Ben Thaw | Wesleyan
Senior, Defensive Back, Westport, Conn.
Thaw had five tackles, two interceptions, two pass breakups, and one blocked kick. His first interception came at the midway point of the second quarter at the Wesleyan 15 to help keep Trinity off the board at halftime. Thaw’s second interception ended the Bantams’ chance of a comeback as he picked off the Trinity quarterback at the Wesleyan-31 with just under two minutes remaining in regulation. The Cardinals gained a first down and sealed the win. Thaw also blocked a Trinity extra point in the fourth quarter to make it an eight-point deficit instead of seven.

Joel Nicholas | Williams
First Year, Running Back, Buffalo, N.Y.
Nicholas carried the ball 24 times for 211 yards and three touchdowns in a 31-9 victory over Amherst. He averaged 8.8 yards per carry and had two critical runs on 4th-down. His 6-yard touchdown run gave the Ephs’ a 14-0 lead in the first quarter. On the Ephs’ opening drive of the third quarter, nursing a 17-9 lead, Nicholas was handed the ball on a 4th-and-1 from his own 37-yard line and dashed 53 yards to the Amherst 10. He finished the drive with a touchdown to give Williams a 24-9 lead.

Moises Celaya | Colby
Sophomore, Kicker/Punter, Hanover, N.H.
Celaya made five extra points and kicked off eight times. He pinned Bowdoin late with a punt at the 6-yard line, and handled a bad snap on another, avoiding the rush and getting the kick off on the run.

Middlebury Claims NESCAC Title

Middlebury became the first team in NESCAC history to finish with a 9-0 record as the Panthers captured the 2019 NESCAC Championship with a 31-24 win over Tufts to cap a perfect season.

The 9-0 mark is Middlebury’s first undefeated season since 1972. The Panthers claim their first outright NESCAC title since 2007 and fourth overall.

Recent Results
Week 9 - Sat., November 9
Colby def. Bowdoin, 47-34
Middlebury def. Tufts, 31-24
Bates def. Hamilton, 26-21
Williams def. Amherst, 31-9
Wesleyan def. Trinity, 28-20

Team Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>W%</th>
<th>PF</th>
<th>PA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Middlebury</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>275</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Wesleyan</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.889</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Williams</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>.778</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Trinity</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>.556</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Amherst</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>.444</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>.444</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tufts</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>.444</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Bates</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>.222</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colby</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>.222</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Bowdoin</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>.000</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NESCAC Offensive Player of the Week
Joel Nicholas | Williams
First Year, Running Back, Buffalo, N.Y.
Nicholas carried the ball 24 times for 211 yards and three touchdowns in a 31-9 victory over Amherst. He averaged 8.8 yards per carry and had two critical runs on 4th-down. His 6-yard touchdown run gave the Ephs’ a 14-0 lead in the first quarter. On the Ephs’ opening drive of the third quarter, nursing a 17-9 lead, Nicholas was handed the ball on a 4th-and-1 from his own 37-yard line and dashed 53 yards to the Amherst 10. He finished the drive with a touchdown to give Williams a 24-9 lead.

In the fourth quarter, on a 4th-and-1 from the Amherst 23, Nicholas scampered 23 yards for his final touchdown and a 31-9 lead.

NESCAC Defensive Player of the Week
Ben Thaw | Wesleyan
Senior, Defensive Back, Westport, Conn.
Thaw had five tackles, two interceptions, two pass breakups, and one blocked kick. His first interception came at the midway point of the second quarter at the Wesleyan 15 to help keep Trinity off the board at halftime. Thaw’s second interception ended the Bantams’ chance of a comeback as he picked off the Trinity quarterback at the Wesleyan-31 with just under two minutes remaining in regulation. The Cardinals gained a first down and sealed the win. Thaw also blocked a Trinity extra point in the fourth quarter to make it an eight-point deficit instead of seven.

NESCAC Special Teams Player of the Week
Moises Celaya | Colby
Sophomore, Kicker/Punter, Hanover, N.H.
Celaya made five extra points and kicked off eight times. He pinned Bowdoin late with a punt at the 6-yard line, and handled a bad snap on another, avoiding the rush and getting the kick off on the run.
Amherst College

Team Record: 4-5
Week 9: Defeated by Williams, 31-9
• Senior Ollie Eberth (Andover, Mass.) threw for 137 yards and one touchdown and senior James O’Regan (Wilmington, Mass.) caught four passes, averaging 13.8 yards per catch, and scored once in the Mammoths’ setback at Williams.
• Rookie Clay Zachery (Fairfield, Conn.) recorded a game-high 10 tackles, including eight solo.

Bates Bobcats

Team Record: 2-7
Week 9: Defeated Hamilton, 26-21
• Junior quarterback Brendan Costa (Westport, Mass.) threw a career-high four touchdown passes, two of them in the final 2:31. He completed 16-of-30 passes for 191 yards and rushed for 72 yards on 17 carries, picking up seven first downs on rushes. Sophomore wide receiver Sean Bryant (Falmouth, Maine) had five receptions for 93 yards and three touchdowns, all career-highs.
• Junior linebacker Liam Greene (Bedford, N.H.) made five tackles, including four for a loss and three sacks. Greene’s tackle of Hamilton punter Kenny Gray for an 11-yard loss with 1:19 left in the fourth quarter set up the game-winning touchdown pass two plays later.

Bowdoin Polar Bears

Team Record: 0-9
Week 9: Defeated by Colby, 47-34
• Senior Nate Richam-Odoi (West Hartford, Conn.) finished his stellar Bowdoin career with 138 yards rushing on 25 carries with a touchdown against Colby, ending as the school’s fifth all-time leading rusher with 2,186 yards.
• Senior linebacker Joe Gowetski (Needham, Mass.) ended his career with nine tackles and his first career touchdown on a fumble recovery for a score in the first half against the Mules.

Colby Mules

Team Record: 2-7
Week 9: Defeated Bowdoin, 47-34
• Senior Chris George (North Kingstown, R.I.) scored four touchdowns in a win over Bowdoin. He had 151 rushing yards and 32 receiving yards for 181 yards from scrimmage. His final three scores were all runs of 26 yards and came in the fourth quarter to tie the game, put the Mules ahead, and put the game out of reach. Sophomore quarterback Matt Hersch (Monroe, Conn.) had his fifth 200-yard game of the year, posting 255 yards and two touchdowns. Junior wide receiver Rory Glavin (Nashua, N.H.) had a season high 116 yards on eight catches and two touchdowns.
• Sophomore George Eisenhauer (Beverly Shores, Ind.) had seven tackles from his defensive back position and sparked the Mules’ comeback against Bowdoin with two late turnovers. His fourth quarter fumble recovery with 12 minutes to play set Colby up at the Bowdoin 26 yard line for the tying score. When Colby took the lead with five minutes to play, Eisenhauer halted the ensuing Polar Bear drive.

Hamilton Continentals

Team Record: 4-5
Week 9: Defeated by Bates, 26-21
• Senior Kenny Gray (Montgomery, N.Y.) was 16-of-30 passing for 136 yards and two touchdowns with no interceptions in the Continentals’ 26-21 setback against Bates. He threw just two picks in his last 214 pass attempts.
• Senior Pat Morelli (East Setauket, N.Y.) recorded the first sack of his collegiate career and finished with five tackles against Bates. Sophomore Christian Snell (Alden, N.Y.) collected his third interception this year and the fourth of his career with the Continentals.
• Gray pinned all five of his punts inside Bates’ 20-yard line and averaged 35.2 per punt including his longest boot of 45 yards.

Middlebury Panthers

Team Record: 9-0
Week 9: Defeated Tufts, 31-24
• Junior Will Jernigan (Decatur, Ill.) recorded 338 total yards and three touchdowns in a 31-24 win over Tufts. He completed 18-of-32 passes for 264 yards with two touchdowns, while gaining 74 yards on the ground with one score. Rookie Alex Maldjian (Rumson, N.J.) earned his fourth 100-yard rushing game of the season, gaining 136 yards on 35 carries for the Panthers. He also scored on a three-yard touchdown run and finished the season with a league-best 100.6 yards per game.
• Junior Pete Huggins (Houston, Texas) made 10 stops and returned an interception 18 yards to pace the Middlebury defense against Tufts. The Panthers intercepted four passes on the day and had three sacks.
Trinity Bantams
Team Record: 5-4
Week 9: Defeated by Wesleyan, 28-20
• Senior Jordan Vazzano (Trumbull, Conn.) came off the bench at halftime and threw for 195 yards and three touchdowns, as Trinity nearly came back from a 21-0 third-quarter deficit in a 28-20 setback against Wesleyan. Vazzano finished 6-for-10 passing and threw for touchdowns of 21, 71, and 29 yards.
• Senior Sean Smerczynski (Topsfield, Mass.) totaled seven tackles (all solo) with two tackles for loss and a sack in Trinity’s loss to Wesleyan.
• Senior Ian McDonald (Avon, Conn.) punted five times for an average of 44 yards per attempt against the Cardinals.

Tufts Jumbos
Team Record: 4-5
Week 9: Defeated by Middlebury, 31-24
• Senior Jacob Carroll (Birmingham, Ala.) passed for a season-high 367 yards and three touchdowns in Tufts’ loss to Middlebury. The three touchdowns gave him 19 on the season, which is a new single-season record at Tufts. His final total of 2,225 passing yards is second all-time at Tufts.
• Senior Jovan Nenadovic (Washington, D.C.) had two sacks and recovered a fumble for the Jumbos against Middlebury. He finished with nine tackles including three for losses of 10 yards overall. His fourth-quarter fumble recovery led to a Tufts touchdown that pulled the Jumbos within a score late in the game. With the two sacks he finished the year with 7.5, tied for the lead in the NESCAC.
• Making all three of his extra points against Middlebury, junior Matt Alswanger (Stamford, Conn.) finished the year 26-for-27 on PATs (96%). This fall he became Tufts’ all-time leader in extra points with 84. He also kicked a 27-yard field goal against the Panthers.

Wesleyan Cardinals
Team Record: 8-1
Week 9: Defeated Trinity, 28-20
• Junior Glenn Smith (Roxbury, Mass.) led Wesleyan’s rushing attack in the win over Trinity. He totaled 72 yards on 12 carries (6.0 ypc) and a touchdown, as his score was critical to the win. With the Cardinals facing a 3rd-and-1 and leading 21-13, Smith ran 47 yards untouched for a touchdown to give Wesleyan a two-touchdown lead over Trinity with 8:20 to play in regulation.

Williams Ephs
Team Record: 7-2
Week 8: Defeated Amherst, 31-9
• Senior Ben Anthony (Albany, N.Y.) had one interception in the Ephs’ 31-9 win over Amherst, returning it 32 yards for the game’s first touchdown. It was his fourth interception of the season.
• Junior Justin Nelson (Brandon, Miss.) had one kick-off return for 30 yards against the Mammoths. He also caught seven passes for 123 yards in the victory.
## Amherst (4-5)
- **September**
  - 14: Bates, W, 27-13
  - 21: at Colby, W, 24-10
  - 28: at Tufts, W, 26-16
- **October**
  - 5: Middlebury, L, 34-31 (2OT)
  - 12: Bowdoin, W, 36-14
  - 19: at Hamilton, L, 31-28
  - 26: Wesleyan, L, 31-28 (2OT)
- **November**
  - 2: Trinity, L, 21-7
  - 9: at Williams, L, 31-9

## Bates (2-7)
- **September**
  - 14: at Amherst, L, 27-13
  - 21: Middlebury, L, 28-0
  - 28: at Williams, L, 48-12
- **October**
  - 5: Tufts, L, 33-28
  - 12: Trinity, L, 51-0
  - 19: at Williams, L, 35-7
  - 26: at Colby, L, 23-20
- **November**
  - 2: Bowdoin, W, 30-5
  - 9: at Hamilton, W, 26-21

## Bowdoin (0-9)
- **September**
  - 14: Hamilton, L, 37-24
  - 21: at Trinity, L, 61-7
  - 28: at Williams, L, 41-10
- **October**
  - 5: Wesleyan, L, 20-13
  - 12: at Amherst, L, 36-14
  - 19: at Tufts, L, 49-0
  - 26: Middlebury, L, 47-29
- **November**
  - 2: at Bates, L, 30-5
  - 9: Colby, L, 47-34

## Colby (2-7)
- **September**
  - 14: at Wesleyan, L, 30-10
  - 21: Amherst, L, 24-10
  - 28: at Hamilton, L, 45-24
- **October**
  - 5: Williams, L, 17-0
  - 12: Middlebury, L, 27-26
  - 19: Trinity, L, 43-7
  - 26: Bates, W, 23-20
- **November**
  - 2: Tufts, L, 35-10
  - 9: at Bowdoin, W, 47-34

## Hamilton (4-5)
- **September**
  - 14: at Bowdoin, W, 37-24
  - 21: Wesleyan, L, 28-10
  - 28: Colby, W, 45-24
- **October**
  - 5: at Trinity, L, 31-24
  - 12: at Williams, L, 35-10
  - 19: Amherst, W, 31-28
  - 26: at Tufts, W, 36-21
- **November**
  - 2: at Middlebury, L, 14-7
  - 9: Bates, L, 26-21

## Middlebury (9-0)
- **September**
  - 14: Williams, W, 17-13
  - 21: at Bates, W, 28-0
  - 28: Trinity, W, 32-27
- **October**
  - 5: at Amherst, W, 34-31 (2OT)
  - 12: Colby, W, 27-26
  - 19: Wesleyan, W, 45-21
  - 26: at Bowdoin, W, 47-29
- **November**
  - 2: Hamilton, W, 14-7
  - 9: at Tufts, W, 31-24

## Trinity (5-4)
- **September**
  - 14: at Tufts, L, 14-8
  - 21: Bowdoin, W, 61-7
  - 28: at Middlebury, L, 32-27
- **October**
  - 5: Hamilton, W, 31-24
  - 12: at Bates, W, 51-0
  - 19: Colby, W, 43-7
  - 26: Williams, L, 29-15
- **November**
  - 2: at Amherst, W, 21-7
  - 9: Wesleyan, L, 28-20

## Tufts (4-5)
- **September**
  - 14: at Trinity, W, 14-8
  - 21: at Bates, W, 44-8
  - 28: at Middlebury, L, 26-16
- **October**
  - 5: at Bates, W, 33-28
  - 12: at Wesleyan, L, 20-13
  - 19: Bowdoin, W, 49-0
  - 26: Hamilton, L, 36-21
- **November**
  - 2: at Colby, W, 35-10
  - 9: Middlebury, L, 31-24

## Wesleyan (8-1)
- **September**
  - 14: Colby, W, 30-10
  - 21: at Hamilton, W, 28-10
  - 28: Bates, W, 48-12
- **October**
  - 5: at Bowdoin, W, 20-13
  - 12: Tufts, W, 20-13
  - 19: at Middlebury, L, 45-21
  - 26: at Amherst, W, 31-28 (OT)
- **November**
  - 2: Williams, W, 27-21 (OT)
  - 9: at Trinity, W, 28-20

## Williams (7-2)
- **September**
  - 14: at Middlebury, L, 17-13
  - 21: Tufts, W, 44-8
  - 28: Bowdoin, W, 41-10
- **October**
  - 5: at Colby, W, 17-0
  - 12: Hamilton, W, 35-10
  - 19: Bates, W, 35-7
  - 26: at Trinity, W, 29-15
- **November**
  - 2: at Wesleyan, L, 27-21 (OT)
  - 9: Amherst, W, 31-9