ROCHESTER SOFTBALL

Back-to-Back NCAA Regional Appearances

The first day at the NCAA Division III Regional tournament senior pitcher Brittany Grage tossed a complete game 3-hit shutout to lift the University of Rochester to a 4-0 victory over Penn St.-Berks. In the third game of the tournament the Yellowjackets faced Moravian College. In the bottom of the ninth, Moravian senior, Dior hit a walk-off single to center to lift Moravian to a 3-2 victory over Rochester. The run off Grage was the first allowed by Grage in over 30 innings in the circle. The second day of the tournament the Yellowjackets had a series of misplays in the top of the third, which led to three runs for the Greyhounds. The Yellowjackets didn’t get a hit until pinch-hitter Ashley Amidon singled up the middle with two down in the fifth and finally broke through in the sixth, scoring two runs. Rochester picked up some momentum with a key defensive play in the top of the seventh against the heart of Moravian’s order. The Yellowjackets were able to load the bases for Grage with two outs; she then hit a walk-off grand slam. The home run was Grage’s 15th of the season and gave her the Rochester single-season record. She was tied with Nina Korn who hit 14 last year. The victory set up a second elimination game with the winner advancing to the Super Regional Round of the championships next weekend. In game five, Moravian scored one in the first and two more in the fourth, one of those unearned. They drove in the fourth run in the fifth. Rochester produced an un-earned run in the sixth. Gabriela Alatorre doubled to the base of the centerfield fence and Brunet came around to score. Moravian pitcher, Novak, then struck out the last two batters to end it.

Three straight shutouts to win Liberty League

The Yellowjackets hosted the Liberty League conference tournament for the second straight season. The top seed UR (29-13) shutout all three of its opponents in the tournament, defeating Skidmore 5-0 in the opening round, RPI 6-0 in the semifinals and then Union 5-0 in the finals. For the second straight season, the University of Rochester Softball team captured the Liberty League Tournament crown and earned the conference’s automatic bid into the NCAA Division III Tournament.

In the tournament opener against Skidmore College sophomore Eleni Wechsler tossed a complete game shutout for Rochester, allowing just three hits and one walk while striking out four batters. Next, the Yellowjackets had to face RPI with Senior Brittany Grage on the mound. Grage pitched excellent with only three hits and six strikeouts, advancing UR to the Championship round. Facing Union with Grage in the circle again; she tossed another shutout for the second straight day, allowing just four hits, no walks and three strikeouts. The senior took sole possession of first place in UR history with her 20th solo shutout during her four years, just surpassing Beth Ameno, class of 2009. Blackshear finished as tournament leader with 7 RBIs, more than doubling her total of six from regular season. She along with Wechsler, Alatorre and Grage made Rochester’s All-Tournament team. The win was the first by the Liberty League Tournament host since 2010 when Union won on its home field. The University of Rochester then advanced to the NCAA Division III Regional Tournament.

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Senior pitcher/infielder Brittany Grage was named a First Team All-American in Division III softball by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association.

Grage is the fifth Rochester softball player in the last eight years to earn All-American honors and just the second to be named as a First Team All-American. This honor caps off an outstanding year for Grage, both statistically and in terms of honors received. She was named First Team All-Northeast Region by the NFCA, Liberty League Player of the Year and First Team All-Liberty League, First Team All-University Athletic Association, and to the UAA’s All-Tournament Team. Grage was named the Most Outstanding Player of the Liberty League playoffs. Additionally, she was named to the NCAA Regional All-Tournament Team.

Grage started all 42 games for Rochester this season. She led the team in average with a .419 stick (57-136). She scored 35 runs (tied for the team lead), hit 11 doubles (second), two triples, and 15 home runs, which is a single-season record. She drove in 58 runs which ties the single-season mark.

On the first day of the Liberty League playoffs, Grage was named a co-winner of the University of Rochester’s Merle Spurrier Award. It is given to the senior woman who has made the most outstanding contribution to women’s sports by demonstrating such qualities as leadership, enthusiasm, and service in her four years at the University.
Veterans & Newcomers will Guide ‘Jackets in 2016

After graduating seven seniors last year the Rochester Yellowjackets have nine additions to the roster. Please welcome our freshman class: Elizabeth Bourne of Orchard Park, NY, Raegan Herne of Bolivar, NY, Gianna Melillo of Glenmoore, PA, Logan Mohr of New Hope, PA, Harleigh Kaczegowicz of Trumbull, CT, Rachael Pletz of Gibsonia, PA, Caitlin Price of Corning, NY, Jacqueline Yencik of Pittsburgh, PA, and a Junior transfer with college experience from Brookdale Community College, Courtney Semkewycz of Atlantic Highlands, NJ.

Feeling confident coming off a successful fall season that they will make great additions to the program, giving depth in all positions and competing for playing time.

Spotlight On...

Jessica Sorrentino
Class of 2008

Jessica Sorrentino graduated from the University of Rochester in 2008, with a degree in Molecular Genetics and the first Rochester softball player to earn an All-American honor. Sorrentino explained during her graduate school interviews, professors were impressed with grades but more interested in hearing about her “experience on the softball team”. She went on to UNC-Chapel Hill, receiving her PhD in Toxicology. Sorrentino is now a research scientist working for G1 Therapeutics, in Durham, NC. In just five short years, Sorrentino not only received her PhD and became a scientist, she has managed to do so without giving up softball; she continues to coach softball for the Orange County Special Olympics.

Playing softball was her “favorite aspect of college” it taught her “teamwork and time management, as well as, make great friends that became my family.” Her most memorable softball experience at Rochester was when the team found out they made the NCAA tournament for the first time in program history. Despite the fact that UR placed 1st in the UAA conference tournament (tied with Wash U) and were undefeated in the Liberty League, there was no automatic bid into the NCAA tournament. “There was a week of waiting around on campus at the end of season since we weren’t practicing but Coach Michelle Burrell and Coach Margaret Yerdon didn’t want us to go home if we made it. Once we all found out it was AMAZING”.

When asked how playing softball at the University of Rochester contributed to her current success she explained “TEAMWORK was the biggest contribution. I have noticed over the years that softball has helped me learn how to complement the skills of other colleagues and students to make a cohesive unit. Working together is a necessity to be successful (in the work environment). I think my experience on UR softball gave me the skills to be flexible and capable on our G1 Therapeutics team.”

“great friends that became my family”

-Jessica Sorrentino

BENCH PRESS:
185 Slupinski
175 Korn

HANG CLEAN:
150 Nicholson
138 Mac/Melvin

SQUATS:
311 Macaluso
305 Ameno

VERTICAL:
21.5 Korn
21.5 Macaluso

60 FT. SPRINT:
2.84 Sorrentino
2.84 Celorio

GO JACKETS SOFTBALL!!!
# 2016 Rochester Softball Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat-Sun</td>
<td>3/5-3/6</td>
<td><em>NTC Spring Tour. Games, Clermont, FL</em></td>
<td>Wed 3/30</td>
<td>@ Geneseo 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>3/5</td>
<td>Penn State Brandywine</td>
<td>11am 3/31</td>
<td>@ Ithaca 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>3/5</td>
<td>Wheaton College</td>
<td>1pm 4/5</td>
<td>Buffalo State 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Muhlenberg College</td>
<td>1pm 4/6</td>
<td>@ Cortland 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun</td>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>Cornell College</td>
<td>3pm 4/9</td>
<td>@ Union 1pm</td>
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<td>Tues-Sun</td>
<td>3/8-3/13</td>
<td>UAA Tournament, Altamonte Springs, FL</td>
<td>Sun 4/10</td>
<td>@ RPI 1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>10am 4/12</td>
<td>Nazareth 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tue</td>
<td>3/8</td>
<td>Brandeis University</td>
<td>1pm 4/13</td>
<td>@ Utica 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>3/9</td>
<td>Case Western</td>
<td>10am 4/16</td>
<td>Skidmore 1pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>3/9</td>
<td>Wash U</td>
<td>1pm 4/17</td>
<td>Clarkson 1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur</td>
<td>3/10</td>
<td>NYU</td>
<td>10am 4/19</td>
<td>Fredonia 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>3/11</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>10am 4/20</td>
<td>@ Brockport 3pm</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
<td>3/11</td>
<td>Brandeis University</td>
<td>1pm 4/23</td>
<td>@ RIT 1pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>3/12</td>
<td>Case Western</td>
<td>10am 5/1</td>
<td>St. Lawrence 3pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>3/12</td>
<td>Wash U</td>
<td>1pm 5/8</td>
<td>Liberty League Tournament TBD</td>
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<td>3/13</td>
<td>NYU</td>
<td>10am 5/15</td>
<td>Regionals TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>3/23</td>
<td>@ St. John Fisher</td>
<td>3pm 5/22</td>
<td>Super Regionals TBD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Unless otherwise noted all games are double-headers.

* Games in bold print are home games

**GO JACKETS!**

www.rochester.edu/athletics/

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Rochester University of

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2016 Newsletter

Softball