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CROSS COUNTRY All-Conference - Oct. 31, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NESCAC CROSS COUNTRY ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS ANNOUNCED

Trinity's Norte, Tufts' O'Brien Claim Most Outstanding Performer Awards

HADLEY, Mass. - Trinity sophomore Hunter Norte (Ellington, Conn.) and Tufts junior Katy O'Brien (North Easton, Mass.) both earned NESCAC Most Outstanding Performer honors for 2006 after a strong showing at the 2006 NESCAC Cross Country Championship. Norte received the honor for medaling in the NESCAC Men's Cross Country Championship held at Harkness Memorial State Park and hosted by Connecticut College on Saturday, Oct. 28, while O'Brien finished atop the field in the NESCAC Women's Cross Country Championship.

Norte earned individual honors for the second year in a row after coming away as the NESCAC Rookie of the Year in 2005, finishing last fall's championship in ninth place. The first-place finish at the 2006 NESCAC Men's Cross Country Championship was the second time this season that Norte has finished first at Harkness, as he paced the field during the Connecticut College Invitational on Sept. 9. Norte, who also earned NESCAC All-Conference First Team honors, helped Trinity place fourth at this year's championship.

The 2006 NESCAC Men's Cross Country All-Conference First Team, selected based on individual finish at the championship, saw only one individual return from the 2005 First Team squad with six newcomers. Williams senior Stephen Wills (Colorado Springs, Colo.) garnered All-NESCAC First Team recognition for the third year in a row after receiving Second Team honors as a freshman in 2003. Wills was joined by three teammates on this year's first team, seniors Colin Carroll (West Hartford, Conn.) and Mike Davitian (East Setauket, N.Y.) and sophomore Brendan Christian (Chicago, Ill.), as their finish among the top seven racers helped Williams run away with the 2006 Men's Cross Country title. Bowdoin sophomore Archie Abrams (Lexington, Mass.) and Connecticut College second year runner Brian Murtagh (Rowley, Mass.) round out the Men's All-NESCAC First Team.

The Men's Rookie of the Year award went to Williams' Connor Kamm (Salt Lake City, Utah), as he finished 11th at the championship - the highest finish among first-year runners - and earned All-Conference Second Team honors. Men's Coach of the Year honors went to Peter Farwell of Williams, who guided the Ephs to their first Men's title since 2000. Farwell was named the Women's Cross Country Coach of the Year in 2005.

O'Brien's first-place showing at the NESCAC Women's Cross Country Championship was the first of her career at Tufts. As a first year runner at the 2004 NESCAC championship, O'Brien finished 30th, while last year she placed 25th at the annual event at Wesleyan. O'Brien headlined a one-two finish for Tufts, as classmate Catherine Beck (Brookline, N.H.) finished only 18 seconds behind O'Brien. Both runners earned NESCAC Women's Cross Country All-Conference First Team honors and were joined by sophomore Evelyn Sharkey (Brunswick, Maine) on the First Team. Tufts finished second at the 2006 NESCAC championship, just five points behind Amherst in what was the second-closest finish to the event in the past 10 years, after Middlebury and Williams shared the title in 2004. It was also the second-best finish for Tufts ever, as the 1987 squad won the race 19 years ago.

Joining the tandem from Tufts on the NESCAC Women's Cross Country All-Conference First Team were four other runners, all of whom earned All-Conference recognition last year. Wesleyan senior Ellen Davis (Montclair, N.J.) received All-NESCAC recognition for the third consecutive year, having been named to the Second Team in 2004 and First Team in 2005, while Colby senior Karen Prisby (Agawam, Mass.) earned First Team honors for the second year in a row. Middlebury senior Andrea Giddings (South Portland, Maine) came away with First Team honors for the first time in her career, having received Second Team accolades in each of the previous two years. Amherst junior Kim Partee (Brentwood, Tenn.) rounded out the Women's Cross Country First Team. Partee, the 2004 NESCAC Rookie of the Year, earned Second Team recognition in each of the last two years.

The Women's Rookie of the Year award went to Amherst's Sophia Galleher (Denver, Colo.), as she finished 15th at the championship, the highest among rookies. Galleher joins an impressive line of Rookie of the Year award winners from Amherst, as the honor has gone to a member of the Jeffs squad in each of the last four years. Coach of the Year honors went to Erik Nedeau of Amherst, the choice among the league's coaches after helping the Jeffs secure their first NESCAC Women's Cross Country title. Nedeau last received Women's Cross Country Coach of the Year honors in 2003.

Founded in 1971, the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) consists of 11 liberal arts colleges and has consistently reflected its commitment to the values of athletics and academic achievement. The member colleges of the conference are Amherst College, Bates College, Bowdoin College, Colby College, Connecticut College, Hamilton College, Middlebury College, Trinity College, Tufts University, Wesleyan University, and Williams College. For more information on the NESCAC, visit www.nescac.com.

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2006 NESCAC Men's Cross Country All-Conference**First Team**

Archie Abrams	Bowdoin	So.	Lexington, Mass.
Colin Carroll	Williams	Sr.	West Hartford, Conn.
Brendan Christian	Williams	So.	Chicago, Ill.
Mike Davitian	Williams	Sr.	East Setauket, N.Y.
Brian Murtagh	Connecticut College	So.	Rowley, Mass.
Hunter Norte ^	Trinity	So.	Ellington, Conn.
Stephen Wills *	Williams	Sr.	Colorado Springs, Colo.

Second Team

Alex Battaglino	Wesleyan	Sr.	Westport, Conn.
James Butcher	Middlebury	Jr.	Garden City, N.Y.
Connor Kamm	Williams	Fr.	Salt Lake City, Utah
Owen McKenna	Bowdoin	Sr.	Amston, Conn.
Steve Monsulick	Bates	Sr.	Kents Hill, Maine
Morgan Seybert ^	Williams	Jr.	Belle Mead, N.J.
John Swain	Colby	Jr.	St. Paul, Minn.

Most Outstanding Performer: Hunter Norte, Trinity

Rookie of the Year: Connor Kamm, Williams

Coach of the Year: Pete Farwell, Williams

2006 NESCAC Women's Cross Country All-Conference**First Team**

Catherine Beck ^	Tufts	Jr.	Brookline, N.H.
Ellen Davis *	Wesleyan	Sr.	Montclair, N.J.
Andrea Giddings ^	Middlebury	Sr.	South Portland, Maine
Katy O'Brien	Tufts	Jr.	North Easton, Mass.
Kim Partee ^	Amherst	Jr.	Brentwood, Tenn.
Karen Prisby *	Colby	Sr.	Agawam, Mass.
Evelyn Sharkey	Tufts	So.	Brunswick, Maine

Second Team

Erin Archard	Middlebury	Sr.	Vienna, Maine
Rachel Asher	Williams	So.	Lake Bluff, Ill.
Liz Gleason *	Williams	Jr.	Newton, Mass.
Mallory Harlin *	Williams	Jr.	Cranford, N.J.
Alexandra Krieg	Middlebury	So.	Wellesley, Mass.
Meg Ray	Amherst	Jr.	Menands, N.Y.
Heather Wilson ^	Amherst	Jr.	Danvers, Mass.

Most Outstanding Performer: Katy O'Brien, Tufts

Rookie of the Year: Sophia Galleher, Amherst

Coach of the Year: Erik Nedeau, Amherst

* - 2005 All-Conference First Team

^ - 2005 All-Conference Second Team