

Northeast Conference

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Sacred Heart Wins Third Consecutive Brenda Weare Commissioner's Cup

Sacred Heart Also Earns Joan Martin Women's Commissioner Cup; Monmouth Captures Men's Cup

Somerset, NJ -- Sacred Heart has won the Brenda Weare Commissioner's Cup for the third straight season, as announced today by Northeast Conference (NEC) Commissioner Noreen Morris. Sacred Heart also concluded the 2009-10 athletic season as the Joan Martin Women's Commissioner's Cup champion for the fourth year in a row. Monmouth claimed the NEC Men's Commissioner Cup for the eighth time in the last nine years.

Sacred Heart racked up 221.96 Cup points on the year, the third-highest total in the history of the award. The Pioneers also posted the second-best ever Women's Cup tally with 132.95 points. Sacred Heart had established the overall (244.07) and women's (140.85) Cup records during a spectacular 2008-09 campaign.

The Pioneers captured NEC Tournament Championships in women's bowling and women's lacrosse in 2009-10. The Pioneers also finished in the top four in the league standings or at NEC championships in 13 different sports on the year.

In the closest Men's Cup race in conference annals, Monmouth finished with 89.96 points to edge out the Pioneers, who finished with 89.01. Since the Men's Cup was established in 1997-98, Monmouth has won the award ten times in 13 years.

"Winning the Commissioner's Cup is a special honor, especially when the achievement is matched against the efforts and quality of so many quality institutions in the Northeast Conference," said Don Cook, Sacred Heart Director of Athletics. "Winning the overall Cup three consecutive years, with our women winning the last four, is a wonderful tribute to all who have had a stake in Sacred Heart's success - the University administration, including Athletics, our coaches and most of all the terrific student-athletes who sacrificed much on and off the field to make it happen. Adding the Commissioner's Cup to the NCAA-SAAC Award of Excellence for community service work makes this year extra special because it symbolizes a balanced sense of perspective in that winning comes in many forms and shapes on the field and in the community. We're proud of all of it."

Sacred Heart outpaced second place Monmouth (200.57 points) by over 20 points in the overall standings. Long Island finished in third place for the second straight season and set a new school mark with 179.15 points. Robert Morris improved from seventh place in 2008-09 to a fourth place finish this past year with 166.61 points. Saint Francis (PA) took fifth (165.95 points), followed by Central Connecticut State in sixth place (163.21). Mount St. Mary's (156.55) edged out Quinnipiac (156.32) for seventh place with Fairleigh Dickinson in ninth place (128.09) and NEC newcomer Bryant (113.70) in the tenth spot. Wagner (102.64) ended the year in 11th place and St. Francis (NY) (86.68 points) in 12th. The Terriers' point total was the highest for the program since 2000-01.

"Congratulations to the student-athletes, coaches and administrators at Sacred Heart University and Monmouth University for their Commissioner's Cup awards this year," said Morris. "Reaching this level of success requires tremendous dedication and commitment from all corners of campus, and the entire University community should take part in celebrating these accomplishments. This recognition is especially significant this year, as the Commissioner's Cup was named in honor of former NEC Commissioner Brenda Weare last May, just one month before she succumbed to her long and courageous battle with cancer."

Bryant University (2012-13) • Central Connecticut State University • Fairleigh Dickinson University
Long Island University • Monmouth University • Mount St. Mary's University • Quinnipiac University
Robert Morris University • Sacred Heart University • St. Francis (NY) College
Saint Francis (PA) University • Wagner College

Weare, who passed away in June, 2009, made a lasting impact in her three years as Commissioner of the NEC. In that time, she introduced a number of new programs aimed at upgrading the caliber of the league's championship sports and enhancing the opportunities and experiences for the more than 4,000 student-athletes that compete in the conference. In addition to securing Bryant as the NEC's 12th full-time member, Weare was instrumental in the NEC gaining automatic access to the NCAA Division I Football Championship beginning in 2010, spearheading the conference's new Strategic Plan and implementing a new leaguewide sportsmanship policy.

The NEC Commissioner's Cup was instituted during the 1986-87 season with Long Island winning the inaugural award. Fairleigh Dickinson and Monmouth lead all NEC schools with six Cups to their credit. Cup points are awarded in each NEC sponsored sport. For men's and women's basketball, men's and women's soccer, women's volleyball, football, women's bowling, softball, field hockey, women's lacrosse and baseball, the final regular season standings are used to determine Cup points. In all other sports, points are awarded based on the finish at NEC Championship events.

About The Northeast Conference

Now in its 29th season, the Northeast Conference is an NCAA Division I collegiate athletic association consisting of 12 institutions of higher learning located throughout six states. Media coverage of the NEC extends to four of the largest markets in the United States - New York (#1), Pittsburgh (#23), Baltimore (#26), and Hartford/New Haven (#30). Founded in 1981 as the basketball-only ECAC Metro Conference, the NEC has grown to sponsor 22 championship sports for men and women and now enjoys automatic or play-in access to 13 different NCAA Championships. NEC member institutions include Central Connecticut State, Fairleigh Dickinson, Long Island, Monmouth, Mount St. Mary's, Quinnipiac, Robert Morris, Sacred Heart, St. Francis (NY), Saint Francis (PA) and Wagner. Bryant will become the NEC's 12th member upon completion of the NCAA Division I reclassification process in 2012. For more information on the NEC, visit www.northeastconference.org.

2009-10 Brenda Weare Commissioner's Cup • Final Sport-By-Sport Standings

Sport	BU	CCSU	FDU	LIU	MU	MSM	QU	RMU	SHU	SFNY	SFPA	WC
Field Hockey	9.19	----	----	----	9.19	----	11.25	3.00	7.13	----	5.07	----
M. Cross Country	5.00	14.00	4.00	7.00	9.00	8.00	13.00	6.00	11.00	3.00	12.00	10.00
W. Cross Country	7.00	9.00	5.00	6.00	12.00	10.00	14.00	8.00	13.00	4.00	11.00	3.00
Women's Soccer	5.20	14.00	3.00	10.70	12.90	7.40	11.80	7.40	7.40	----	9.60	4.10
Men's Soccer	6.30	3.00	10.70	5.20	14.00	9.60	11.80	7.40	8.50	12.90	4.10	----
Women's Volleyball	8.50	11.94	7.13	14.00	----	----	3.69	9.88	11.94	3.69	5.75	----
Football	7.82	14.00	----	----	7.82	----	----	10.57	5.07	----	3.00	10.57
Women's Swimming	8.50	12.17	----	----	----	4.83	----	----	6.67	3.00	14.00	10.33
M. Indoor Track	5.20	10.70	4.10	14.00	12.90	8.50	----	6.30	11.80	9.60	9.60	3.00
W. Indoor Track	6.00	3.00	8.00	14.00	13.00	11.00	7.00	9.00	12.00	4.00	10.00	5.00
Women's Bowling	----	----	6.93	3.00	----	----	----	----	6.93	10.08	----	----
Men's Basketball	3.00	8.50	10.00	11.00	6.50	12.00	13.50	13.50	5.00	6.50	8.50	4.00
Women's Basketball	9.00	8.00	4.00	13.00	10.50	5.50	7.00	14.00	12.00	3.00	10.50	5.50
Women's Golf	----	7.89	14.00	12.78	6.06	6.06	----	11.56	10.33	3.00	9.11	4.22
Men's Tennis	----	----	10.57	----	10.57	7.82	14.00	5.07	12.63	5.07	7.82	3.00
Women's Tennis	----	----	12.78	14.00	8.50	8.50	10.95	6.06	10.95	4.22	6.06	3.00
Men's Golf	----	9.11	7.89	5.44	6.67	10.33	----	11.56	12.78	4.22	14.00	3.00
Women's Lacrosse	7.89	3.00	----	5.44	11.56	10.33	12.78	9.11	14.00	----	5.44	5.44
M. Outdoor Track	4.10	11.80	4.10	12.90	14.00	10.70	----	8.50	9.60	7.40	6.30	4.10
W. Outdoor Track	4.00	5.00	7.00	13.00	14.00	12.00	8.00	9.00	11.00	3.00	10.00	6.00
Softball	3.00	6.85	5.20	14.00	12.90	6.85	11.80	10.70	9.60	----	4.10	8.50
Baseball	14.00	11.25	3.69	3.69	8.50	7.13	5.75	----	12.63	----	----	9.88
Total	113.70	163.21	128.09	179.15	200.57	156.55	156.32	166.61	221.96	86.68	165.95	102.64
Men	45.42	82.36	55.05	59.23	89.96	74.08	58.05	68.90	89.01	48.69	65.32	47.55
Women	68.28	80.85	73.04	119.92	110.61	82.47	98.27	97.71	132.95	37.99	100.63	55.09

2009-10 Brenda Weare Commissioner's Cup Overall Standings

1. Sacred Heart	221.96
2. Monmouth	200.57
3. Long Island	179.15
4. Robert Morris	166.61
5. Saint Francis (PA)	165.95
6. Central Connecticut State	163.21
7. Mount St. Mary's	156.55
8. Quinnipiac	156.32
9. Fairleigh Dickinson	128.09
10. Bryant	113.70
11. Wagner	102.64
12. St. Francis (NY)	86.68

2009-10 NEC Commissioner's Cup Men's Standings

1. Monmouth	89.96
2. Sacred Heart	89.01
3. Central Connecticut State	82.36
4. Mount St. Mary's	74.08
5. Robert Morris	68.90
6. Saint Francis (PA)	65.32
7. Long Island	59.23
8. Quinnipiac	58.05
9. Fairleigh Dickinson	55.05
10. St. Francis (NY)	48.69
11. Wagner	47.55
12. Bryant	45.42

2009-10 Joan Martin Commissioner's Cup Women's Standings

1. Sacred Heart	132.95
2. Long Island	119.92
3. Monmouth	110.61
4. Saint Francis (PA)	100.63
5. Quinnipiac	98.27
6. Robert Morris	97.71
7. Mount St. Mary's	82.47
8. Central Connecticut State	80.85
9. Fairleigh Dickinson	73.04
10. Bryant	68.28
11. Wagner	55.09
12. St. Francis (NY)	37.99

Brenda Weare Commissioner's Cup Champions

2009-10	Sacred Heart	1997-98	Monmouth
2008-09	Sacred Heart	1996-97	Mount St. Mary's
2007-08	Sacred Heart	1995-96	Mount St. Mary's
2006-07	Monmouth	1994-95	Mount St. Mary's
2005-06	Monmouth	1993-94	Fairleigh Dickinson
2004-05	Monmouth	1992-93	Fairleigh Dickinson
2003-04	Monmouth	1991-92	Fairleigh Dickinson
2002-03	UMBC	1990-91	Monmouth
2001-02	UMBC	1989-90	Fairleigh Dickinson
2000-01	UMBC	1988-89	Fairleigh Dickinson
1999-00	UMBC	1987-88	Fairleigh Dickinson
1998-99	UMBC	1986-87	Long Island

