



2006

FOOTBALL

NEWS & NOTES

200 Cottontail Lane, Vantage Court North, Somerset, NJ 08873
 Phone: 732-469-0440/Fax: 732-469-0744 • www.northeastconference.org

Football Contact: Bob Balut, Asst. Director of Communications
 E-Mail: rbalut@northeastconference.org

**Central Connecticut State • Fairleigh Dickinson • Long Island • Monmouth • Mount St. Mary's
 Quinnipiac • Robert Morris • Sacred Heart • St. Francis (NY) • Saint Francis (PA) • Wagner**

NEC Football

Facts & Figures

Last Week's Results

Saturday, October 28

ROBERT MORRIS 21, STONY BROOK 6
 SAINT FRANCIS (PA) 21, SACRED HEART 14
 MONMOUTH 19, CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE 13
 ALBANY 34, WAGNER 0

home team underlined

This Week's Schedule

Saturday, November 4

CENTRAL CONN. STATE at SACRED HEART, 12:30 pm
 STONY BROOK at WAGNER, 1:00 pm
 SAINT FRANCIS (PA) at MONMOUTH, 1:00 pm
 ALBANY at ROBERT MORRIS, 1:00 pm

NEC Offensive Player of the Week

Sep. 5	Todd Harris, SFPA	Oct. 16	Josh Dudash, SBU
Sep. 11	Justise Hairston, CCSU	Oct. 23	Brian Boland, MU
Sep. 18	Justise Hairston, CCSU	Oct. 30	Brian Boland, MU
Sep. 25	Chris Turner, WC		
Oct. 2	Corey Bundy, SHU		
Oct. 9	Justise Hairston, CCSU		

NEC Defensive Player of the Week

Sep. 5	Mike Castellano, MU	Oct. 16	Jeff Rommes, RMU
Sep. 11	Chris Stimmel, CCSU	Oct. 23	Matt Hill, MU
Sep. 18	Colin Disch, UA	Oct. 30	Mike Niklos, RMU
Sep. 25	Eric Neugebauer, UA		
Oct. 2	Chad Wengert, RMU		
Oct. 9	Cory Giddings, SBU		

NEC Special Teams Player of the Week

Sep. 5	Jason Fralicker, UA	Oct. 16	Sean Dennis, MU
Sep. 11	Evin Jones, SHU	Oct. 23	Mike Wall, UA
Sep. 25	Mike Wall, UA	Oct. 30	Jason Fralicker, UA
Oct. 2	Piotr Czech, WC		
Oct. 9	Sean Dennis, MU		

NEC Rookie of the Week

Sep. 5	David Sinisi, MU	Oct. 16	Cory Giddings, SBU
Sep. 11	Frank Blasinsky, UA	Oct. 23	Conte Cuttino, SBU
Sep. 18	Rashad Barksdale, UA	Oct. 30	David Sinisi, MU
Sep. 25	David Sinisi, MU		
Oct. 2	Conte Cuttino, SBU		
Oct. 9	Cory Giddings, SBU		

NEC Football On Television

Fox Sports-Pittsburgh

Duquesne def. Robert Morris, 27-7 (Fox Atlantic/Fox Pittsburgh)
 Robert Morris def. Saint Francis, 45-13 (Fox Central/Fox Pittsburgh)

Fox Sports-New York

Monmouth def. CCSU, 19-13 (Fox New York/Fox Atlantic/Cox)

NEC Preseason Coaches Poll

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Albany (4) | 6. Wagner |
| CCSU (2) | 7. Robert Morris |
| 3. Stony Brook | Sacred Heart |
| 4. Monmouth (1) | |
| 5. Saint Francis (PA) (1) | First Place Votes In Parentheses |

Northeast Conference Football

(Week 9 - October 30, 2006)

School	NEC	Pct.	Overall	Pct.	Streak	Home	Away	Neutral
1. Monmouth	4-1	.800	8-1	.889	W4	4-1	4-0	0-0
Albany	4-1	.800	6-3	.667	W3	3-1	3-2	0-0
Robert Morris	4-1	.800	6-3	.667	W1	2-2	4-1	0-0
Stony Brook	4-1	.800	4-5	.444	L1	2-2	2-3	0-0
5. Central Conn. St.	2-3	.400	6-3	.667	L1	3-0	3-3	0-0
6. Sacred Heart	1-4	.200	2-7	.222	L3	2-2	0-5	0-0
Saint Francis (PA)	1-4	.200	2-7	.222	W1	2-3	0-4	0-07.
8. Wagner	0-5	.000	4-5	.444	L5	2-2	2-3	0-0

NEC Football Offensive Player of the Week

Brian Boland, Monmouth

Sr., QB, 6-1, 210, Brick, NJ/Brick Memorial

Boland accounted for 299 of Monmouth's 460 offensive yards in a 19-13 win over Central Connecticut State on Saturday. The senior was 16-of-31 passing for 227 yards and one interception. The Brick, NJ product, who wins back-to-back NEC Offensive Player of the Week honors, was also Monmouth's second leading rusher with 72 yards on 12 carries, with a long of 21 yards. With the Hawks up 12-7 in the fourth quarter, Boland took a designed quarterback-draw for 16 yards to the endzone, putting Monmouth up by 12 points. The score was Boland's third rushing touchdown of the season. Boland now has 7,203 career yards passing and is just the third quarterback in the NEC history to surpass 7,000 career yards. Against CCSU, he hit six different receivers and was 7-of-15 on third down.

NEC Football Defensive Player of the Week

Mike Niklos, Robert Morris

Sr., DB, 5-10, 175, Columbus, OH/Bishop Watterson

Niklos, who missed the entire 2005 season with an ankle injury, helped Robert Morris seal its fourth straight road victory with a pair of fourth-quarter interceptions in a 21-6 triumph over Stony Brook. The senior was key in holding the Seawolves, who entered the game averaging 34.2 points per game in NEC contests, to a single touchdown. Niklos' first interception came with less than eight minutes remaining in the game. Seawolves' signal caller Josh Dudash dropped back and tried to connect with Lynn Suges on a long pass play in the endzone, but Niklos stepped in front of the wideout and collected the pick. On SBU's last drive of the day, Niklos sealed the contest, picking off Dudash again at the Stony Brook 33-yard line. In the game, Niklos added four tackles (3 solo) and two pass breakups. On the season, the Columbus, OH native leads the league and ranks eighth in I-AA in interceptions (5) and passes defended (11). The senior has tallied four interceptions in RMU's last two road contests and has pushed his career total of picks to 13, which ranks third all-time at RMU and fourth in NEC annals.

NEC Football Special Teams Player of the Week

Jason Fralicker, Albany

Jr., PK, 5-10, 182, Tonawanda, NY/North Tonawanda

Fralicker booted a pair of field goals of 31 and 39 yards in Albany's 34-0 win over Wagner. The junior made a 31-yarder from 0:40 left in the second quarter and connected on a 39-yarder with 4:49 left in the third quarter. Part of each scoring conversion on the day, the Tonawanda, NY product also drilled 4-of-4 point-after-attempts, plus handled kickoffs with one touchback. Fralicker established the program's Division I-AA record with his 10th field goal this season, breaking a mark set by Bryan Bagstad in 2001. Fralicker leads his team in scoring with 54 points, having made 10-of-15 field goals and 24-of-24 extra points.

NEC Football Rookie of the Week

David Sinisi, Monmouth

Sr.-Fr., RB, 5-9, 180, Cedar Grove, NJ/Cedar Grove

Sinisi racked up 131 total yards in a win at home versus Central Connecticut State. The redshirt freshman posted 19 carries for 65 yards and had four receptions for 66 yards (including a 56-yard screen pass). Sinisi found the endzone for the 10th time this season on a fourth-quarter run that put the Hawks up 12-7 with 7:20 to go in the game. Sinisi tied Chris Reed's school record for consecutive games with a touchdown (9). Late in the fourth quarter, with the Hawks trying to run out the clock, Sinisi carried the ball five straight times for 30 yards and picked up two first downs. On the season, the Cedar Grove, NJ product ranks seventh in the NEC in rushing (55.7 ypg), 10th in all-purpose yards (81.3 ypg) and second in scoring (66 points) and touchdowns (10).

2006 NEC Football Schedule/Results

Albany (6-3, 4-1 NEC)			Central Connecticut State (6-3, 2-3 NEC)			Monmouth (8-1, 4-1 NEC)			Robert Morris (6-3, 4-1 NEC)			Sacred Heart (2-7, 1-4 NEC)		
Date	Opponent	Time	Date	Opponent	Time	Date	Opponent	Time	Date	Opponent	Time	Date	Opponent	Time
9/2	at Lehigh	W, 17-16	9/2	Marist	W, 34-6	9/2	at Fordham	W, 23-9	9/2	at Dayton	L, 14-21	9/2	Lafayette	L, 14-25
9/9	Fordham	L, 9-7	9/9	at Georgia Southern	W, 17-13	9/9	Morgan State	W, 26-9	9/9	Duquesne	L, 27-7	9/9	at Marist	L, 28-19
9/16	at Delaware	W, 17-10	9/15	at Southern Connecticut	W, 29-26	9/16	St. Peter's	W, 36-12	9/16	at Butler	W, 35-14	9/16	Iona	W, 27-16
9/23	Central Conn. St.	W, 19-14	9/23	at Albany	L, 19-14	9/23	at Colgate	W, 17-12	9/23	Rowan	W, 21-0	9/23	at Duquesne	L, 24-21
9/30	at Cornell	L, 23-21	9/30	at St. Peter's	W, 73-13	9/30	Stony Brook	L, 36-17	9/30	at Saint Francis (PA)	W, 45-13	9/30	Wagner	W, 25-17
10/7	at Stony Brook	L, 33-21	10/7	Saint Francis (PA)	W, 62-21	10/7	Sacred Heart	W, 24-0	10/7	at Wagner	W, 14-10	10/7	at Monmouth	L, 24-0
10/14	at Sacred Heart	W, 24-13	10/14	at Robert Morris	L, 23-17 (20)	10/14	at Wagner	W, 28-7	10/14	Central Conn. St.	W, 23-17 (20)	10/14	Albany	L, 24-13
10/21	Saint Francis (PA)	W, 48-0	10/21	Wagner	W, 27-6	10/21	at Robert Morris	W, 16-7	10/21	Monmouth	L, 16-7	10/21	at Stony Brook	L, 38-21
10/28	Wagner	W, 34-0	10/28	at Monmouth	L, 19-13	10/28	Central Conn. St.	W, 19-13	10/28	at Stony Brook	W, 21-6	10/28	at Saint Francis (PA)	L, 21-14
11/4	at Robert Morris	1:00 pm	11/4	at Sacred Heart	12:30 pm	11/4	Saint Francis (PA)	1:00 pm	11/4	Albany	1:00 pm	11/4	Central Conn. St.	12:30 pm
11/11	Monmouth	1:00 pm	11/11	Stony Brook	12:00 pm	11/11	at Albany	1:00 pm	11/11	at Sacred Heart	12:30 pm	11/11	Robert Morris	12:30 pm
NEC Games in Bold			NEC Games in Bold			NEC Games in Bold			NEC Games in Bold			NEC Games in Bold		

Saint Francis (PA) (2-7, 1-4 NEC)			Stony Brook (4-5, 4-1 NEC)			Wagner (4-5, 0-5 NEC)		
Date	Opponent	Time	Date	Opponent	Time	Date	Opponent	Time
9/2	St. Peter's	W, 38-3	8/31	Hofstra	L, 8-17	8/31	at La Salle	W, 38-15
9/9	at Delaware State	L, 63-28	9/9	at Georgetown	L, 7-0	9/9	Iona	W, 7-3
9/16	at Duquesne	L, 41-10	9/16	at New Hampshire	L, 62-7	9/16	at Marist	W, 38-7
9/23	La Salle	L, 24-21	9/23	at UMass	L, 48-7	9/23	St. Peter's	W, 34-0
9/30	Robert Morris	L, 45-13	9/30	at Monmouth	W, 36-17	9/30	at Sacred Heart	L, 25-17
10/7	at Central Conn. St.	L, 62-21	10/7	Albany	W, 33-21	10/7	Robert Morris	L, 14-10
10/14	Stony Brook	L, 30-20	10/14	at Saint Francis (PA)	W, 30-20	10/14	Monmouth	L, 28-7
10/21	at Albany	L, 48-0	10/21	Sacred Heart	W, 38-21	10/21	at Central Conn. St.	L, 27-6
10/28	Sacred Heart	W, 21-14	10/28	Robert Morris	L, 21-14	10/28	at Albany	L, 34-0
11/4	at Monmouth	1:00 pm	11/4	at Wagner	1:00 pm	11/4	Stony Brook	1:00 pm
11/11	Wagner	1:00 pm	11/11	at Central Conn. St.	12:00 pm	11/11	at Saint Francis (PA)	1:00 pm
NEC Games in Bold			NEC Games in Bold			NEC Games in Bold		



NEC Football Notes:

(through games of Oct. 21)

Five NEC Teams Remain On TSN I-AA Mid Major Top-10 Poll; San Diego Unanimous at No. 1

Philadelphia, PA (Sports Network) - After a close first half where it led by only three points, San Diego took charge in the second half for a 44-21 victory over Morehead State and the Toreros once again pull in a unanimous No. 1 ranking in The Sports Network I-AA Mid-Major Top 10. The Toreros are at 8-0 for the season and have 16 wins in a row overall, and are at No. 1 for the 10th time this season and 16th consecutive poll over the past two seasons. The Toreros picked up all 25 first-place votes and 250 points to earn the No. 1 spot. They are on the road at No. 10 Jacksonville in a Pioneer Football League contest this week.

Monmouth earned the No. 2 position on every ballot after coming back in the fourth quarter for a 19-13 victory over last week's No. 3 team, Central Connecticut State. The Hawks are at 8-1 overall, and pulled into a four-way tie for first place in the Northeast Conference with Albany Robert Morris and Stony Brook. Drake and Albany moved up one spot each to No. 3 and No. 4, respectively, after winning on Saturday. Robert Morris is up two places to No. 5 after a 21-6 win at Stony Brook.

Central Connecticut State is at No. 6, with Davidson at No. 7, Duquesne at No. 8, Stony Brook at No. 9 and Jacksonville at No. 10. The Dukes lost a Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference game for the first time since 1999 when they fell to Iona, 17-13. No teams entered this week's rankings.

Three matchups between teams in the top 10 highlight a weekend where every ranked team is in action. No. 1 San Diego is at No. 10 Jacksonville and No. 3 Drake hosts No. 7 Davidson in PFL action, while No. 4 Albany travels to No. 5 Robert Morris with at least a share of first-place in the NEC on the line.

NEC Football Review: Four Teams Sit Atop NEC Standings

After Saturday's action was completed, four teams are now tied for first place in the NEC standings with a 4-1 league mark - Monmouth, Albany, Robert Morris and Stony Brook. The Seawolves (4-5, 4-1 NEC) held the top spot alone prior to this week's play, but three rushing touchdowns by Robert Morris (6-3, 4-1 NEC) and the Colonials' tough defensive play toppled SBU, 21-6, on Long Island. At West Long Branch, NJ, Monmouth (8-1, 4-1 NEC) scored 16 unanswered fourth-quarter points en route to defeating rival Central Connecticut State (6-3, 2-3 NEC), 19-13. The Monmouth defense held CCSU's Justice Hairston, who came into the game as the leading rusher in all of Division I-AA football, to just 67 yards on 19 carries. Albany (6-3, 4-1 NEC) improved in the standings with a convincing, 34-0 win over Wagner. UA's Omar Johnson rushed for two first-half touchdowns and Trevor DuPont returned an interception 22 yards for another score in the win. At Loretto, Saint Francis (PA)'s (2-7, 1-4 NEC) defense held Sacred Heart (2-7, 1-4 NEC) to five total yards of offense on its final five offensive series, and the Red Flash offense scored 14 unanswered points, to snap a seven-game losing streak with a 21-14 victory. Overall, the Pioneers mustered just 77 yards of total offense in the second half.

NEC, Pioneer Football League Announce Changes To Gridiron Classic

The Northeast Conference and Pioneer Football League have changed the selection procedures regarding participating teams and the date of the Gridiron Classic, the respective offices announced on Thursday.

The Gridiron Classic, an exempted postseason football game that will match the champions of the two I-AA football conferences, originally was scheduled to be played November 18 at the Northeast Conference champion. However, the date of the 2006 game has been moved to December 2 to provide an opportunity for either league's regular-season champion to participate in the NCAA I-AA Football Championship if selected as an at-large participant.

In the event the regular season champion of either conference is selected to participate in the NCAA I-AA Football Championship, the two leagues agreed the second-place team from that conference will participate in the Gridiron Classic.

Saint Francis (PA)'s Luke Palko Garners Prestigious National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete Award

Saint Francis University senior wide receiver Luke Palko has been selected to be among "the best and the brightest from the college gridiron," as he was named as one of 17 collegiate football players from across all levels of NCAA and NAIA as a 2006 National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame (NFF) National Scholar-Athlete.



Palko will be honored at the 49th annual NFF Awards Dinner on December 5 at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City. He will receive an \$18,000 post-graduate scholarship, and is a finalist to be the recipient of the 2006 Draddy Trophy, which recognizes an individual as the absolute best scholar-athlete in the nation. Established to honor former NFF Chairman Vincent DePaul Draddy, a Manhattan College quarterback who developed the Izod and Lacoste brands, the award comes with a stunning 24-inch, 25-pound bronze trophy and increases the winner's scholarship to a total of \$25,000.

Palko, whose brother Tyler was one of the semifinalists for the same award, will be the recipient of the Jefferson Walker Kirby National Scholar-Athlete Award at the dinner. Palko will receive his award at the same dinner in which legendary head football coaches Joe Paterno (Penn State), Bobby Bowden (Florida State) and John Gagliardi (St. John's Minnesota) will become the first three active coaches or players to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. The black tie event will be held December 5 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City.

"I feel honored to be awarded this prestigious award," said Palko. "To me, this award represents a combination of my entire career, and not just my accomplishments on the field. It's a testament to how I've been raised by my parents that athletics can only take you so far. And it's a testament to how the university and the high academic standards they have. It shows people that if you can do well in school, it doesn't matter that you are at a school with just 1,200 undergraduate students in the middle of the mountains in Pennsylvania. You can still achieve a lot at a school such as Saint Francis University."

The Foundation's National Scholar-Athlete Awards are awarded on an annual basis to a select group of student-athletes who are seniors or graduate students in their final year of eligibility, have a grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, have outstanding football ability as a first team player and have demonstrated strong leadership and citizenship.

One of the finest student-athletes in the history of Saint Francis University, Palko will be the school's first-ever recipient of the National Scholar-Athlete Award. In 2005, he became the school's third football player to garner ESPN The Magazine Academic All-American First Team selection.

An Accounting major, Palko is second on the Saint Francis, and Northeast Conference, all-time receptions list with 222, and is second in school history with 2,001 receiving yards. He set a single-season school and conference mark with 82 catches in 2004, before besting that with 85 catches in 2005 when he was named the Northeast Conference's Football Scholar-Athlete of the Year. In addition, Palko was selected as a Division I-AA Athletics Director's Association Academic All-Star and is a two-time recipient of the NEC Academic Honor Roll award.

In addition to his standout career on the gridiron, and his academic achievements, Palko is highly community-minded. He serves as the President of Saint Francis' Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and attended the NCAA National Leadership Conference. A breakfast server at Loretto's St. Michael's Church, he helped generate donations to purchase a new mascot on campus and volunteers his time with the Special Olympics and Relay for Life.

Wagner Kicker Piotr Czech Another 54-Yard Field Goal

On Saturday, Oct. 23, Wagner kicker Piotr Czech tied his career high with a 54-yard field against Central Connecticut State. The mark matched the longest field goal in Northeast Conference history. At Sacred Heart on Sept. 30, Czech walloped his first 54-yarder as time expired in the first half of play. The previous conference record of 50 yards was also set by a Seahawk - Blake Abbot in 2001. Czech's 54-yarders are the second longest in I-AA football this season. Czech is also one of only two players in I-AA football this season to hit two or more 50-yard field goals (Brett Bergstrom, Eastern Washington).

Gensler - Playing Behind The Line

Robert Morris defensive lineman Ray Gensler, a second-team ESPN The Magazine Academic All-American last year, is playing behind his opponents' line of scrimmage more than anyone in the NEC this season. Gensler ranks fifth in I-AA football in tackles-for-loss per game (1.69) and second in sacks per game (1.19). Currently, the senior has 54 tackles, 13.5 TFL and 9.5 sacks on the season. On Oct. 14, in a 23-17 overtime win versus nationally-ranked Central Connecticut State, Gensler played outstandingly, collecting 15 tackles (5 solo) and 1.5 tackles-for-loss. In 2005, Gensler tallied 6.5 TFL and a half sack.

Giddings Sets NCAA Fumbles Record

Stony Brook defensive back Cory Giddings etched his name in the record books, becoming the first player in recorded college football history to return three fumbles in a game and first since Alvin Nnabuife of SMU in 2004 to return two for touchdowns. After a scoreless first quarter versus Albany on Oct. 9, Giddings put the homecoming crowd into a frenzy, picking up a fumble and racing seven yards for a touchdown with 10:52 left in the first half. Giddings struck again with 3:50 left in the half, scooping up a fumble and delighting the crowd of 6,688 with a terrific return down the sideline for a score. Late in the fourth quarter, the Ocean, NJ product halted the Great Danes' attempt at a comeback,



Albany (6-3, 4-1 NEC)

Last Game: Albany 34, Wagner 0

Next Game: Nov. 4 at Robert Morris, 1:00 pm

9/2	at Lehigh	W, 17-16
9/9	Fordham	L, 9-7
9/16	at Delaware	W, 17-10
9/23	Central Conn. St.	W, 19-14
9/30	at Cornell	L, 23-21
10/7	at Stony Brook	L, 33-21
10/14	at Sacred Heart	W, 24-13
10/21	Saint Francis (PA)	W, 48-0
10/28	Wagner	W, 34-0
11/4	at Robert Morris	1:00 pm
11/11	Monmouth	1:00 pm

- Albany recorded its third straight win with a 34-0 shutout victory against Wagner on Oct. 28 ... The Great Danes, who held the visitors to 140 total yards, have posted back-to-back shutouts for the first time since 1998 ... Wagner quarterbacks completed just 5-of-19 attempts for 21 passing yards, the lowest total by an opponent in Albany's Division I-AA history ... the Great Danes, who moved into a tie for first place in the NEC standings, forced a season-high four turnovers ... Albany's defense is ranked eighth in points allowed (13.1 pg) and ninth in total yards (246.8 ypg) among national leaders ... the rushing attack has averaged 296.3 yards per game during the current three-game win streak ... Albany has topped the 250-rush mark in three consecutive weeks for the first time since 2004 ... TB **Omar Johnson (Edgewater Park, N.J. / Burlington City)** ran for 65 yards and two touchdowns ... Johnson, who scored two or more TDs for the sixth time in his career, climbed to eighth on the school's career list with 17 rushing touchdowns ... TB **Marcus Allen (Fayetteville, N.C. / Seventy-First)** had a team-leading 72 yards on the ground and scored on a 7-yard run in the second quarter ... OL **Jacob Anderson (West Seneca, N.Y. / West Seneca West)** made his first career start at right guard due to injuries on the line ... Anderson, a consensus preseason mid-major All-American, has blocked for a unit that is 20th among I-AA teams at 190.2 rushing yards per game ... PK **Jason Fralicker (North Tonawanda, N.Y. / North Tonawanda)** booted a pair of field goals of 31 and 39 yards to establish the program's Division I-AA record with his 10th field goal this season ... Fralicker is second behind single-season leader Scott Reagan, who made 12 in 1985 ... Albany posted its 40th victory in NEC play since joining the league in 1999 ... the Great Danes, who have won at least four conference games in all eight seasons as an NEC member, are 40-15 overall for a .727 percentage ... ILB **Colin Disch (North Plainfield, N.J. / North Plainfield)** had a team-high nine tackles vs. Wagner ... OLB **Trevor DuPont (Victor, N.Y. / Victor Central)** scored on a 22-yard interception return in the fourth quarter; the third TD by a Albany defender this season ... FL **Mike Wall (Syracuse, N.Y. / Solvay)** is 10th nationally with a 26.1 kickoff return average ... TB **Justin Gannon (Sussex, N.J. / Vernon Township)** rushed for 46 yards vs. Wagner ... the freshman has 60-plus all-purpose yards in three of four games played this year ... QB **Daniel Bocanegra (Daly City, Calif. / Junipero Serra)** accounted for 148 total yards, including a career-high 50 on the ground, last Saturday.



Central Connecticut State (6-3, 2-3 NEC)

Last Game: Monmouth 19, Central Connecticut State 13

Next Game: Nov. 4 at Sacred Heart, 12:30 pm

9/2	Marist	W, 34-6
9/9	at Georgia Southern	W, 17-13
9/15	at So. Connecticut	W, 29-26
9/23	at Albany	L, 19-14
9/30	at St. Peter's	W, 73-13
10/7	Saint Francis (PA)	W, 62-21
10/14	at Robert Morris	L 237 (20)
10/21	Wagner	W, 27-6
10/28	at Monmouth	L, 19-13
11/4	at Sacred Heart	12:30 pm
11/11	Stony Brook	12:00 pm

- Central Connecticut dropped to 6-3 overall and 2-3 in Northeast Conference play with a 19-13 loss on the road at Monmouth on Saturday. The Blue Devils have two games remaining this season, this Saturday at Sacred Heart and then the regular season finale at home vs. Stony Brook on Nov. 11. The Blue Devils are looking for their seventh win of the season which would give them at least seven wins for the third straight season for the first time since the 1965-67 seasons. Since starting 3-0, the Blue Devils are 3-3 in their last six games including a 2-3 mark in NEC play. Senior running back **Justise Hairston (New Britain, CT/New Britain)** was held to 64 yards on the ground on Saturday, his lowest total of the season, but he still managed to set a new single season rushing mark for the Blue Devils. Through nine games the senior from New Britain, CT, has rushed for 1,462 yards, a new school record eclipsing the 1,413 yard mark set by Stan House during the 1997 season. Hairston leads the nation in rushing at 162.4 yards per game and also lead in yards per carry at 6.7. He has scored 15 touchdowns on the year. He is now 62 yards shy of matching the NEC record for yards in a season, held by Gary Jones of Albany and set during the 2003 season. His 1,462 yards is the fourth best single season performance in NEC history. Senior defensive back **Stefon Benson (Hyde Park, MA/Lincoln-Sudbury)** had an eventful day in the loss to Monmouth on Saturday. He blocked a pair of field goal attempts and helped lead a Blue Devil defense that kept CCSU in the game with the Hawks. Benson blocked two field goals, one in the first half and one in the second, and helped lead a defense that forced three first half Monmouth turnovers and kept the game scoreless at the break. Junior running back **Josh Vargas (Los Angeles, CA/St. Monica)** scored his second touchdowns in as many seasons on Saturday on a 44-yard pass from junior quarterback **Ryan Holmes (Union, NJ/Lackawanna JC)**. The score gave the Blue Devils their first lead of the game.



Monmouth (8-1, 4-1 NEC)

Last Game: Monmouth 19, Central Connecticut State 13

Next Game: Nov. 4 vs. Saint Francis (PA), 1:00 pm

9/2	at Fordham	W, 23-9
9/9	Morgan State	W, 26-9
9/16	St. Peter's	W, 36-12
9/23	at Colgate	W, 17-12
9/30	Stony Brook	L, 36-17
10/7	Sacred Heart	W, 24-0
10/14	at Wagner	W, 28-7
10/21	at Robert Morris	W, 16-7
10/28	Central Conn. St.	W, 19-13
11/4	Saint Francis (PA)	1:00 pm
11/11	at Albany	1:00 pm

- Monmouth improved to 8-1 overall and 4-1 in the NEC with a 19-13 win over Central Connecticut State on Homecoming Saturday ... Trailing by four going into the fourth quarter, MU scored 16 unanswered points in the final frame to move into a four-way tie for first in the eight-team conference ... The Hawk offense racked up 460 yards of total offense, including 233 yards on the ground against the Blue Devils ... Monmouth's defense held Justice Hairston, the nation's leading rusher, to just 67 yards on 19 carries as Central Connecticut had 212 yards of total offense ... Senior wide receiver **Adam San Miguel (North Bergen, NJ/Saint Peter's Prep)** tied the school record for receptions in a single season with five catches, giving him 61 on the year ... San Miguel had 92 yards receiving in the game, including a 38 yard strike that led deep into CCSU territory ... senior tailback **Leonard Brice (Phillipsburg, NJ/Phillipsburg)** had a career-high 98 yards on 10 carries, including a 39-yard scamper in the first half ... Monmouth had two out of four field goal attempts blocked in the game, both were at the hands of CCSU's Stefon Benson ... going into Saturday's game, Monmouth senior safety **Matt Hill (Hopatcong, NJ/Hopatcong)** needed just four tackles to move into sixth place on MU's career tackles list. Hill finished the game second on the team with eight tackles, giving him 242 career tackles, just two behind Joe Little who is fifth all-time ... senior linebacker **Anthony Addonizio (Holmdel, NJ/Holmdel)** led the Hawks in tackles Saturday, making nine tackles including six solo. Addonizio is tied with **Mike Castellano (Freehold, NJ/Freehold)** for second on the team in tackles with 53 this season ... for the ninth time this season Monmouth fed in time of possession, controlling the ball for 34:53 compared to CCSU's 24:11 ... thanks to special teams and defense, the Blue & White once again held a better average starting position than their opponents, starting from their own 42 yard line with the Blue Devils starting from their own 21. Castellano finished third on the team in tackles with seven tackles, including six solo stops. The senior had a tackle for a loss and forced a Hairston fumble on the CCSU 38 which was recovered by Monmouth. The ensuing drive led to a Monmouth field goal, giving the Hawks a 3-0 lead in the third quarter. The senior captain headed up a defense that the nation's top rusher (Justice Hairston) to 64 yards on 19 carries. The Hawk defense allowed just 115 yards on the ground and 97 passing yards for a total of 212. Central managed just seven first downs and was 3-of-13 on third down against the Hawk defense. Not only did **Sean Dennis (Westampton, NJ/Holy Cross)** punt well in a wind-filled game but he also picked up place kicking duties in Monmouth's win over Central Connecticut. Dennis punted three times for a 125 yards (41.7 avg) with a long of 47 yards and had one punt downed inside the 20. After Monmouth place kicker **Fred Weingart (New Egypt, NJ/New Egypt)** was injured on his second blocked field goal of the day, Dennis stepped in a presumed place kicking duties as well. In the fourth quarter, with Monmouth trailing 7-6, Dennis hit a 32-yard field goal, his second of his career, to cut the Blue Devil lead to one. Dennis was also 1-for-1 in extra point duties. The Westampton, N.J., native handled the kickoff duties for MU, blasting one of his five kickoffs for a touchback.



Robert Morris (6-3, 4-1 NEC)

Last Game: Robert Morris 21, Stony Brook 6

Next Game: Nov. 4 vs. Albany, 1:00 pm

9/2	at Dayton	L, 21-14
9/9	Duquesne	L, 27-7
9/16	at Butler	W, 35-14
9/23	Rowan	W, 21-0
9/30	at Saint Francis (PA)	W, 45-13
10/7	at Wagner	W, 14-10
10/14	Central Conn. St.	W 237 (20)
10/21	Monmouth	L, 16-7
10/28	at Stony Brook	W, 21-6
11/4	Albany	1:00 pm
11/11	at Sacred Heart	12:30 pm

- Robert Morris ran its winning streak on the road to four games and in the process moved into a four-way tie for first play in the NEC with a 21-6 victory at Stony Brook ... The win helped RMU clinch its 10th winning season in the first 13 years the University has fielded an intercollegiate football program ... The Colonials had one of their most effective games running the ball against the Seawolves, finishing with 132 yards on the ground on 42 carries ... Freshman halfback **Brian Harden (Sunrise, Fla. / Stranahan)** scored his first collegiate touchdown with a 20-yard scamper in the first quarter that gave RMU a 7-0 lead ... Harden finished the day with 60 yards on 12 carries, an average of 5.0 yards per rush ... Senior fullback **Vince Magnone (Weirton, W.Va. / Weir)** carried 10 times for 41 yards and scored his first collegiate rushing touchdown with a one-yard plunge in the second quarter that gave RMU a 14-6 advantage ... Sophomore quarterback **Erik Cwalinski (Jacobsburg, Ohio / Shadyside)** completed 12 of his 18 passing attempts for 128 yards but for the just the second time this season did not throw a touchdown pass ... Robert Morris entered the game with five rushing touchdowns on the season, only three of which came from its running backs, but received three in its win over the Seawolves ... The top receiver for the Colonials was senior tight end **Jarvis Powers (Stafford, Va. / Brooke Point)**, who notched four receptions for 43 yards ... The defense was led by junior linebacker **Chad Wengert (Kempton, Pa. / Kutztown)**, who finished with nine tackles, including five solo ... After posting just three sacks in its first four conference tilts, the Colonials tallied four of Dudash, as leading the way was senior defensive lineman **Colyn Haugh (Murrysville, Pa. / Franklin Regional)**, who had one and-a-half ... Haugh ranks second on the club in sacks with five ... The four sacks also pushed RMU's season total to 26, seven off the school record of 33 set in 1996 ... RMU returns home to Joe Walton Stadium for its final home game of the 2006 regular season Saturday, Nov. 4, when it welcomes Albany for Senior Day at 1:00 p.m.



Sacred Heart (2-7, 1-4 NEC)

Last Game: Saint Francis (PA) 21, Sacred Heart 14

Next Game: Nov. 4 vs. Central Connecticut State, 12:30 pm

9/2	Lafayette	L, 14-25
9/9	at Marist	L, 28-19
9/16	Iona	W, 27-16
9/23	at Duquesne	L, 24-21
9/30	Wagner	W, 25-17
10/7	at Monmouth	L, 24-0
10/14	Albany	L, 24-13
10/21	at Stony Brook	L, 38-21
10/28	at Saint Francis (PA)	L, 21-14
11/4	Central Conn. St.	12:30 pm
11/11	Robert Morris	12:30 pm

- Sacred Heart dropped its fourth straight game with a 21-14 loss to Saint Francis (PA) on Saturday at Loretto, PA ... Tailback Evin Jones had a solid game despite the loss with 126 yards on just 12 carries. The Pioneers gained 144 yards as a team ... Quarterback **Tyler Arciaga (Bonita, CA)** was 17-for-32 for 173 yards, two touchdowns and one interception. With the 173 yards, Arciaga moves into 10th place on the NEC's all-time passing yards list with 4,142 career yards in just two seasons. Former Sacred Heart quarterback Justin Holtfreter (2000-01) stands in ninth place overall with 4,430 yards, just 288 yards ahead of Arciaga ... Arciaga's two touchdown passes were to freshman **Steve Tedesco (Mission Viejo, CA/Trabuco Hills)** for 25 yards and to **Joey Henley (Kent, WA/Kentridge)** for five yards ... Henley led the Pioneers with five catches for 44 yards, while Tedesco contributed four catches for 58 yards ... Defensively the Pioneers were again led by **Rolando Garcia (Bronx, NY/Avon Old Farms (CT))**, who leads the league with 90 tackles on the season. Garcia collected 12 tackles on Saturday with 1.5 tackles for loss ... **Jon Wilson (Bloomfield, CT/Bloomfield)** was solid as well, adding 11 stops. The Pioneers look to get off their losing streak as they face Central Connecticut State at home on Nov. 4 at 12:30 pm.



Saint Francis (PA) (2-7, 1-4 NEC)

Last Game: Saint Francis (PA) 21, Sacred Heart 14

Next Game: Nov. 4 at Monmouth, 1:00 pm

9/2	St. Peter's	W, 38-3
9/9	at Delaware State	L, 63-28
9/16	at Duquesne	L, 41-10
9/23	La Salle	L, 24-21
9/30	Robert Morris	L, 45-13
10/7	at Central Conn. St.	L, 62-21
10/14	Stony Brook	L, 30-20
10/21	at Albany	L, 48-0
10/28	Sacred Heart	W, 21-14
11/4	at Monmouth	1:00 pm
11/11	Wagner	1:00 pm

- The Red Flash defense held Sacred Heart to five total yards on its last five offensive possessions, which included four 3-and-outs. Overall, the Pioneers mustered just 77 yards of total offense in the second half, most of which came on a 68-yard drive to open the half. Senior QB **Anthony Doria (Pittsburgh, Pa./Seton LaSalle)** became the first player in conference history to throw for 8,000 career yards when he connected with **Antoine Rivera (Willingboro, N.J./Willingboro)** on a 33-yard touchdown strike in the second quarter. Doria threw three TDs to give him 56 career touchdown passes. Senior RB **Todd Harris (Duquesne, PA/Duquesne)** became the fifth running back in NEC history to eclipse the 3,000-yard rushing mark. He carried 7 times for 37 yards to help the Red Flash run the final 4 minutes, 29 seconds off the clock. He reached 3,000 yards on his second-to-last carry a 4-yard run. He had another 2-yard run to end the game. Prior to holding Sacred Heart scoreless in the second half, the Saint Francis defense had surrendered at least 7 points in all but one quarter in the last 19 it had played. Rivera had four receptions for a career-tying 91 yards, a season high. Senior WR **Michael Caputo (Bethel Park, Pa./Seton LaSalle)** scored the 30th touchdown of his career, 29 of which have come on receptions. Saint Francis sacked SHU's Tyler Arciaga four times in the ballgame.



Stony Brook (4-5, 4-1 NEC)

Last Game: Robert Morris 21, Stony Brook 6

Next Game: Nov. 4 at Wagner, 1:00 pm

8/31	Hofstra	L, 8-17
9/9	at Georgetown	L, 7-0
9/16	at New Hampshire	L, 62-7
9/23	at UMass	L, 48-7
9/30	at Monmouth	W, 36-17
10/7	Albany	W, 33-21
10/14	at Saint Francis (PA)	W, 30-20
10/21	Sacred Heart	W, 38-21
10/28	Robert Morris	L, 21-6
11/4	at Wagner	1:00 pm
11/11	at Central Conn. St.	12:00 pm

- Stony Brook had its four-game winning streak stopped by Robert Morris, 21-6, on Saturday ... the Seawolves committed four turnovers in the loss ... Conte Cuttino led Stony Brook on the ground with 69 yards on 16 carries ... **Josh Dudash (Beachwood, NJ/Toms River South)** was 18 of 36 for 190 yards and 1 TD ... **Lynell Suggs (Bronx, N.Y./Lehman)** scored on a 48-yard TD catch-and-run in the second quarter. He finished with 110 yards receiving ... **Chris Tomasky (Ronkonkoma, N.Y./Nassau CC)** made a team-high 13 tackles ... **Milo Otis (Los Angeles, Calif./L.A.Southwest J.C.)** had nine tackles and an interception ... the game marked the final regular season home game of 2006 for the Seawolves as 17 seniors were honored before the game ... the Seawolves were held scoreless in the second half.



Wagner (4-5, 0-5 NEC)

Last Game: Albany 34, Wagner 0

Next Game: Nov. 4 vs. Stony Brook, 1:00 pm

8/31	at La Salle	W, 38-15
9/9	Iona	W, 7-3
9/16	at Marist	W, 38-7
9/23	St. Peter's	W, 34-0
9/30	at Sacred Heart	L, 25-17
10/7	Robert Morris	L, 14-10
10/14	Monmouth	L, 28-7
10/21	at Central Conn. St.	L, 27-6
10/28	at Albany	L, 34-0
11/4	Stony Brook	1:00 pm
11/11	at Saint Francis (PA)	1:00 pm

- The Seahawks lost their fifth-straight game for the first time since 1978 when they dropped their final six games of the year ... The Green & White also were shutout for the first time since October 11, 2003 in a 24-0 loss at Monmouth ... Thus far in NEC play the Seahawks are averaging a paltry 8.0 points per game and have scored just 13 points in their last three ... Junior tailback **Jason Butler (Syracuse, NY / Henninger)** had another big game rushing a career-high 22 times for a game-high 98 yards ... The stifling win for all intents and purposes shut down both teams' passing games as sophomore **Matt Abbey (La Canada, CA / St. Francis)** only threw for 21 yards ... Senior **Chris Turner (Syracuse, NY / Henninger)** wound up with two catches for 10 yards ... Senior **Thomas Larsen (Brooklyn, NY / Fort Hamilton)** had 10 total tackles (eight solo) to go along with one forced fumble while classmate **Azim Ross (Washington, DC / Gonzaga)** had 9.5 tackles (seven solo) with an interception and one forced fumble to lead the Seahawk defense ... Junior kicker **Piotr Czech (Keyport, NJ / Keyport)** punted eight times, averaging 31.1 yard per punt despite kicking into a stiff wind all Day ... He also missed a 52-yard field goal that had the leg but was wide left ... Albany's touchdown in the first quarter was the first points the defense had given up in the first frame all season ... Prior to that score Wagner had outscored opponents 33-0 in the first stanza.

NEC Football

Career/All-Time Records

NEC Active Leaders

Rushing

- 3,000, Todd Harris, SFPA, 2003-06
- 2,226, Cory Harge, CCSU, 2003-04, 2006
- 1,498, Warren Barnett, WC, 2003-06
- 1,462, Justise Hairston, CCSU, 2006

Passing Yardage

- 8,090, Anthony Doria, SFPA, 2003-06
- 7,203, Brian Boland, MU, 2003-06
- 4,142, Tyler Arciaga, SHU, 2003-06

Pass Completions

- 714, Anthony Doria, SFPA, 2003-06
- 570, Brian Boland, MU, 2003-06

Pass Receptions

- 235, Michael Caputo, SFPA, 2003-06
- 223, Luke Palko, SFPA, 2003-06
- 202, Chris Turner, WC, 2003-06
- 133, Adam San Miguel, MU, 2004-06

Touchdowns Scored

- 32, Chris Turner, WC, 2003-06
- 29, Michael Caputo, SFPA, 2003-06
- 15, Warren Barnett, WC, 2003-06
- 15, Todd Harris, SFPA, 2003-06
- 15, Justise Hairston, CCSU, 2006

Receiving Yards

- 3,278, Michael Caputo, SFPA, 2003-06
- 2,734, Chris Turner, WC, 2003-06
- 2,001, Luke Palko, SFPA, 2003-06
- 1,383, Adam San Miguel, MU, 2004-06
- 1,017, Joey Henley, SHU, 2004-06
- 1,015, Alvin Franklin, SHU, 2003-06

NEC Career Leaders

Rushing

- 4,460, Rick Sarille, WC, 1996-99
- 3,847, Sam Dorsett, RMU, 1999-03
- 3,053, Ed Pricolo, SHU, 2002-05
- 3,033, Gary Jones, UA, 2002-03
- 3,000, Todd Harris, SFPA, 2003-06
- 2,462, Archie Wannamaker, RMU, 1996-98
- 2,428, Stan House, CCSU, 1996-97
- 2,362, Clinton Dunston, CCSU, 1999-02
- 2,330, Michael Hall, SFPA, 2000-03
- 2,310, Chris Davis, WC, 2000-03

Passing Yardage

- 8,090, Anthony Doria, SFPA, 2003-06
- 7,222, Tim Levick, RMU, 1998-01
- 7,203, Brian Boland, MU, 2003-06
- 6,129, Drew Geyer, RMU, 2002-05
- 5,899, John Sciarra, WC, 2004-05
- 5,728, Scott Dolch, CCSU, 2001-04
- 5,145, Keith Toolan, CCSU, 1996-99
- 4,832, T.J. Moriarty, SBU, 2001-04
- 4,430, Justin Holtfreter, SHU, 2000-01
- 4,142, Tyler Arciaga, SHU, 2005-06

Pass Receptions

- 235, Michael Caputo, SFPA, 2003-06
- 223, Luke Palko, SFPA, 2003-06
- 202, Chris Turner, 2003-06
- 181, Shaun Grover, WC, 2002-05
- 150, Miles Austin, MU, 2002-05
- 147, Londre Blocker, SBU, 2001-04
- 142, Jason Bain, WC, 1997-00
- 138, Josh Anderson, SBU, 2003-05
- 133, Adam San Miguel, MU, 2004-06
- 127, Chuck Kinsley, WC, 1997-00

Receiving Yards

- 3,278, Michael Caputo, SFPA, 2003-06
- 2,867, Miles Austin, MU, 2002-05
- 2,734, Chris Turner, WC, 2003-06
- 2,294, Jason Bain, WC, 1997-00
- 2,256, Shaun Grover, WC, 2002-05
- 2,221, Londre Blocker, SBU, 2001-04
- 2,128, Chuck Kinsley, WC, 1997-00
- 2,119, Tyjuan Massey, RMU, 2002-05
- 2,100, Chris Phillis, UA, 1999-01
- 2,001, Luke Palko, SFPA, 2003-06

NEC Coaching Records

Coach	School	All-Time		Current		Since Joining		NEC	
		W-L	Pct.	School	Pct.	W-L	Pct.	W-L	Pct.
Kevin Callahan	Monmouth	82-55	.596	82-55	.596	66-45	.591	42-25	.621
Bob Ford	Albany	215-157-1	.577	206-135	.603	48-35	.573	39-15	.717
Paul Gorham	Sacred Heart	12-16	.444	12-16	.444	12-16	.444	7-11	.412
Walt Hameline	Wagner	179-90-2	.667	179-90-2	.667	61-51	.550	34-34	.507
Jeff McInerney	Cent. Conn.	6-2	.714	6-2	.714	6-2	.714	2-2	.333
Dave Opar	St. Francis (PA)	10-40	.204	10-40	.204	10-40	.204	5-27	.161
Chuck Priore	Stony Brook	43-13	.764	4-4	.429	4-4	.429	4-0	1.000
Joe Walton	Robert Morris	80-48-1	.629	80-48-1	.629	67-43	.615	45-22	.682
Combined Totals		627-421-4	.599	579-363-4	.615	274-237	.537	178-136	.569

All-Time NEC Records

School	Record	Pct.
Albany	40-15	.722
Central Conn. St.	32-36	.478
Monmouth	43-25	.627
Robert Morris	46-22	.672
Sacred Heart	31-30	.517
St. Francis (PA)	7-61	.090
Stony Brook	28-28	.509
Wagner	34-35	.500

NEC Champions • 1996-2005

Year	Champion	NEC Rec.	Overall Rec.
1996	Robert Morris	3-1	9-2
	Monmouth	3-1	7-3
1997	Robert Morris	4-0	8-3
1998	Robert Morris	4-1	4-6
	Monmouth	4-1	5-5
1999	Robert Morris	7-0	8-2
2000	Robert Morris	8-0	10-0
2001	Sacred Heart	8-0	11-0
2002	Albany	6-1	8-4
2003	Monmouth	6-1	10-2
	Albany	6-1	7-4
2004	Monmouth	6-1	10-1
	Cent. Conn. St.	6-1	8-2
2005	Cent. Conn. St.	5-2	7-4
	Stony Brook	5-2	6-5

NEC Football

I-AA Polls

The Sports Network I-AA Mid-Major Poll (Oct. 30)

School (First Place Votes)	Record	Points	Prev.
1. San Diego Toreros (25)	8-0	250	1
2. Monmouth Hawks	8-1	225	2
3. Drake Bulldogs	7-2	195	4
4. Albany Great Danes	6-3	162	5
5. Robert Morris Colonials	6-3	144	7
6. Central Conn State Blue Devils	6-3	143	3
7. Davidson Wildcats	5-3	84	9
8. Duquesne Dukes	6-3	83	6
9. Stony Brook Seawolves	4-5	60	8
10. Jacksonville Dolphins	4-4	18	10

Others receiving votes (in order of points): Iona 8.

The Sports Network I-AA College Football Poll (Oct. 30)

School (First Place Votes)	Record	Points	Prev.
1. Appalachian State Mountaineers (96)	8-1	2,568	1
2. Montana Grizzlies (1)	7-1	2,438	2
3. Massachusetts Minutemen (3)	7-1	2,321	4
4. James Madison Dukes	7-1	2,257	5
5. North Dakota State Bison (3)	7-1	2,151	6
6. Cal Poly Mustangs	6-2	1,994	9
7. Youngstown State Penguins	7-2	1,985	10
8. Illinois State Redbirds	6-2	1,783	3
9. New Hampshire Wildcats	6-2	1,721	11
10. Tennessee-Martin Skyhawks	7-1	1,618	12
11. Furman Paladins	6-3	1,319	8
12. Southern Illinois Salukis	6-2	1,265	19
13. Hampton Pirates	8-1	1,263	17
14. Northern Iowa Panthers	5-3	1,191	7
15. Richmond Spiders	5-3	911	13
16. San Diego Toreros	8-0	902	20
17. Coastal Carolina Chanticleers	6-2	673	22
18. Harvard Crimson	6-1	607	23
19. Montana State Bobcats	6-3	587	24
20. Eastern Illinois Panthers	5-4	497	14
21. Towson Tigers	6-2	495	NR
22. Maine Black Bears	5-3	465	15
23. Princeton Tigers	6-1	415	18
24. South Dakota State Jackrabbits	5-3	411	NR
25. Portland State Vikings	5-4	333	21

Others receiving votes: Western Kentucky 256, Charleston Southern 240, UC Davis 240, Delaware State 121, Alabama A&M 113, Yale 109, McNeese State 41, Wofford 41, Central Arkansas 40, Tennessee State 30, Gardner-Webb 18, Monmouth 11, Delaware 10, Holy Cross 8, South Carolina State 7.

NEC Football

vs. the competition

NEC vs...

Atlantic 10	1-3	MAAC	9-5
Division II	1-0	Patriot	3-3
Division III	1-0	Pioneer	2-0
Ivy	0-1	Southern	1-0
MEAC	1-1		

recovering another fumble in Albany territory.

Hairston Gears Up For Record Setting Season

Central Connecticut State tailback Justise Hairston, a transfer from Rutgers, is compiling perhaps the greatest single-season individual performance in NEC history. Currently, Hairston leads I-AA football in all-purpose yards per game (200.8), rushing (162.4) and ranks sixth in scoring (90 points). The senior is averaging 6.7 yards per rush and needs only 63 yards in the next two games to break Albany running back Gary Jones' NEC record for yards in a season. Hairston has 1,462 yards through nine games, which ranks fifth all-time. Jones rushed for 1,524 yards in 2002. Versus Saint Francis (PA) on Oct. 7, Hairston gained an NEC single-game record 332 yards and tied the mark for touchdowns with five.

Palko, Caputo Set I-AA Receiving Record

Red Flash senior wide receivers Michael Caputo and Luke Palko broke the NCAA Division I-AA record for "most career passes caught by two players on the same team." Caputo had five catches and Palko caught one on Oct. 2 versus Robert which brought their combined career total 426, breaking a 20-year-old record formerly held by Texas Southern's Darrell Colbert and Donald Narcisse, who combined for 420 catches during their careers. Through the games of Oct. 28, Caputo and Palko have combined for 458 catches. Palko, who has missed the last four games due to an ankle sprain, was surpassed by his teammate for the NEC all-time lead in receptions. Caputo enters this Saturday game with 235, followed by Palko with 223.

Quick Notes

- Monmouth wide receiver Adam San Miguel, who leads the NEC with 61 catches, is fifth in I-AA in receptions per game this season (6.70).
- Monmouth, which leads the NEC in scoring defense this season (11.67 ppg), has allowed only 27 points total in the last four games, including a shutout versus Sacred Heart, seven points allowed against Wagner and Robert Morris and 13 against CCSU. Five of MU's nine games, the Hawks have allowed single digit points.
- Saint Francis (PA) receiver Michael Caputo is the NEC's all-time career leader in receiving yards. Caputo, who now has 3,278 yards.
- For the first time in league history, the NEC beat an Atlantic 10 opponent as Albany knocked off Delaware, 17-10, on September 16.
- The NEC finished the non-conference season with a 3-3 record versus Patriot League teams. Albany topped Lehigh on Sept. 2, while Monmouth beat Fordham on Sept. 2 and Colgate on Sept. 23.
- Saint Francis (PA) tailback Todd Harris now ranks fifth on the all-time career NEC rushing list with 3,000 yards. Harris stands behind Albany's Gary Jones (2002-03), who gained 3,033 yards and ranks fourth on the all-time list.
- With eight catches versus CCSU on Oct. 21, Wagner senior wide receiver Chris Turner became the the third player in NEC history to reach 200 for his career. Turner also ranks third on the NEC list for career receptions and yards (2,734) and is the active NEC leader with 32 touchdowns.

NEC Football

NCAA Statistics (www.ncaasports.com)

NEC In NCAA Statistics

(as of Oct. 28, 2006 - top 30)

Ind. Category	Rank	Player	School	Statistics
All-Purpose Running	1	Justise Hairston	CCSU	200.89 ypg
Field Goals	23	Jason Fralicker	UA	0.89 FG/g
Interceptions	8	Mike Niklos	RMU	0.56 Int/g
	21	Jon Wilson	SHU	0.44 Int/g
Kickoff Return	10	Mike Wall	UA	26.09 avg.
	17	Mario Hines	RMU	24.89 avg.
	25	Evin Jones	SHU	24.00 avg.
Passing Efficiency	20	Erik Cwalinski	RMU	140.25 rating
Punt Return	19	Stephen Tedesco	SHU	11.50 avg.
	29	Rashad Barksdale	UA	10.33 avg.
Receptions Per Game	5	Adam San Miguel	MU	6.78 rec/g
	21	Michael Caputo	SFFA	5.89 rec/g
Rushing	1	Justise Hairston	CCSU	162.44 ypg
	22	Todd Harris	SFFA	102.00 ypg
Scoring	6	Justise Hairston	CCSU	10.00 ppg
Total Offense	24	Brian Boland	MU	217.33 ypg
Tackles	23	Rolando Garcia	SHU	10.00 tpg
Tackles-For-Loss	12	Ray Gensler	RMU	1.50 tpg
	29	Matt Brunck	RMU	1.28 tpg
Sacks	2	Ray Gensler	RMU	1.06 spg

Team Category	Rank	School	Statistics
Passing Efficiency Def.	3	Robert Morris	92.01 rating
	4	Monmouth	92.59 rating
	11	Albany	97.65 rating
Kickoff Returns	25	Robert Morris	21.86 avg.
Net Punting	7	Sacred Heart	36.46 avg.
Pass Defense	8	Robert Morris	133.22 ypg
	17	Albany	146.00 ypg
	24	Monmouth	153.00 ypg
	29	Wagner	157.56 ypg
Passing Efficiency	12	Cent. Conn. St.	149.56 rating
	23	Robert Morris	135.13 rating
Punt Returns	26	Sacred Heart	11.33 avg.
Rushing Offense	1	Cent. Conn. St.	273.11 ypg
	20	Albany	190.22 ypg
Rushing Defense	8	Monmouth	98.67 ypg
	13	Albany	100.78 ypg
	19	Robert Morris	107.56 ypg
Scoring Defense	4	Monmouth	11.67 ppg
	8	Albany	13.11 ppg
	9	Robert Morris	13.78 ppg
	19	Cent. Conn. St.	16.22 ppg
	20	Wagner	17.00 ppg
Scoring Offense	10	Cent. Conn. St.	31.78 ppg
Total Defense	5	Robert Morris	240.78 ypg
	9	Albany	246.78 ypg
	11	Monmouth	251.67 ypg
	26	Wagner	288.22 ypg
Total Offense	14	Cent. Conn. St.	378.22 ypg
Turnover Margin	15	Cent. Conn. St.	0.78-1 margin