TRINITY’S DOUGHERTY GARNERS TOP HONORS AS BOTH PLAYER AND PITCHER OF THE YEAR

Dougherty ranked among the leaders in the NESCAC in multiple statistical categories, including batting average (4th), on-base percentage (2nd), runs batted in (5th), home runs (tied 5th), and walks (1st). Offensively, Dougherty batted .429 with 42 hits, five home runs, 30 RBI, an on-base percentage of .529, and 19 walks. From the rubber, Dougherty posted a 9-7 record for the Bantams with an ERA of 2.70 while limiting opposing batters to an average of .257 and recording 82 strikeouts to place fourth among conference pitchers. Dougherty also earned a spot on the 2007 NESCAC All-Conference First Team, the fourth year in a row that she has been honored as All-NESCAC after receiving Second Team honors in 2004 and 2005 and First Team in 2006.

Tufts had four players earn All-NESCAC First Team honors this year, as the 2007 NESCAC Softball Champion Jumbos had the most members from any one squad on the First Team. Senior Erica Bailey (Scottsdale, Ariz.) was joined by sophomores Samantha Kuhles (Somerville, N.J.) and Lauren Gelmetti (Westfield, N.J.) along with first year Casey Sullivan (Berlin, Conn.) on the First Team. A Second Team selection a year ago, averaged .367 in the batters box through 32 games this season, belting a team-leading seven home runs while failing to commit an error in 37 opportunities in the outfield. In her first season with Trinity, Tait led the team offensively, batting .440 with 51 hits and 10 doubles to rank among the top five players in those categories in the league.

Williams sophomore shortstop Joey Lye (Scarborough, Ont.) earned First Team accolades for the second year in a row. Starting all 36 games this season, Lye paced the team offensively this season, batting .404 with 46 hits, six doubles, an on-base percentage of .460 and 16 steals. Joining Lye from the Ephs between second base and shortstop, Sullivan leads the Jumbos with a .429 batting average, a .462 on-base percentage, an a .714 slugging percentage, and a NESCAC-best nine home runs. Sullivan, one of four first year players to make the First Team, was also honored as the conference’s Rookie of the Year.

Rounding out the 2007 NESCAC All-Conference First Team were a pair of outfielders, junior Beth Gostanian (Windham, N.H.) and first year Jessica Tait (North Salem, N.Y.). Gostanian, a Second Team selection a year ago, averaged .367 in the batters box through 32 games this season, belting a team-leading seven home runs while failing to commit an error in 37 opportunities in the outfield. In her first season with Trinity, Tait led the team offensively, batting .440 with 51 hits and 10 doubles to rank among the top five players in those categories in the league.

Tufts head coach Cheryl Milligan was the choice among the coaches, coming away with NESCAC Coach of the Year honors for the second time in the last three years. At the helm of the Jumbos, Milligan has guided her team to a 28-11 record entering this week’s NCAA Tournament action, just three wins shy of a program-best 31 set in 1995. Tufts claimed the 2007 NESCAC Softball Championship last weekend, the first title for the Jumbos since 2003 and the fourth in program history.