

One of the most successful seasons in the history of Emerson College Athletics was celebrated on May 3 as the second annual Winter/Spring Athletic banquet was held in the Bobbi Brown & Steven Plofker Gym. Great Northeast Athletic Conference Championships by the women's softball and women's lacrosse teams highlighted the festivities.

Coordinator of Athletic Operations Roger Crosley led off the brunch by introducing and recognizing each team and its accomplishments. The Emerson Spring season teams compiled a 72-36 overall won-loss record for a winning percentage of .667. The three winter teams were 42-32 (.568). Overall for the year the aggregate winning percentage was .609 with women's teams winning over 70% of all the contests they played.

Cross country runner Nicole Silva (Sr., Ludlow, Mass.), a two time captain of the team, received the Scholar-Athlete of the Year award presented to the senior student-athlete with an outstanding grade point average. A Communication Sciences and Disorders major, Silva competed in cross country for four years and gave the student-athlete address at the banquet.



Basketball provided the two Student-Athletes of the Year. From the men's team, Jeremy Shannon (Jr., Lowell, Mass.) was the honoree, and Maude Okrah (Sr., Rutland, Mass.) was selected from the women's team.

Shannon was the GNAC Defensive Player of the Year for the second consecutive year, and scored his 1,000th career point in January. A first-team GNAC All-Star for the second straight season, Shannon was also named second team All-New England.

Okrah, like Shannon was the GNAC Defensive Player of the Year for the second straight year. She is a two-time team captain and a two-time GNAC All-Conference pick.

The women's basketball team had the best season in its history winning 21 games and losing only nine. The Lions advanced to the GNAC Championship Game, and made it to the semifinals of the New England Division III Tournament. Lauren Zaniboni (So., San Diego, Calif., right) was named the team most valuable player and Kathy Andrade (So., Hull, Mass., left) won the Coaches Award.



In men's basketball, the team finished second in the GNAC regular season standings, and Like Shannon, Bryan Rouse (Jr., East Greenwich, R.I.) scored his 1,000<sup>th</sup> career point. Shannon was named the MVP and Anthony Remias (Sr., Cranberry Township, Pa.) won the Unsung Hero Award.

A first year program, the men's volleyball team won four matches and showed they could be competitive against established New England Division III Programs. Jeff Ackerstein (Fr., Newton, Mass.) was chosen as the Team MVP and Evan Ong (So., Pasadena, Calif.) was named the Coaches Award winner.



The GNAC's leading hitter, Pete Karl (Jr., Wallingford, Conn, left) was named the baseball MVP. The entire Class of 2012 on the team received the Unsung Hero award. There were 11 first year students that competed for the Lions.

The men's lacrosse program won more games than in any other season this decade. Midfielder Jake Frank (Sr., Bethany, Conn., right photo on right) was the choice for most valuable player, and Joe Greaney (Sr., Medfield, Mass., right phot on left), the team's leading scorer from

his attack position was given the Coaches Award.



The women's lacrosse team took the GNAC title with a 18-9 victory over arch rival Norwich University. Maeghan Ross (So., Wrentham, Mass., left phot on right), the GNAC Offensive Player of the Year and GNAC Tournament MVP was picked as the most valuable player and Katie Dodge (So., West Newbury, Mass., left photo on left) received Unsung Hero honors.

Men's tennis advanced to the GNAC Championship match and two first-team All - Conference picks received awards. David Fein (Sr., Monroe, Conn., right photo left) was named

the Most Valuable Player, and Brant Buckley (Berklee Sr., Chester Springs, Pa., right photo right) won the Coaches Award. They are pictured with head coach Mason Astley



In Softball, Emerson's #1 pitcher Kelsey Tuthill (FY., Middletown, Conn., left photo on right), the GNAC Pitcher and Rookie of the Year and the MVP of the softball championship was also named the team MVP. All-region centerfielder Bridget Farago (Jr., Oneonta, N.Y., left photo on left) was selected for the Coaches Award. They flank Emerson head coach Phil McElroy who was honored as the GNAC Coach of the Year.

Sixteen members of the class of 2009 received senior awards for their participation throughout their careers. From baseball, Peter Hall (North Canton, Ohio) and Alva Drucker (Berklee, Toronto, Ontario); men's basketball players Remias and Samuel J. Newman-Beck (West Medford, Mass.); women's basketball players Okrah, Lauren Vassallo (Oxford, Conn.), and Briana Papa (Camillus, N.Y.), men's lacrosse players Frank, Greaney, John Lanza (Mamaroneck, N.Y.), and Tim Pelletier (Walpole, Mass.); softball players Megan Kaye (Miami, Fla.), Catie McDonough (North Adams, Mass.), Papa, and Jess Silva (Somerset, Mass.); and Fein from tennis all received a photo plaque and Emerson Athletics fleece jacket.