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FOOTBALL All-Conference - Nov. 16, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NESCAC FOOTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS ANNOUNCED

Williams' Lucey, Trinity's Soules Come Away with Player of the Year Honors

HADLEY, Mass. - Williams junior quarterback Patrick Lucey (Plymouth, Mass.) and Trinity senior defensive back Mike Soules (Simsbury, Conn.) have been named as the 2006 NESCAC Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year, respectively, as determined by the conference coaches. Williams earned its first NESCAC title since 2002 with a perfect 8-0 record this season, leading the league in offense by averaging 34.5 points per game while only allowing 9.2 points defensively, good enough for second among conference teams. In his third season with the Ephs, head coach Mike Whalen earned Coach of the Year as he guided his squad to only the sixth perfect season in the program's 121-year history. Whalen is 20-4 over the course of his three seasons at Williams.

Lucey, who also received First Team All-Conference recognition, was the highest rated quarterback in the NESCAC in 2006 with an efficiency rating of 165.8. Playing in all eight games for the Ephs this season, Lucey completed a league-best 66.7 percent of his passes on 112-of-168 passing for 1,528 yards with 14 touchdowns and only four interceptions. Lucey also led the conference this season in total yards, collecting 1,634 as he added in 106 yards on the ground over the course of the season. Against rival Amherst to close out the regular season on Nov. 11, Lucey threw for a career-best 368 yards with three touchdowns as he completed 17-of-22 passes in a 37-7 victory.

Soules recorded 33 tackles, 17 solo, as part of a Bantam defense that led the league in most statistical categories, including points allowed per game (6.8), pass defense (117.5 yards/game) and rushing defense (42.5 yards/game). Soules was among the league leaders in interceptions this season, picking off three passes and returning them 46 yards. He also broke up three passes and recovered two fumbles. Along with the 2006 Defensive Player of the Year award, Soules earned NESCAC All-Conference First Team Defense for the second year in a row.

Joining Lucey on the 2006 NESCAC All-Conference First Team Offense were three running backs, seniors Gennaro Leo of Trinity and Jamie Walker of Bates along with Tufts junior Kevin Anderson. Leo, a First Team Offense selection in 2005, led the NESCAC in rushing and all-purpose yards this season, gaining 109.0 yards per game on the ground and 136.1 overall per game with nine rushing touchdowns. Walker was second among league rushers, running for an average 70.2 yards per game and five touchdowns.

The NESCAC All-Conference First Team Offensive line consisted of Colby senior Tom Bourdeau, Williams senior Chris Kenney and sophomore John Szalowski, Bowdoin junior Rogan Donnelly, and Trinity juniors John Mihalko and Mike Robinson. Of the six linemen, only Kenney and Mihalko earned All-NESCAC honors last season, earning a spot on the Second Team Offense. The All-Conference honor for Kenney marks the second time in 2006 that he has received NESCAC recognition, as he was the NESCAC Baseball Player of the Year in the spring. Mihalko and Robinson were a part of a Bantam line that only allowed two sacks this season - best among league teams - while Kenny and Szalowski underpinned an Eph offensive line that surrendered just seven sacks, second to Trinity.

All three of the wide receivers on the 2006 First Team Offense return from the 2005 squad, Amherst senior Mark Hannon and Williams seniors Jonathan Drenckhahn and Brendan Fulmer. The three seniors were among the league leaders in most offensive categories this season. Drenckhahn led the league in both receptions per game (6.38) and receiving yards per game (95.2), while Hannon was third in receptions (5.75) and fourth in receiving yards (66.1). Fulmer averaged 82.1 yards per game, second only to Drenckhahn this season, and led all league wide receivers in touchdowns with eight, compared to seven for both Drenckhahn and Hannon. Hannon also earned recognition on the First Team as a return specialist for the second year in a row.

Middlebury senior Steve Hauschka garnered All-Conference First Team honors at both place kicker and punter this year, as he was named to the Second Team a year ago as the place kicker. Hauschka set a school record in 2006 with a league-best 10 field goals to bring his career mark to 20 with the Panthers, also a program-best. He finished second among league punters this season, averaging 37.9 yards over 52 punts with a long of 72.

Five defensive linemen received recognition on the NESCAC All-Conference First Team Defense. Returning from the first team last year was Bates senior Terence Ryan, while Middlebury senior Kevin Ryan followed up a 2005 season that saw him earn Second Team Defense with First Team honors this year. Amherst senior Brendan McKee, Trinity junior D.J. Lanz and Hamilton sophomore Taylor Soobitsky round out the newcomers on the line this fall. Kevin Ryan accumulated a conference-best 15.5 sacks this season, 14 of which were solo, to break the Middlebury record in a season, while Terence Ryan collected 11.0 sacks this season to finish second among NESCAC Players. The two players reversed their positions atop the tackles for a loss column, with Terence leading the league with an average 2.50 per game and Kevin second with 2.31.

At linebacker on the First Team Defense were Trinity senior Christian Allen, Tufts senior Chris Decembrele, Williams senior Jon Dolan, Wesleyan graduate student Quincy Francis, and Middlebury junior Erik Woodring. Allen returns from last year's First Team Defense at linebacker, while Decembrele earns First Team Defense honors for the second year in a row after a 2005 First Team Defense showing as a defensive lineman. Francis stepped from the 2005 Second Team to the 2006 First Team this fall. Woodring completed 2006 with a league-high 88 tackles.

The defensive backfield comprised of four players coming from Trinity and Williams. Joining Soules on the First Team Defense from the Bantams was junior Jared Boyd. The Ephs were represented by senior Elliot Moffie, a First Team Defense selection a year ago, and classmate Jon Poppe.

Rookie of the Year honors went to Hamilton's John Lawrence (Phoenix, N.Y.) who was a key two-way player for the Continentals in 2006. Lawrence finished the season second on the team in rushing with an average of 11.6 yards per game and one rushing touchdown on offense. On defense, Lawrence collected 29 tackles, 23 of which were solo, for Hamilton while picking up four sacks for a combined loss of 33 yards to finish in a two-way tie for fifth in the NESCAC in sacks per game at 0.50. He also had a pass break-up and a fumble recovery.

2006 NESCAC FOOTBALL ALL-CONFERENCE

First Team Offense				Second Team Offense			
	Team	Yr.	Hometown		Team	Yr.	Hometown
QB	Patrick Lucey	Williams	Jr. Plymouth, Mass.	QB	Nick Kehoe *	Amherst	Sr. Washington Depot, Conn.
RB	Kevin Anderson	Tufts	Jr. Hopkinton, Mass.	RB	Stefan Hrdina	Middlebury	Sr. W. Redding, Conn.
RB	Gennaro Leo *	Trinity	Sr. Everett, Mass.	RB	Brian Morrissey	Williams	So. Winchester, Mass.
RB	Jamie Walker	Bates	Sr. Needham, Mass.	OL	Matt Mascioli	Amherst	Sr. Morgantown, W. Va.
OL	Tom Bourdeau	Colby	Sr. Trumbull, Conn.	OL	Ryan McGeary	Tufts	Sr. Sudbury, Mass.
OL	Rogan Donelly	Bowdoin	Jr. Osprey, Fla.	OL	Henry Szalowski	Williams	So. Hatfield, Mass.
OL	Chris Kenney ^	Williams	Sr. Walpole, Mass.	OL	Ben Willig	Trinity	Jr. Barnegat, N.J.
OL	John Mihalko ^	Trinity	Jr. Shelton, Conn.	WR	Dylan McNamara ^	Bates	Sr. San Francisco, Calif.
OL	Mike Robinson	Trinity	Jr. Drexel Hill, Pa.	WR	Chris Olenoski ^	Trinity	Jr. Shelton, Conn.
OL	John Szalowski	Williams	So. Hatfield, Mass.	WR	Ryan Walsh	Wesleyan	So. Milton, Mass.
WR	Jon Drenckhahn *	Williams	Sr. New Canaan, Conn.	TE	Jim O'Leary ^	Williams	Sr. Stamford, Conn.
WR	Brendan Fulmer *	Williams	Sr. Leroy, N.Y.				
WR	Mark Hannon *	Amherst	Sr. Glen Rock, N.J.				
TE	Jamie Staples	Middlebury	Sr. Pacific Grove, Calif.				

First Team Defense				Second Team Defense			
	Team	Yr.	Hometown		Team	Yr.	Hometown
DL	D.J. Lanz	Trinity	Jr. Suffield, Conn.	DL	Jeff Carpenter	Trinity	Jr. Pottstown, Pa.
DL	Brendan McKee	Amherst	Sr. Hull, Mass.	DL	Mike Eisert	Williams	Jr. Cranford, R.I.
DL	Kevin Ryan ^	Middlebury	Sr. Shelton, Conn.	DL	Chad Guerrero	Middlebury	Jr. Essex, Vt.
DL	Terence Ryan *	Bates	Sr. Milton, Mass.	DL	Zach Hammond	Bowdoin	Sr. Holliston, Mass.
DL	Taylor Soobitsky	Hamilton	So. Harwinton, Conn.	DL	Adam Kowalski	Williams	Sr. Chelmsford, Mass.
LB	Christian Allen *	Trinity	Sr. Abington, Mass.	LB	Nile Lundgren	Trinity	Sr. Guilford, Conn.
LB	Chris Decembrele *	Tufts	Sr. Walpole, Mass.	LB	Andrew Heaney ^	Colby	Sr. Reading, Mass.
LB	Jon Dolan	Williams	Sr. Lowell, Mass.	LB	Trevor Pedrick	Hamilton	So. Wallkill, N.Y.
LB	Quincy Francis ^	Wesleyan	Gr. Stamford, Conn.	LB	John Regan	Bowdoin	Sr. Newburyport, Mass.
LB	Erik Woodring	Middlebury	Jr. Cos Cob, Conn.	LB	Matt Rettig	Trinity	Jr. Branford, Conn.
DB	Jared Boyd	Trinity	Jr. Hackettstown, N.J.	DB	Paul Mounds	Trinity	Sr. East Hartford, Conn.
DB	Elliot Moffie *	Williams	Sr. Wallingford, Conn.	DB	Joe Pepe	Wesleyan	Sr. East Haven, Conn.
DB	Jon Poppe	Williams	Sr. Upper Saddle River, N.J.	DB	Matt Pitarresi	Hamilton	Jr. New Hartford, N.Y.
DB	Mike Soules *	Trinity	Sr. Simsbury, Conn.	DB	Scott Secor *	Middlebury	Sr. Lake Odessa, Mich.

First Team Specialists				Second Team Specialists			
	Team	Yr.	Hometown		Team	Yr.	Hometown
PK	Steve Hauschka ^	Middlebury	Sr. Needham, Mass.	PK	Scott Sobolewski	Williams	Fr. Clifton Park, N.Y.
P	Steve Hauschka ^	Middlebury	Sr. Needham, Mass.	P	Brendan Fulmer *	Williams	Sr. Leroy, N.Y.
RS	Mark Hannon *	Amherst	Sr. Glen Rock, N.J.	RS	Chris Olenowski ^	Trinity	Sr. Shelton, Conn.

Offensive Player of the Year: Patrick Lucey Williams

Defensive Player of the Year: Mike Soules Trinity

Rookie of the Year: John Lawrence Hamilton

Coach of the Year: Mike Whalen Williams

* - 2005 All-Conference First Team; ^ - 2005 All-Conference Second Team