



News Release

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MEAC Announces Tennis All-Conference Honors

BCU's Matsuba and NSU's Zyhmantovich win Player of the Year Honors

NORFOLK, Va., April 16, 2014 - Norfolk State's **Dzmitry Zyhmantovich** and Bethune-Cookman's **Mina Matsuba** were named the 2014 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Men's and Women's Tennis Players of the Year, as voted by the conference's head tennis coaches and sports information directors.

Matsuba was named Rookie of the Year for the women, while Bethune-Cookman head coach **Tim Pleasant** was selected as the Women's Tennis Coach of the Year.

Howard's **Ismael Kaouache** earned the men's Rookie of the Year honor and Coppin State head coach **Diwani Lewis** was selected as the Men's Tennis Coach of the Year.

Matsuba, posted a 20-4 singles record at the number one position, with an undefeated 6-0 mark in southern divisional play. She teamed up with Maria Sablina to tally a 17-5 doubles record, including an undefeated 4-0 mark in MEAC play at number one doubles. The freshman was the MEAC Player of the Week on February 19, the MEAC Rookie of the Week on March 9, and an HBCU National Flight Winner.

Pleasant earns his first Coach of the Year award for the women's tennis program. In his second year at the helm, the Lady Wildcats recorded an 18-9 overall record and posted an unblemished 6-0 mark in conference play to earn the top seed in the south.

Joining Matsuba on the women's First-Team are teammates Chinatsu Kajiwara and Elizabeth Nyenwe, South Carolina State's Intissar Rassif, Howard's Katelyn Stokes and Delaware State's Ksenia Kozlova.

Zyhmantovich, who earned the 2013 MEAC Rookie of the Year honor, posted an unblemished 4-0 mark in conference play and a 24-9 overall record at the number one singles position. He was the MEAC Player of the Week three times (March 27, April 2, and April 9). The sophomore finished with a 6-4 mark in doubles play to help the Spartans clinch the number two seed in the south.

Kaouache posted a 5-9 singles record at the number two position for the Bisons. The freshman also registered a 2-11 doubles record at the number two doubles position. Kaouache was the MEAC Rookie of the Week on March 21.

The 2014 Men's Coach of the Year honor is the first for the Eagles head coach. Lewis guided Coppin State to a third seed in the north after posting a 4-9 overall record and 2-2 in MEAC play.

Along with Zyhmantovich on the First-Team is teammate Peter Pello, Florida A&M's Admire Mushonga and Carlos Waitman, Martin Figura and Martin Kobza of South Carolina State.

The 2014 MEAC Men's and Women's Tennis Championships begins with women's play on Thursday, April 17 at 10 a.m., with the men starting at 1:30 p.m. The women's semi-final rounds start on Friday at 8:30 a.m. followed by the men at Noon. The Championship concludes on Saturday with the women's final beginning at 9 a.m. followed by the men's title match at Noon.

-Attached 2014 All-Conference Teams-



2014 MEAC Men's and Women's Tennis All-MEAC Teams

As Voted by the Conference's Head Tennis Coaches and Sports Information Directors

Women

Player of the Year: Mina Matsuba, Bethune-Cookman

Rookie of the Year: Mina Matsuba, Bethune-Cookman

Coach of the Year: Tim Pleasant, Bethune-Cookman

First Team

Name	School	Class	Hometown
Chinatsu Kajiwara	Bethune-Cookman	Jr.	Fukuoka, Japan
Mina Matsuba	Bethune-Cookman	Fr.	Mie, Japan
Elizabeth Nyenwe	Bethune-Cookman	Sr.	London, England
Ksenia Kozlova	Delaware State	Jr.	Moscow, Russia
Katelyn Stokes	Howard	Sr.	Lanham, Md
Intissar Rassif	South Carolina State	Fr..	Casablanca, Morocco

Second Team

Name	School	Class	Hometown
Gaby Chinchilla	Bethune-Cookman	Jr.	San Salvador, El Salvador
Chelsi Russell	Morgan State	So.	Nassau, Bahamas
Elizaveta Gordeeva	Norfolk State	Fr.	Minsk, Belarus
Aissa Muamba	North Carolina Central	So.	Laval, Canada
Klara Dohanlova	South Carolina State	So.	Trinec, Czech Republic
Marketa Marcanikova	South Carolina State	Fr.	Frydlant Nad Ostravici, Czech Republic

Men

Player of the Year: Dzmitry Zyhmantovich, Norfolk State

Rookie of the Year: Ismael Kaouache, Howard

Coach of the Year: Diwani Lewis, Coppin State

First Team

Name	School	Class	Hometown
Admire Mushonga	Florida A&M	Sr.	Mutare, Zimbabwe
Carlos Waitman	Florida A&M	So.	Cordoba, Argentina
Peter Pello	Norfolk State	Sr.	Halmstad, Sweden
Dzmitry Zyhmantovich	Norfolk State	So.	Minsk, Belarus
Martin Figura	South Carolina State	Fr.	Havirov, Czech Republic
Martin Kobza	South Carolina State	Fr.	Brno, Czech Republic

Second Team

Name	School	Class	Hometown
Walid Gtari	Bethune-Cookman	So.	Arianna, Tunisia
Zack Evenden	Florida A&M	Sr.	London, England
Henry Drakeford	Hampton	Sr.	Atlanta, Georgia
Duk Young-Park	Morgan State	Jr.	Silver Spring, Md.
Daniel Grauel	Norfolk State	Jr.	Munich, Germany
Robin Riethmueller	Norfolk State	So.	Balingen, Germany