The heart of the University of Rochester defense this season has been the play of linebackers junior Lance Ramer and sophomore Brian Kowalski.

"The linebackers are very close," Kowalski said. "It is impossible not to be close, because of the amount of work we have put into it. We work all week and then go to war on Saturday."

The duo is tied for the team tackle lead with 81 tackles, Ramer with 46 solo tackles and 35 assists, Kowalski has 50 solo tackles and 31 assists.

Ramer has six tackles for a loss, four quarterback sacks, six quarterback hurries, four fumble recoveries and one forced fumble. Kowalski has 15 tackles for a loss, one quarterback sack, one interception, and one pass breakup.

"I love to make the big play," Ramer said. "It gets the whole team going and can give new life to a game."

Kowalski agrees, "It can change the momentum of the game, just by making that one big play. It gets the other players excited to go out there to do the same thing."

Their accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. Kowalski has been named UCAA Defensive Player of the Week, ECAC/Budget Division III Honor Roll against Rensselaer, and named to the UCAA Honor Roll against St. Lawrence. Ramer was named UCAA Defensive Player of the Week, UAA Defensive Player of the Week and ECAC Honor Roll against Case Western Reserve.

Both players notice a difference from previous seasons. "There has been a change in attitude," Ramer said. "Last season we didn't know how to win, this year we have had a taste of what it takes to win. Now we have to go out there and do it."

"I think we have done a lot of great things this year," Kowalski said. "We are still not where we want to be, but we are headed in the right direction."

The defense has struggled a little bit this season, but the play of the linebackers has been solid. Junior Joe Lazzaro has complemented Kowalski and Ramer very well registering 43 tackles (20 solo, 23 assists), five tackles for a loss, two quarterback sacks, two pass break ups, and eight quarterback hurries.

On the whole, the Yellowjackets as a team have recorded 48 tackles for a loss, and 12 quarterback sacks.

While both players have time remaining on the River Campus both realize what needs to be done to turn the fortunes of Rochester Football around. "I would like to see through the changes that have been made," Kowalski said. "I would like to see other teams look at us on their schedules and not count it as an automatic win. I want them to look at us as being a big test for them."

"For the team I would like to accomplish two winning seasons," Ramer said. "It has been something that hasn't been done here in a while, and I would like to be a part of it."

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**Garnish Awards At Halftime**

Six student-athletes and one alumna will be honored at halftime this afternoon with the annual Lysle "Spike" Garnish awards.

The Garnish Memorial Citation, which recognizes longtime contributions to the Department of Athletics and Recreation, is being presented to Lois "Inky" Watts. She is the first female recipient of the Garnish Citation award which began in 1974.

She has been a long-time member of the Alumni Athletic Recruiting Committee and is a member of the Hall of Fame Nominating Committee.

The Garnish Scholar Awards recognize student-athletes who have made contributions to their teams and have a grade point average of 2.70 or higher through the junior year. The awards are presented in memory of Lysle "Spike" Garnish, former trainer and assistant coach at the University.

The Scholar Award winners are:

- **Tarun Arora** (squash), John Ginnert (baseball), Jodi House (women's cross country/track & field), Ben Keegan (men's basketball)
- **Karen Kreutziger** (women's lacrosse), **Tarah Street** (women's track & field).

Presentations for the awards will be made by members of the Garnish Committee, including Halford Johnson, Larry Palvino, Pat Stark, and Brian Pasley.

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**Welcome To Family Weekend!**

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**Garnish Citation Winners**

1974: Gerald B. Zornow
1975: W. Allen Wallis
1976: Clark Wackerman
1978: Charles L. Resler
1979: Lawrence R. Palvino
1980: Richard B. Secrest
1981: Alexander D. Dunbar
1982: LaRoy B. Thompson
1983: John R. Parninello
1984: John M. Clarey
1985: Richard T. Kramer
1986: Dr. Kenneth E. DeHaven
1987: William P. Blackmon
1988: Harmon S. Potter
1990: George L. Dischinger
1991: James S. Armstrong
1992: Phil M. Chamberlain
1993: Allen M. Brewer
1994: John M. Donohue
1995: Peter "Pat" Stark
1996: Roger D. Laithian
1997: Peter DiPasquale
1998: Brian Pasley
1999: Lois "Inky" Watts