



# ROCHESTER ATHLETICS

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

FRIENDS OF ROCHESTER ATHLETICS

SUMMER 2021 NEWSLETTER

*Rochester*

2021





**Shreya Mandalapu '24**



**Declan Hickton '21**



## ***A message from the Executive Director of Athletics George VanderZwaag***

I'm always excited for the fall semester—to see students, coaches, and staff return and to watch the campus come alive again. I'm especially looking forward to this year and getting back to doing what we do so well—competing, working together, and thriving in an atmosphere that supports our students and campus community.

During the pandemic, we've done all of this in new, reinvented ways while remaining committed to our educational mission. We've also provided our students with a positive athletic experience, albeit a different one than in years past.

As a result, our teams have formed deep bonds with one other, which will serve them well on the field, in the classroom, and in life. Our coaches and staff also have stepped up using their skills and energy to provide COVID testing, contact tracing, emergency childcare services for our Medical Center, and other support.

This year, I am particularly struck with the determination, focus, and heart of our students and staff. Beth Greenwood '22, is a great example of this. She's one of six women across the country who are playing college baseball. Beth, a catcher, has worked hard to get to this point, and she hopes someday to play for USA Baseball. Her coach, Joe Reina, has supported her, just as he and our other coaches have supported all our students' goals.

Beth knew what she wanted, and she went after it. Doing something atypical is never easy, and she has persevered. That's both admirable and what makes Rochester Athletics special. Our coaches are focused on guiding the aspirations of our students and on making a difference in their lives. For us, the end game isn't the scoreboard, it's helping students get where they want to be.

Looking ahead, I'm excited for what's next, including the 2022 completion of the Prince Athletic Complex, a decade of improvements to Fauver Stadium and our outdoor facilities supported by Brian F. Prince '86, '89S (MBA) and other generous alumni, parents, and friends. The final stages will bring improvements to our baseball and softball facilities and to the North Field practice area.

I'm proud of our University and all we've accomplished. I'm also grateful for your support during Match Matchness. Nearly 1,300 of you got involved and collectively raised just over \$140,000 for Athletics—thank you!

Thanks for your continued support. Meliora!

FRIENDS OF ROCHESTER  
ATHLETICS



# 2020-21 National Academic H



**Paige Smith '21**



**Kari Leap '21**



**Elisabeth Rott '21**



**Kyle Sullivan '24**

**2020–21 was a banner year for Rochester athletes in the classroom.**

## **Five Academic All-Americans**

**Ryan Algier '21** (men's basketball)

**Eileen Bequette '21** (women's track and field/cross country)

**Michaela Burrell '20, '21 take 5** (women's track and field)

**Jordan Hurlbut '20, '21 masters** (women's track and field/cross country)

**Alexis Pope '21** (softball)

## **Sixteen CoSIDA Academic All-District selections**

**Ryan Algier '21** (men's basketball),

**Eileen Bequette '21** (women's track and field/cross country),

**Michaela Burrell '21** (women's track and field),

**Hugh Curran '21** (men's soccer),

**Blaine Doyle '23** (men's track and field/cross country),

**Toni Anne Hahn '21** (softball),

**Adam Hopson '22** (men's swimming and diving [at-large category]),

**Jordan Hurlbut '20** (women's track and field/cross country),

**Gabe Lundy '23** (men's track and field),

**Brian McKinsey '22** (baseball),

**Julianna Okoniewski '22** (women's basketball),

**Mary Panepento '21** (lacrosse [at-large category]),

**Alexis Pope '21** (softball),

**Sammi Re '21** (softball),

**Scott Sikorski '23** (men's track and field/cross country),

**Amanda Strenk '22** (field hockey [at-large category])

## **Seventy-nine individuals have been honored by their respective coaching bodies for Academics**

Two rowers named CRCA Scholar Athletes, three football players named to National Football Foundation Hampshire Honor Society, 25 from field hockey named to NFHCA National Academic Squad,

5 men's and 7 women's tennis players named ITA Scholar-Athletes, 4 from men's track & field and 7 from women's track & field named USTFCCCA All-Academic athletes, 7 lacrosse players named to IWLCA Academic Honor Roll, 7 from men's basketball earned NABC Honors Court recognition, 2 from men's swimming & diving and 1 from women's swimming & diving were named CSCAA Scholar All-Americans, 3 represented men's squash as CSA Scholar Athletes and 3 from golf named GCAA All-American Scholars.

## **Fifteen teams earned accolades from coaching organizations for academics**

Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving earned Scholar Team Awards from CSCAA, Men's and Women's Cross Country named USTFCCCA All-Academic Teams, Field Hockey honored with NFHCA Team Academic Award, and both Men's and Women's soccer earned the Team Academic Award from the United Soccer Coaches, Golf named a recipient of the GCAA Outstanding Team Academic Award, Men's Basketball earned the NABC Team Academic Excellence Award, Lacrosse was an IWLCA Academic Honor Squad team, both men's and women's track and field awarded USTFCCCA All-Academic Team honors, volleyball honored with an AVCA Team Academic Award, men's and women's tennis earned ITA All-Academic Team status.

## **A total of 283 conference All-Academic awards were earned between the UAA and Liberty League**

Thirty-five fall, 3 winter, and 104 spring All-Academic selections in the Liberty League; 90 fall, 35 winter, and 16 spring All-Academic selections in the UAA.

# Honors Abound

## 2021 Phi Beta Kappa

Phi Beta Kappa, one of the country's oldest and most prestigious academic honor societies, elected a total of 10 members from Rochester's athletic teams.

Those selected included **Ryan Algier** (men's basketball), **Eric Chang** (men's swimming and diving), **Andres Garcia Coletto** (men's track and field/cross country), **Sofia Guarnieri** (women's swimming and diving, elected in 2020), **Kari Leap** (women's track and field), **Trent Noordsij** (men's basketball), **Mary Panepento** (lacrosse), **Alexis Pope** (softball), **Ximena Reyes Torres** (women's track and field/cross country), and **Elisabeth Rott** (women's track and field/cross country).

## 2020 All-Americans

Thirteen All-American athletes

**Ryan Algier '21** (men's basketball), **Jose Corredor Alvarez '23** (men's swimming and diving), **Nancy Bansbach '23** (women's track and field), **Eileen Bequette '21** (women's track and field), **Michaela Burrell '21** (women's track and field), **Kristin Hardy '23** (women's track and field), **Declan Hickton '21** (golf), **Adam Hopson '22** (men's swimming and diving), **Jordan Hurlbut (GR)** (women's track and field), **Sophie Lever '23** (women's swimming and diving), **David Robinson '24** [2 honors] (men's swimming and diving), **Aaron Whitley '23** (baseball)

## 2021 Garnish Award Winners

The Garnish Scholars Award program recognizes senior student-athletes who represent the ideal of the scholar-athlete. "They lead our teams on the field of play, while doing outstanding work in the classroom" said George VanderZwaag, director of Athletics. The Garnish program was created in honor of Lysle "Spike" Garnish, coach and mentor to many Rochester student-athletes from 1930 to 1948. He became a trainer and assistant basketball coach in 1931 and was named an assistant baseball coach in 1932. Spike was an assistant football coach from 1945-48.

**Brian Amabilino Perez**, Basketball

**Caden Cole**, Football

**Will Eisold**, Soccer

**Adam Hopson**, Swimming and Diving

**Eleanor Mancusi-Ungaro**, Rowing

**Kudzai Mbinda**, Track

**Julianna Okoniewski**, Basketball

**Joseph Rende**, Baseball

**Emma Schechter**, Soccer

**Kailee Sowers**, Soccer

**Amanda Strenk**, Field Hockey

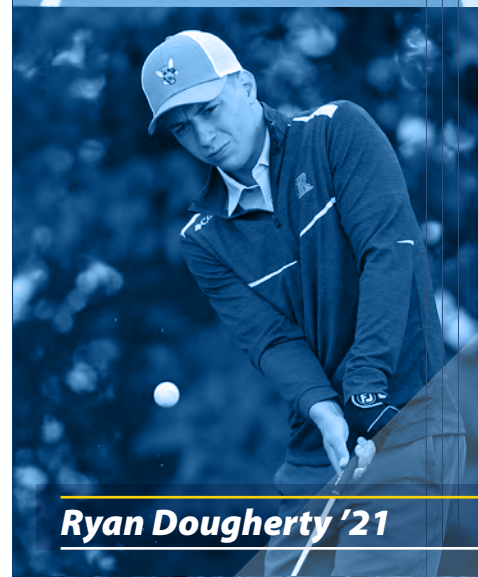
**Olivia Waysack**, Tennis



**Connor Wagner**



**Eileen Bequette '22 (T5)**



**Ryan Dougherty '21**



# Transitions

## The University of Rochester Athletic Department is pleased to announce four new head coaches for the 2021–22 Year.

### Serra Sevenler '15 named Director of Rowing



Serra Sevenler takes over the rowing program from John Gaskin who announced his retirement in July.

"Serra brings both great experience and a familiarity with our programs," says George VanderZwaag, executive director of Athletics. "As director of rowing, she will provide important leadership to both our men's and women's teams. As head coach of our women's team, we are excited to support her as she grows the success in our youngest varsity sport."

*"I am honored to be selected as the director of rowing at the University of Rochester and grateful to George VanderZwaag for his full support and trust in me," Sevenler says. "I am looking forward to working with the incredible student-athletes on both teams and expanding the program's success in years ahead."*

Sevenler has had a vast amount of coaching experience, most recently at Columbia University where she served as an assistant coach. She was also the women's varsity coach at RIT and served

as an assistant under Gaskin, men's head coach at Rochester. Other experience includes being director of rowing at the Genesee Rowing Club, graduate assistant coach at the University of Buffalo, and lead junior rowing coach at the Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club.

As an undergraduate at Rochester, Sevenler was team captain her junior and senior year along with being a member of the All-Liberty League team as a senior. During her sophomore season, she helped the Yellowjackets earn the Division III gold medal at the Dad Vail Regatta.

Sevenler earned a bachelor's degree from Rochester, double-majoring in business and digital media studies. She also earned a master's degree in Higher Education Administration from the University of Buffalo.

### Mario Yanez Tapia named Head Men's Squash Coach



Mario Yanez Tapia '17 has been named head coach of men's squash.

Tapia has recently served in the position of assistant coach for three seasons. As a player, he earned First Team All-America honors for four straight years at Rochester. He was an intercollegiate doubles champion and was ranked second in college squash in his senior year. Tapia ended his Rochester career as the programs all-time wins

leader, with 70 over his four seasons. He was a five-time Mexican Junior National Champion and a five-time gold medalist at the Pan American Junior Games. He is currently ranked #81 in the world squash rankings, having previously being ranked as high as number #76.

*"We are very excited to have Mario assume the reins of this great squash program," says George VanderZwaag. "He has been part of our success since 2013, and he will build on this success in partnership with Martin."*

### Martin Heath '10S (MBA) appointed director of elite performance for the squash program



"Martin has set a standard of excellence in college squash," says VanderZwaag. "He has demonstrated great coaching skill, but more

importantly, has established a tradition of educational excellence in our program. He will continue to help us move forward in a positive direction as Mario assumes the duties of head coach. I am grateful to have him continuing in this new role, supporting our students and Mario moving forward."

## **Carly Ritchlin named Lacrosse Head Coach**



Carly Ritchlin brings with her a wealth of collegiate coaching experience and success to the University of Rochester lacrosse program, as

she has been named the new women's lacrosse head coach at the University.

Ritchlin has amassed over 200 career victories over her 19-year coaching career, with the last 18 being at nearby SUNY Geneseo. She ranks among the Top 20 active coaches in Division III in career wins with her career record being 204-90, a winning percentage of .694.

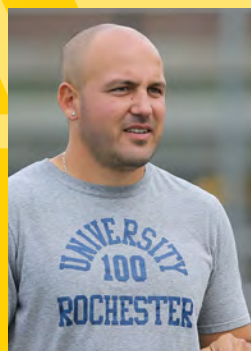
"Carly is one of the best coaches in the country," says executive director of Athletics, George VanderZwaag. "She is an accomplished educator with the experience to further develop our program in a way that reflects the overall quality of our University. We are extremely excited to have her on our team."

While at Geneseo, Ritchlin led the Knights to the NCAA Division III Tournament twice, earning the school's first-ever NCAA appearance. In addition, she guided Geneseo to the SUNYAC Championship game six times and was also named the SUNYAC Coach of the Year twice. She led the Knights to 10 or more wins 13 times, including a program-record 17 wins. She has also served as the head coach at RIT.

*"I would like to thank the executive director of Athletics, George VanderZwaag, for the opportunity to join the athletic department as the new women's lacrosse head coach," says Ritchlin. "The support and resources provided by the University of Rochester for the staff and athletes align with my philosophy of creating an environment in which players can thrive, both on and off the field. I am really excited to be in a position to lead the women's lacrosse program and am looking forward to meeting the team, so we can hit the ground running this fall."*

Ritchlin attended SUNY Cortland where she was a four-year letter winner in lacrosse for the Red Dragons. She was team captain as a senior and helped Cortland earn three SUNYAC titles and three appearances in the NCAA Division III Tournament.

## **Gabe Kleinert named Interim Head Women's Soccer Coach**



Gabe Kleinert, who has served the past two years as an assistant coach, has been appointed as the interim head women's soccer coach at the

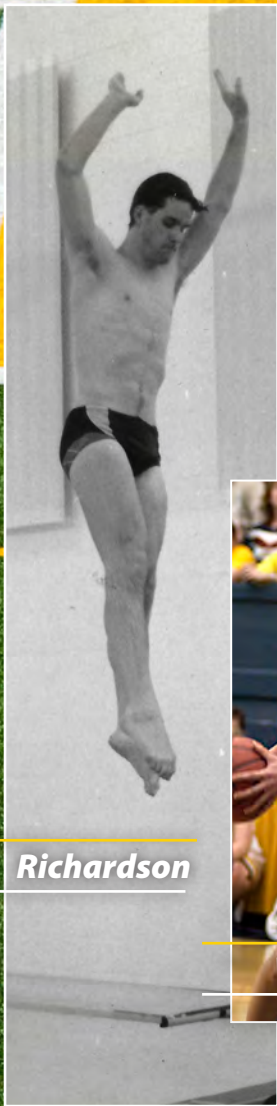
University of Rochester. His appointment runs through the end of the 2021 calendar year. Sike Dardaganis '92 retired as the head coach of Rochester's women's team in June.

*"I am very grateful for this opportunity," Kleinert said, "and I am excited to lead the program moving forward."*

Before his arrival at Rochester, Kleinert served as an assistant coach at Westminster College of Pennsylvania for the last six seasons (President's Athletic Conference). Additionally, he has coached in the Olympic Development Program as a Region 1 staff coach and PA West Girl's assistant and head coach. His club-coaching experience includes stints with Northern Steel Soccer Club and PA Crew Soccer Academy. Currently, he coaches club soccer with Empire United GA.

He holds a USSF National B License, Grassroots and D Instructor License, along with a Coerver Youth Diploma and NSCAA National Diploma. He is a graduate of Geneva College where he was a four-year starter and earned a degree in business and sports management. He also obtained a master's in education from Westminster College.

"We are excited to have Coach Kleinert stepping into this important leadership role for the 2021 season," said George VanderZwaag, executive director of Athletics. "Given the quality of our team, we benefit from the continuity he provides. Given his demonstrated strengths as a coach, our team will be well supported."



**Richardson**



**Dietrich**



**Garsys**



**Wescott**



**Willmert**



**Gage**

# 2021 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME



***Due to the resurgence of COVID-19, this year's Hall of Fame Induction Dinner, originally scheduled for Friday, October 1, 2021, has been postponed. We hope to celebrate with the 2021 Hall of Fame inductees, their families and friends, and current Hall of Fame members at a future date.***

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### **Kirk Dietrich '98** **Men's Soccer**

Dietrich was a two-year captain, four-year starter, and relentless competitor. He helped lead his teams to a stellar overall 52-17-9 record, 2 NCAA Division III Championship tournaments, a UAA league Championship, and the ECAC Northeast Championship. He was named First-Team NSCAA All-American, First-Team All-Northeast Region, twice named All-UAA, and was the UAA Conference Player of the Year as a senior. He was also selected to the UMBRO Senior Select All Star Classic.

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### **Leslie Willmert Donato '99** **Track**

In indoor track she placed third, second, and first at the UAA championships for weight throw during her sophomore, junior, and senior years, respectively and set a new school record in that event. In outdoor track she placed second, second, and first at the UAA championships for hammer throw during her sophomore, junior, and senior years, respectively, setting three new Rochester school records for the hammer throw. In her final season, she placed sixth at the NCAA Division III Championships and earned All-America honors. Donato was a USTFCCCA Outdoor Track & Field All-American, was twice named UAA Women's Track and Field Athlete of the Week, and was selected for five Team All-UAA awards and two UAA All-Academic awards.

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### **Marcus Gage '94** **Track and Cross Country**

Gage was a 12-time varsity letterwinner for track and cross country, Academic All-American, two-time All-American, three-time Second Team All-UAA honoree, team captain for track and field, and member of the 1991 NCAA Division III National Cross Country Championship team. He helped lead the cross country team to four NYSCT&FA Championships, two UAA Championships, and a regional Championship. Gage was fifth runner for the 1992 NCAA second place team, first runner for 1993 seventh place team, and finished 15th individually, as well as third runner for 1994 third place team and finished 35th individually. He also placed ninth at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships for the 10,000m run. He was the UAA Indoor Track Champion for the 3,000m and 5,000m runs and was the Outdoor Champion in the 10,000m run in the Outdoor NYSCT&FA Championships. Gage was named Most Improved as a sophomore and Most Outstanding as a senior.

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### **Aria Garsys Goodberlett '00** **Women's Soccer**

Goodberlett was a four-year starter and two-time All-UAA First Team. She was NYSWCAA First Team twice and NYSWCAA Player of the Year. Goodberlett was a three-time NSCAA All-Northeast Region and an NSCAA All-American. As team captain, she led the team to three NCAA Tournaments. She is Top 10 in career goals scored and the winner of the Merle Spurrier Award.

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### **Scott Richardson '88** **Springboard Diving**

Richardson led the team to three Upper NYS Championships and three Top 20 national rankings, and held all four diving records (1 meter-6 dive, 1 meter-11 dive, 3-meter-6 dive, 3-meter-11 dive) at the time of his graduation. He competed in three NCAA National Championships finishing 14th, 8th, and 7th in 3-meter diving and two third-place finishes in 1-meter diving. He was a three-time All-American in

3-meter, two-time All-American in 1-meter, UAA Champion in 1-meter, and third place in 3-meter. Richardson is a UAA Diver of the Year and a 2-time All-UAA performer, earning 1st Team on the 1-meter board and 3rd Team on the 3-meter board in 1987-88.

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### **Kelly Wescott Mick '05** **Women's Basketball**

Mick was a four-year starter, finished career eighth all-time in points scored, 15th in scoring average, 13th in field goals made, 9th in shooting percentage, 2nd in free throws made, 6th in free throw percentage, and 11th in rebounds. She was a Chuck Resler Tournament MVP, an NCAA Division III Sectional MVP, a Rochester Area College Player of the Year, and a JP Morgan Chase Tournament MVP. Mick was a WBCA Honorable Mention All-American, First Team D3Hoops.com All-East Region, two-time First Team All-UAA. She led her team to two Final Four appearances, and received NCAA Division III Final Four All-Tournament Team honors both those years.

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### **Hall of Fame Nominations**

The University of Rochester Athletic Hall of Fame nomination process is open to everyone. The 2022 selection process will begin again in January 2022. We encourage you to participate by submitting the names of worthy candidates. Please review the criteria listed below and then submit your nomination to the committee through Associate Director Terry Gurnett '77 at [tgurnett@sports.rochester.edu](mailto:tgurnett@sports.rochester.edu). Your submission should include as much factual information about the individual as possible. Nominees may be contacted to request more information if needed.

#### **Criteria:**

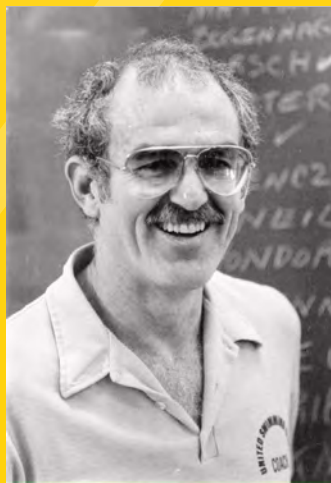
- Distinguished themselves with University of Rochester athletics as an athlete, coach, or friend
- The University strives each year to induct athletes from a range of eras. Please remember that nominees can be inducted posthumously.

Thank you for participating.



Those attending the gathering included (front row) David Hunt '80, Sally Fischbeck '73, Jim Pawelczyk '82, Jack Kennell '82, Anne Dean; (second row) John Kruse '82, '89 (PhD), '90M (MD), Georg Nadorff '85, '87 (MS), Coach Bill Boomer '63W (EdM), Bob Walker '75, Christine Eichelberger, Maureen Delaney, Debra Kraemer, Jackie Israel; (third row) Lisa Ring, Bill Ring '83, '85 (MS), Clare (Westropp) Evancie '76, Harry Falk '76, '77S (MBA), Sol Israel '77, Jim Eichelberger '83, '87M (MD), Bill Ebsary '81, Mark Delaney '82, Jeff Hirsh '86; (back row) Deena Crossmore, Kevin Uy '87, '93S (MBA), Ed Crossmore '69, John Evancie '75, Rick Boomer, David Drummond '82. Missing from photo: Rob Farmer '82 and Ken Witterholt '82.

## FORMER ROCHESTER SWIMMERS GATHER TO HONOR COACH WILLIAM “BUZZ” BOOMER '63W (EDM)



Former Rochester swimmers, a diver, team managers, and their partners gathered at the home of Mark '82 and Maureen Delaney on May 28-31, 2021, to celebrate and honor professor emeritis of athletics and recreation and coach Bill “Buzz” Boomer '63W (EdM). Boomer, an all-American soccer player at Springfield College, served as coach for three different sports at Rochester during his storied career. Boomer was men's soccer coach from 1964–1969; assistant varsity coach for field events with men's track program from 1962–1969; and men's swimming and diving, a position he held for 28 years, from 1962–1990—in a sport he had never participated in before; and becoming a highly innovative, inspirational, and

successful coach until his retirement in 1992. Boomer, who also headed up the recreation program at Rochester from 1970–1992, went on to coach numerous Olympic swimmers and become one of the leading authorities in the world in the development of the sport.

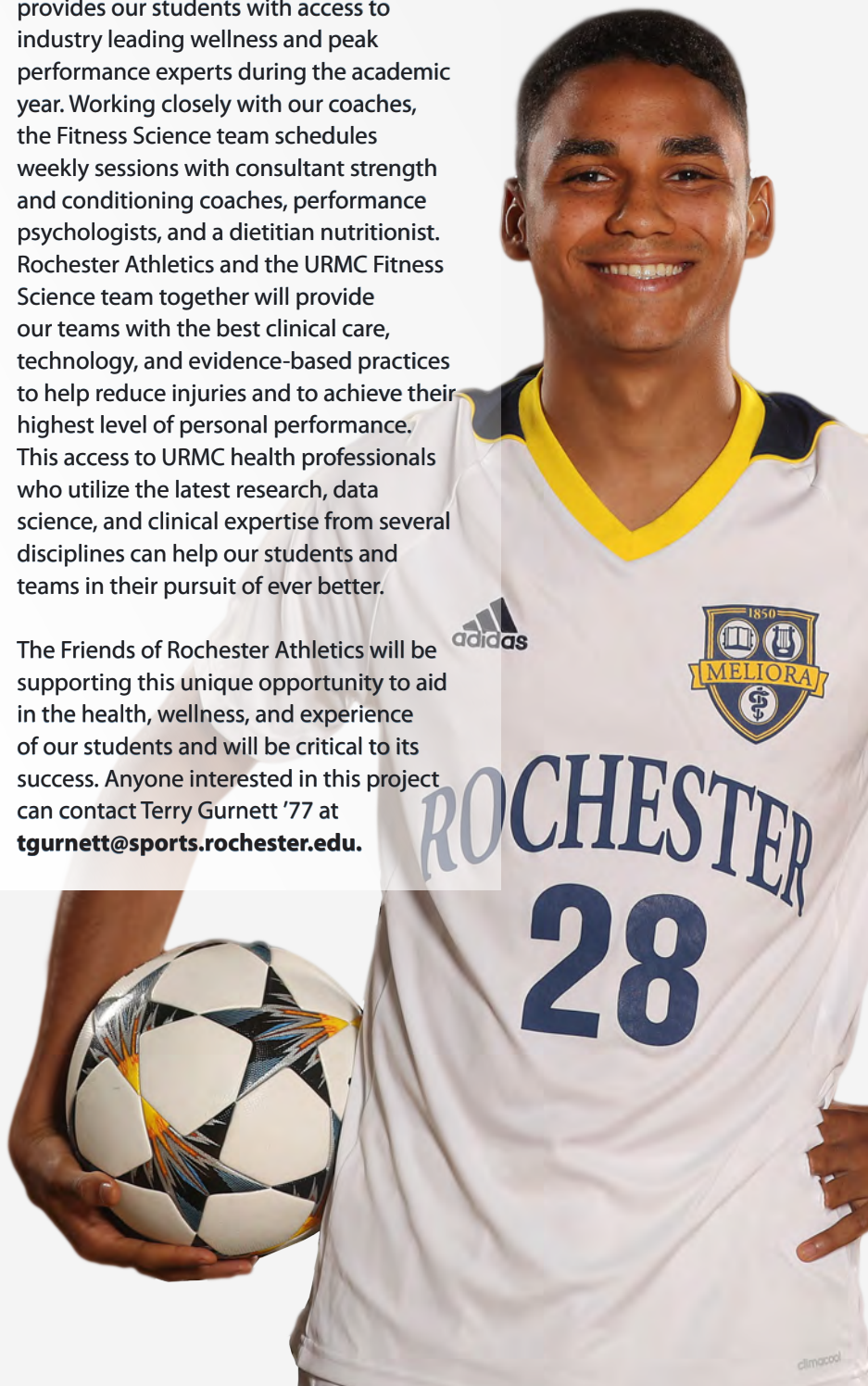
***The William “Buzz” Boomer Endowment for Swimming was established in his honor in 2008 to support Rochester's men's and women's swimming and diving program and the recreation program. For more information on the fund or to contribute, contact Terry Gurnett '77, Associate Director of Athletics, at (585) 275-6698 or [tgurnett@sports.rochester.edu](mailto:tgurnett@sports.rochester.edu).***

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

# FITNESS SCIENCE

Rochester Athletics is excited to continue our collaborative endeavor with the University of Rochester Medical Center's Fitness Science team. The URMC team provides our students with access to industry leading wellness and peak performance experts during the academic year. Working closely with our coaches, the Fitness Science team schedules weekly sessions with consultant strength and conditioning coaches, performance psychologists, and a dietitian nutritionist. Rochester Athletics and the URMC Fitness Science team together will provide our teams with the best clinical care, technology, and evidence-based practices to help reduce injuries and to achieve their highest level of personal performance. This access to URMC health professionals who utilize the latest research, data science, and clinical expertise from several disciplines can help our students and teams in their pursuit of ever better.

The Friends of Rochester Athletics will be supporting this unique opportunity to aid in the health, wellness, and experience of our students and will be critical to its success. Anyone interested in this project can contact Terry Gurnett '77 at [tgurnett@sports.rochester.edu](mailto:tgurnett@sports.rochester.edu).



## 13th Annual Friends of Rochester Athletics Golf Tournament

The 13th Annual Friends of Rochester Athletics Golf Classic was held on Thursday, June 17, 2021, on a picture-perfect day at the beautiful Ravenwood Golf Club in Victor, New York. Winning team at 17 under was Luke Flockerzi, Adrian Smalls '88, Kevin Downey, JC DeLass (pictured here left to right).

Watch for details about next year's event on June 16, 2022!

*Remember—there is a discount for early registration!*

# 2020-2021 DEPARTMENTAL AWARD WINNERS



## MERLE SPURRIER AWARD

**Eileen Bequette '21, who earned multiple All-America honors as a track and field performer and achieved academic distinction, has been selected as the winner of the Merle Spurrier Award for 2021.**

Bequette, from Albany, New York, has excelled as both a runner and a multi-event performer. She has qualified for the NCAA Division III national championship meet every year in her athletic career and earned All-America honors in the heptathlon as a sophomore. In her junior season, she qualified for NAAs in the 4x400 meter relay (which was ranked among the nation's top eight). The championships were canceled by the NCAA one night before they were supposed to start due to the pandemic.

Bequette is a six-time Liberty League champion in the heptathlon (outdoor track and field), pentathlon (indoor track and field), and the 4x400 meter relay. She was the 2018 All-Atlantic Region Heptathlon champion and the 2019 All-Atlantic Region champion in the 4x400 relay. She was named the Liberty League Women's Track and Field Rookie of the Year in 2018 and the Liberty League Women's Field Event Performer of the Year in 2019.

Her name is prevalent in the Rochester women's track and field record book. She is listed in the Top 10 all-time in 14 different events. Bequette majors in mechanical engineering and last fall, she was selected as a Lysle "Spike" Garnish Scholar-Athlete, signifying her as one of the Top 10 senior student-athletes. She has been honored for academics by the Liberty League (three years) and by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. She is a member of Engineers Without Borders.

## LOUIS ALEXANDER AWARD

**Ryan Algier '21 (T5), a dominant force in the paint for the men's basketball team and a high academic achiever, has been chosen as the winner of the Louis Alexander Alumni Award for 2021.**

Algier, from Fairport, New York, earned three post-season All-America awards and two pre-season All-America selections over the past two seasons. This year in a shortened six-game season, he led Rochester in multiple statistical categories, including scoring, rebounding, blocked shots, and field goal percentage. He was named as the D3hoops.com All-East/Northeast Region Player of the Year and First Team All-Region. D3hoops.com also named him Second Team All-American. He was a pre-season All-America choice by DIII News and the United States Basketball Writers Association.

Last year, he was a Third Team All-America selection and First Team All-Region by the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC), First Team All-UAA, and Second Team All-Region by D3hoops.com.

His academic achievements are impressive as well. He was named as an Academic All-American by the College Sports Information Directors of America and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, the renowned international honor society, in April. Last fall, he was selected as a Lysle "Spike" Garnish Scholar-Athlete, signifying him as one of the Top 10 senior student-athletes.

Algier is a double major in data science and business. He was a teaching assistant last fall for a data science class titled Data Mining. As a junior, he was a Provost's Circle Scholar, signifying the top junior student-athletes.

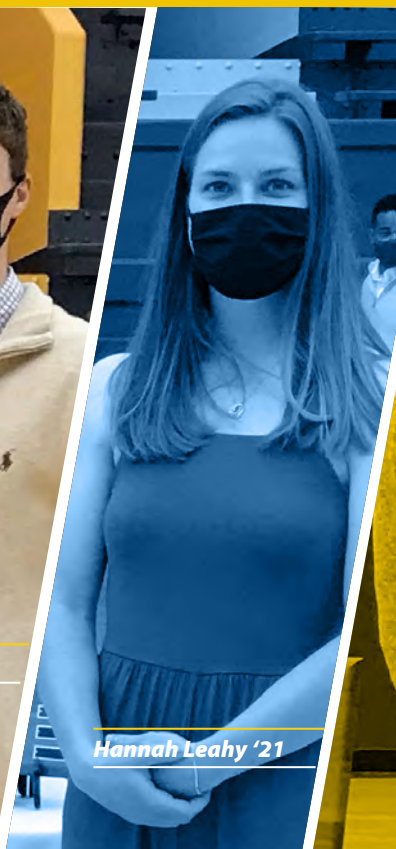
## SYLVIA FABRICANT AWARD

**Hannah Leahy '21, one of Rochester's most successful softball pitchers and a key leader on that team, has been selected as the winner of the Sylvia Fabricant Award from the University of Rochester's Department of Athletics and Recreation.**

Leahy won a career-high 12 decisions in the 2021 season, helping Rochester secure the top seed for the Liberty League playoffs and helping the team to a seventh-place finish



Ryan Algier '21



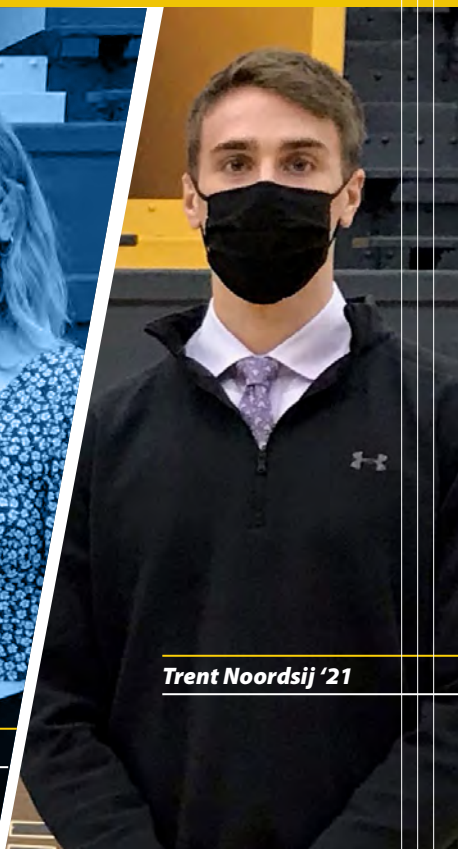
Hannah Leahy '21



Will Eisold '22



Sophia Guarnieri '21



Trent Noordsij '21

in the Division III NCAA Championships. She finished her pitching career ranked Top 5 in wins, innings pitched, appearances, and earned run average.

Head coach Margaret Yerdon-Grange said "In my 15 years of coaching at the college level, Hannah is truly one of the hardest workers I have ever coached. With all the passion Hannah plays the game of softball, she does so with the highest level of sportsmanship."

Leahy, from Swampscott, Massachusetts, majors in Brain and Cognitive Sciences. She is a member of the College Against Cancer Club (CACC), a Crisis Counselor, and a student-athlete representative on the Standing Committee on Alcohol Policy and Education.

### JOHN VITONE AWARD

Will Eisold '22, a defender on the men's soccer team has been selected as the winner of the John Vitone Award.

Eisold, a junior from Pipersville, Pennsylvania, plays the vital position among defenders known as the center back. When his head coach, Chris Apple, describes the core competencies of a center back, he uses the terms "consistent, dependable, self-assured, unflappable, vocal, tough, leader."

With Eisold patrolling in front of goal, Rochester reached the NCAA Division III playoffs in both the 2018 and 2019 seasons. The 2018 team advanced to the Final Four for the first time in school history with Eisold making some key plays to secure victories along the way.

Eisold is majoring in optical engineering. He has been a teaching assistant for geometrical optics and physical optics and an engineering intern and field inspector for Boucher and James Inc. Consulting Engineers.

### TERRENCE L. GURNETT FEMALE SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD

Sofia Guarnieri '21 is the 2021 winner of the Terrence L. Gurnett Award as the Female Scholar-Athlete of the senior class.

Guarnieri earned three varsity letters for swimming and was elected as captain in her senior year. She holds the fifth fastest time in school history in the 100 yard breaststroke and is a member of Top 10 relay teams in the 200 yard medley and 400 yard medley distances.

She is a native of Sleepy Hollow, New York, and majors in biomedical engineering. She was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, earned the Suzanne O'Brien book award for academic

excellence, and the Wells Award from the Edmund Hajim School of Engineering. She was a teaching assistant for an intro to biomedical engineering. She also served as a development and production intern for Brighter AB and was a research intern at the Hospital for Special Surgery.

### PETER DIPASQUALE MALE SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD

Trent Noordsij '21 (T5), a two-year starter and four-year letterman for the men's basketball team has been selected as the winner of the Peter DiPasquale Male Student-Athlete.

Noordsij, from New London, New Hampshire, played in every game for basketball over the last three seasons and started every game in each of the last two years. He was named to the University Athletic Association All-Academic Team three times and was named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Honors Court which recognizes players with high GPAs on all levels of college basketball.

He majors in mechanical engineering with a business minor. He was elected into Phi Beta Kappa, the internationally renowned honor society, and is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

# Spring Sports Wrap-Up

**Brian Amabilino Perez '22**



## **BASEBALL**

### **24-10, 16-2 (LIBERTY LEAGUE)**

#### **Team highlights**

- Finished in first place in Liberty League in regular season
- Won second consecutive Liberty League tournament title
- Advanced to second straight NCAA Regional appearance
- Hit .347 as a team

#### **Individual**

- Aaron Whitley '23 named All-American by the ABCA and D3 Baseball
- Whitley, John Moses '23, Joseph Rende '22, and Thomas Karpishin '23 named ABCA All-Region
- Whitley, Moses, and Rende named All-Region by D3 Baseball.com
- Brian McKinsey '22 named First Team Academic All-District by CoSIDA
- Whitley named Player of the Year in the Liberty League
- Moses named Liberty League Rookie of the Year
- Nate Mulberg '14 selected to serve as an assistant baseball coach for Team Israel in the 2020 Olympic Summer Games in Tokyo

## **MEN'S GOLF**

#### **Team Highlights**

- Won 4 of 5 events in the shortened spring schedule: Midvale Invitational hosted by St. John Fisher, Fisher Invitational at Cobblestone Creek CC, Fred Kravetz Invitational at Irondequoit CC/Oak Hill CC [what's the fourth?]
- Finished runner-up in both the Turning Stone Invitational and the Liberty League Championship
- The team earned the President's Special Recognition Team Academic Award, an honor from the GCAA bestowed upon only 14 Division III institutions nationally

#### **Individual Highlights**

- Senior Declan Hickton earned PING All-American honors as well as Cleveland/Srixon All-America Scholars honors
- Both Hickton and first-year Tom Liu earned all-conference honors in both the Liberty League and UAA and were named All-Region.
- Nishant Datta '21, Brendan Frain '22, and Hickton named GCAA All-America Scholars

## **MEN'S TENNIS (2-3, 0-0 UAA)**

#### **Team Highlights**

- Wins over northeast region opponents Saint Lawrence University and Rochester Institute of Technology
- Team awarded ITA All-Academic honors for 2020–21

#### **Individual Highlights**

- Junior captain Pasquale Procaccino '22 selected to All-UAA First Team for singles. Earned ITA Singles Northeast Regional ranking of 20. He was undefeated at #1 singles against DIII opponents with a 4-0 record. UAA Athlete of the Week honors for wins against Hobart #1 singles and #1 doubles with partner Kai Yuminaga '23
- Yuminaga and Procaccino named All-UAA First Team for doubles.
- Senior Connor Wagner '21 won at the #3 singles position in straight sets on Senior Day vs. Saint Lawrence University
- ITA Scholar Athlete honors earned by Antony Georgiadis '23, Kenneth Lee '23, Rafael Luna Santos '23, Thomas Xue '24, and Yuminaga '23.
- Antony Georgiadis '23, Connor Wagner '21, and Adrian Zhang '22 earned UAA Spring All-Academic honors

## WOMEN'S TENNIS (5-1, 0-0 UAA)

### Team Highlights

- Perfect undefeated season in DIII matches with wins over William Smith, Geneseo, Rochester Institute of Technology, Ithaca, and Saint Lawrence University.
- Team awarded ITA All-Academic honors for 2020–21.

### Individual Highlights

- Junior captain Cami Ruiz Vega '22 selected to All-UAA First Team for singles. Earned ITA Northeast regional singles ranking of #15. She was undefeated at #1 singles against DIII opponents with a 5-0 record. Earned UAA Athlete of the Week honors for wins against Geneseo at #1 singles and #1 doubles with partner, senior captain Yaya Wang '21.
- Senior Natalie Ramesh '21 selected to All-UAA First Team for singles. She was undefeated at #2 singles against DIII opponents with a 5-0 record.
- Wang and Ruiz Vega selected All-UAA First Team for doubles. They were undefeated at #1 doubles with a 4-0 record.
- ITA Scholar-Athlete honors earned by Alexandra Barcan '24, Jaclyn Dron '24, Shreya Mandalapu '24, Ramesh, Angel-lee Randone '24, Olivia Waysack '22, and Wang '21.
- Ramesh, Wang, and Olivia Waysack '22 earned UAA Spring All-Academic honors.

## WOMEN'S ROWING

### Team Highlights

- Shortened season due to Covid-19
- Defeated Nazareth College and St. John Fisher College by a considerable margin in opener 1V8+ race. Novice 2V raced time trial
- Split a dual meet with Union and St. Lawrence in week two. Union winning the first session over Rochester's 1V8+ and N4+. The Yellowjackets took the second session over St. Lawrence with only the 1V8+'s racing
- Week three saw William Smith best both the 1V8+ and N4+
- Regular season finish for 1V8+ was 3-2
- Novice 8+ wins Liberty League Championship with V4+ taking third
- Novice 8+ named Liberty League Novice Boat of the Year
- Four athletes named to Liberty League All-Academic Team
- Two athletes named as CRCA Scholar Student-Athletes
- Victoria Blackham named to second team All-Liberty League

## WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

### Team Highlights

- Rochester earned a runner-up finish at the Liberty League West Championships at Fauver Stadium in May
- The Rochester women earned a fourth-place team finish of 30 teams at the All-Atlantic Region Outdoor Championships
- The Yellowjackets finished 20th as a

team at the 2021 NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships, Rochester's highest finish at Outdoor Nationals since 1986.

- The Yellowjackets recognized by the USTFCCA with All-Academic Team honors, earning a team GPA of 3.58 following the Spring 2021 semester.

### Individual Highlights

- Graduate student Jordan Hurlbut '20 finished third in the 1500 meters at the NCAA Championships to earn her second career All-America honor, running 4:27.14 to break Josefa Benzone's 34-year-old school record. Hurlbut also set a new school record of 2:11.90 in the 800 meters at Roberts Wesleyan in May.
- The Yellowjacket 4x400 relay team of Michaela Burrell '21, Eileen Bequette '21, Kristin Hardy '23, and Susan Bansbach '23 finished third at the NCAA Championships and set a new school record of 3:46.33 in the prelim round at NCAA's. Bequette also competed at NAAs in the Heptathlon (13th place), Burrell competed in the 200 meters (16th place), and Bansbach competed in the 400 meters (16th place).
- Madeline O'Connell '23 set a new school record in the Pole Vault, clearing 12'6.25" (3.82m) at the AARTFC Championships. She would go on to finish 11th in her first appearance at the NCAA Championships and became the first Rochester athlete to qualify to NAAs in the women's pole vault. O'Connell also named Liberty League Co-Rookie



Jordan Hurlbut '20, '21 (M)

# Spring Sports Wrap-Up (cont.)

- of the Year for Women's Outdoor Track and Field.
- Burrell and Hurlbut named Co-Track Performers of the Meet at the Liberty League West Championships. Hurlbut captured record-setting league titles in the 800 meters and 1500 meters, and Burrell won four events—the 100 meters, 200 meters, 4x100 relay, and 4x400 relay.
  - Kari Leap '21 won the Liberty League West title in the Discus with a meet record throw of 137' 4" (41.87m), and also set a new Rochester school record with her toss of 143' 2" (43.63m) at the RIT Friday Meet in April.
  - Bequette, Burrell, and Hurlbut all named First Team Academic All-District by CoSIDA, and they move on to the national ballot for Academic All-America consideration, which will be announced in August

## **MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD**

### **Team Highlights**

- Rochester finished third as a team at the Liberty League West Championships at Fauver Stadium.
- The squad finished 11th of 32 teams at the All-Atlantic Region Outdoor Championships in May.
- The Rochester men captured regular season victories at the Nazareth College Triangular in late February and the UR-RIT-Ithaca Triangular in April.
- The Yellowjackets were recognized by the USTFCCCA with All-Academic Team honors, earning a team GPA of 3.50 following the Spring 2021 semester.

### **Individual Highlights**

- Team captain Terry Cook '21 set a new school record in the Pole Vault, clearing 15' 11" (4.85m) at Roberts Wesleyan in May. This jump also qualified him for the NCAA Championships, where he finished 12th in the nation.

- Scott Sikorski '23 was dominant in the 1500 meters, winning the Liberty League West title, finishing 10th at the NCAA Championships, and being named Men's Track Performer of the Year and Men's Rookie of the Year by the Liberty League. Sikorski's best time of 3:50.18 in the NCAA final moved him up to #3 on the UR All-Time list behind Tom Tuori '87 and Dick Keil '83.
- Gabe Lundy '23 joined Cook and Sikorski at the NCAA Championships after winning the Liberty League West title in the 400 Hurdles in a meet-record time of :53.13. Lundy finished 15th in his first appearance at the NCAA Championships.
- At the Liberty League West Championships, Daniel Ford '24 won the 800 meters in exciting fashion, outkicking the competition to run away with his first league title in 1:55.38. Ford would lower his lifetime best to 1:53.86 a week later at the Roberts Wesleyan Capstone Meet.
- In his first year of college competition, Ryan Swavely '23 notched the #6 performance in school history in the Weight Throw (16.14 meters) and the #3 performance in Rochester history in the Hammer (54.45 meters). He earned a runner-up finish in the Hammer at the Liberty League Championships and finished the season ranked #25 in NCAA Division III in that event.
- Lundy, Sikorski and Blaine Doyle '23 all named First Team Academic All-District by CoSIDA, and move on to the national ballot for Academic All-America consideration, which will be announced in August.

## **WOMEN'S SOFTBALL (35-10, 22-3 LIBERTY LEAGUE)**

### **Team Highlights**

- Set school-record 35 wins during the season.

- Clinched the Liberty League regular season title after a sweep at Clarkson. Hosted two rounds of the Liberty League Tournament and beat Ithaca 6-1 in the Liberty League Championships. The win gave the team an automatic qualifying bid to the NCAA Regional Tournament in Erie, Pennsylvania.
- The team won the NCAA Regional winning four straight games and became only the second team in program history to be crowned NCAA Regional Champions and advance to the NCAA National Championships in Salem, Virginia.
- The team's incredible run ended in Virginia after losses to Birmingham Southern 3-2 in nine innings and St. Thomas 2-1.

### **Individual Highlights**

- Hannah Keiper '23 named Liberty League Player of the Year and Emily Sharlach '23 named Rookie of the Year
- Alexis Pope '21, Toni Anne Hahn '21, and Sammi Re '21 awarded Academic All-District First Team honors by CoSIDA
- Pope named Third Team Academic All-American by CoSIDA
- Eight Yellowjackets honored by the Liberty League: Hannah Keiper '23, Sharlach, Jen Carson '21, Re, Marissa Russo '21, and Allison Beckwith '23 named First Team; Hannah Leahy '21 and Pope named Second Team; Hahn awarded Honorable Mention status.
- In the NCAA Regionals, Pope named Most Outstanding Player and Sharlach named Most Outstanding Pitcher and All-Regional Team, along with Marissa Russo '21, Alizah Ayon '22, Alexis Klee '23, and Madi Turner '23
- The NFCA named Carson Second Team All-Northeast Region, with Leahy and Keiper earning Third Team honors.
- Rochester staff named the NFCA Regional Coaching Staff of the Year



## MELIORA 2021

Meliora 2021 has been postponed due to the resurgence of Covid-19. A decision to reschedule for some time in spring 2022 or canceled altogether will be made sometime during the upcoming semester. This includes the University of Rochester Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Dinner and the Field Hockey Locker Room Dedication for Nancy Melvin Taylor '86. Please watch your mail/email for more details to come!

## HOMECOMING 2021

This year's Homecoming football game will be held as scheduled on October 9, 2021. We will be playing Ithaca College at Noon in Fauver Stadium. Due to the resurgence of Covid-19 we will not be hosting a Pre-Game Tailgate. We are hoping to resume our normal programming in 2022!

## WOMEN'S LACROSSE (3-6, 1-5 LIBERTY LEAGUE)

### Team Highlights

- Opened up the season with a 16-4 win at D'Youville College (DII) and an 11-3 win at Nazareth College.
- On the second back-to-back day against nationally Top 15 ranked William Smith battled to a 6-8 loss.
- Senior Day celebration with conference win vs. RIT 16-8
- Rochester named Academic Honor Squad by IWLCA.

### Individual Highlights

- Senior Mary Panepento '21 named to 2021 Empire Region Second Team, First Team All-Liberty League, CoSIDA Academic All-District, Garnish Scholar
- Senior Paige Smith '21 named Second Team All-Liberty League
- First-year Grace Crochiere named Honorable Mention All-Liberty League
- Senior Goalie Carlie Bendavid '21 finishes her career ranking sixth in goals against and ninth for most wins in Rochester lacrosse history
- Fourteen lacrosse student-athletes were named to Liberty League All Academic
- Seven lacrosse student-athletes named to IWLCA Division III Academic Honor Roll

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