



# ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, November 11, 2008

## **2008 All-Conference Men's Soccer Accolades Announced** *No. 1 Wake Forest tallies a league-high six first- and second-team honors*

GREENSBORO, N.C. – Wake Forest led all schools with six honorees on this year's All-Atlantic Coast Conference Men's Soccer first and second teams as announced Tuesday by the league office. The No. 1-ranked Demon Deacons, who have topped the Soccer America and National Soccer Coaches Association of America Top 25 polls all 11 weeks of the 2008 season, picked up five first-team ACC selections.

Eight of the ACC's nine men's soccer programs were represented on this year's All-ACC first-, second- and All-Freshman teams. In addition to Wake Forest placing multiple student-athletes to the league's first-team, Maryland, which earned the No. 2 seed in the upcoming ACC Men's Soccer Championship, and Boston College, which was seeded No. 3 in the four-day tournament, had two first-team picks apiece.

Headlining this year's All-ACC first-team is Duke forward Mike Grella, who currently ties for fifth in the nation in points per game, averaging 1.94, and 12<sup>th</sup> in the country in goals per game (0.76 gpg). The senior leads the ACC in points and was named the 2008 ACC Offensive Player of the Year.

Joining Grella on the All-ACC first-team is Wake Forest's Ika Opara, who was named the 2008 ACC Defensive Player of the Year, Marcus Tracy, Cody Arnoux, Sam Cronin, and Corben Bone; Maryland's Omar Gonzalez and Jeremy Hall; Boston College's Alejandro Bedoya and Chris Brown; and North Carolina's Brian Shriver.

Seven ACC schools were represented among this year's second team selections, led by the 2008 Freshman of the Year Tony Tchani of Virginia, the only rookie to be named to either the first or second team. Also named to the second team was Maryland's A.J. Delagarza, Graham Zusi, and Rodney Wallace; NC State's Ronnie Bouemboue and Alan Sanchez; Clemson's David Newton and Joseph Bendik; Duke's Darrius Barnes; North Carolina's Michael Callahan; and Wake Forest's Michael Lahoud.

For the fourth time in his career, Wake Forest's Jay Vidovich was selected as the ACC Coach of the Year. Vidovich helped the Demon Deacons secure their place as ACC regular season champions for the 2008 season, earning the No. 1 seed in the upcoming Men's Soccer Championship. The Deacs captured their first unbeaten regular-season finish in program history and enter the tournament riding an unbeaten streak of 23 games, dating back to last season.

The Terrapins and Cavaliers knotted for the lead in 2008 All-Freshman honors as the squads both placed three apiece to the newcomer roster.

For complete coverage of the 2008 ACC Men's Soccer Championship, please visit [TheACC.com](http://TheACC.com) and make sure to check out the 2008 ACC Men's Soccer Championship page. All games throughout the tournament are available online through [ACCSelect.com](http://ACCSelect.com), while the championship game will be broadcast nationally on Fox Sports Net. The ACC men's soccer awards ceremony will be immediately following the title game.

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### 2008 All-ACC First Team

Ike Opara	Wake Forest	So.	Defender
Omar Gonzalez	Maryland	Jr.	Defender/Forward
Marcus Tracy	Wake Forest	Sr.	Forward
Cody Arnoux	Wake Forest	Jr.	Forward
Brian Shriver	North Carolina	Sr.	Forward
Mike Grella	Duke	Sr.	Forward
Sam Cronin	Wake Forest	Sr.	Midfielder
Corben Bone	Wake Forest	So.	Midfielder
Alejandro Bedoya	Boston College	Sr.	Midfielder
Jeremy Hall	Maryland	Jr.	Midfielder/Forward
Chris Brown	Boston College	Sr.	Goalkeeper

### 2008 All-ACC Second Team

A.J. Delagarza	Maryland	Sr.	Defender
Darrius Barnes	Duke	Sr.	Defender
David Newton	Clemson	Jr.	Defender
Ronnie Bouemboue	NC State	Jr.	Forward
Graham Zusi	Maryland	Sr.	Forward/Midfielder
Tony Tchani	Virginia	Fr.	Midfielder
Michael Callahan	North Carolina	Sr.	Midfielder
Alan Sanchez	NC State	Jr.	Midfielder
Rodney Wallace	Maryland	So.	Midfielder
Michael Lahoud	Wake Forest	Sr.	Midfielder/Forward
Joseph Bendik	Clemson	Jr.	Goalkeeper

### 2008 All-ACC Freshmen Team

Francklin Blaise	Clemson		Defender
Shawn Barry	Virginia		Defender
Danny Wenzel	Wake Forest		Defender
Sheanon Williams	North Carolina		Defender/Forward
Edvin Worley	Boston College		Forward
Casey Townsend	Maryland		Forward
Brian Ownby	Virginia		Forward
Kyle Bethel	Duke		Forward/Midfielder
Matt Kassel	Maryland		Midfielder
Tony Tchani	Virginia		Midfielder
Zac MacMath	Maryland		Goalkeeper

**Offensive Player of the Year:** Mike Grella, Duke

**Defensive Player of the Year:** Ike Opara, Wake Forest

**Freshman of the Year:** Tony Tchani, Virginia

**Coach of the Year:** Jay Vidovich, Wake Forest

- TheACC.com -

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