

POINT BY POINT

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GREAT WEST AND GARDEN STATE BASEBALL HONORS



PHOTOS: LARRY LEVANTI

Tripp Davis

The NJIT baseball team closed out a winning season with recognition by the Great West Conference (GWC) and New Jersey Collegiate Baseball Association (NJCBA). Three players were selected for the 2012 All-GWC Team: Junior left-handed pitcher Tripp Davis was named to the All-GWC First Team while catcher Bryan Bleakley '12* and utility player DJ Roche* were named to the second team.

Four team members were voted onto the 2012 NJCBA Division I All-State Team. Ed Charlton, the Highlanders centerfielder who started every game (49), earned Rookie of the Year honors while Bleakley was named to the second team and freshmen Bill VanMeerbeke and Mike Rampone were selected for the All-Rookie Team.

NJIT is one of eight schools whose players are eligible for the NJCBA Division I All-State Teams, joining Fairleigh Dickinson (Teaneck), Monmouth, Princeton, Rider, Rutgers, Saint Peter's and Seton Hall. The teams are chosen at an annual meeting with representatives of each school (usually the head coach) holding one vote and being restricted from voting for their own players. ■

The NJIT women's tennis team captured its second straight Great West Conference title.

WOMEN'S TENNIS SERVES UP GREAT WEST WINS

The NJIT women's tennis team captured its second straight Great West Conference (GWC) title, topping second-seeded Seattle, 4-1, at the 2012 Women's Tennis Championships.

With a school-record 21 wins, NJIT became the first team to win back-to-back conference championships in the program's sixth season competing at the Division I level under head coach Mike Sowter. Last season the Highlanders finished with a 17-8 overall mark.

Ksenia Kuzmenko,* a sophomore, and Monika Graff,* a junior, were named to the GWC First Team while rookie Carolina Zanotta was recognized on the

GWC Second Team and named GWC Newcomer of the Year.

Graff was also named Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Northeast Regional winner of the Arthur Ashe Award for Leadership and Sportsmanship. The ITA Arthur Ashe Award recognizes outstanding individuals in all divisions at the regional and national levels. It is presented to student-athletes who exhibit exceptional sportsmanship and leadership on the court, as well as for scholastic and extracurricular achievements.

Graff, a mechanical engineering major from Lohmar, Germany, earned ITA Scholar-Athlete recognition last year. She finished with a team-leading 23-4 overall record in her second season at NJIT and went 15-2 at third singles, 2-0 at the second spot, 1-0 at fourth singles and 6-2 in tournament play. ■



Ksenia Kuzmenko



Monika Graff

*Dorman honors scholars