



News Release

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Contact:

Justin Lutes, Asa S. Bushnell Communications Assistant
508/771-5060 ext. 238
communications@ecac.org

ECAC Announces 2008 Division III Northeast Football All-Stars

CAPE COD, Mass. -- Trinity College senior quarterback Eric McGrath has been chosen as the 2008 ECAC Division III Northeast Football Player of the Year. McGrath completed the season with 2,206 passing yards and 16 touchdowns. Honored as the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Offensive Player of the Year, McGrath also averaged 275.8 passing yards per game. Trinity finished the season with a 8-0 record, and captured its fifth outright NESCAC title in school history.

Donnie Simmons, freshman defensive lineman from Tufts, has been chosen as the 2008 ECAC Division III Northeast Rookie of the Year. Simmons finished the season with 41 total tackles, 8.5 tackles for a loss and 3.5 sacks. The New England Small College Athletic Conference Rookie of the Year also intercepted one pass and blocked a field goal.

Jay Fielding of Westfield State and John Slazowski from Williams are the only two players from the 2007 ECAC Northeast team that have made the team again this season.

Plymouth State placed four players on the ECAC Northeast team, leading all schools in the region. Trinity, Williams and Tufts were each represented by three players.

The ECAC will honor the players and rookies of the year in each division and region on February 24, 2009 at the annual Eastern College Football Awards Banquet presented by FieldTurf Tarkett, an event held in the Pegasus Restaurant at the Meadowlands Sports Complex in East Rutherford, N.J.

About the ECAC®

The Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) is the nation's largest athletic conference and only multi-divisional conference, with 321 member institutions and over 122,000 student-athletes ranging across 16 states from Maine to North Carolina and westerly to Illinois. Established in 1938 with 58 charter members, the ECAC has since emerged as the nationwide leader in service. The ECAC honors more than 2,500 student-athletes during the academic year through its all-star and player of the week programs. Each week, the conference has recognized 12 football players of the week, including offensive and defensive, in the Football Championship Subdivision (I-AA), Division II, and Division III (Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, and Southwest Regions).

To view other ECAC football all-star teams, the football news archive, or results from ECAC Football bowl games, please visit the ECAC's fan-friendly website at www.ecacsports.com/sports/fall/fball/index.

2008 ECAC Division III Northeast Football All-Stars

Player of the Year

Eric McGrath Sr. QB Trinity

Rookie of the Year

Donnie Simmons Fr. DL Tufts

Offense

Eric McGrath	Sr.	QB	Trinity
DeRon Brown	Jr.	RB	MIT
Jeff Mack	Sr.	RB	Plymouth State
Andrew Matson	Sr.	WR	Middlebury
David Benoit	Jr.	WR	Westfield State
Charles Holm	Sr.	TE	Middlebury
Chris Cozza	Sr.	OL	Trinity
James Oleinik	Sr.	OL	MIT
John Slazowski	Sr.	OL	Williams
Justin Lima	Sr.	OL	Bridgewater State
Joe Duval	Sr.	OL	Plymouth State

Defense

Charlie Birns	Sr.	DL	Williams
Jim Sestito	Sr.	DL	Plymouth State
Steve Melville	Jr.	DL	Worcester State
Rich Braley	Sr.	LB	UMass-Dartmouth
Tyler Berry	Sr.	LB	Trinity
Jay Fielding	Sr.	LB	Westfield State
Tyson Reynoso	Sr.	LB	Tufts
Tom Tassinari	Jr.	DB	Tufts
Pat Bennett	Jr.	DB	Coast Guard
Tim Batty	Sr.	DB	Williams
Kevin Whelan	So.	DB	Plymouth State

Special Teams

Jacob Shackelford	Fr.	K	Coast Guard
Chris Helsel	Sr.	P	Wesleyan
Lawrence Scott	Jr.	RS	Nichols