



**Date:** November 8, 2006

**Contact:** Timothy Farrell, Empire 8 SID  
[tfarrell@empire8.com](mailto:tfarrell@empire8.com)

**EMPIRE 8 ANNOUNCES WOMEN'S SOCCER ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM  
Chelsey Feldman and Ashley Williams of Ithaca College Earn Top Honors**

**ROCHESTER, NY** – The Empire 8 announced its 2006 Women's Soccer All-Conference teams. Senior midfielder Ashley Williams of Ithaca College, the 2005 Player of the Year, was named the 2006 Defensive Player of the Year, the first winner of the award. Sophomore forward Chelsey Feldman, the Empire 8 Rookie of the year in her first season, was named the Offensive Player of the Year.

Williams scored six goals and added eight assists for 20 points, while anchoring the Ithaca defense that yielded one goal in seven games in regular season conference play. She earned first-team all-conference honors for the third consecutive year. Feldman led all Empire 8 scorers with 34 points on 13 goals and eight assists.

First-year forward Danielle Smith of Utica College was selected the Empire 8 Rookie of the Year after scoring four goals and adding five assists for 13 points. She was also named to the all-conference second team.

Tom Natalie of Rochester Institute of Technology was named Coach of the Year for leading the Tigers to a second-place regular season conference finish.

Three players from conference champion Nazareth College were named to the first team. Senior midfielder Rosie Simiele repeated as a first-team selection, while sophomore back Ashley Clinton and sophomore Rachel Cushman earned the honor for the first time.

Three Ithaca players joined Williams and Feldman on the first team. Senior back Kim Gillman and junior forward Colleen Masterson were each named to the first team for the second time. Junior back Beth Hoover earned first-team honors for the first time.

Junior back Joanne Gueverra and junior goalkeeper Ashley Kaufman of conference tournament finalist Utica College received first-team all-conference recognition.

Junior midfielder Dani Davis of St. John Fisher College repeated as a first-team all-conference performer.

Sophomore goalkeeper Ashley Taylor of Hartwick College earned first-team all-conference accolades for the first time.

One member of each team was named that institution's representative on the 2006 Women's Soccer Sportswoman of the Year Team. Empire 8 emphasizes that "Competing with Honor and Integrity" is an essential component of a student-athlete's experience in conjunction with an institution's educational mission. These honorees have distinguished themselves and consistently exhibit the critical traits as outstanding sportswomen.

- more -

**PAGE TWO – WOMEN’S SOCCER ALL-CONFERENCE...**

**Empire 8 2006 Women’s Soccer All-Conference Awards**

**Offensive Player of the Year:** Chelsey Feldman, Ithaca College

**Defensive Player of the Year:** Ashley Williams, Ithaca College

**Rookie of the Year:** Danielle Smith, Utica College

**Coach of the Year:** Tom Natalie, Rochester Institute of Technology

**First Team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>School</b>
<b>Backs</b>		
Ashley Clinton	So.	Nazareth College
Kim Gillman	Sr.	Ithaca College
Joanne Gueverra	Jr.	Utica College
Beth Hoover	Jr.	Ithaca College
<b>Midfielders</b>		
Dani Davis	Jr.	St. John Fisher College
Rosie Simiele	Sr.	Nazareth College
Ashley Williams	Sr.	Ithaca College
<b>Forwards</b>		
Rachel Cushman	So.	Nazareth College
Chelsey Feldman	So.	Ithaca College
Colleen Masterson	Jr.	Ithaca College

**Goalkeeper (Two players tied for first team)**

Ashley Taylor	So.	Hartwick College
Ashley Kaufman	Jr.	Utica College

**Second Team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>School</b>
<b>Backs</b>		
Alissa Kelly	Sr.	Ithaca College
Melissa Pratt	Sr.	RIT
Emily Stecher	Sr.	RIT
Rachel Tinao	Jr.	Utica College
<b>Midfielders</b>		
Jessica Rogers	Sr.	Nazareth College
Kerry Walsh	Sr.	Utica College
Kelly Zeppetella	So.	St. John Fisher College
<b>Forwards</b>		
Ashley Granger	So.	Utica College
Danielle Smith	Fr.	Utica College
Jennifer Vandenberg	Sr.	Hartwick College

**- more -**

**PAGE THREE – WOMEN’S SOCCER ALL-CONFERENCE...**

**Sportswoman of the Year**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>School</b>
Jane Capotosto	Jr.	Alfred University
Laurie Teske	Jr.	Elmira College
Trish Shorey	Jr.	Hartwick College
Kara Hutchinson	Sr.	Ithaca College
Jessica Rogers	Sr.	Nazareth College
Emily Stecher	Sr.	RIT
Betsy Pitcher	Sr.	St. John Fisher College
Liz O’Brien	Sr.	Utica College

**Honorable Mention**

**Backs:** Jen Blais (St. John Fisher), Kiersten Drexler (St. John Fisher), Alyssa MacLachlan (St. John Fisher), Katie Van Vorst (Hartwick), Yaicha Winters (Alfred)

**Midfielders:** Julie Birbilis (Nazareth), Mary Dougherty (St. John Fisher), Lindsay Ehrenkrantz (Ithaca), Erica Main (RIT), Sarah Richards (Utica)

**Forwards:** Alaina Chorney (RIT), Nicole DiPietro (Alfred), Samantha Margulies (Ithaca), Jessica Talbot (Elmira), Emily Traversi (RIT)

**Goalkeeper:** Ashley Conti (RIT), Aimee Meachem (Ithaca)