

LETTER FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR



GREETINGS! AS I WRITE THIS LETTER, I hear the faint sound of squeaking sneakers on the basketball gym floor and the gentle prodding, and sometimes pleading, of men's coach T.J. Maines as he implores his athletes to finish a play, get to a spot and to box out. The teams are closing in on the end of the basketball regular season and the men's team is completing one of the most successful campaigns since Thomas College entered the NCAA.

They are holding on to the first winning record since 1992, the first win over rival Husson University since 1991, and the number one position in the North Atlantic Conference. The excitement surrounding this successful season has left the team, the Thomas community and fans wondering: Could this be the year that the Terriers break into the NCAA tournament for the first time?

Thoughts like these could only mean one thing . . . tournament time for winter sports and the start of spring seasons has arrived. What could be more exciting?

Besides taking this opportunity to share this exciting news, I also want to introduce myself as the new athletic director at Thomas College and to communicate the enthusiasm and energy surrounding our athletics program.

Having been at Thomas for less than a year, I learned quickly that one thing is apparent, Terriers are excited about athletics. Pride in the program is the very first thing that I experienced—from students, faculty and administration, all the way to the President who, by the way, may hold the attendance record for home intercollegiate contests.

The community support is contagious and we are trying to continue the momentum and positive experience that athletics brings to the College. Thomas' mission is to prepare students for success in their personal and professional lives, and athletics is a powerful vehicle to empower our students in this mission.

As a department, we embrace the mission and our coaches are on the forefront of this important work. Words like academic integrity, personal responsibility, leadership, mentorship, commitment, community involvement and service are not just catch phrases, but words that are put into action and reinforced with our athletic teams on a daily basis. I am very fortunate to be able to watch it unfold. I couldn't be at a better place at a better time.

I hope that you will find time this year to make it to one of our contests (see the teams' schedules on page 52) and support our student athletes in all that they do. If you come, please make a point of introducing yourself and telling me your connection to the Thomas community. I look forward to it.

Yours in Red and Black,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deb Biche". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

DEB BICHE
Director of Athletics

Fall Season Review

THE FALL SEASON AT THOMAS ended successfully with four out of five teams achieving post-season playoff berths. Thomas continues to grow its athletic program with the addition of men's and women's cross country and women's tennis as club teams. The teams are scheduled to move into varsity status in the fall of 2009. Look for more information on Thomas' newest teams in a future edition of the *Thomas Magazine*.

Men's soccer finished the season at 7-12, with notable wins over Maine Maritime Academy and Unity College. The Terrier men lost in a first round North Atlantic Conference (NAC) tournament game 1-0 in a rainy, muddy contest against the Beavers of the University of Maine Farmington. Thomas had four players recognized with all-conference honors: Tom Desjardins '10, Jim Grant '10 and Cory Underwood '11 were all named to the second team and Captain Tim Costa '10 was named as a first team all-conference player.

Women's soccer ended the season at 7-10-1. They were prevented from obtaining a post-season appearance in the NAC quarterfinals during their last regular game of the season against Maine Maritime Academy (MMA). The women lost to the Lady Mariners 2-1 in a double overtime match when MMA scored with just three minutes left in the match. The women's team looks strong for next year though, with only one senior leaving the squad and junior Jamie Lockett earning Honorable Mention All-Conference Honors.

Field hockey, ending with a 3-12 record, also looks strong for next year with only one senior leaving the team. Three athletes were honored by the conference with Amy Miles '09 being named to the second team, Kellie Martel '11 receiving honorable mention and Kristin Masessa being named Rookie of the Year. The team did achieve a post-season position in the NAC quarterfinals where they were defeated by Saint Joseph's College, 3-1.

Volleyball finished the season with a 4-20 record, being eliminated in the NAC Quarterfinals by the University of Maine Farmington. First-year Sarah Marckoon received honorable mention in the North Athletic Conference. The team will bring a great deal of experience back next year with only one member graduating this year.

Men's golf finished a respectable fifth overall in the conference championship this fall. The team had one member, freshman Tim Costain, named to the NAC Second Team All-Conference. A highlight of the past season was Thomas' hosting of the Maine Intercollegiate Golf Championship at Natanis Golf Course in Vassalboro. The contest was a two-day tournament that featured 12 teams from across the state of Maine.

NAC Fall All-Academic Honorees

THOMAS IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE that four fall athletes were named as North Atlantic Conference (NAC) 2008-09 Fall All-Academic honorees. Sixty-five student-athletes across the conference who participated in a fall sport received the recognition. To be honored, a student-athlete must have reached junior academic standing, have competed a minimum of two years in their sport with a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.50.

The Thomas honorees were: Nicole Grant '10, an accounting major from Lewiston who plays on the field hockey team; Amy Miles '09, a criminal justice major from Waldo who also plays field hockey; Cory Daigneault '10, an accounting/M.B.A. student from Biddeford who is on the men's soccer team; and Tim Hartin '09, of Island Falls who is a Sports Management major and member of the men's golf team.



Amy Miles



Cory Daigneault



Nicole Grant



Tim Hartin

Kristin Masessa '12 and Tim Costa '10



ALL ATHLETIC TEAMS AT THOMAS had a total of 10 players receiving first or second team mention on North Athletic Conference All-Conference squads. Among these players, Kristin Masessa and Tim Costa stood out as student athletes and leaders for their respective sports. Luckily for Thomas, both will be returning next year for another season of play.

Kristin Masessa, a first-year student, began her field hockey career at Mount View High School in Thorndike, Maine. Upon being accepted to Thomas, Masessa was unsure if she would play field hockey. She intended to play basketball and softball, and decided late that she would be a three-sport athlete.

Masessa has made the transition from high school to Division III Athletics well. In her first year at Thomas, she was named NAC Rookie of the Year and all-conference honorable mention. Though Masessa was surprised by the awards, head field hockey coach Andrea Thebarga was not. "I am very excited for Kristin being named Rookie of the Year. This honor is one of the top two honors that our conference gives out." Thebarga added, "Kristin played center midfield for us, which is a huge position for a first-year player. She was the playmaker of our team and her defensive and offensive threat is definitely evident with her being selected by other conference coaches. Kristin scored four goals this season and had a major role in both our offensive and defensive corner units."

The Sports Management major continues to balance academics and athletics as she plays her first college basketball season at Thomas this winter and moves into softball season this spring.

Pelham, New Hampshire native Tim Costa continues to strive for excellence both on and off the soccer field at Thomas. He is studying Management as a senior in the five-year M.B.A. program on campus.

Costa was named to the NAC second team in 2007 and this season was honored as a first team all-conference player. He led the men's team in scoring and assists with a total of ten goals and six assists.

Costa looks forward to returning for a final season of play next year: "We had success as a team this year, but were disappointed to lose in the opening round of the NAC playoffs. We plan to set the standard to work hard in the offseason in order to get to the top of the NAC next season."

He will play again with his younger brother, Richard, who will return as a sophomore. Outside of soccer and academics, Costa works in the Athletic Department as a work-study student and assists with game management and scheduling for a number of Thomas teams.

“ Kristin Masessa and Tim Costa stood out as student athletes and leaders for their respective sports.”

Winter Season Review

Terrier Men Clinch Number One Position
in North Atlantic Conference

THE TERRIER MEN'S BASKETBALL team created quite the surge of excitement on campus this winter—and for good reason. Coach T.J. Maines led the team to an impressive 11-3 record within the North Atlantic Conference, clinching the number one position in the conference over Husson University (#2). Overall, the team went 14-10, which is especially impressive considering this season was the first since 1986 that the team has achieved ten wins.

Thomas hosted the conference championships during the last weekend of February. Thomas was able to overcome the Eagles of Green Mountain College (number four seed) in the first round of the championships with a final score of 90-84. The next day, Thomas played Husson for the title of NAC champions. The first half of action was back and forth, featuring five ties and eleven different lead changes. However, the Husson Eagles would outscore the Terriers 41-27 behind a 15-3 scoring run that would come very late in the second half. The Eagles' defense would hold the Terriers to just 29 percent shooting on



the afternoon, while the Eagles themselves would shoot 44.3 percent in the game. Though the Terriers put up a good fight, they fell to Husson (73-60).

The outstanding record was not the only thing that the Terriers had to show for this season. North Atlantic Conference (NAC) honors included Terrier Andrew Duncanson being named Player of the Year while teammate Shawn Rodgers was named conference Rookie of the Year. Head Coach T. J. Maines rounded out the awards for the Terriers being named Coach of the Year.

As the winter season came to a close, both the men's and women's basketball teams were able to look back on a series of successes and challenges. The women's team went 2-12 in the North Atlantic Conference. Coach Joy Charles and her team lost a handful of close games that were decided in the final minutes. With eight out of twelve players being either freshmen or sophomores, the women will bring a very experienced team back next year. 🌸

Thomas Wall of Heroes

HONOR A LIFE, HONOR A MEMORY, LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY

THOMAS COLLEGE HAS TEAMED UP with Get Etched, a leader in world-class laser etching, to bring you the Wall of Heroes.

The Wall of Heroes will be a powerful way to create a lasting tribute to the people who have made a significant difference in your life. These distinctive and timeless keepsake granite plaques will be mounted on the outside wall of the Laurette Ayotte Auditorium.

Whether you want to honor a student athlete and their team, celebrate a professor whose teaching is carved into your memories, memorialize a loved one who has passed, or commemorate the accomplishments of a future graduate, the Wall of Heroes will be an excellent way to honor those who have made an important impact on your life. For generations to come, these plaques will create a history of Thomas College bringing past and future students together. This is a gift that will last a lifetime . . . and then another.

Anyone can purchase a plaque. For more information on purchasing or pricing, please contact Cathy Dumont at 207-859-1167 or dumontc@thomas.edu.



SPRING 2009 VARSITY ATHLETICS

SOFTBALL

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT
3/11	8:00 AM	VS. FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE (FARMINGDALE, N.Y.)
3/11	10:30 AM	VS. POST UNIVERSITY (WATERBURY, CT)
3/11	12:30 PM	VS. POST UNIVERSITY (WATERBURY, CT)
3/12	8:00 AM	VS. PENN STATE HAZLETON CAMPUS (HAZLETON, PA)
3/12	10:00 AM	VS. PENN STATE HAZLETON CAMPUS (HAZLETON, PA)
3/12	2:00 PM	VS. POST UNIVERSITY (WATERBURY, CT)
3/13	4:00 PM	VS. GUILFORD COLLEGE (GREENSBORO, N.C.)
3/13	6:00 PM	VS. GUILFORD COLLEGE (GREENSBORO, N.C.)
3/14	9:00 AM	VS. MITCHELL COLLEGE (NEW LONDON, CT)
3/14	11:00 AM	VS. MITCHELL COLLEGE (NEW LONDON, CT)
4/8	2:00 PM	@ MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY (CASTINE, ME)*
4/9	3:00 PM	@ LESLEY UNIVERSITY (CAMBRIDGE, MA) (DOUBLE HEADER)
4/11	1:00 PM	@ HUSSON UNIVERSITY (BANGOR, ME) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/14	3:30 PM	@ BOWDOIN COLLEGE (BRUNSWICK, ME) (DOUBLE HEADER)
4/16	3:30 PM	VS. UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND (BIDDEFORD, ME) (DOUBLE HEADER)
4/18	1:00 PM	@ LYNDON STATE COLLEGE (LYNDONVILLE, VT) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/19	12:00 PM	@ JOHNSON STATE COLLEGE (JOHNSON, VT) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/21	3:30 PM	VS. BATES COLLEGE (LEWISTON, ME) (DOUBLE HEADER)
4/22	3:00 PM	VS. UNIVERSITY OF MAINE FARMINGTON (FARMINGTON, ME) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/25	3:00 PM	VS. CASTLETON STATE COLLEGE (CASTLETON, VT)*
4/26	12:00 PM	VS. GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE (POULTNEY, VT) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/28		NAC QUARTERFINALS
5/1-3		NAC FINAL FOUR

MEN'S TENNIS

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT
3/21	2:00 PM	VS. LYNDON ST. COLLEGE (LYNDONVILLE, VT)*
3/22	11:00 AM	VS. GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE (POULTNEY, VT)*
3/28	1:30 PM	VS. JOHNSON STATE COLLEGE (JOHNSON, VT)*
3/29	1:00 PM	VS. CASTLETON STATE COLLEGE (CASTLETON, VT)*
4/3	2:00 PM	@ JOHNSON STATE COLLEGE (JOHNSON, VT)*
4/4	12:00 PM	@ LYNDON STATE COLLEGE (LYNDONVILLE, VT)*
4/16	3:30 PM	VS. UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE (GORHAM, ME)
4/18	2:00 PM	@ CASTLETON STATE COLLEGE (CASTLETON, VT)*
4/19	1:00 PM	@ GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE (POULTNEY, VT)*
4/25	TBA	NAC CHAMPIONSHIP
4/26	TBA	NAC CHAMPIONSHIP

MEN'S LACROSSE

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT
3/14	2:00 PM	@ BECKER COLLEGE (WORCESTER, MA)
3/16	5:45 PM	@ SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (STANDISH, ME)
3/18	4:00 PM	@ DANIEL WEBSTER COLLEGE (NASHUA, N.H.)
3/21	1:00 PM	VS. UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE (GORHAM, ME)
3/23	3:30 PM	@ HUSSON UNIVERSITY (BANGOR, ME)*
3/25	4:00 PM	@ MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY (CASTINE, ME)*
3/28	12:00 PM	@ GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE (POULTNEY, VT)*
4/4	1:00 PM	VS. JOHNSON STATE COLLEGE (JOHNSON, VT)*
4/11	1:00 PM	@ CASTLETON ST. COLLEGE (CASTLETON, VT)*
4/15	4:00 PM	VS. LYNDON STATE COLLEGE (LYNDONVILLE, VT)*
4/18	3:00 PM	VS. MOUNT IDA COLLEGE (NEWTON, MA)
4/20	3:00 PM	VS. EMERSON COLLEGE (BOSTON, MA)
4/22	4:00 PM	VS. HUSSON UNIVERSITY (BANGOR, ME)*
4/25	TBA	NAC QUARTERFINALS
4/29	TBA	NAC SEMIFINALS
5/2	TBA	NAC FINALS

SCHEDULES

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT
3/21	12:00 PM	@ WORCESTER STATE COLLEGE (WORCESTER, MA)
3/22	12:00 PM	@ PINE MANOR COLLEGE (CHESTNUT HILL, MA)
3/25	6:15 PM	@ SAINT JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (STANDISH, ME)
3/28	1:00 PM	VS. WESTFIELD STATE COLLEGE (WESTFIELD, MA)
3/29	1:00 PM	@ DANIEL WEBSTER COLLEGE (NASHUA, N.H.)
4/4	1:00 PM	@ CASTLETON STATE COLLEGE (CASTLETON, VT)*
4/5	11:00 AM	@ GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE (POULTNEY, VT)*
4/7	4:30 PM	@ BECKER COLLEGE (WORCESTER, MA)
4/9	3:30 PM	VS. ELMS COLLEGE (CHICOPEE, MA)
4/14	4:00 PM	@ HUSSON UNIVERSITY (BANGOR, ME)*
4/16	4:00 PM	VS. UNIVERSITY OF MAINE FARMINGTON (FARMINGTON, ME)*
4/18	1:00 PM	VS. BRIDGEWATER STATE COLLEGE (BRIDGEWATER, MA)
4/21	4:00 PM	VS. HUSSON UNIVERSITY (BANGOR, ME)*
4/23	4:00 PM	@ UNIVERSITY OF MAINE FARMINGTON (FARMINGTON, ME)*
4/25	11:00 AM	VS. FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE (FITCHBURG, MA)
4/26	TBA	NAC FINALS
4/29	TBA	NEWLA 1ST ROUND
5/2	TBA	NEWLA FINALS

BASEBALL

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT
3/25	TBD	VS. MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE (MIDDLEBURY, VT)
3/25	TBD	VS. ELMHURST COLLEGE (ELMHURST, ILL)
3/26	TBD	VS. OBERLIN COLLEGE (OBERLIN, OH) (DOUBLE HEADER)
3/26	TBD	VS. OBERLIN COLLEGE (OBERLIN, OH) (JV)
3/27	TBD	VS. BUENA VISTA UNIVERSITY (STORM LAKE, IA) (DOUBLE HEADER)
3/28	TBD	VS. COLBY COLLEGE (WATERVILLE, ME) (DOUBLE HEADER)
3/30	TBD	VS. WILLIAMS COLLEGE (WILLIAMSTOWN, MA)
3/31	TBD	VS. WILLIAMS COLLEGE (WILLIAMSTOWN, MA)
4/1	TBD	VS. WILLIAMS COLLEGE (WILLIAMSTOWN, MA)
4/5	12:00 PM	VS. BOWDOIN COLLEGE (BRUNSWICK, ME) (DOUBLE HEADER)
4/7	4:00 PM	@ COLBY COLLEGE (WATERVILLE, ME)
4/8	3:30 PM	VS. BATES COLLEGE (LEWISTON, ME)
4/10	11:00 AM	VS. HUSSON UNIVERSITY (BANGOR, ME) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/11	12:00 PM	VS. HUSSON UNIVERSITY (BANGOR, ME) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/14	4:00 PM	@ ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (STANDISH, ME) (DOUBLE HEADER)
4/15	TBD	@ U. MAINE FARMINGTON (FARMINGTON, ME) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/18	2:00 PM	@ CASTLETON STATE COLLEGE (CASTLETON, VT) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/19	12:00 PM	@ CASTLETON STATE COLLEGE (CASTLETON, VT) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/22	TBD	@ U. MAINE FARMINGTON (FARMINGTON, ME)*
4/23	3:30 PM	VS. UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE (GORHAM, ME)
4/25	1:30 PM	VS. LYNDON STATE COLLEGE (LYNDONVILLE, VT) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/26	12:00 PM	VS. LYNDON STATE COLLEGE (LYNDONVILLE, VT) (DOUBLE HEADER)*
4/28	5:00 PM	@ UNIVERSITY OF MAINE (ORONO, ME)
4/29	4:00 PM	VS. COLBY COLLEGE (WATERVILLE, ME)
5/1-3	TBD	NAC TOURNAMENT



indicates home game



indicates North Atlantic Conference game



indicates spring training games (baseball in Arizona and softball in Florida)