Northeast-10 Announces Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence Award Recipients

South Easton, Mass. – The Northeast-10 Conference has announced its Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence Award recipients for the 2010 fall athletic season in the sports of men’s and women’s cross country, field hockey, football, men’s and women’s soccer, and volleyball.

Seven student-athletes, who excelled both on the field of play and in the classroom during the 2010 fall athletic season, have been recognized by the conference office. The athletes include a member of The University of Massachusetts Lowell’s national-title winning field hockey team, Elizabeth Day; women’s cross country standout Alasia Griebel from Southern Connecticut State University, a member of The College of Saint Rose’s women’s soccer team that reached the national semifinals, Kelly Guerin; first-team all conference member Jared Kawadler from the Bentley University football team; the NE-10 Conference Player of the Year in women’s volleyball, Sara Malmlov, from the University of New Haven; outstanding distance runner Stephen Polito from Stonehill College; and another Conference Player of the Year, Franklin Pierce University’s Tom Reilly, for men’s soccer.

Elizabeth Day, a senior from North Andover, Massachusetts has a 3.5 grade point average at UMass Lowell. She is a criminal justice major. Day started all 24 games for the national champion RiverHawks, scoring fourteen goals and registering fourteen assists for a total of 42 points. She scored what would turn out to be the game-winning goal in the national championship game and her accolades during her senior campaign included; the National Field Hockey Coaches Association North Region Player of the Year; NFHCA First Team All-American; 2010 Northeast-10 Player of the Year; NE-10 All-Conference First Team; 2010 NE-10 Tournament Most Outstanding Player; and NCAA All-Tournament Team.

So. Connecticut’s Alasia Griebel is a junior from Bristol, Connecticut. She carries a 3.84 GPA, and is majoring in psychology. Griebel was an automatic NCAA qualifier during her junior season, and she was named All-Region, and was named All-Conference. She is a two-time All-Region honoree and a two-time All-Conference pick in cross country for her career. She was also named to the 2010 Academic All-Conference Team.

Saint Rose’s Kelly Guerin, a senior from Sutton, Mass., has a 3.93 GPA, and is biology major. She was named to the 2010 Daktronics first-team All-American, and was a Daktronics second-team All-American in 2009. Guerin was recognized in 2009 and 2010 as a first-team Scholar All-American, and in 2010, she earned ESPN The Magazine first-team Academic All-American. Guerin earned the prestigious Elite 88 Award at 2010 NCAA National Championship. Her list of accolades includes being named a 2010 Northeast-10 first-team All-Conference pick and she helped anchor a 2010 Saint Rose defense that finished second in the country with a 0.317 GAA and recorded 17 shutouts. Guerin was a member of teams that won four consecutive NE-10 Postseason Tournament Championships and
advanced to the NCAA Tournament national semifinals each of the past three years and she was named to the 2010 Academic All-Conference Team.

Jared Kawadler, a senior from Bentley, also received a sport excellence award. Kawadler has a 3.88 GPA, and is a double-major in economics and liberal studies. The team’s starting center, he started all 9 games and helped team end the regular season tied for the best record in the conference. Kawadler was named to the 2010 ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America first team and he was also a semifinalist for the William Campbell Trophy (Academic Heisman). He was named to the 2nd-team All-NE-10 and was a three-year starter. He also served as a team captain and was named to the President’s List at Bentley six of the last seven semesters. Kawadler was also named to the 2010 Academic All-Conference Team.

New Haven’s Sara Malmlov, a senior volleyball student-athlete, carries a 3.81 GPA, and is majoring in English. She was named an AVCA and received Daktronics All-American Honorable Mention. She was named the 2010 Northeast-10 Player of the Year and an All-NE-10 First Team selection. She was named First Team AVCA and Daktronics All-Region selection. Malmlov led the NE-10 in kills (3.93 kps) and ranked eighth in aces (.45 aps). She is a two-time AVCA and Daktronics All-American selection, as well as a two-time conference Player of the Year and was named to the 2010 Academic All-Conference Team.

Junior Stephen Polito from Stonehill is a graphic design major, and has a 3.63 grade point average. Polito helped lead Stonehill to the team title at Trinity Bantams Invitational with his third place finish (15:57/5K). He also helped team to 2nd place at Kutztown DII Challenge with his 8th place finish (25:55/8K). Polito placed 9th at NCAA II East Regional (31:34/10K) as team finished second to advance to NCAA Nationals. He is a two-time All-East Region performer (Freshman and Junior) and was named a United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association All Academic performer. He was named to the NE-10 Commissioner's and Athletic Director's honor rolls each semester since he has been at Stonehill. He was named NE-10 All-Academic for cross country and indoor and outdoor track & field. Polito is the two-time defending NE-10 10,000m outdoor champion, and was named to the 2010 Academic All-Conference Team.

And the last award recipient is junior Tom Reilly from Franklin Pierce. Reilly has a 3.41 GPA and is majoring in business. His list of accolades includes the fact he was named the 2010 Northeast-10 Player of the Year; 2010 Daktronics East Region Player of the Year; 2010 All-Northeast-10 First-Team; 2010 Daktronics All-East Region First-Team; 2010 Daktronics First-Team All-American; 2010 NSCAA First-Team All-American; and he was a member of the 2010 Northeast-10 All-Championship Team. Reilly was also named 2009 All-Northeast-10 Second-Team; 2009 NE-10 Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll; and to the 2008 NE-10 Commissioner's Academic Honor Roll. Reilly was named to the 2010 Academic All-Conference Team.

The Northeast-10 Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence awards are chosen by a vote of a committee of athletic administrators and Faculty Athletic Representatives (FAR). The Northeast-10 will honor one student-athlete per conference-sponsored sport each year. There will be a total of 23 Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence Award winners during the course of the academic year. The conference will announce the winter sport winners later this spring and will announce the spring sport winners in June.

To be eligible for the Scholar-Athlete Sport Excellence award the student-athlete must have completed at least two consecutive semesters of full-time enrollment at their current institution and at least two years of athletic eligibility at any institution. In addition, the student-athlete must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of a 3.30.
The Northeast-10 is an association of 16 NCAA Division II colleges and universities located in New England and New York that are committed to supporting balanced academic and athletic opportunities for more than 6,500 student-athletes. Each year, 4,500 of those student-athletes compete in Conference championships in 23 sports, making the NE-10 the largest DII conference in the country. Leading the way in the classroom, on the field and within the community, the Northeast-10 is proud of its comprehensive program and the experience it provides student-athletes.

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