



SPORTS NEWS

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Thomas More Men, W&J Women Picked to Capture 2009-10 PAC Basketball Titles

PITTSBURGH, Pa. - The Thomas More College men and Washington & Jefferson College women were picked to capture 2009-10 championships in the Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC), according to the preseason poll released following the 2009-10 PAC Basketball Media Day conference call today. Voters in the poll included conference head coaches, sports information directors, and members of the media participating in the media day conference call.

In the men's poll, the defending PAC champion Saints of first-year head coach **Jeff Rogers** were picked to repeat with 147 total points, including 15 of a possible 23 first-place votes. Thomas More was followed in the preseason poll by Washington & Jefferson (115), Bethany (112), Grove City (89), Westminster (88), Thiel (56), and Waynesburg (37).

"We are honored and humbled to be selected as the preseason favorite. However, although it is a great honor, preseason polls go out the window once the ball gets thrown up," said Rogers, a former Saint assistant who replaces **John Ellenwood** as TMC head coach this season. "This is a very competitive conference with a great deal of parity, and every team from top to bottom has a chance to compete for the championship."

The women's poll has the Presidents of sixth-year head coach **Jina DeRubbo** finishing with 179 points and 14 of 22 first-place votes to edge defending PAC champion Thomas More by a single point (178). TMC received the other 10 first-place votes. Both squads were selected for the NCAA Division III Tournament in 2008-09. Following the top two squads were Grove City (117), Westminster (96.5), Bethany (95), Waynesburg (91), Chatham (59.5) and Thiel (48).

"It is truly an honor to receive this type of recognition, especially in a conference as competitive as the PAC," said DeRubbo. "While the honor of being picked first is great, we will still need to show up week in and week out in conference play."

Finally, on the men's side, Saint Vincent was predicted to go 10-6 and Geneva was tabbed at 8-8 in PAC action. The Saint Vincent women were predicted to go 12-6 against the PAC, while the Geneva women were picked to go 7-11 against the league. Geneva and Saint Vincent will each play a full PAC schedule in 2009-10, but as provisional members of NCAA Division III they are ineligible for the PAC title this season.

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Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) 2009-10 Preseason Men's Basketball Poll

		08-09	08-09
	Points	Record	PAC
1. Thomas More (15)	147	19-9	10-2
2. Washington & Jefferson (4)	115	20-10	7-5
3. Bethany (3)	112	17-12	9-3
4. Grove City (1)	89	12-13	6-6
5. Westminster	88	10-17	7-5
6. Thiel	56	2-23	1-11
7. Waynesburg	37	6-19	2-10

(xx) - first place votes

Predicted record vs. PAC: Geneva - 8-8; Saint Vincent - 10-6

Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) 2009-10 Preseason Women's Basketball Poll

		08-09	08-09
	Points	Record	PAC
1. Washington & Jefferson (14)	179	24-5	12-2
2. Thomas More (10)	178	28-3	13-1
3. Grove City	117	11-15	7-7
4. Westminster	96.5	8-17	4-10
5. Bethany	95	15-12	8-6
6. Waynesburg	91	8-18	4-10
7. Chatham	59.5	11-15	3-11
8. Thiel	48	11-15	5-9

(xx) - first place votes

Predicted record vs. PAC: Geneva - 7-11; Saint Vincent - 12-6