

2014-15 MEN'S & WOMEN'S TENNIS



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NEC TENNIS FACTS & FIGURES

NEC Men's Tennis Player of the Month

Sept. 30Zach Morris, BRY & Arvis Berzins, FDU

NEC Men's Tennis Rookie of the Month

Sept. 30Matt Kuhar, BRY & Charlton Boyd, WC

NEC Women's Tennis Player of the Month

Sept. 30Shreya Pasricha, FDU

NEC Women's Tennis Rookie of the Month

Sept. 30Ashanti Campfield, BRY



NEC TENNIS AWARD WINNERS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

NEC Men's Tennis Co-Player of the Month

Zach Morris, Bryant

Sr., Garden City, NY/Garden City

With the graduation of NEC all-star Dana Parziale, Morris took over at the #1 singles spot for the Bulldogs and hasn't missed a beat. He posted a perfect 7-0 singles mark in the month of September, including the #1 flight title at the Brown Invitational. Morris knocked off opponents from Merrimack, UConn and Brown before downing teammate Oliver Welsh in the championship match. The Garden City, NY native also defeated #1 players from Niagara, Colgate and Binghamton at the Binghamton Invitational. Morris finished 6-1 in doubles play for the month and teamed with Max Vogt at the #1 spot to capture the Brown Invitational crown. A second team All-NEC pick in both singles and doubles last season, Morris won the deciding match against FDU to give Bryant its first-ever NEC championship last spring.



NEC Men's Tennis Co-Player of the Month

Arvis Berzins, Fairleigh Dickinson

Sr., Adazi, Latvia/Riga Centre Language School

Berzins, the three-time NEC Player of the Year, picked up right where he left of last season. The Adazi, Latvia product claimed the "A" flight championship at the Stony Brook Invitational and the #1 flight title at the Army Shootout en-route to an 8-1 singles mark over the month of September. At the Stony Brook Invite, he ousted opponents from Stevens Tech, Stony Brook and Quinnipiac before taking the title with a 6-4, 6-3 win over Matthew Henrich of Stevens. Berzins also notched wins against Marist, Army and Niagara at Army. Berzins recently traveled to Tulsa to compete in the ITA All-American Pre-Qualifier. Seeded second, he received a bye then downed Mississippi State's Juan Cruz Estevarena before falling to North Carolina's Robert Kelly in the third round. Berzins also claimed the "A" flight doubles title with Gonzalo Quintana at the Stony Brook Invitational.



NEC Men's Tennis Co-Rookie of the Month

Matt Kuhar, Bryant

Fr., Smithfield, RI/Smithfield

A local product who appeared in the "Faces in the Crowd" section of Sports Illustrated over the summer, Kuhar made an immediate impact for the Bulldogs in his first collegiate tests last month. Kuhar went 4-2 in singles play, starting with a pair of #2 singles wins against Colgate and Binghamton in a 2-1 weekend at the Binghamton Invitational. The following week, he reached the semifinal round in #1 singles at the Brown Invitational, posting wins over Boston U and UConn before dropping a three-setter to teammate Oliver Welsh. In doubles play, the freshman went 6-1 on the month, winning the #2 doubles flight at the Brown Invite with Ernesto Arguello.



NEC Men's Tennis Co-Rookie of the Month

Charlton Boyd, Wagner

Fr., Shreveport, LA/Loyola College Prep

Boyd began his collegiate career by amassing an 8-1 singles record, including posting a perfect 5-0 mark during Wagner's 5-0 start in dual match play. He also advanced to the 'B' flight finals of the Hofstra Invitational where he lost in the championship match to the Pride's Ricky Hendler. Boyd combined with Sam Flaxman to go 6-2 in doubles play, highlight by a 'B' flight runner-up finish at the Hofstra Invitational.



NEC Women's Player of the Month

Shreya Pasricha, Fairleigh Dickinson

So., New Delhi, India/Amity International School

Pasricha, a second team All-NEC honoree as a freshman last season, wrapped September with an 8-2 singles mark and captured the "B" flight singles title at Navy's Bill & Sandra Moore Invitational. On her way to the tourney crown, she posted straight set wins against players from St. Bonaventure and Loyola (MD), before rallying from a set down against Kimmy Herrock of James Madison to reach the final. She had little trouble in the title match, dispatching Navy's Amanda Keller, 6-2, 6-1. Pasricha also reached the "C" flight final at the Stony Brook Invitational and the round of 16 at the West Point Invitational.



NEC Women's Tennis Rookie of the Month

Ashanti Campfield, Bryant

Fr., Stratford, CT/Bunnell

Campfield compiled a 4-2 singles record in her first month of collegiate tennis. She picked up a 6-0, 6-1 win over Isable Bagi of Holy Cross at #6 singles in her first dual match on September 20. Campfield posted a pair of wins at the Army Invitational and won her first match at the Stony Brook Invitational before dropping a three-setter to NEC Player of the Week Shreya Pasricha of FDU in the following round. In doubles action, Campfield went 7-2 in September with partner Linnea Sjobberg, advancing to the "A" flight semifinals at the Stony Brook Invitational.



FDU'S BERZINS, BRYANT'S MORRIS OFF TO SCINTILLATING STARTS

Already in midseason form, FDU senior **Arvis Berzins (Adazi, Latvia/Riga Centre Language School)** and Bryant senior **Zach Morris (Garden City, NY/Garden City)** tore up the circuit in September en-route to NEC Men's Tennis Co-Player of the Month honors.

It shouldn't come as a surprise that Berzins added the sixth weekly honor of his career. He is the lone three-time NEC Player of the Year in league history and has his sites set on a fourth for the Knights, last year's NEC runner-up. Berzins rolled to the "A" flight championship at the Stony Brook Invitational and the #1 flight title at the Army Shoot-out en-route to an 8-1 singles mark over the month of September. He also knocked off Mississippi State's Juan Cruz Estevarena at the ITA All-American Pre-Qualifier in Tulsa.

When last we saw Morris, he was clinching the winning point for the Bulldogs in the 2014 NEC title match, securing the program's first conference championship. Now moved up to #1 singles with the graduation of Dana Parziale, Morris posted a perfect 7-0 singles mark in September, including the #1 flight title at the Brown Invitational.

NEC Newswire:

- September saw the resignation of Fairleigh Dickinson head men's and women's coach **Jonathan Buchman**. Buchman was named NEC Women's Tennis Coach of the Year in each of his two years with the Knights, leading the FDU to back-to-back NEC Tournament titles. He also guided FDU to the NEC men's championship in 2013.
- The NEC welcomed three new women's coaches this fall. LIU Brooklyn hired **Rose Ketmayura**, former Terrier player **Alicia Browne** took over at St. Francis Brooklyn and **Adrienn Hidvegi** assumed the reins at Wagner.

Ketmayura, a four-year letterwinner at Nebraska, served as an assistant coach at both Colgate and Dartmouth before joining the Blackbirds. She won 37 career matches for the Huskers.

Browne was a co-captain for the Terriers and graduated in 2005. She also

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MTEN: #FastFact The five Wagner wins supersede the Seahawks' total for the last six years combined (4) @NECSports @NECHoopsRon

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Good luck @FDUKnights - "the best motivation always comes from within" pic.twitter.com/qqs0069qVW

@GrymesHillGoons

Good luck to @WagnerWTennis today vs Monmouth. Get that W! #showthem-whotherealhawksare #seahawknation #green&white

ran track at the school and was the recipient of the 2005 Scholar Athlete of the Year Award.

Hidvegi helped UNLV to three-straight Mountain West titles from 2008-10 and appeared in the NCAA Tournament in all four of her campaigns. She earned All-MWC honors as a junior and her 88 wins rank eighth in school history while her .704 winning percentage is ninth.

NEC Men's Wrapup:

- Under the tutelage of Danny Kreyman, Wagner is off to a 5-0 start, which eclipses the Seahawks' combined win total of four over the previous six seasons. In wins over Holy Cross, Siena, La Salle, Saint Peter's and NEC rival St. Francis Brooklyn, the Seahawks have dropped just three matches. Eight freshmen are on this year's retooled roster, including NEC Co-Rookie of the Month **Charlton Boyd (Shreveport, LA/Loyola College Prep)**, who is off to an 8-1 singles start to his career.
- Bryant's **Matt Kuhar (Smithfield, RI/Smithfield)** graced the pages of SI over the summer, then launched his collegiate career with the NEC Co-Rookie of the Month award. Two-time NEC Coach of the Year Ron Gendron didn't need to leave town to recruit Kuhar, and the Smithfield native hasn't disappointed, winning four-of-six singles matches.

Quotable

"To dominate the A Flight, putting 3 guys in semifinal and two in final was amazing. To win the A Flight two years in a row with a senior captain (Zach Morris) stepping up just shows how much harder we work in the off season than others in our region. It's very encouraging to see our seniors improve year after year rather than mail it in, truly validating all we do."

- Bryant men's tennis coach Ron Gendron on his team's performance at the Brown Invite

2015 NEC Tennis Championships

at Mercer County Tennis Center - West Windsor, NJ

Friday, April 17

Men's & Women's Quarterfinals

Saturday, April 18

Men's & Women's Semifinal Matches

Sunday, April 19

Men's & Women's Championship Matches

He already holds wins against players from Colgate, Binghamton, Boston U and UConn.

- Mount St. Mary's began the fall season with tournaments at Bucknell and George Mason before securing an 8-1 dual match win over Shepherd. After tying for the team lead with 12 singles wins a year ago, sophomore **Mateo DeSomocurcio (Lima, Peru/Leonardo Da Vinci)** has posted a team-best four singles victories thus far in 2014-15. At the Bucknell Tournament to begin the season, DeSomocurcio compiled a 3-1 singles record at flight A, winning the consolation bracket.

- Sacred Heart freshman **Francisco Del Valle Diaz (Colegio San Ignacio De Loyola)** posted a 4-2 record in singles play and 4-2 doubles mark to open his collegiate career.

NEC Women's Wrapup:

- FDU sophomore **Shreya Pasricha (New Delhi, India/Amity International School)** picked up NEC Player of the Month honors on the strength of an 8-2 singles record and the "B" flight singles title at Navy's Bill & Sandra Moore Invitational.
- There were no freshman jitters for Bryant's **Ashanti Campfield (Stratford, CT/Bunnell)**, who compiled a 4-2 record in

singles and 7-2 doubles slate with partner Linnea Sjobberg. She was named NEC Rookie of the Month.

- Sacred Heart junior **Katie DeRienzo (Douglaston, NY/St. Francis Prep)** reached the flight 1 semifinals at the Saint Joseph's Invitational and finished 4-2 in singles this past month.

- Wagner has jumped out to a 3-1 start behind sophomore **Sarah Dionisio (East Yaphank, NY/Longwood)**, who is 3-1 at #3 singles.

- A pair of freshmen, **Sruthi Kamprath (Sinking Spring, PA/Wilson)** and **Cassandra Powell (Vienna, WV/Parkersburg)**, lead Mount St. Mary's with three singles victories apiece. In the Mount's first dual match of the season, a 9-0 win at Shepherd, sophomore **Erin Benefiel (Lake Mary, FL/Lake Mary Prep)** played No. 1 singles for the first time in her career, cruising to a 6-4, 6-4 win.

- LIU Brooklyn's **Sanne Louwers (Nunen, Netherlands/Mgr. Cuytenlaan)**, the 2013-14 NEC Player of the Year, advanced to the round of 16 at the Army Invitational before dropping a three-setter to Seton Hall's Luize Stike.