



Hamilton Men, William Smith Women Top Liberty League Preseason Basketball Coaches' Polls

November 11, 2008 – The Hamilton Continentals are the preseason favorites in the 2008-09 Liberty League men's basketball coaches' poll, while the William Smith Herons are the preferred choice on the women's side.

In the men's poll, Hamilton picked up five first-place votes and 47 points overall to lead the selections. The Continentals were followed by St. Lawrence in second and 2008 tournament champion Clarkson in third. Hobart and Union tied for fourth with Rensselaer, Vassar, and Skidmore rounding out the poll in sixth, seventh, and eighth, respectively.

William Smith was the top choice to lead the women's poll, picking up three first-place votes and 39 points overall. 2008 tournament champion St. Lawrence follows in second, with Union and Hamilton in third and fourth. Skidmore, Rensselaer, Clarkson, and Vassar round out the poll in fifth through eighth, respectively.

The 2008-09 basketball season gets underway this Saturday (Nov. 15), while Liberty League play begins on Jan. 10, 2009. The top four teams in the final standings for both the women and the men will compete in the Liberty League championship tournaments with semifinals taking place on Fri., Feb. 27 and the championship games on Sat., Feb. 28. The top seeded team on each side will host all tournament games.

2008-09 Liberty League Men's Basketball Preseason Coaches' Poll		
1.	Hamilton	47 (5)
2.	St. Lawrence	45 (3)
3.	Clarkson	33
4.	Hobart	27
	Union	27
6.	Rensselaer	22
7.	Vassar	12
8.	Skidmore	11

(First-Place Votes in Parentheses)

2008-09 Liberty League Women's Basketball Preseason Coaches' Poll		
1.	William Smith	39 (3)
2.	St. Lawrence	37
3.	Union	35 (1)
4.	Hamilton	34 (1)
5.	Skidmore	31 (2)
6.	Rensselaer	28 (1)
7.	Clarkson	11
8.	Vassar	9

(First-Place Votes in Parentheses)