

Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Office

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HCAC Men's Soccer Preseason Poll

Engineers Picked to Repeat as HCAC Men's Soccer Champs

GREENWOOD, IN – Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology's men's soccer team has been selected as the front runner to win the 2009 Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference championship. The Engineers received eight and a half first-place votes and 80.5 total points in a poll of the conference's nine head coaches.

Transylvania will look to claim its spot at the top of the HCAC men's soccer standings once again, as the Pioneers totaled a second best 71.5 points. Manchester College placed third in the poll with 57 points. Hanover College finished fourth with 49 points and was followed by Anderson University (48 points), Franklin College (34), Bluffton University (32), Mount St. Joseph (19) and Defiance College (14).

Rose-Hulman is coming off a 14-5-3 record in 2008. The Engineers finished on top of the HCAC last fall with a 7-0-1 record, and defeated Transylvania in the conference tournament final 1-0. Rose advanced to the NCAA tournament and fell to Dominican (Ill.) 3-1 in the first round. Rose-Hulman ranked second in the HCAC in goals (41) and goals allowed (24) last season.

2009 HCAC Preseason Poll

	Team	Points
1.	Rose-Hulman	80.5 (8.5)
2.	Transylvania	71.5 (0.5)
3.	Manchester	57
4.	Hanover	49
5.	Anderson	48
6.	Franklin	34
7.	Bluffton	32
8.	Mount St. Joseph	19
9.	Defiance	14

The Engineers return three first team All-HCAC selections from their 2008 team, including HCAC Most Valuable Player **Rhys Evans (Lake Bluff, Ill./Lake Forest)**. Evans led the Engineer offense with 10 goals and two assists last fall, ranking second in the conference in points scored. Junior forward **Corbin Clow (Martinsville, Ind./H.S.)** and senior back **John Hollingshead (St. Peter's, Mo./Lutheran)** also return after being named all-conference last season. Clow scored eight goals during the 2008 season to rank among the conference leaders, while Hollingshead anchored the Engineer defense.

Transylvania will look to challenge the Engineers for the top spot in the HCAC this fall. The Pioneers run of three-straight league titles ended last fall as Rose-Hulman dethroned Transy as the top team in men's soccer. Transy finished last season 11-6-1 and 6-2 in conference action. Junior **Stu Hampson (Lexington, Ky./Henry Clay)** and sophomore **Pierre Manga (Lexington, Ky./Henry Clay)** return after being named first team All-HCAC last fall. Hampson led TU with six goals and five assists last season, while Manga added five goals and two assists. Senior goal keeper **Trey Kramer (Versailles, Ky./Woodford Co.)** returns in net for the Pioneers. Kramer finished with a 6-0 record in net last fall for Transy, allowing only five goals during his six games of action.

Manchester finished the 2008 season tied with Transy with a 6-2 conference record and claimed an overall mark of 9-10-2. The Spartans welcome back a pair of first team All-HCAC selections this season. Sophomore forward **Ben Cole (Westfield, Ind./H.S.)** tied for the team lead in points scored with 18 last fall, netting six goals and six assists. Senior back **Brian Woods (Carmel, Ind./Westfield)** will look to add some offensive production this fall after scoring four goals a year ago.

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The 2009 men's soccer season is set to begin on September 1.

Players to Watch

	Anderson	Matt Robinson	Sophomore	M	
		Charlie Barleycorn	Senior	D	Westerville, Ohio/St. Francis DeSales
		Matt Young	Senior	M	Westerville, Ohio/DeSales
		David Droeger	Sophomore	F	Lebanon, Ind./H.S.
	Bluffton	Jacob Graham	Junior	M	Gomer, Ohio/Elida
		Daniel Tinch	Senior	D	Middleton, Ohio/Madison
		Nolan Phelps	Junior	D	Monroe, Ohio/Lemon-Monroe
		Louie Cancasci	Senior	M	Twinsburg, Ohio/H.S.
	Defiance	Chris Kessler	Junior	M	Canal Winchester, Ohio/Pickerington
		Greg Vogt	Senior	M	Willowick, Ohio/Eastlake North
		Kevin Elson	Sophomore	D	Wauseon, Ohio/H.S.
	Franklin	John Stack	Junior	D	Madison, Ind./Shawe Memorial
		Rocky Legge	Senior	D	Aurora, Ind./South Dearborn
		Craig Wood	Sophomore	M	Fishers, Ind./H.S.
	Hanover	Jake Stawick	Sophomore	F	Indianapolis, Ind./Lawrence North
		Andrew Ilnick	Senior	M	Louisville, Ky./Ballard
		Kyle Bohnert	Sophomore	M	Louisville, Ky./Trinity
		Michael Hansford	Senior	GK	Liberty Township, Ohio/Lakota West
	Manchester	Ben Cole	Sophomore	F	Westfield, Ind./H.S.
		Matt Mullen	Senior	GK	Shelbyville, Ind./H.S.
		Brian Woods	Senior	D	Carmel, Ind./Westfield
		Corey Brueggeman	Sophomore	M	Loveland, Ohio/Little Miami
	Mt. St. Joseph	Peter Cahall	Senior	D	Cincinnati, Ohio/Bethel-Tate
		Tim Pope	Sophomore	M	Cincinnati, Ohio/Elder
		Erik Jacob	Junior	M	Newport, Ky./Newport Central Catholic
		Dustin Hinken	Sophomore	M	Cincinnati, Ohio/Reading
	Rose-Hulman	John Hollingshead	Senior	D	St. Peter's, Mo./Lutheran
		Rhys Evans	Senior	F	Lake Bluff, Ill./Lake Forest
		Joe Salisbury	Junior	M	Ft. Wayne, Ind./Homestead
		Corbin Clow	Junior	F	Martinsville, Ind./H.S.
	Transylvania	Pierre Manga	Sophomore	F	Lexington, Ky./Henry Clay
		Jason Fairless	Senior	M	Memphis, Tenn./Christian Brothers
		Trey Kramer	Senior	GK	Versailles, Ky./Woodford Co.
		Stu Hampson	Junior	F	Lexington, Ky./Henry Clay
		Tony Spero	Junior	M	Lexington, Ky./Dunbar

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