



# SPORTS NEWS

**Presidents' Athletic Conference**  
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## **Westminster Picked to Repeat as PAC Champions in 2009 Volleyball Coaches Poll**

WEXFORD, Pa. – Westminster College has been picked to repeat as Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) volleyball champions in 2009, according to a preseason poll of league volleyball coaches. The two-time defending champion Titans of head coach **Tammy Swearingen** led the poll, which was released today in conjunction with the opening of the conference volleyball schedule on September 9.

After Westminster, Thomas More and Washington & Jefferson are predicted to finish second and third, respectively, with all three schools receiving first place votes. Rounding out the pre-season poll are; Thiel (4<sup>th</sup>), Grove City (5<sup>th</sup>), Bethany & Waynesburg (tie for 6<sup>th</sup>) and Chatham (8<sup>th</sup>). Geneva and Saint Vincent both enter the season as provisional NCAA Division III members and are thus not eligible for the PAC title.

A complete conference volleyball season preview with preseason summaries of all 10 PAC programs can be found on the PAC website at <http://www.pacathletics.org/vbpreview09.htm>

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 2008-09, the PAC had 41 teams represent the conference in postseason play, including 23 in NCAA championship events. PAC championship teams receive automatic qualification (AQ) status for most NCAA Division III national championship events.

### **2009 PAC VOLLEYBALL PRESEASON COACHES POLL**

#### **Team (2008 record)**

1. Westminster (24-12, 13-1 PAC)
2. Thomas More (28-7, 11-3 PAC)
3. Washington & Jefferson (17-15, 10-4 PAC)
4. Thiel (14-18, 8-6 PAC)
5. Grove City (13-21, 6-8 PAC)
- 6t. Bethany (5-24, 2-12 PAC)
- 6t. Waynesburg (11-20, 6-8 PAC)
8. Chatham (0-26, 0-14 PAC)

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