

Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference Office

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HCAC Women's Soccer Preseason Poll

Transylvania Named Favorite for 2009 Women's Soccer Title

GREENWOOD, IN –Transylvania University has been selected to pace the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference in women's soccer. The Pioneers received 79 total points in a poll of the conference's nine head coaches, grabbing seven first place votes. Defending champion College of Mount St. Joseph finished behind the Pioneers with 68 points and one first place vote.

Rose-Hulman placed third in the poll with 59 total points and one first place vote, while Hanover College finished fourth with 54 points. Manchester College received 51 points and finished fifth, while Bluffton University (33 points), Anderson University (30), Defiance College (20) and Franklin College (11) rounded out the poll.

Transylvania finished 2008 with a 7-1-0 conference record and a 12-5-1 mark overall. The Pioneers fell to Manchester in a shootout after playing to a 2-2 tie in the HCAC tournament semifinal. Transy fielded one of the conference's best defenses last fall, allowing only 14 goals all season.

The 2009 version of the Pioneers return two players that have earned All-HCAC first team honors two straight years. Senior defender **Kate McKelway (Lexington, Ky./Lexington Catholic)** returns for the Pioneers this fall. McKelway scored nine goals and added an assist last season. Senior midfielder **Katie Kelly (Lexington, Ky./Lafayette)** will look to add to the offensive effort for the Pioneers attack this season. Kelly netted four goals for Transy and totaled 13 points last season.

Mount St. Joseph will look to repeat as conference champion but will have to do so after graduating three first team All-HCAC members from last fall. Leah Todd will take over the head coaching duties in 2009 after HCAC Coach of the Year Carrie Taylor departed from her post. The Lions turned in a perfect 8-0-0 mark in HCAC competition a year ago and finished the season 14-5-2 overall. Mount defeated Manchester 1-0 to win the HCAC Tournament title before falling in the first round of the NCAA Division III tournament to Calvin 1-0.

The Mount's defense averaged a league-best 0.46 goals against average last season and will look to fill the void left by conference Player of the Year Kelly Bare in net. Bare was the rock of the Lions defense last season, allowing only 10 goals and notching 71 saves in 21 games last fall. Junior midfielder **Ashley Maynard (Milford, Ohio/H.S.)** will look to supply some offense for the Lions. Maynard is the leading returning scorer for MSJ after netting four goals and five assists last season.

2009 HCAC Preseason Poll

	Team	Points
1.	Transylvania	79 (7)
2.	Mount St. Joseph	68 (1)
3.	Rose-Hulman	59 (1)
4.	Hanover	54
5.	Manchester	51
6.	Bluffton	33
7.	Anderson	30
8.	Defiance	20
9.	Franklin	11

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Rose-Hulman returns two key players from the 2008 squad that finished 5-3-0 in conference play. Juniors **Molly Richardson (Orange Park, Fla./St. John's Country Day)** and **Eli Baca (Santa Fe, NM/H.S.)** return after being named All-HCAC first team selections as sophomores. Richardson helped the league's top offense with 17 goals and 42 points last fall, while Baca added seven goals and one assist. The Engineers dominated the conference offensively last season, netting 76 goals in 19 contests.

The 2009 women's soccer season is scheduled to open on September 1.

Players to Watch

	Abbey Witt	Sophomore	D	Waukesha, Wis./West
	Katie Rocholl	Sophomore	D	Ft. Wayne, Ind./Snider
	Carlie Clark	Senior	F	Columbus, Ohio/Worthington Christian
	Lyndsay Nelson	Sophomore	M	St. Marys, Ohio/Memorial
	Katy Wisby	Sophomore	GK/F	Lancaster, Ohio/Bloom-Carroll
	Meghan Forquer	Senior	F	North Canton, Ohio/Green
	Hannah Davis	Senior	D	Sidney, Ohio/H.S.
	Melissa Alston	Junior	M	Sterling Heights, Mich./Henry Ford
	Rachel Whipker	Senior	D	Seymour, Ind./H.S.
	Jena Elder	Junior	M	Rising Sun, Ind./H.S.
	Brittney Muston	Sophomore	F	Indianapolis, Ind./Franklin Central
	Felicia Adams	Senior	F	New Albany, Ind./H.S.
	Abbey Schmahl	Sophomore	D	Aurora, Ind./South Dearborn
	Olivia Selm	Sophomore	F	Zionsville, Ind./H.S.
	Paige Koomler	Senior	F	Ft. Wayne, Ind./Wayne
	Kaitlin Hutchinson	Junior	D	South Bend, Ind./Adams
	Erica Hedges	Senior	GK	Holland, Mich./Holland Christian
	Allison Moore	Senior	M	South Bend, Ind./Adams
	Shannon Nortman	Senior	D	Cincinnati, Ohio/Mercy
	Jessica Smith	Junior	M	Lebanon, Ohio/H.S.
	Laurie Neumann	Senior	D	Cincinnati, Ohio/Seton
	Ashley Maynard	Junior	M	Milford, Ohio/H.S.
	Annmarie Stanley	Junior	M	Warrenville, Ill./Rosary
	Eli Baca	Junior	D	Santa Fe, N.M./H.S.
	Molly Richardson	Junior	F	Orange Park, Fla./St. John's Country Day
	Carolyn Guzik	Sophomore	M	Avon, Ohio/Padua Franciscan
	Kate McKelway	Senior	D	Lexington, Ky./Lexington Catholic
	Katie Kelly	Senior	M	Lexington, Ky./Lafayette
	Kristin Tenhundfeld	Junior	D	West Chester, Ohio/Lakota West
	Ariel Erickson	Sophomore	M	Louisville, Ky./Sacred Heart

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