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MEN'S LACROSSE All-Conference - May 6, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NESCAC MEN'S LACROSSE ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS ANNOUNCED

Middlebury's Stone Repeats, Once Again Named Player of the Year

HADLEY, Mass. – Senior midfielder Mike Stone (Boston, Mass.) of Middlebury has been selected by the conference coaches as the 2009 NESCAC Player of the Year. It is the second year in a row that Stone has earned the league's top honor, as he helped the Panthers to an 8-1 mark in conference play and a 13-2 overall record heading into this weekend's NCAA Tournament action. Stone is the second individual this decade to be selected as Player of the Year in back-to-back seasons, joining Bryan Griffin of Tufts who accomplished the feat in 2003-04.

For the second time in as many seasons, Stone was unanimously chosen to the All-Conference First Team at midfield, making it three consecutive years that he has received First Team recognition. Stone is in the midst of what has proven to be his finest season with the Panthers, as his career-best 50 goals currently rank second among all players, netting five man-up tallies and four game-winners. He has also amassed a personal-high 65 points, averaging 4.33 per game, while scooping up 36 ground balls. Stone scored a career-high seven goals during Middlebury's 18-15 win at Skidmore on April 14.

Also earning All-NESCAC First Team honors for the third-straight year was Wesleyan senior attacker Russ Follansbee (Deerfield, Mass.). Follansbee leads the Cardinals in scoring and is second in the NESCAC with a personal-best 66 points on 41 goals and 25 assists. Joining Follansbee at attack on the First Team were Trinity junior Harper Cullen (Rehoboth Beach, Del.) and the Tufts tandem of senior Clem McNally (Far Hills, N.J.) and sophomore DJ Hessler (Monkton, Md.). Cullen paced the Bantams in scoring for the second consecutive year with a career-high 48 goals and six assists for 54 points. Currently the conference's top goal scorer, McNally now owns the Jumbos' single-season record for tallies with 51 heading into this weekend's NCAA action. Hessler has broken two single-season marks at Tufts during the 2009 campaign, re-writing the Jumbo record books with a league-leading 44 assists and 86 points through 17 games.

Along with Stone at midfield on the All-Conference First Team were a pair of first-time honorees, senior teammate Skyler Hopkins (Easton, Md.) and Bowdoin sophomore Owen Smith (Brunswick, Maine). Second only to Stone on the Panthers roster in goals, Hopkins has 29 tallies in 15 games, five coming on man-up opportunities and three serving as game-winners. Hopkins, who owns the NESCAC championship record for goals in a tournament at 11 in 2007, has also added in 18 assists for a career-high 47 points. Smith finished 2009 scoring 19 goals and adding five assists for 24 points to rank fourth among his Polar Bear counterparts.

After being named to the Second Team as a sophomore before moving up to the First Team as a junior, Williams senior Brian Morrissey (Winchester, Mass.) garnered First Team accolades once again at long stick midfielder. Morrissey, a two-time Football First Team recipient, had two goals and an assist for three points while collecting 40 ground balls in 14 games. Also at LSM was Bowdoin senior Bryan Holden (Cape Elizabeth, Maine), who earned his first career All-NESCAC honor. Holden scooped up a team-best 68 ground balls in addition to recording two goals and an assist. At specialist was the league's top face-off man, Colby sophomore Craig Bunker (Topsfield, Mass.). Bunker won an impressive .645 percent of his face-offs (185-207), an average of 12.3 per game. Bunker also corralled more ground balls than any other player, picking up 8.73 per game.

Wesleyan senior defender Spike Malangone (Lake Grove, N.Y.) of Wesleyan joined teammate Follansbee and Middlebury's Stone as the only players to three-peat on the First Team. The Cardinals' top defender, Malangone has started 16 games so far with four points on a goal and three assists along with 67 ground balls while only committing two penalties. Also on defense were Bowdoin senior Boomer Repko (New Canaan, Conn.) and Tufts junior Eytan Saperstein (Hewlett, N.Y.). Repko scored a goal and scooped 29 grounders in 16 appearances for the Polar Bears. Over 14 outings for the Jumbos, Saperstein has a goal, an assist, and 40 ground balls.

Rounding out the 2009 NESCAC All-Conference First Team was Williams senior goalkeeper Michael Gerbush (Glen Head, N.Y.). Selected to the Second Team in each of the previous two years, Gerbush played all but 3:34 of the Ephs' 841 minutes this season, going 7-7 with an 8.52 goals against average (4th NESCAC) and a .587 save percentage (3rd).

Rookie of the Year went to Wesleyan freshman midfielder John Froats (Yorktown, N.Y.). Froats has participated in all 17 of the Cardinals' games, tallying five goals and an assist for six points while ranking second among his teammates in ground balls with 69.

Middlebury head coach Dave Campbell was selected by his peers as NESCAC Coach of the Year. Now in his third season at the helm of the Panthers, Campbell received the conference's coaching honor with a 13-2 overall record and a 12th-straight appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

2009 NESCAC MEN'S LACROSSE ALL-CONFERENCE

First Team

A	Harper Cullen	Trinity	Jr.	Rehoboth Beach, Del.
A	Russ Follansbee *	Wesleyan	Sr.	Deerfield, Mass.
A	DJ Hessler ^	Tufts	So.	Monkton, Md.
A	Clem McNally	Tufts	Sr.	Far Hills, N.J.
M	Skyler Hopkins	Middlebury	Sr.	Easton, Md.
M	Owen Smith	Bowdoin	So.	Brunswick, Maine
M	Mike Stone *	Middlebury	Sr.	Boston, Mass.
LSM	Bryan Holden	Bowdoin	Sr.	Cape Elizabeth, Maine
LSM	Brian Morrissey *	Williams	Sr.	Winchester, Mass.
SP	Craig Bunker	Colby	So.	Topsfield, Mass.
D	Spike Malangone *	Wesleyan	Sr.	Lake Grove, N.Y.
D	Boomer Repko	Bowdoin	Sr.	New Canaan, Conn.
D	Eytan Saperstein	Tufts	Jr.	Hewlett, N.Y.
GK	Michael Gerbush ^	Williams	Sr.	Glen Head, N.Y.

Second Team

A	David Hawley *	Williams	So.	New Canaan, Conn.
A	Whit McCarthy	Colby	Jr.	Darien, Conn.
A	Pete Smith	Middlebury	Jr.	Wilton, Conn.
M	Matthew Cranshaw	Williams	So.	Atlanta, Ga.
M	Mike Drosch	Tufts	Jr.	Setauket, N.Y.
M	Cullen Winkler ^	Bowdoin	Sr.	Milton, Mass.
LSM	Jordan Yarboro ^	Tufts	Sr.	Herndon, Va.
SP	Dave Campbell	Middlebury	Sr.	Boise, Idaho
D	Chris Fitzpatrick ^	Amherst	Sr.	Fort Salonga, N.Y.
D	Andrew D'Ambrosio	Williams	Jr.	Arlington, Va.
D	Matt Knortz	Bates	Sr.	East Granby, Conn.
GK	Graham Fadden	Trinity	Sr.	New Canaan, Conn.

Rookie of the Year: John Froats, Wesleyan

Coach of the Year: Dave Campbell, Middlebury

* - 2008 All-Conference First Team ^ - 2008 All-Conference Second Team

Player of the Year: Mike Stone, Middlebury