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CROSS COUNTRY All-Conference - Oct. 30, 2007

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NESCAC CROSS COUNTRY ALL-CONFERENCE TEAMS ANNOUNCED

Amherst's Wilson, Hamilton's Kosgei Earn Most Outstanding Performer Honors

HADLEY, Mass. - Amherst senior Heather Wilson (Danvers, Mass.) and Hamilton sophomore Peter Kosgei (Kapsabet, Kenya) both came away with NESCAC Most Outstanding Performer honors for 2007 as both runners posted impressive showings at the 2007 NESCAC Cross Country Championships. Wilson earned the honor for medaling in the NESCAC Women's Cross Country Championship held at Mt. Greylock High School and hosted by Williams College on Saturday, Oct. 27, while Kosgei finished first in the NESCAC Men's Cross Country Championship race.

Saturday's finish at the NESCAC Women's Cross Country Championship was the second first place showing in a row for Wilson this year, as she took home individual honors at the Little Three Championship on Oct. 20 at Wesleyan. Wilson improved upon her 2006 championship performance by over 90 seconds, after placing 11th last fall. Wilson was one of four Jeff harriers to finish in the top 10 at this year's championship, helping Amherst secure its second-consecutive NESCAC Women's Cross Country crown. After earning All-Conference Second Team honors the past two years, Wilson's top finish garnered the senior NESCAC All-Conference First Team recognition for the first time in her career. Wilson was joined on the first team by senior Kim Partee (Brentwood, Tenn.) and junior Elise Tropiano (Plainview, N.Y.). Partee, the 2004 NESCAC Rookie of the Year, finished her final NESCAC championship in sixth to earn All-NESCAC honors for the fourth year in the row, receiving First Team honors in her last two seasons with the Jeffs. Tropiano took home First Team accolades for the first time in her career with a seventh place showing on Saturday.

Four other runners joined the three representatives from Amherst on the NESCAC Women's Cross Country All-Conference First Team, two of which were First Team honorees last year. The Tufts tandem of seniors Catherine Beck (Brookline, N.H.) and Katy O'Brien (North Easton, Mass.) both finished among the top five runners at this year's championship, with Beck placing second while O'Brien was fourth as the Jumbos finished sixth as a team. It was the third year in a row that Beck has received All-NESCAC recognition, after earning Second Team honors in 2005, while O'Brien garnered Most Outstanding Performer in addition to First Team honors last autumn.

Middlebury junior Alexandra Krieg (Wellesley, Mass.) moved up from from the 2006 All-Conference Second Team by recording her fifth top-10 finish of the year, placing fifth at the Women's Cross Country Championship. Bowdoin first year Yasmine White (Boulder, Colo.) rounded out the 2007 NESCAC Women's Cross Country All-Conference First Team, as she came away with a third place showing at the championship meet and also earned Rookie of the Year honors.

Women's Coach of the Year honors went to Erik Nedeau of Amherst for the second year in a row as he guided the Jeffs to their second-consecutive NESCAC Women's Cross Country title. It is the third time in the last six years that Nedeau has been honored as NESCAC Coach of the Year.

Kosgei placed first in his premiere at the NESCAC Men's Cross Country Championship this year. It was the seventh race that Kosgei has won this fall, as his time of 25:52 on the 8-kilometer course was almost 30 seconds faster than the next runner to cross the finish line. Kosgei was also named as a member of the NESCAC All-Conference First Team.

Joining Kosgei on the All-NESCAC First Team were the Williams tandem of senior Corey Levin (Williamsville, N.Y.) and sophomore Edgar Kosgey (Eldoret Rift Valley, Kenya). Kosgey was the top Eph finisher on Saturday with a third place showing, surpassing his fourth place finish at the Purple Valley Classic at Mt. Greylock on Sept. 22. Levin finished sixth, one of three Williams runners in the top 10 as the Ephs came away with the 2007 NESCAC Men's Cross Country Championship.

Receiving NESCAC All-Conference First Team honors for the first time were seniors James Butcher (Garden City, N.Y.) of Middlebury and Keith Drake (Lebanon, N.H.) of Connecticut College along with junior Sam Moorhead (Dedham, Mass.) of Trinity. Moorhead and Drake were separated by four seconds and finished in fourth and fifth place, respectively, while Butcher, a Second Team honoree last year, finished seventh. The final All-NESCAC First Team spot went to Amherst freshman Will Yochum (Goleta, Calif.), as he turned in a time of 26:21 to finish the 8-kilometer championship race in second. Yochum also came away with NESCAC Rookie of the Year honors.

Williams head coach Pete Farwell was the choice among the conference's head coaches, garnering Men's Coach of the Year for the second year in a row. Farwell guided the Ephs to their second consecutive NESCAC title and 10th in program history.

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2007 NESCAC Men's Cross Country All-Conference**First Team**

James Butcher ^	Middlebury	Sr.	Garden City, N.Y.
Keith Drake	Connecticut College	Sr.	Lebanon, N.H.
Peter Kosgei	Hamilton	So.	Kapsabet, Kenya
Edgar Kosgey	Williams	So.	Eldoret Rift Valley, Kenya
Corey Levin	Williams	Sr.	Williamsville, N.Y.
Sam Moorhead	Trinity	Jr.	Dedham, Mass.
Will Yochum	Amherst	Fr.	Goleta, Calif.

Second Team

Brendan Christian *	Williams	Jr.	Chicago, Ill.
Matt Dunlap	Bates	Sr.	Farmington, Maine
Jesse Faller	Tufts	So.	Burlington, Mass.
John Hall	Bowdoin	Sr.	Bow, N.H.
Nate Krah	Bowdoin	Sr.	Bradenton, Fla.
Dave Sorensen	Tufts	Sr.	Dover, Mass.
Corey Watts	Williams	So.	Madison, Wis.

Most Outstanding Performer: Peter Kosgei, Hamilton

Rookie of the Year: Will Yochum, Amherst

Coach of the Year: Pete Farwell, Williams

2007 NESCAC Women's Cross Country All-Conference**First Team**

Catherine Beck *	Tufts	Sr.	Brookline, N.H.
Alexandra Krieg ^	Middlebury	Jr.	Wellesley, Mass.
Katy O'Brien *	Tufts	Sr.	North Easton, Mass.
Kim Partee *	Amherst	Sr.	Brentwood, Tenn.
Elise Tropiano	Amherst	Jr.	Plainview, N.Y.
Yasmine White	Bowdoin	Fy.	Boulder, Colo.
Heather Wilson ^	Amherst	Sr.	Danvers, Mass.

Second Team

Nicole Anderson	Amherst	Jr.	Kailua, Hawaii
Rachel Asher ^	Williams	Jr.	Lake Bluff, Ill.
Anna King	Colby	Sr.	Greenland, N.H.
Olga Kondratjeva	Williams	So.	Vilnius, Lithuania
Caitlin McDermott-Murphy	Amherst	Jr.	Newton, Mass.
Laura Onderko	Bowdoin	Sr.	Glastonbury, Conn.
Meg Ray ^	Amherst	Sr.	Menands, N.Y.

Most Outstanding Performer: Heather Wilson, Amherst

Rookie of the Year: Yasmine White, Bowdoin

Coach of the Year: Erik Nedeau, Amherst

* - 2006 All-Conference First Team

^ - 2006 All-Conference Second Team