



SPORTS NEWS

Presidents' Athletic Conference

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GCC'S Pierce, Thiel's Stimac Named PAC SAAC Scholar-Athletes of the Month

WEXFORD, Pa. – The Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) has selected **Cara Pierce** of Grove City College and **Mike Stimac** of Thiel College as the PAC Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) Scholar-Athletes of the Month for October 2006.

Pierce, a senior on the Grove City cross country team, finished October by earning All-PAC First Team honors for the third straight season at the 2006 PAC Championship meet at Waynesburg October 28. In the classroom, Pierce holds a 3.95 grade point average (GPA) with a double major in English and Spanish. She has also been a two time Academic All-American in her career.

Stimac, a junior outside linebacker on the Thiel College football team, is third on the team with 56 tackles in nine games for the Tomcats (5-4), including a team season-high of 14 stops against Thomas More. Academically, he maintains a perfect 4.0 GPA majoring in English with a minor in secondary education. He has been named to the PAC Academic Honor Roll twice in his career.

Other female nominees included senior volleyball player **Linzy Turner** of Bethany, senior soccer player **Lindsey Curtis** of Thiel, junior soccer player **Carlin Scrudato** of Thomas More and junior tennis player **Dana Larson** of Westminster. Other male nominees were senior soccer player **Kosta Floros** of Bethany, senior cross country runner **Andrew Leuenberger** of Grove City, senior football player **Chase Weber** of Thomas More and senior football player **Jake Buzard** 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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