before leaving the game in the final minutes due to injury, while DeMonaco had 20 points on six three-pointers and Hatch and O'Connor scored 13 and 11, respectively..

### Past PAC Men's Basketball Players of the Week

November 23: Mark DeMonaco, G, Westminster  
November 30: Mike Drahos, F, Bethany  
December 7: Mike King, G, Waynesburg  
December 14: Tanner Prosser, F, Grove City  
January 4: Steve Button, F, Washington & Jefferson  
January 11: Mark DeMonaco, G, Westminster  
January 18: Mike King, G, Waynesburg  
January 25: Ryan Eller, F, Grove City  
February 1: Ed Pagley, G, Westminster  
February 8: Matt Drahos, F, Bethany  
February 15: Matt Phillips, G/F, Grove City  
February 22:

## PAC MEN'S BASKETBALL PREVIEWS

### **BETHANY BISON** **(17-6 Overall, 7-1 PAC)** at Thiel\* (2/18 - 8 p.m.) vs. Westminster\* (2/21 - 4 p.m.)

**Radio/TV:** none

**Upcoming Game Notes:** Bethany will look to clinch its first PAC regular season title since 2001-02 this week with games at Thiel and home vs. second-place Westminster ... The Bison won two overtime games last week, as three of its last five games have gone into overtime ... Bethany defeated Thiel at home 88-74 on Jan. 28, as **Matt Drahos** led the way with 20 points and 10 rebounds ... Over his last seven games, Drahos is averaging 20 points and 9.0 rebounds per game and has shot 59.8-percent (58-of-97) from the field ... Bethany lost to Westminster on Jan. 31 by a score of 103-81, as the Titans forced 38 turnovers.

### **GROVE CITY WOLVERINES** **(11-12 Overall, 5-3 PAC)** at Waynesburg\* (2/18 - 7:30 p.m.) vs. Washington & Jefferson\* (2/21 - 3 p.m.)

**Radio/TV:** WSAJ-FM (91.1); www.nsnsports.com (2/18)

**Upcoming Game Notes:** The Wolverines have won five of six in the conference and look to finish season sweeps of Waynesburg and W&J this week ... **Tanner Prosser** is now ninth on Grove City's all-time scoring list with 1,196 points ... He trails 8<sup>th</sup>-place **Tim Mokma** (1987-91) by one point ... **Deron Ryan** (1984-88) is seventh at 1,205 while **Fred Schwab** (1970-74) is sixth at 1,215 ... **Ryan Eller's** 375 points this year is the 18<sup>th</sup>-highest single-season total in Grove City history ... Grove City will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> season of basketball during Saturday's game with Washington and Jefferson.

### **THIEL TOMCATS** **(8-15 Overall, 2-6 PAC)** vs. Bethany\* (2/18 - 8 p.m.) at Waynesburg\* (2/21 - 3 p.m.)

**Radio/TV:** WPIC-AM (790); www.nsnsports.com (2/18)

**Upcoming Game Notes:** Thiel closes out its PAC regular-season this week hosting Bethany on Wednesday and finishing at Waynesburg on Saturday ... The Tomcats fell in Bethany 88-74 on Jan. 28 ... Senior F **D.J. Gambridge** led all scorers with his 22-point, six-rebound, four-block effort ... Thiel is 42-91 against the Bison all-time ... The Tomcats held Waynesburg to just 31 percent shooting in their 67-50 win over the Yellow Jackets on Jan. 31 ... Thiel was held without a three-point field goal for the first time in over two seasons ... Senior F **Mike Banach** was 5-of-6 from the field and finished with 15 points and nine rebounds.

### **WASH. & JEFF. PRESIDENTS** **(7-16 Overall, 1-7 PAC)** at Westminster\* (2/18 - 8 p.m.) at Grove City\* (2/21 - 3 p.m.)

**Radio/TV:** WNJR-FM (91.7)

**Upcoming Game Notes:** Westminster and W&J combined for the second-most points in school history in Washington two weeks ago as the Titans picked up an 118-111 victory ... The Titans have dominated the all-time series with W&J, 42-17 ... W&J has not won in New Wilmington in its last 19 trips, dating back to a 58-57 President win during the 1939-1940 season ... Junior F **Steve Button** tied a career-high with 32 points in the last meeting, while freshman G **Jon Koch** netted a career-high 29 ... Grove City assumed a 43-42 series lead after posting an 80-77 victory in Washington on January 31<sup>st</sup> ... GCC has won six-straight games in the series.

### **WAYNESBURG YELLOW JACKETS** **(9-14 Overall, 3-5 PAC)** vs. Grove City\* (2/18 - 7:30 p.m.) vs. Thiel\* (2/21 - 7:30 p.m.)

**Radio/TV:** WCYJ-FM (88.7), www.waynesburg.edu; WCYJ-TV (Channel 14)

**Upcoming Game Notes:** Waynesburg hosts Grove City and Thiel this week as the Jackets are playing for the right to host a first-round PAC tournament game as a No. 4 seed or higher ... Last year, the Jackets entered the final week of the season in first place, but with losses to Grove City and Thiel on the road, Waynesburg fell to third place ... Waynesburg again lost to both Grove City (65-55) and Thiel (67-50) on the road earlier this season ... Grove City leads the all-time series 42-24, while the Jackets lead the all-time series with Thiel, 36-24.

### **WESTMINSTER TITANS** **(11-12 Overall, 6-2 PAC)** vs. Washington & Jefferson\* (2/18 - 8 p.m.) at Bethany\* (2/21 - 4 p.m.)

**Radio/TV:** WWNW-FM (88.9), WKST-AM (1200); www.nsnsports.com; Westminster Cable Network (2/18)

**Upcoming Game Notes:** Despite dropping out of first place in the PAC with two losses last week, the Titans still control their own destiny as wins over both Washington & Jefferson and Bethany would give Westminster the top seed and home court advantage throughout the PAC Tournament ... A win in one of the two games this week would clinch the second seed and a first-round bye for the Titans ... Westminster topped W&J in Washington 118-111 on Jan. 28, then posted a 103-81 victory over Bethany in New Wilmington on Jan. 31.