

**B**eginning in September 2009, NJIT becomes an across-the-board active member of the NCAA Division I, culminating a process initiated by the university in 2003. The new status allows NJIT, its teams, and student-athletes to enjoy the full benefits of Division I membership, including eligibility for Division I postseason championship competition and the potential inclusion of Highlanders among the national Division I leaders in statistics maintained by the NCAA.



**NJIT's Highlander got a makeover this year.**

The reclassification required enhancement of every aspect of the athletics program with a special emphasis on student-athlete welfare. Game and practice facilities have been upgraded, as have sports medicine, strength and conditioning and academic enrichment. The number of scholarships available to student athletes was expanded.

To offset some of the cost, the university recently completed the Highlanders Athletics Campaign, raising more than \$5 million in gifts from 1,610 alumni and friends.

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The campaign provided \$3 million in facilities improvements, \$1.5 million for scholarships, and \$500,000 for program enhancements.

**Scholar Athletes Gain Recognition**

NJIT's Division I Great West Conference has honored a number of the university's student athletes by naming them to all-academic teams:

- Twenty-three student athletes in seven sports named to the 2009 Great West Conference Winter/Spring All-Academic Team. Team members must achieve a minimum cumulative 3.2 grade point average and participate in at least 50% of the contests. Recipients include: **Steven Ace\***, industrial engineering major (baseball); **Aamir Ahmed\***, biomedical engineering major (men's indoor and outdoor track and field); **Fanny Aizier**, computer science major (women's

- tennis); **Maya Al-Shingieti**, communications major (women's basketball); **Jackie Bunner\***, civil engineering major (women's indoor and outdoor track and field); **Cara Constantino\***, architecture major (women's indoor and outdoor track and field); **James D'Aloia**, mechanical engineering major (baseball); **Jill Dickinson**, business major (women's basketball); **Iulia Doci\***, business major (women's tennis); **Josh Dolisca\***, electrical engineering major (men's indoor and outdoor track and field); **Thomas Farina**, civil engineering major (baseball).

\* Dorman honors scholar



TAKING ATHLETICS  
THEN



# TO EXT LEVEL

Professional venues, such as Prudential Center for some basketball games, and Bears and Eagles Riverfront Stadium for Highlander Baseball, have stimulated increased interest in athletics at NJIT.

## Scholar Athletes Gain Recognition

- Also, **Daisy Gallegos**, information technology major (women's indoor and outdoor track and field); **Gary Garris** business major (men's basketball); **Katrina Hornstein**, mechanical engineering major (women's indoor and outdoor track and field); **Kyle McCarthy\***, mathematical sciences major (baseball); **Katie Piekieski\***, biology major (women's basketball); **PJ Saporito**, chemical engineering major (baseball); **Ivana Seric**, mathematical sciences major (women's basketball); **Paulius Skema** business major (men's basketball); **Dan Stonkus**, mechanical engineering major (men's basketball); **Matt Tomczyk**, mechanical engineering major (baseball); and **Isha Toor\***, business major (women's tennis).
- Students participating in three women's sports were named to the Fall 2008 Great West Conference All-Academic Team. The honorees were **Cara Constantino\***, architecture major, and **Daisy Gallegos**, information technology major (cross country); **Sabrina Baby**, management major, **Katrina Hornstein\***, mechanical engineering major, and **Erica Schultz**, business major (volleyball); and **Erika Taugher\***, mechanical engineering major, and **Christi Taylor\***, mathematical sciences major (soccer).
- NJIT swimmers **Pablo Botero**, chemical engineering major; **Andrew Helbers\***, physics major; **Michael Lawson\***, architecture major; **James Paccioretti\***, chemical engineering major, and **Karen Cilento**, architecture major, were named to the Metropolitan Swimming and Diving Conference All-Academic Team for the 2008-2009 season.

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