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EMPIRE 8 ANNOUNCES MEN'S TENNIS ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM
Taylor Borda of Ithaca College Repeats as Player of the Year

ROCHESTER, NY – The Empire 8 announced its Men's Tennis All-Conference Team with sophomore Taylor Borda of Ithaca College being named the 2009 Empire 8 Men's Tennis Player of the Year. It marked the second consecutive year Borda has earned the top conference honor.

Jeff Boyd of Hartwick College was selected as Rookie of the Year and was named to the all-conference second team. Bill Austin was named Coach of the Year for leading Ithaca to the conference title and a single-season school record for victories.

Borda, who earned first-team all-conference honors for the third time, posted a 10-0 mark in conference play at first singles, including two wins in the Empire 8 Men's Tennis Championship in which he was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player. He also earned first-team all-conference recognition in doubles for the third time, this year teaming with sophomore Josh Rifkin. The duo went undefeated in Empire 8 play, including the postseason, and advanced to the semifinals of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Northeast semifinals.

Rifkin earned first-team all-conference honors in singles as well after posting a 10-0 mark in second singles in Empire 8 play and a 20-0 record in dual matches entering the NCAA Division III Men's Tennis Championship.

Sophomores Arik Zeevy and Jason Ringstad of conference runner-up Stevens Institute of Technology were named to the all-conference first team in singles and as a doubles team. Zeevy repeated as a first-team choice in singles, posting an 8-2 mark in conference play at first singles and advancing to the ITA quarterfinals. Ringstad finished 8-2 in Empire 8 play at second singles and the duo combined for an 8-2 record in first doubles.

Sophomore Gabe Cortes of Elmira College, the 2008 Empire 8 Rookie of the Year, was selected to the all-conference first team for the second consecutive season. He posted six straight-set wins in eight matches at first singles in conference play.

Senior Jose Guzman of Rochester Institute of Technology, a second-team selection a year ago, was named to the all-conference first team this season.

One member of each team was named that institution's representative on the 2009 Men's Tennis Sportsman 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 sportsmen.

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2009 Empire 8 Men's Tennis Awards

Player of the Year: Taylor Borda, Ithaca College

Rookie of the Year: Jeff Boyd, Hartwick College

Coach of the Year: Bill Austin, Ithaca College

First Team All-Conference

Singles

Taylor Borda	Jr.	Ithaca College
Gabe Cortes	So.	Elmira College
Jose Guzman	Sr.	Rochester Institute of Technology
Josh Rifkin	So.	Ithaca College
Jason Ringstad	So.	Stevens Institute of Technology
Arik Zeevy	So.	Stevens Institute of Technology

Doubles

Gabe Cortes/Eric Klinedinst	Elmira College
Taylor Borda/Josh Rifkin	Ithaca College
Arik Zeevy/Jason Ringstad	Stevens Institute of Technology

Second Team All-Conference

Singles

Jeff Boyd	Fr.	Hartwick College
Connor Houghton	So.	Alfred University
Marcelo Navarro	Fr.	Hartwick College
Jimmy Newton	Fr.	Ithaca College
Piotr Rusinkiewicz	Jr.	Stevens Institute of Technology
John Traver	Jr.	Rochester Institute of Technology

Doubles

Jeff Boyd/Marcelo Navarro	Hartwick College
Jose Guzman/Clayton Tontarski	Rochester Institute of Technology
John Traver/Adam Wolf	Rochester Institute of Technology
Gregory Klose/Jay Lee	Stevens Institute of Technology

Sportsman of the Year

Name	Yr.	School
Ryan Parlia	So.	Alfred University
Mike Dewitt	So.	Elmira College
Matt Whitty	Jr.	Hartwick College
Taylor Borda	Jr.	Ithaca College
Adam Landry	So.	Nazareth College
Mauricio Pommier	Sr.	Rochester Institute of Technology
Jack Forrest	Sr.	St. John Fisher College
Carlo Pardo	So.	Stevens Institute of Technology
Tom Armitage	Sr.	Utica College

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