Squash Team Finishes as National Runner-up

Although the Yellowjackets came heartbreakingly short of claiming their first squash national championship, the 2015– 16 season was marked by historic milestones in arguably the best season ever for the program.

At the top of the list was a victory over defending national champion Trinity College in the semifinals of the College Squash Association's Potter Cup.

That win knocked Trinity out of the title game for the first time in 19 years and guaranteed that the Yellowjackets would finish above their previous national best of third in 2009.

In the championship match against Yale University, the Yellowjackets battled from behind to force a 4–4 tie with only one point left to be decided. In the final set, Tomotaka Endo '18 lost to Yale's Kah Wah Cheong, sending the championship to New Haven.

The finish was a reversal of an earlier season matchup in which Rochester beat Yale 5-4 at the Lyman Squash and Racquetball Center. Going into the Potter Cup, the Yellowjackets were ranked fourth in the country. The team finished at 12–4, tying the program's record for second-most victories in a season.

Heading into March, members of the squash team were scheduled to compete at CSA's individual championships.



KEY MATCH: Ryosei Kobayashi '17 (right) picked up a key win as the Yellowjackets rallied to force Yale into a winner-takes-all final match for the squash national title.

Basketball: The women's team was set to host a four-team, first-round session of the NCAA tournament on the first weekend in March. Ranked No. 1 in the East region throughout February, the Yellowjackets finished second in the UAA (10–4). It was the team's 13th 20-victory regular season (20–5). The men finished second to Emory in the UAA race (10–4) and were 17–8 overall, just missing an NCAA bid. ⁽²⁾

TOP PLAYS Buzzer-beater Goes Viral

Two Rochester juniors who pulled off a basketball play on Super Bowl Sunday became a social media sensation and made ESPN's Top 10 Plays of the Day (as No. 2).

To set the scene, Rochester trailed Chicago, 76-73, with six seconds left. With 2.7 seconds left, Sam Borst-Smith '17 went to the foul line for two shots.

He made the first, then missed the second intentionally, throwing it off the front of the rim. He caught the rebound and passed the ball to the corner, where Mack Montague '17 sank a three-pointer just before the buzzer for a 77-76 win.

The play went viral on social media, earning nearly 600,000 views within four days. It showed up overseas as well—in Australia, Germany, and France.

A Super Sunday, indeed.

—Dennis O'Donnell



MAYHEM FOR MACK: Teammates mob Mack Montague '17 after he made a three-point shot that completed a trick play to give Rochester a victory as time expired against Chicago.