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Franklin Pierce's Johannah Leedham Repeats as Northeast-10 Women's Basketball Player of the Year

South Easton, Mass. – Franklin Pierce University junior *Johannah Leedham (Ellesmere Port, England)* was selected the 2008-2009 Northeast-10 Women's Basketball Player of the Year for the second straight season as voted by the conference's 15 head coaches.

Leedham is the first player since Stonehill College's Michelle Doonan to repeat as Player of the Year recipient and is just the third to win the award twice in a career. Doonan received the award during the 1993-1994 and 1994-1995 seasons. Bentley University's Allison Fay won the award in 1982, 1983 and was co-player of the year in 1984.

Leedham currently leads the Northeast-10 in scoring, averaging 22.9 points per game, while shooting 48-percent from the field (11th best in NE-10). She's grabbing just over six rebounds per contest and is ranked sixth overall in free throw percentage connecting on 86-percent of her attempts. On the defensive side of the ball, Leedham leads the NE-10 with three steals per game. In addition, the former NE-10 Freshman of the Year earned her third straight First Team All-Northeast-10 selection.

The post-season accolades continued for Franklin Pierce as Johannah's teammate and sister *Jennifer Leedham (Ellesmere Port, England)* was selected the 2008-2009 Defensive Player of the Year. Leedham is averaging 12.3 points and 3.3 rebounds per game and is shooting just over 40-percent from the field. The senior guard has helped the Ravens hold opponents to only 62.2 points per game and is averaging just over two steals per game which is fifth best in the NE-10. As a team Franklin Pierce is second in the conference in blocks (4.08) and steals (10.04). In addition, Leedham earned Second Team All-Northeast-10 honors after being named to the Third Team last year.

Pace University forward *Brittany Shields (Cold Spring, N.Y.)* was voted the 2008-2009 Northeast-10 Freshman of the Year. She is the first Pace player to earn the honors. In just her first year of collegiate play, Shields is averaging 14.5 points per game which ranks her 12th among the conference leaders. She is shooting 52-percent from the field (3rd best in NE-10) and ranks third in the conference in rebounds with 8.7 per game. In addition, Shields was named to the All-Rookie team.

Franklin Pierce head coach Mark Swasey was selected the Coach of the Year in a vote by his peers. Swasey guided the Ravens to a conference best 18-4 record in league play to claim the team's first ever Northeast-10 Regular Season Title. Franklin Pierce earned the top seed in the upcoming Northeast-10 Championship and will host a quarterfinal game next week after receiving a first-round bye. Swasey is the first Franklin Pierce women's basketball head coach to be named NE-10 Coach of the Year.

With 15 member institutions the Northeast-10 is the second largest NCAA Division II athletic conference in the nation. Its 23 championship sports provide athletic opportunities for over 5,500 student-athletes, the largest such program of any Division II conference.

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**2008-2009 Northeast-10 Conference
Women's Basketball All-Conference Teams**

First - Team	Yr.	Pos.	School	Hometown
Stacy Boisvert	Sr.	F	American Int'l	Agawam, Mass.
Johannah Leedham	Jr.	G	Franklin Pierce	Ellesmere Port, England
Kristy McLean	Sr.	G	Bentley	Staten Island, N.Y.
Lauren Revesz	Sr.	C	Saint Rose	Pittsburgh, Pa.
Kelsey Simonds	Jr.	C	Stonehill	Middleboro, Mass.

Second - Team	Yr.	Pos.	School	Hometown
Kim Brennan	So.	G	Bentley	Locust Valley, N.Y.
Courtney Coryea	Jr.	F	Le Moyne	Mooers Fork, N.Y.
Jennifer Leedham	Sr.	G	Franklin Pierce	Ellesmere Port, England
Emily Rousseau	So.	G	Stonehill	Biddeford, Maine
Amanda Shannon	Sr.	G	Merrimack	North Andover, Mass.

Third - Team	Yr.	Pos.	School	Hometown
Dana Brown	Sr.	G	Saint Rose	Elmont, N.Y.
Laechia Conley	Jr.	G	American Int'l	Urbandale, Iowa
Lauren Hood	Sr.	F	New Haven	Ashland, Mass.
Bethany Plasski	Sr.	G	Assumption	Fall River, Mass.
Bethany Tighe	Sr.	F	Stonehill	North Easton, Mass.

All - Rookie	Yr.	Pos.	School	Hometown
Nikki Carroll	Fr.	F	New Haven	Oswego, N.Y.
Megan Howard	Fr.	F	Saint Anselm	Saint Paul, Minn.
Lauren Massie	Fr.	F	Bentley	Fairfax Station, Va.
Kelly Meredith	Fr.	F	Assumption	Franklin, Mass.
Brittany Shields	Fr.	F	Pace	Cold Spring, N.Y.

Player of the Year: Johannah Leedham, Franklin Pierce
Defensive Player of the Year: Jennifer Leedham, Franklin Pierce
Freshman of the Year: Brittany Shields, Pace
Coach of the Year: Mark Swasey, Franklin Pierce