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

**EMPIRE 8 ANNOUNCES VOLLEYBALL ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM  
Amanda Hubbard of Ithaca College Named Player of the Year**

**ROCHESTER, NY** – The Empire 8 announced its 2006 Volleyball All-Conference teams with junior outside hitter/middle hitter Amanda Hubbard being named 2006 Empire 8 Player of the Year and earning first-team all-conference honors.

Hubbard hit .275 with 103 kills in conference regular season play as the Bombers won six of seven matches and earned the second seed for the Empire 8 championship. She added 84 digs, 17 service aces, and 28 blocks in the seven matches. Overall, Hubbard finished the season averaging 4.15 kills and 4.12 digs per game.

First-year setter Corinna Doctor of the Bombers was named 2006 Empire 8 Rookie of the Year and earned first-team all-conference recognition as well. She led the conference with 295 assists in regular season conference play. For the season, Doctor averaged 10.25 assists per game and was named New York State Women's Collegiate Athletic Association (NYSWCAA) Rookie of the Year.

Junior libero Mary Schaefer of Ithaca was named the first recipient of the Defensive Player of the Year award. She totaled 58 digs, while adding 14 kills in conference regular season play.

Cal Wickens was named Coach of the Year after leading Nazareth College to the Empire 8 championship. The Golden Flyers were seeded third entering the conference tournament before earning the title with wins over Ithaca and top-seeded RIT.

Senior outside hitter Jessica Mezei of Elmira College joined Hubbard as the only repeat selection on the first team. She totaled 93 kills and 152 in Empire 8 play.

Junior outside hitter Cecilia Enestrom of RIT was named to the first team, hitting .263 with 90 kills and adding 93 digs in conference regular season play. Junior Katie Hause of Ithaca earned first-team honors after hitting .278 in the seven Empire 8 matches in round robin play.

Sophomore outside hitter Laura Persico was the only player of Empire 8 champion Nazareth to make the first team. She hit .363 with 116 kills during regular season play in the conference.

One member of each team was named that institution's representative on the 2006 Volleyball 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.

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**Empire 8 2006 Volleyball All-Conference Awards**

**Player of the Year:** Amanda Hubbard, Ithaca College

**Defensive Player of the Year:** Mary Schaefer, Ithaca College

**Rookie of the Year:** Corinna Doctor, Ithaca College

**Coach of the Year:** Cal Wickens, Nazareth College

**First Team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>School</b>
Corinna Doctor	Fr.	S	Ithaca College
Cecilia Enestrom	Jr.	OH	RIT
Katie Hause	Jr.	MH/OH	Ithaca College
Amanda Hubbard	Jr.	OH/MH	Ithaca College
Jessica Mezei	Sr.	OH	Elmira College
Laura Persico	So.	OH	Nazareth College

**Second Team**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>School</b>
Shea Haney	Jr.	RS	RIT
Elyse Monje	Jr.	S	Nazareth College
Kristi Pallotta	Sr.	OH	St. John Fisher College
Jess Schaffer	So.	OH	RIT
Elizabeth Tregan	Jr.	OH	Nazareth College
Alyssa Ziobrowski	So.	MH	St. John Fisher College

**Sportswoman of the Year**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Yr.</b>	<b>School</b>
Sarah Berry	Sr.	Alfred University
Katie Schildwaster	Jr.	Elmira College
Melissa Small	Jr.	Hartwick College
Jenna Yehl	Jr.	Ithaca College
Carra Vanderstynne	Fr.	Nazareth College
Ana Soler	Fr.	RIT
Kristi Pallotta	Sr.	St. John Fisher College
Christine Mylott	Sr.	Utica College

**Honorable Mention**

Jackie Clark (Elmira), Hannah Cordes (St. John Fisher), Karen Crisanti (Utica), Abby Cummings (Hartwick), Darcy Dolge (Hartwick), Tricia Hammerl (St. John Fisher), Victoria Petko (RIT), Katelynn Reed (Nazareth)