



SPORTS NEWS

Presidents' Athletic Conference

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Thomas More Women, Thiel Men Picked to Capture 2011-12 PAC Basketball Titles

PITTSBURGH, Pa. – The Thomas More College women’s basketball team and the Thiel College men’s basketball team have been picked to capture the 2011-12 championships in the Presidents’ Athletic Conference (PAC), according to the 2011-12 PAC preseason poll. Voters included conference head coaches and sports information directors in the PAC.

The women’s poll has the Saints of first-year head coach **Jeff Hans** slightly ahead of the rest of the league. Hans takes over the five-time defending PAC champions and is coming into a program that finished 30-1 overall and 16-0 in the PAC while earning the school’s first-ever No. 1 national ranking and advancing to the “Sweet 16” of the NCAA Division III Tournament. Thomas More, ranked 18th nationally by D3Hoops.com, received 15 of 20 first-place votes to finish with 195 points, 14 points ahead of second-place Saint Vincent (181, five first place votes). The Bearcats are also ranked in the D3Hoops.com preseason Top 25 poll at #24. Following Saint Vincent was Waynesburg (151), Washington & Jefferson (133), Bethany (123), Grove City (93), Westminster (72), Thiel (62), and Chatham and Geneva tied with 45.

In the men’s poll, the Tomcats of fifth-year head coach **Tim Loomis** received 10 of 18 first-place votes to finish with 153 total points, just eight points ahead defending PAC champion Bethany (145, seven first place votes) in an extremely tight race. Thiel was 20-7 and the PAC runner-up in 2010-11. Following the Bison in the poll was Saint Vincent (117), Thomas More (104), Geneva (82), Washington & Jefferson (67), Waynesburg (53), Westminster (50), and Grove City (40).

Founded in 1955, the Presidents’ Athletic Conference continues its mission of promoting intercollegiate athletics and the pursuit of academic excellence. Consisting of 10 select private institutions in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Kentucky, the PAC remains a unique organization in this day of high pressure intercollegiate athletics. With academics at the center of each member’s philosophy, the PAC is built on the principle that an athletic program is a part of college life, but not an entity in itself. The PAC annually crowns champions in 19 sports (10 men, nine women) as a member of NCAA Division III.

Presidents’ Athletic Conference (PAC) 2011-12 Preseason Men’s Basketball Poll

	Points	10-11 Record	10-11 PAC
1. Thiel (10)	153	20-7	13-1
2. Bethany (7)	145	21-8	10-4
3. Saint Vincent (1)	117	19-8	10-4
4. Thomas More	104	13-14	8-6
5. Geneva	82	18-9	N/A
6. Wash. & Jeff.	67	11-15	8-6
7. Waynesburg	53	6-20	2-12
8. Westminster	50	7-19	3-11
9. Grove City	40	5-21	2-12

(xx) - first place votes

Presidents’ Athletic Conference (PAC) 2011-12 Preseason Women’s Basketball Poll

	Points	10-11 Record	10-11 PAC
1. Thomas More (15)	195	30-1	16-0
2. Saint Vincent (5)	181	24-5	14-2
3. Waynesburg	151	21-9	10-6
4. Wash. & Jeff.	133	9-17	6-10
5. Bethany	123	13-13	8-8
6. Grove City	93	14-13	8-8
7. Westminster	72	7-18	2-14
8. Thiel	62	5-21	3-13
T9. Chatham	45	10-16	5-11
T9. Geneva	45	9-16	N/A

(xx) - first place votes