



NEW JERSEY ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RAMAPO'S FALA & ROWAN'S SOWE NAMED NJAC MEN'S SOCCER OFFENSIVE & DEFENSIVE PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

Pitman, NJ—Ramapo College junior forward **Joseph Fala (Cape May Court House, NJ/Middle Township)** and Rowan University junior back **Modou Sowe (Harrison, NJ/Harrison)** have been named the New Jersey Athletic Conference Men's Soccer Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year respectively for the 2018 season. In total, 44 student-athletes garnered all-conference recognition in NJAC men's soccer in 2018. All selections were determined by a vote of the league's 10 head coaches and were based on conference-only statistics.

A two-time NJAC Offensive Player of the Week honoree this season, Fala tallied a league-leading 22 points in conference play. He also finished the NJAC season as the league-leader in both conference-only goals (10) and conference-only game-winning goals (5).

Sowe was recognized as the league's top defensive player for the second consecutive season. A two-time NJAC first-team all-conference selection, he anchored a Rowan defense that finished second in the NJAC in conference-only shutouts (4). Sowe also finished tied for ninth in conference-only assists (2).

The College of New Jersey's senior **Nick Sample (New Egypt, NJ/New Egypt)** was selected as the Pat Baldiserra Midfielder of the Year. A two-time NJAC all-conference selection, he finished the NJAC season ranked tied for fifth in conference-only assists (3). Sample also wrapped up league play ranked 18th in conference-only points (21) and 20th in conference-only goals (2).

Rutgers University-Camden senior **James Brett (Palmyra, NJ/Palmyra)** was named the NJAC Goalkeeper of the Year for the second time in his career after previously claiming the award in 2016. A four-time NJAC all-conference selection, he wrapped up conference play as the league-leader in both conference-only goals against average (0.75) and conference-only save percentage (.883). A Week 5 NJAC Defensive Player of the Week honoree this season, Brett also finished NJAC play ranked second in conference-only saves (53).

Montclair State University junior midfielder **Colin Mulligan (Freehold, NJ/Christian Brother Academy)** was the recipient of the conference's David Logar Leadership Award. The award is presented annually to the player who best displays the attributes of leadership and courage. Mulligan was a key cog in a MSU squad that produced a league-leading five shutouts during conference play.

Montclair State freshman midfielder **Michael Knapp (Bloomfield, NJ/Bloomfield)** was selected as the NJAC Rookie of the Year. He wrapped up his first NJAC season ranked tied for second in conference-only assists (4). Knapp also finished tied for 28th in conference-only points (4).

MSU head coach **Todd Tumelty** was tapped as the NJAC Coach of the Year by his peers. He took a Red Hawks squad that did not receive a single first-place vote in the preseason coaches' poll and guided it to a 15-1-2 overall record and the NJAC regular season title via an 8-0-1 conference mark. In eight seasons at the helm of the MSU program, Tumelty has guided the Red Hawks to an overall record of 135-33-12.

Please find attached a complete list of the 2018 Men's Soccer All-Conference Selections

2018 NEW JERSEY ATHLETIC CONFERENCE ALL-CONFERENCE MEN'S SOCCER TEAM

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Joseph Fala, Ramapo
PAT BALDISERRA MIDFIELDER OF THE YEAR: Nick Sample, TCNJ
DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Modou Sowe, Rowan
GOALKEEPER OF THE YEAR: James Brett, Rutgers-Camden
DAVID LOGAR LEADERSHIP AWARD: Colin Mulligan, Montclair State
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR: Michael Knapp, Montclair State
COACH OF THE YEAR: Todd Tumelty, Montclair State

FIRST TEAM

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Ryan Campbell	SR	F	Rowan	Wyckoff, NJ/Ramapo
Joseph Fala	JR	F	Ramapo	Cape May Court House, NJ/Middle Twp.
Jose Huerta	JR	F	Montclair State	Paterson, NJ/Passaic County Tech
Rafael Terceiro	SR	F	Montclair State	Union, NJ/Union
Trevor Albrecht	SR	M	Ramapo	Mahwah, NJ/Mahwah
Cameron Allen	JR	M	William Paterson	Old Bridge, NJ/St. John Vianney
Michael Knapp	FR	M	Montclair State	Bloomfield, NJ/Bloomfield
Nick Sample	SR	M	TCNJ	New Egypt, NJ/New Egypt
Justin Charkowski	JR	B	Ramapo	Wayne, NJ/Wayne Hills
Damian Kolodziej	JR	B	Montclair State	Kearny, NJ/Kearny
Zach Perez	SR	B	William Paterson	Edison, NJ/Rutgers Prep
Modou Sowe	JR	B	Rowan	Harrison, NJ/Harrison
James Brett	SR	G	Rutgers-Camden	Palmyra, NJ/Palmyra

SECOND TEAM

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Skyler Diggs	SO	F	Rutgers-Camden	Delran, NJ/Delran
Shane Doherty	SR	F	Rowan	Delran, NJ/Delran
Villy Fortulus	FR	F	Stockton	Winslow Twp., NJ/Winslow Twp.
Ryan Vazquez	SO	F	TCNJ	Kinnelon, NJ/Seton Hall Prep
Joe Alba	FR	M	Rutgers-Newark	Union City, NJ/St. Benedict's Prep
Christian Bik	JR	M	Stockton	Vineland, NJ/St. Augustine Prep
Patrick Grudnik	JR	M	Rutgers-Camden	South Brunswick, NJ/South Brunswick
Jordan Saling	JR	M	William Paterson	Haledon, NJ/Paramus Catholic
Trenton Hall	JR	B	Rutgers-Camden	Hainesport, NJ/Rancocas Valley
Malik Lopes	SR	B	Ramapo	Newark, NJ/Arts
Brian Palangi	SR	B	Rutgers-Camden	Deptford, NJ/Deptford
Will Sjaastad	SR	B	Rowan	Allentown, N/Allentown
Mike Saalfrank	SR	G	Montclair State	Ramsey, NJ/Ramsey

HONORABLE MENTION

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Hometown/High School</u>
Keysean Brant-Sharp	JR	F	William Paterson	East Brunswick, NJ/East Brunswick
Chaz Burnett	SO	F	Montclair State	Glen Ridge, NJ/Glen Ridge
Franco Catania	FR	F	Rutgers-Newark	Elmwood Park, NJ/Elmwood Park
Felipe Lucas	FR	F	Kean	Newark, NJ/St. Benedict's Prep
Jorge Castro	SR	M	Ramapo	Harrison, NJ/Harrison
Breno Lustosa	SR	M	Rutgers-Newark	Kearny, NJ/Kearny
Anthony Pelaez	FR	M	Montclair State	Union, NJ/Morris Catholic

Kevin Primich	JR	M	Rowan	Hamilton, NJ/Allentown
Chris Taraska	JR	M	Rutgers-Camden	Woodbridge, NJ/St. Joseph (Metuchen)
Eucario Solano=	SR	M	Stockton	Galloway, NJ/Absegami
Larry Abanilla	JR	B	Stockton	Union, NJ/Union Catholic
Mike Almeida	SO	B	NJCU	Kearny, NJ/Kearny
Ryan Bartel	SR	B	William Paterson	Emerson, NJ/Emerson
Michael Funaro	FR	B	Rutgers-Camden	Washington Twp., NJ/Washington Twp.
Joerg Jauk#	SR	B	TCNJ	Lassnitzhoehe, Austria/
Michael Maltese	JR	B	TCNJ	Freehold, NJ/Freehold Twp.
Michael Lescano	JR	G	Stockton	Union, NJ/St. Benedict's Prep
Joshua Schaffer	SO	G	Ramapo	Ringwood, NJ/Lakeland

Key:

+ - First Team All-Conference 2017
 % - Second Team All-Conference 2017
 = - Honorable Mention 2017
 * - First Team All-Conference 2016
 ^ - Second Team All-Conference 2016
 ~ - Honorable Mention 2016
 & - First Team All-Conference 2015
 \$ - Second Team All-Conference 2015
 # - Honorable Mention 2015