

SPORTS PREVIEW

Scouting Report

How do the Yellowjackets look as they prepare for their fall 2010 seasons?

Steve Welles '11



Men's soccer The Yellowjackets advanced to the elite eight of the NCAA tournament and finished at No. 6 in the country last season. The good news for 2010 is that the team returns its entire midfield and two central defenders, including all-region and all-UAA picks **Misha Carrel-Thomas '11** on defense and **Steve Welles '11** in the midfield. Rochester must replace its two leading scorers and goalkeeper **Mike Peacock**, all of whom graduated in 2010.

Men's cross country Hungry to reclaim the New York State Collegiate Track Conference crown, which Rochester last won in 2008, the squad wants to finish the 2010 campaign with a top-10 national ranking. **Brian Lang '11** will pace the squad after competing in the NCAA championships last year. **Jamie Vavra '12**, an all-Atlantic Region pick in 2009, and **Jon Pinto '11**, who earned all-conference accolades last year, add to the team's depth.

Women's cross country Rochester has sent three different individual runners to the NCAA championships the last three years. In 2010, coach Barbara Hartwig is hoping to qualify a full squad for nationals. At the forefront will be **Lauren Norton '12**, who qualified for NAAs as a freshman and sophomore. Other key Yellowjackets include **Megan O'Connor '11**, **Hillary Snyder '12**, and **Zarah Quinn '13**. Some of the younger runners will need to step up and earn places in the team's top 10.

Volleyball Rochester promises to be much improved from 2009, with all but two graduated seniors returning, including three talented sophomore starters in libero **Lauren Bujnicki '13**, rightside hitter **Alma Guevara '13**, and outside hitter **Kelly Mulrey '13**. In addition, a strong crop of seniors will be back, while a talented freshman class will be led by setter **Jackie Fluegel '14**. The Yellowjackets hope to build on their seventh-place finish at UAAs in 2009.

Rowing Coach Will Greene's squad enters its second year of varsity competition after a successful 2009-10 effort in which the Yellowjackets found significant success, including a No. 3 team ranking in the NCAA East Region.

Women's soccer

Challenged by a brutal 2010 schedule and the graduation of eight players from a 2009 team that advanced to the second round of NAAs and shared the UAA title, the squad features a young but potential-laden defense. Leading scorers—all-American forward **Ellen Coleman '12** and all-UAA forward **Bridgette Varin '11**—return as does **Meaghan Magee '11** to anchor the defense.

Bridgette Varin '11



Football Rochester struggled at times in 2009, but with the return of first-team all-Liberty League performers—running back **Clarence Onyiriuka** '11 and defensive tackle **Chris Bickford** '12—the upcoming campaign looks promising. Both Onyiriuka and Bickford have picked up preseason all-America accolades this year. The Yellowjackets finished 4-3 in the Liberty League last year and 4-6 overall.

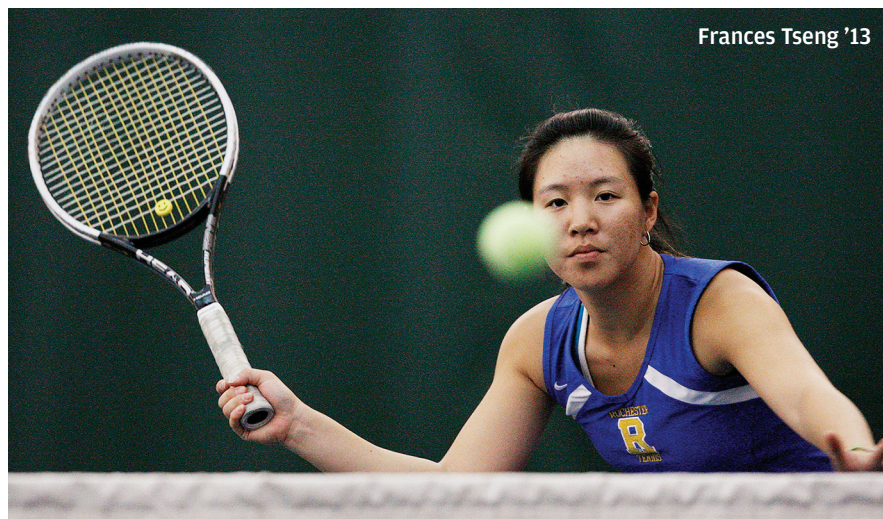
Men's tennis Coming off a spring season in which they earned a No. 17 ranking in the northeast region and placed seventh at the UAA championships, the team returns five starters for what promises to be a solid fall season. Seniors **Dan Barbash** '11 and **Jeff Zink** '11 bring a wealth of experience as the Yellowjackets kick off 2010 by cohosting the Flower City Invitational Sept. 11 and 12.

Field hockey Rochester returns a young team that features only one senior, cocaptain and defender **Sara Heidinger** '11. Coach Wendy Andreatta says her team is ready to improve on last year's record of 11-7, with six returning starters leading the way and a talented class of freshmen bolstering the lineup. The strength will be on defense, where four starters return—**Darragh Kerr** '12, **Alexis Vangelo** '12, **Sarah Dixon** '13, and **Alexa Freedman** '13.

Golf Coach Dan Wesley is excited about a 2010-11 team that returns all but one player and welcomes six freshmen. Captained by **Chris Driscoll** '11, **Ryan Williams** '11, **Michael Chudacoff** '12, and **David Wien** '12, the team begins its season with a small, four-squad event at Hamilton, then gets into full swing with the St. Lawrence Invitational Sept. 11 and 12.

Women's tennis After earning a national ranking of 20th last season, the Yellowjackets are looking to make a bigger impression this fall. **Lia Weiner** '11, one of the northeast's best singles players, returns to pursue her third straight regional crown—and another all-America selection. Also returning is **Frances Tseng** '13, who made her mark quickly last year by claiming Rookie of the Year honors for both the UAA and the northeast region. In addition, Weiner and Tseng form one of the region's most formidable doubles pairings. **Danielle Shreck** '11 earned second team all-UAA accolades last year.

—Ryan Whirly



Frances Tseng '13

Ryan Whirly writes about sports for Rochester Review.

FOOTBALL

Field Goals

An early season rivalry game hits the road—for both teams.

WHEN ROCHESTER'S VARSITY FOOTBALL team faces off against hometown rival St. John Fisher for the sixth annual Courage Bowl on September 18, the two teams will play at a new downtown venue.

The Courage Bowl, which benefits Camp Good Days and Special Times—a local charity dedicated to improving the lives of children coping with cancer—will kick off for the first time this fall at Marina Auto Stadium, the 14,000-seat venue that's home to the Rochester Rhinos, Rochester's professional soccer team.

While the game between the Yellowjackets and the Cardinals has traditionally alternated between Fauver Stadium and Fisher's Growney Stadium, bowl organizers say the annual event needs a larger venue to accommodate its growing fanbase. The rivalry has drawn more than 25,000 fans during its five-year run.

"We've seen strong local interest in the game," says Rochester's athletic director, George VanderZwaag. "Moving the game downtown will build more community involvement and help further promote the great work of Camp Good Days and Special Times."

Founded in 2005, the Courage Bowl is a fundraiser for the Rochester-area program, a nonprofit organization that offers summer camping experiences and year-round activities for children and their families facing cancer or other life-threatening illnesses.

As part of the game's activities, members of both football teams visited Camp Good Days to meet some of the children. And campers serve as honorary coaches and cheerleaders, attending pregame practices and coaching and cheering from the sidelines.

Camp Good Days is also looking to regain the Guinness world record for largest kazoo ensemble, a record the camp broke in 2006. The first 10,000 fans will be given kazoos in the colors of Rochester and Fisher, and during halftime the crowd will be urged to try to break the current record, held by a group of 3,861 from Sydney, Australia. **R**

—MELISSA GRECO LOPES