

ATHLETICS

Senior Recognized with Squash's 'Heisman'

SQUASH PLAYER BENJAMIN FISCHER '13 went up against the nation's top players all season in the No. 1 and No. 2 positions on a Rochester squad that finished fifth in the nation. As the season came to an end in February, the economics and business strategies major from Lucerne, Switzerland, was recognized for more than his talent on the court as he was named the College Squash Association's 2012 Skillman Award winner, an honor given annually to a top men's collegiate squash senior player.

Considered college squash's version of NCAA Division I football's Heisman Trophy, the award recognizes not only top players, but also players who demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship, leadership, and contributions to collegiate squash.

"Beni has been a model of consistency, fairness, and commitment in his work ethic, behavior on court, and demeanor off court," says Rochester coach Martin Heath. "He has accepted his wins and his losses with equal grace and has assumed his leadership responsibilities within the team with quiet assuredness and good humor."

Fischer finished his four years as a Yellowjacket with a 38-23 record, an impressive mark considering he has never played below No. 3 for the team.

A three-time All-American, Fischer earned first team honors in 2010 and 2011 and second team in 2009.

Fischer finished the 2012 team squash season by defeating Kenneth Chan of Yale



MODEL PLAYER: Squash player Benjamin Fischer "has been a model of consistency, fairness, and commitment," both on and off the court, says coach Martin Heath.

University at No. 1, helping Rochester earn fifth place in the Potter Cup Tournament, the equivalent of squash's national championship.

The award is named for John Skillman,

who led Yale University to 16 national titles during his 41 years as the Bulldogs head coach. Skillman won the United States professionals tournament three times in the 1930s. **R** —SCOTT SABOCHECK

HIGHLIGHTS

Winter Sports: A Brief Roundup

BASKETBALL: The women's team finished 19-6 overall and the men were 17-8. Both were 8-6 in the UAA. Both teams broke the single-season record for free throw accuracy. The men shot 78 percent (380 of 487), barely nipping the record of 77.9 percent (478-614) set by the 1991-92 team. The women shot 75.5 percent from the line (283-375), smashing the record of 71.8 percent (369-514) set last year. Jodie Luther '12 led the women in scoring (10.6 ppg), finishing her career with 1,077 points and eighth all-time. The men's top two scorers were John DiBartolomeo '13 at 19.1 and Nate Novosel '12 at 12.4. Novosel finished his career with

1,197 points, 11th all-time. In the season finale, a 92-73 win over Emory, DiBartolomeo scored a career high 40 points, the highest single-game total for a Rochester men's player since Chris Fite '92 scored 40 against St. John Fisher in 1992.

SWIMMING: Sara Spielman '13 and Rachel deLahunta '12 both provisionally qualified for the NCAA Division III diving championships on the three-meter board as February came to a close. Final selections were waiting a committee's decision in early March. The women finished sixth at UAAs, the men seventh. Rochester was ranked in the top 25 in both swimming polls.

The Yellowjackets swept the Liberty League championships in December at RPI.

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD: Rochester's women were third and the men fourth overall at the New York State championships at Hamilton College in late February. James Vavra '12 was voted the men's track athlete of the meet after winning the 3,000-meter and 5,000-meter races. For the women, Becky Galasso '14 won the 500-meter race, breaking a 13-year-old building record in the process and qualifying for the ECAC championships. Galasso anchored the winning 4-by-400-meter relay which also qualified for ECACs. —Dennis O'Donnell