

For Immediate Release
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SUNYAC Announces Soccer Award Winners

Rookie of the Year, Player of the Year, Coach of the Year

FREDONIA NY – The State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) has announced the 2006 Award winners for Men's and Women's Soccer.

Oneonta's **Mary Velan (Stamford/Stamford)** has been named the 2006 SUNYAC Player of the Year. Velan tops the SUNYAC in points scored with 38, an average of 2 per game. She has scored 17 goals this season, which is also good for top spot in the SUNYAC. Mary was selected to the first team All-Conference and also to the SUNYAC All-Tournament team. She has helped her team to a 17-2-1 (10-0) record this season, and an NCAA Tournament at-large bid. Oneonta will look to improve on last year's Elite 8 exit from the Championship.

Brockport's **Nicole Gibaud (Rochester/Greece-Arcadia)** was this season's Rookie of the Year. As a freshman, Nicole scored 5 times and assisted once in 17 games. She also scored the game winning goal against Hilbert in early September. In a come from behind win against Cortland, Gibaud scored twice within a minute to tie the game, and then assisted on the game winning goal late in the second half. The Eagles (16-2-1) will also play for the 2006 NCAA Championship, after receiving the automatic bid.

Chris Billoni (Kenmore/St. Joseph's) from Geneseo was this season's Huntley Parker award winner (Player of the Year.). Chris helped his team to the SUNYAC Championship Title with a win over Fredonia in the Championship game. As a defender, Billoni started 18 games and recorded an assist, as his team finished at 14-4-1 (8-1). Chris was a second team All-Conference nominee as a senior.

Plattsburgh's **John LoGuirato (Holbrook/Lake Ronkonkoma Sachem N.)** was named this years' Rookie of the Year. As a freshman, John started 16 games and led the team with 8 goals. John was also credited with 3 assists as well as scoring 3 game winning goals throughout the season. LoGuirato helped his team reach the SUNYAC semifinals, and post a 15-3-2 (7-2) overall record.

Brockport women's head coach **Joan Schockow** was named the 2006 Coach of the Year. Joan coached her team to a 16-2-1 (9-1) season and also won the SUNYAC Title for only the second time in school history (1983). Her team received the automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament, where they will play Ithaca in the opening round.

Mike Mooney was named the 2006 Coach of the Year for the men. Mooney led Geneseo to their 2nd SUNYAC Title in 3 years. With a 14-4-1 (8-1) record, the Blue Knights received the automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament, and will face Nazareth in the opening round.