



**Date:** April 20, 2009

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**EMPIRE 8 ANNOUNCES GOLF ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM  
Brandon Christo of Elmira Earns Player of the Year Honor**

**ROCHESTER, NY** – Senior Brandon Christo of Elmira College earned the Medalist/Player of the Year honor at the 2008-09 Empire 8 Golf Championship. Christo led by five strokes entering the spring portion of the tournament and pulled away for a 13-stroke victory with a four-round total of 299, his ninth tournament title of the season.

The final two rounds were played at the Mark Twain Golf Course after the opening two rounds were conducted at The Skenandoa Club in September. Christo's 73 on Saturday and 79 on Sunday were the best scores of the third and fourth rounds, respectively.

The top five finishers who played all four rounds were named to the all-conference first team with the next five finishers earning second-team honors. Christo was the only repeat first-team player.

Senior Matt Dalton of Nazareth College finished second individually with consistent fall and spring tournament two-day scores of 155 and 157.

Freshman Tyler McArdell of conference champion St. John Fisher College earned Rookie of the Year honors and garnered first-team all-conference recognition by finishing third with a 315 total (158-157). Classmate Greg Church placed fourth (319 total) to join McArdell on the first team.

Rounding out the first team was senior Tom Merriam of Stevens Institute of Technology, a second-team honoree last year, who was second entering the spring portion of the championship. He finished fifth with a 322 total over four rounds.

Dean Jackson of runner-up Elmira College was named Coach of the Year.

**Empire 8 2009 Golf All-Conference Awards**

**Player of the Year:** Brandon Christo, Elmira College

**Rookie of the Year:** Tyler McArdell, St. John Fisher College

**Coach of the Year:** Dean Jackson, Elmira College

**First Team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>School</b>
Brandon Cristo	Sr.	Elmira College
Matt Dalton	Sr.	Nazareth College
Tyler McArdell	Fr.	St. John Fisher College
Greg Church	Fr.	St. John Fisher College
Tom Merriam	Sr.	Stevens Institute of Technology

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**Second Team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>School</b>
John Gerber	Fr.	St. John Fisher College
Nick Decker	Fr.	Elmira College
Alex Marcoux	Fr.	Elmira College
Josh Maxwell	Sr.	Nazareth College
Nick Schuler	Jr.	St. John Fisher College

**Sportsman of the Year**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>School</b>
Brandon Christo	Sr.	Elmira College
Matt Dalton	Sr.	Nazareth College
Nick Schuler	Jr.	St. John Fisher College
Scott Mozeleski	Sr.	Stevens Institute of Technology
Paul Muster	Sr.	Utica College

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