## **Northeast Conference**

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## Wagner Wins Second Straight Northeast Conference Institutional Academic Award Team GPA Award Winners Also Announced

**Somerset, NJ** -- Wagner College captured its second straight Northeast Conference Institutional Academic Award for the 2007-08 academic year. With a combined GPA of 3.186 in 19 sports, the Seahawks narrowly edged out Quinnipiac (3.151) and Monmouth (3.150).

The honor is presented to the NEC member with the highest overall institutional grade point average for student-athletes competing in NEC sponsored sports. A total of 21 sports are sponsored by the NEC: baseball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's cross country, football, field hockey, men's and women's golf, women's lacrosse, men's and women's indoor and outdoor track and field, men's and women's soccer, softball, women's swimming, men's and women's tennis and women's volleyball.

Wagner claimed an NEC-best eight team GPA awards, two more than last year. The Seahawks took home honors in men's cross country (3.549), women's cross country (3.529), women's lacrosse (3.285), softball (3.238), women's swimming (3.334), men's tennis, men's indoor track and field (3.258) and men's outdoor track and field (3.258).

"We at Wagner College are extremely proud of winning the Northeast Conference Institutional Academic Award for the second straight year," said Walt Hameline, Wagner Director of Athletics. "First and foremost, this is a true credit to our many fine student-athletes who devote incredible hours to their studies and to their sports. I also have to recognize our fine coaching staff for the discipline and structure that they provide our student-athletes. This is certainly a proud day to be a Seahawk."

Overall, the NEC's 4,300+ student-athletes averaged a 3.070 GPA for the 2007-08 year. A total of eight institutions - Fairleigh Dickinson, Long Island, Monmouth, Quinnipiac, Robert Morris, Sacred Heart, Saint Francis (PA) and Wagner - finished the year with at least a 3.00 GPA.

| School                    | NEC Sports | Overall GPA |
|---------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Central Connecticut State | 18         | 2.968       |
| Fairleigh Dickinson       | 17         | 3.037       |
| Long Island               | 17         | 3.024       |
| Monmouth                  | 19         | 3.150       |
| Mount St. Mary's          | 18         | 2.988       |
| Quinnipiac                | 18         | 3.151       |
| Robert Morris             | 19         | 3.051       |
| Sacred Heart              | 21         | 3.131       |
| St. Francis (NY)          | 15         | 2.971       |
| Saint Francis (PA)        | 20         | 3.092       |
| Wagner                    | 19         | 3.186       |

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The conference also recognized the teams with the best GPA in each sport. The Robert Morris women's volleyball team recorded a 3.620 grade point average for the year, the highest in any NEC sponsored sport.

## **NEC Team GPA Awards**

| Baseball                      | Mount St. Mary's    | 3.040 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------|
| Men's Basketball              | Monmouth            | 3.010 |
| Women's Basketball            | Sacred Heart        | 3.264 |
| Men's Cross Country           | Wagner              | 3.549 |
| Women's Cross Country         | Wagner              | 3.529 |
| Field Hockey                  | Monmouth            | 3.420 |
| Football                      | Monmouth            | 2.860 |
| Men's Golf                    | Fairleigh Dickinson | 3.355 |
| Women's Golf                  | Fairleigh Dickinson | 3.421 |
| Men's Indoor Track & Field    | Wagner              | 3.258 |
| Women's Indoor Track & Field  | Quinnipiac          | 3.390 |
| Women's Lacrosse              | Wagner              | 3.285 |
| Men's Outdoor Track & Field   | Wagner              | 3.258 |
| Women's Outdoor Track & Field | Quinnipiac          | 3.390 |
| Men's Soccer                  | Saint Francis (PA)  | 3.317 |
| Women's Soccer                | Monmouth            | 3.410 |
| Softball                      | Wagner              | 3.238 |
| Women's Swimming              | Wagner              | 3.334 |
| Men's Tennis                  | Wagner              | 3.347 |
| Women's Tennis                | Sacred Heart        | 3.403 |
| Women's Volleyball            | Robert Morris       | 3.620 |

## About the Northeast Conference

Now entering its 28th season, the Northeast Conference is an NCAA Division I collegiate athletic association consisting of 11 institutions of higher learning located throughout five states. Media coverage of the NEC extends to four of the largest markets in the United States - New York (#1), Pittsburgh (#22), Baltimore (#24), and Hartford/New Haven (#28). Founded in 1981 as the basketball-only ECAC Metro Conference, the NEC has grown to sponsor 22 championship sports for men and women and now enjoys automatic or play-in access to 13 different NCAA Championships. NEC member institutions include Central Connecticut State, Fairleigh Dickinson, Long Island, Monmouth, Mount St. Mary's, Quinnipiac, Robert Morris, Sacred Heart, St. Francis (NY), Saint Francis (PA) and Wagner. Bryant will become the NEC's 12th member upon completion of the NCAA Division I reclassification process in 2012. For more information on the NEC, visit www.northeastconference.org.