



## SPORTS NEWS

**Presidents' Athletic Conference**  
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### **Bethany's Staniech, Grove City's Riddell Named PAC SAAC Scholar-Athletes of the Month**

WEXFORD, Pa. – The Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) has selected **Erin Staniech** of Bethany College and **Joe Riddell** of Grove City College as the PAC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) Scholar-Athletes of the Month for January, 2007.

Staniech, a junior on the Bethany College women's swimming & diving team, competed in five meets during the month, compiling five first place finishes and five second place finishes. She had her most successful meet of the month in Bethany's near-win over Frostburg State on January 17, where she took home three first-place finishes including the 50-meter freestyle, 100-meter backstroke, and swimming a leg on the 200-meter freestyle relay. In the classroom, Staniech maintains a 3.1 cumulative grade-point average (GPA) as a psychology major. She is a member of the psychology club, and is vice president of Zeta Tau Alpha sorority. Staniech is an active SAAC member and represents Bethany on the PAC SAAC. She also attended the NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Leadership Conference in Pittsburgh January 19-21.

Riddell, a junior on the Grove City College men's swimming & diving team, qualified for the NCAA Division III Championships in January. He holds one pool record (six dives on 1-meter) and helped lead the Wolverines to a perfect 3-0 conference record as well as a 15-1 overall dual record. The 15 wins broke the GCC schools record for wins in a season. A two-time letterman, Riddell was the PAC diving champion in both 2005 and 2006 and will attempt to capture his third consecutive conference crown at the PAC Championships on February 8-10. Academically, he maintains a 3.74 cumulative GPA majoring in computer science. Riddell has been active on campus with the AEX Housing Group, working at the Grove City computer helpdesk, and coaching gymnastics at the local YMCA.

Other female nominees included junior basketball player **Rachel McCoy** of Grove City, junior basketball player **Kristen Humphrey** of Thomas More and senior swimmer **Amanda Lawton** of Westminster. Other male nominees included junior basketball player **Brody Jackson** of Bethany, senior basketball player **Ed Thornton** of Thomas More, and senior swimmer **Pat Smith** of Westminster.

Each month, SAAC members from each PAC institution are eligible to nominate two junior or senior varsity student athletes (one male, one female) from their school. All PAC Scholar-Athlete nominations must be in season, have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, and be actively involved in their campus community.

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). In 2005-06, the conference had 17 teams represent the conference in postseason play, including 15 in NCAA championship events. The PAC is scheduled to receive automatic qualification (AQ) status for NCAA team championships in the 2007-08 academic year.

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