



UPDATE

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MEN'S SOCCER PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM ANNOUNCED BY ATLANTIC 10

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. - Junior Ben Arikian of Massachusetts, the reigning Atlantic 10 Midfielder of the Year, headlines the 2009 A-10 preseason men's soccer All-Conference team, as selected by the league's head coaches.

Arikian led the Minutemen in points (15) and assists (seven), while his assist total ranked third in the A-10 last season. He contributed four goals on the year and scored or assisted the game-winning goal in nine of Massachusetts' 10 wins. He was a 2008 All-Conference first-team honoree and named to the the Mid-Atlantic All-Region first-team by the NSCAA.

Members of last year's All-Conference first-team who earned preseason honors this year also include Temple senior midfielder J.T. Noone (7 goals, 12 assists, 26 points) and senior forward Andy Stadler (14 goals, 3 assists, 31 points) of George Washington.

Second-team All-Conference selections from last season on the 2009 preseason All-Conference team include sophomore forward Erkkko Puranen (9 goals, 0 assists, 18 points) from Rhode Island, Dayton senior forward Alex Torda (10 goals, 3 assists, 23 points) and Saint Louis senior defender Tim Ream (0 goals, 2 assists, 2 points).

Charlotte senior midfielder Adam Gross (6 goals, 6 assists, 18 points) and Ryan Handbury (1 goal, 2 assists, 4 points), a senior defender from Dayton, appeared on the honorable mention All-Conference team in 2008 before joining this year's preseason team, while Fordham sophomore goalkeeper Ryan Meara (0.97 GAA, .799 save %; 9-8 record) was an All-Rookie selection last fall and one of three sophomores to earn 2009 preseason accolades. Rounding out the preseason All-Conference team is Dayton sophomore defender Jack Pearson and senior midfielder Kyle Hayes from Saint Louis.

The preseason All-Rookie team includes teammates Ryan Bauer, Evan McCreary and Sewell Strifler of Dayton; Benny Estes, Nick Maglasang, Mark Pais and Alex Sweetin of Saint Louis; George Washington's Brendan Lafferty; Robby Gargaro of Rhode Island; Charlotte's Steven Saballos; and Michael Valencia of Fordham.

Following is a complete list of the Atlantic 10 men's soccer preseason All-Conference team:

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2009 ATLANTIC 10 PRESEASON MEN'S SOCCER ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

	<i>School</i>	<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Cl.</i>	<i>Gms</i>	<i>Goals</i>	<i>Assts</i>	<i>Pts</i>
Erkko Puranen	Rhode Island	F	So.	19	9	0	18
Andy Stadler	George Washington	F	Sr.	16	14	3	31
Alex Torda	Dayton	F	Sr.	22	10	3	23
Ben Arikian	Massachusetts	M	Jr.	21	4	7	15
Adam Gross	Charlotte	M	Sr.	19	6	6	18
Kyle Hayes	Saint Louis	M	Sr.	22	6	4	16
J.T. Noone	Temple	M	Sr.	19	7	12	26
Ryan Handbury	Dayton	B	Sr.	22	1	2	4
Jack Pearson	Dayton	B	So.	21	4	1	9
Tim Ream	Saint Louis	B	Sr.	22	0	2	2
				<i>Gms</i>	<i>GAA</i>	<i>Sv%</i>	<i>Rec</i>
Ryan Meara	Fordham	GK	So.	19	0.97	.799	9-8

All-Rookie Team

	<i>School</i>	<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Cl.</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Ryan Bauer	Dayton	F	Fr.	Ranked 14 th best recruit by TopDrawerSoccer.com
Benny Estes	Saint Louis	F	Fr.	Pateadores US Academy Team...team-leading 18 gls
Robby Gargaro	Rhode Island	B	Fr.	Chicago Magic USSF U-18 team...state champions
Brendan Lafferty	George Washington	GK	Fr.	NSCAA HS All-American...Region I ODP
Nick Maglasang	Saint Louis	M/B	Fr.	NSCAA HS All-American...Missouri Defensive POY
Evan McCreary	Dayton	M	Fr.	Led Everest FC to 2008 National Championship game
Mark Pais	Saint Louis	GK	Fr.	2008 ODP...2007 National Team Pool Player
Steven Saballos	Charlotte	M	Fr.	US U-18 National Team Pool Player...Fla. ODP
Sewell Strifler	Dayton	M	Fr.	No. 7 recruit out of Texas by TopDrawerSoccer.com
Alex Sweetin	Saint Louis	M	Fr.	NSCAA HS All-American...Missouri Gatorade POY
Michael Valencia	Fordham	M	Fr.	Played for Metro Oval Academy Team...All-State