



SPORTS NEWS

Presidents' Athletic Conference

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Grove City College to Host 2011 PAC Swimming & Diving Championships on Feb. 16-19

WEXFORD, Pa. - The **2011 Presidents' Athletic Conference (PAC) Swimming & Diving Championships** will take place at the James E. Longnecker Competition Pool on the campus of Grove City College in Grove City, Pa., this **Wednesday-Saturday, February 16-19, 2011**. The championship is part of the 2011 Grove City Longnecker Invitational, a 10-school event that includes both the PAC Championships (six schools) as well as the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) Championships (four schools).

The championships begin on Wednesday evening (Feb. 16) with diving preliminaries beginning at 7:30 p.m. On both Thursday and Friday (Feb. 17-18), preliminary rounds will begin at 10 a.m., followed by the consolation and championship finals beginning at 6 p.m. On Saturday (Feb. 19), the preliminary rounds will again begin at 10 a.m., followed by the consolation and championship finals beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Grove City is the two-time defending champion for both men's & women's swimming & diving in the PAC, as the Wolverines of head coach **Dave Fritz** are the favorites entering the event. Both GCC teams are ranked in the most recent TYR/Collegiate Swim Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) Division III Top 25 Poll, as the men's team sits 15th while the women are ranked 21st. Top Wolverine returnees include a pair of 2010 All-PAC first team honorees and two-time 2010-11 PAC Swimmers of the Week in junior **Clay Beckner** and sophomore **Jenny Ryan**.

Westminster placed second in both the men's & women's team standings a year ago and will again battle their local rivals for the top spot. Head coach **Rob Klamut**'s women's team boasts NCAA Division III All-American and 2010 PAC Women's Swimming MVP, junior **Caitlin Lehberger**. On the men's side, junior **Mike Barringer**, a 2010 All-PAC first team honoree, leads a talented squad.

Washington & Jefferson may prove to be the main threat to Grove City's hopes on repeating as women's champions, as the Presidents of head coach **Mike Orstein** just completed a perfect 13-0 regular season dual record, marking just the third unbeaten mark in school history. The record includes a 159-141 dual victory over the Wolverines. Leading the W&J women will be junior **Bethany Haver**, the 2010 PAC Women's Diving MVP, while the President men are paced by senior **Brandon Smith**.

Chatham, Saint Vincent and Bethany will all look to move into the PAC "top tier" this week with strong performances. The Cougars of head coach **Mike Meyers** are led by senior **Chelsea Mummert**, a 2010 All-PAC first team honoree. Top Bearcat swimmers for head coach **Josh Gurekovich** include junior **Jess Kennedy** and sophomore **Casey Whittaker**, as Saint Vincent is eligible to compete for the PAC title for the first time. Bison head coach **John McGowan** will look to sophomore **Vinnie Giangulio** and junior **Sara Reass** as top point scorers.

For the third consecutive year, the PAC Swimming & Diving Championships will be broadcast live via video webcast. Links to the free video webcast, as well as for live results and for the invitational psych sheet, are available on the PAC website at www.pacathletics.org and the Longnecker Invitational website at www.gccinvitational.com.

Admission to the PAC Championship Longnecker Invitational contests is \$5 for finals, \$3 for preliminaries and \$4 for heat sheets. No conference passes are accepted at PAC Championship events.

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).