

POINT BY POINT

The latest news about NJIT sports:
www.njithighlanders.com

Below: Honored members of the 1960 championship men's soccer team: (left to right) Roy Knutsen '62, Co-Captain William Garro '62, Ed Cruz '63, Don DePree '63, Roger Edwards '63, Andrew Handwerker '63, Alex Khowaylo '63, Bob McEntee '62, Peter Szabados '61 and Coach J. Malcolm Simon. Adam Zlotnick and Guy Cilento '84 accepted the commemorative medallion on behalf of their late fathers, Bob Zlotnick '63 and Co-Captain Guy Cilento '61.

A SPECIAL EVENING FOR ATHLETICS

By Tim Camp, Assistant Athletic Director for Sports Information

NJIT added three new members to its athletics Hall of Fame; celebrated the 50th anniversary of its 1960 men's soccer national championship; remembered late, great baseball coach John "Gene" Schmid; and honored a retiring physical education faculty member at annual Hall of Fame ceremonies held in the Campus Center in October.

The three new Hall of Fame inductees were: Tarik Rodgers (men's volleyball; class of 1996, ME); Jon Ross (men's soccer; class of 1956, ME); and the late Gregory Soriano (men's fencing; class of 1975, CE).

Duane Felczak, who is retiring at the end of 2010 after serving on the physical education faculty since 1974, was honored as the latest recipient of the Robert Swanson Award, named in honor of the late professor and director of athletics (1947 to 1972).

The 1960 Newark College of Engineering soccer team, celebrated at the event, finished the season undefeated, with 12 wins and one tie, and was champion of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). Members of that historic team who attended were joined by their coach, Mal Simon.

NJIT also remembered the late coach **Gene Schmid**, who died in June 2010. Schmid, head coach of NJIT baseball from 1973 to 1997, also served NJIT for more than 20 years as director of career planning and placement. He led the Highlanders to 393 victories and 11 conference championships. Coach Schmid's number 6 was retired. His children, attending with grandchildren, received gifts commemorating the night. Schmid's son, Kevin, spoke on behalf of the family.

Here is a brief look at the three



new Hall of Fame inductees:

Tarik Rodgers was a starter for NJIT men's volleyball for all four of his seasons. As a senior in 1995, he was the national Small College Player of the Year. He was named to the Eastern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association All-Tournament Team in 1994 and 1995 and was Most Valuable Player of the EIVA Division III championship. After graduating from NJIT, Rodgers earned an MBA in finance and strategy from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.

Jon Ross, who had served in the United States Army prior to attending NCE, was 25 years old as a senior in 1955. Ross was the

second NCE player ever honored on the National Soccer Coaches of America Eastern District Team. He began his post-college career in the Pittsburgh area and eventually retired in 1995 from Con Edison in New York.

The late **Greg Soriano** (1950-2007), a native of Newark, was one of the top NAIA fencers in the East. As a freshman, he was second in the East and in New Jersey; as a sophomore, he was NAIA East and New Jersey champion in the saber; as a junior, he was fourth in New Jersey and second in the NAIA East; and as a senior, he was second in the NAIA East and competed in the NAIA nationals. ■

VOLLEYBALL ALUMNA DIVISION I STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



From left: Women's Volleyball Head Coach JR Martins, Sabrina Baby, Associate Athletic Director Alexis Schug

Sabrina Baby '10, who starred for four years on the women's volleyball team, was honored as the female statewide Division I Student-Athlete of the Year for 2009-10 by the College Athletic Administrators of New Jersey. The award, given by the group comprised of athletic administrators from all of the state's two- and four-year institutions, is the latest of many received by Baby for her accomplishments, both athletic and academic.

The holder of every significant match, season and career record for digs at NJIT, Baby was both an NCAA national Division I statistical champion in 2009 and the first Academic All-America for NJIT in the school's Division I competition. On the court, Sabrina was the 2009 national statistical champion in digs per set, averaging 6.27 digs and leading the 2009 Highlanders to the national team statistical championship in that category as well. In December 2009, she became an Academic All-America honoree when the College Sports Information Directors of America voted her onto the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America Third Team. ■