

2001-02 CUNY ATHLETIC MEN'S TENNIS CONFERENCE REVIEW



BARUCH EARNS THE TITLE BACK

Flushing Meadows, NY -The Baruch College men's tennis team capped a perfect 10-0 season with a CUNY Athletic Conference Tournament Championship at the USTA National Tennis Center in the most competitive championship from top-to-bottom in the 19-year history of the event. The Statesmen won with 34 points, compared to the College of Staten Island's 31 and Hunter College's 30 points.

Baruch won three singles titles, but the third doubles tandem of senior Chander Goel and junior Eugen Balagula sealed the win with a convincing 6-3, 6-0 win over Staten Island's Marcel Sandougout and Francesco Sciortino. Earlier in the day senior Amir Tsekun (Brooklyn, NY), Balagula (Teaneck, NJ) and Goel (New York, NY), won the #4, #5 and #6 singles flights to put Baruch in position to win the school's second championship in three seasons.

Goel, originally from India, became the first player in memory to win three consecutive singles titles after winning the #4 singles titles in 2000 and 2001.

"This has been the toughest tournament by far," said Goel. "But I feel very proud of this team, I'm thrilled to win, but it is more important to me to help this team in any way to win the tournament." His coach, Florin Giuglescu concurred, "Chander is the core of this team. He is a wise player and he sacrificed his position for the betterment of the team and he gives his time to the team without asking for anything in return."

The number one singles final was exciting to say the least, as Brooklyn College fifth-year senior Pavan Khurana beat Baruch's Fahad Sarwani 6-3, 3-6, 7-5 to win the flight for the third time. The 5'6 Sarwani (Edison, NJ) was up 5-2 in the deciding set, but had his serve broken three times by Khurana (Hewlett, NY) to even the score and eventually win the match.

"I didn't realize that I wasn't giving my full effort until I got down 5-2 in the third," said Khurana, who has never lost a CUNY match during four seasons of action. "I am very fortunate to win this championship three times during my career. Although I would have given this one up for a team title." Khurana was once a nationally ranked amateur, who rebounded from an ACL knee injury last season to win the #1 title for the third time (1998 & 2000).

Hunter College, a fifth-place finisher during the regular season won three flights in the championships. Freshman Oded Meiron (Ramat Aviv, Israel) won the #2 title topping CCNY senior Michael Kessler 6-0, 6-1. Kessler finished a his career earning at least one CUNYAC medals in each of his four seasons. As for Meiron, he later teamed with Anand Moses (Bhubaneswar, India) to win the #1 doubles championship over Staten Island's Brian Wendleton (Blue Springs, MO) and Mourad Mourad. The Hawks #2 doubles team of Vince Salmonson (Astoria, NY) and Richard Abraham (Toronto, Canada) also won the final, topping CCNY's Joe Phillip (Elmont, NY) and John Gomez (Queens, NY) 6-2, 6-3.

Despite the school's second place finish, Staten Island failed to win a singles or doubles title for the first time in ten seasons, coming up short in four finales (two singles, two doubles). Mourad (Staten Island, NY) was the only Dolphin to reach two finals, losing to Brooklyn freshman Kevin Allicock, a native of Guyana, in the final at #3, 5-7, 6-3, 6-0. It marks the third consecutive year that Brooklyn has won the first and third singles championships.

"The league has improved tremendously from two years ago," said Balagula, who was a finalist in 2000. "The tone of the entire championship was super. Every team, especially ours, has strong team spirit and that was reflected in everyone's play."

**#1 CUNY
SINGLES
CHAMPION**

**PAVAN
KHURANA**

BROOKLYN



FINAL TEAM SCORING FROM THE USTA NATIONAL TENNIS CENTER IN FLUSHING MEADOWS, NY

BARUCH 34 • STATEN ISLAND 31
HUNTER 30 • BROOKLYN 27
CCNY 23 • JOHN JAY 15
LEHMAN 15 • YORK 12
NY CITY TECH 1



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CUNY WEEKLY HONORS

Players of the Week

Apr. 01	Fahad Sarwani	Baruch	Fr.
Apr. 08	Chander Goel	Baruch	Sr.
Apr. 15	Amir Tsekun	Baruch	Sr.
Apr. 22	Pavan Khurana	Brooklyn	Sr.
Apr. 29	Jeff Chen	Brooklyn	Sr.
May 06	Karthik Jothainandan	CCNY	Jr.

Rookies of the Week

Apr. 01	Vladimir Goldin	Baruch	Fr.
Apr. 08	Oded Meiron	Hunter	Fr.
Apr. 15	Igor Brikman	Lehman	Fr.
Apr. 22	Anand Moses	Hunter	Fr.
Apr. 29	Vladimir Goldin	Baruch	Fr.
May 06	Oded Meiron	Hunter	Fr.

CUNY FINAL STANDINGS

	CUNYAC			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
1. BARUCH	8	0	1.000	10	0	1.000
2. BROOKLYN	6	2	.750	8	2	.800
3. STATEN ISLAND	6	2	.750	7	5	.583
4. CCNY	5	3	.625	8	6	.571
5. HUNTER	5	3	.625	5	10	.333
6. JOHN JAY	3	5	.375	4	7	.364
7. LEHMAN	2	6	.250	3	7	.300
8. YORK	1	7	.125	1	8	.111
9. NY CITY TECH	0	8	.000	0	9	.000

CUNYAC TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS (1984-2002)

Year	Champion	Overall	CUNYAC	Head Coach	Score (margin)	Runner-up	#1 Singles Champ	School
1984	Staten Island	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Sendich	CSI
1985	Hunter	11-2	n/a	Thom Yuneman	n/a	Staten Island	Dave Berenbaum	Hunter
1986	Hunter	10-2	n/a	Thom Yuneman	n/a	n/a	Ray Godwin	Hunter
1987	Hunter	11-4	n/a	Mitch Polstein	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1988	Hunter	13-2	n/a	Mitch Polstein	n/a	n/a	Luke Hadge	Hunter
1989	Lehman	n/a	n/a	Ted Hurwitz	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1990	John Jay	n/a	n/a	Dan Jesmur	14.5 (0.5)	CCNY	Hagai Yedid	Baruch
1991	Staten Island	15-4	n/a	Steve Mungalsingh	19 (3 points)	Baruch	Trevor Hunte	York
1992	Lehman	n/a	n/a	Jay Cheraskin	18.5 (4.5 points)	Staten Island	Tino Lopez	John Jay
1993	Staten Island	12-3	6-0	Bruce Knittle	22.5 (8.5 points)	Baruch	Gil Rosen	Hunter
1994	Staten Island	10-1	6-0	Bruce Knittle	23 (8 points)	CCNY	Edwin Acosta	John Jay
1995	Staten Island	11-2	6-0	Bruce Knittle	18 (5 points)	CCNY	Martin Onikute	John Jay
1996	John Jay	11-4	6-0	Patrick Mangan	18 (2 points)	Hunter	Brian Spigner	York
1997	Staten Island	11-3	7-0	Bruce Knittle	19 (5 points)	Baruch & Hunter	Naeem Waheed	Baruch
1998	Staten Island	11-1	6-0	Bruce Knittle	45 (11 points)	Brooklyn	Pavan Khurana	Brooklyn
1999	Staten Island	10-2	6-0	Bruce Knittle	44 (9 points)	CCNY	Christian Petre	Baruch
2000	Baruch	11-0	7-0	Florin Giuglescu	51 (15 points)	Staten Island	Pavan Khurana	Brooklyn
2001	Staten Island	9-2	7-1	Bruce Knittle	41 (3 points)	Baruch	Fyodor Polonsky	Brooklyn
2002	Baruch	10-0	8-0	Florin Giuglescu	34 points (3)	Staten Island	Pavan Khurana	Brooklyn

CUNYAC REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONS (1991-2002)

Year	Champion	Overall	CUNYAC	Head Coach	Runner-Up	Overall	CUNYAC	Head Coach
1991	Hunter	5-8	5-1	Mitch Polstein	Staten Island	n/a	4-2	Steve Mungalsingh
1992	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1993	Staten Island	12-3	6-0	Bruce Knittle	Baruch	8-2	5-1	Steve Mungalsingh
1994	Staten Island	10-1	6-0	Bruce Knittle	CCNY	7-4	5-1	n/a
1995	Staten Island	11-2	6-0	Bruce Knittle	Lehman	9-3	5-1	Jay Cheraskin
1996	John Jay	11-4	6-0	Patrick Mangan	Hunter	10-4	5-1	Matt Burcaw
1997	Staten Island	11-3	7-0	Bruce Knittle	Hunter	8-6	6-1	Matt Burcaw
1998	Staten Island	11-1	6-0	Bruce Knittle	Brooklyn	6-3	4-1	Alyssa Furst
1999	Staten Island	10-2	6-0	Bruce Knittle	Brooklyn	9-2	5-1	Alyssa Furst
2000	Baruch	11-0	7-0	Florin Giuglescu	Brooklyn	9-4	6-1	Frank Davis
2001	Baruch	8-1	7-1	Florin Giuglescu	Staten Island	9-2	7-1	Bruce Knittle
2002	Baruch	10-0	8-0	Florin Giuglescu	Brooklyn	10-0	6-2	Frank Davis

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COMPLETE CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

FLIGHT #1 SINGLES

#8 Ramon Smart (York) def. #9 Fernando Andrade (NYCTC)

#1 Pavan Khurana (Brooklyn) def. #8 Ramon Smart (York)
#2 Farhad Sarwani (Baruch) def. #7 Dino DeSaverio (John Jay)
#3 Brian Wendleton (CSI) def. #6 Greg Van Vorhis (Lehman)
#4 Anand Moses (Hunter) def. #5 Kinta Gumbs (CCNY)

#1 Pavan Khurana (Brooklyn) def. #4 Anand Moses (Hunter)
#2 Farhad Sarwani (Baruch) def. #3 Brian Wendleton (CSI)

#1 Pavan Khurana (Brooklyn) def. #2 Farhad Sarwani (Baruch)

FLIGHT #2 SINGLES

#8 Raphael Lynch (NYCTC) def. #9 Youseff Chafei (York)

#1 Oded Meiron (Hunter) def. #8 Raphael Lynch (NYCTC)
#5 Eugene Girshtel (Brooklyn) def. #4 Vitaly Zubri (John Jay)
#6 Jay Song (CSI) def. #3 James Jackson (Lehman)
#7 Michael Kessler (CCNY) def. #2 Vladimir Goldin (Baruch)

#1 Oded Meiron (Hunter) def. #5 Eugene Girshtel (Brooklyn)
#7 Michael Kessler (CCNY) def. #6 Jay Song (CSI)

#1 Oded Meiron (Hunter) def. #7 Michael Kessler (CCNY)

FLIGHT #3 SINGLES

#1 Vince Salmonson (Hunter) def. Jay Jayasuriya (York)
#2 Mourad Mourad (CSI) def. Thach Phu (Baruch)
#4 Kevin Allicock (Brooklyn) def. #5 Frank Rivera (Lehman)
#6 Steve Pires (John Jay) def. #3 Joe Phillip (CCNY)

#4 Kevin Allicock (Brooklyn) def. #1 Vince Salmonson (Hunter)
#2 Mourad Mourad (CSI) def. #6 Steve Pires (John Jay)

#4 Kevin Allicock (Brooklyn) def. #2 Mourad Mourad (CSI)

FLIGHT #4 SINGLES

#8 John Gegaj (Lehman) def. #9 Yongke Cai (NYCTC)

#1 Amir Tsekun (Baruch) def. #8 John Gegaj (Lehman)
#3 Sal Oliveri (John Jay) def. #6 John Gomez (CCNY)
#4 Richard Abraham (Hunter) def. #5 Fedor Kharpatin (Brooklyn)
#7 Dwayne Watson (York) def. #2 Paul Ricciardi (CSI)

#1 Amir Tsekun (Baruch) def. #4 Richard Abraham (Hunter)
#7 Dwayne Watson (York) def. #3 Sal Oliveri (John Jay)

#1 Amir Tsekun (Baruch) def. #7 Dwayne Watson (York)

FLIGHT #5 SINGLES

#1 Eugene Balagula (Baruch) def. #8 Wade Thomas (York)
#2 Karthik Jothianandan (CCNY) def. #7 Alexander Braun (Hunter)
#3 Igor Brikman (Lehman) def. #6 Luke Torres (John Jay)
#5 Mrugank Shukla (Brooklyn) def. #4 Marcel Sandougout (CSI)

#1 Eugene Balagula (Baruch) def. #5 Mrugank Shukla (Brooklyn)
#3 Igor Brikman (Lehman) def. #2 Karthik Jothianandan (CCNY)

#1 Eugene Balagula (Baruch) def. #3 Igor Brikman (Lehman)

FLIGHT #6 SINGLES

#1 Chander Goel (Baruch) def. #8 Gabriel Crespo (Lehman)
#2 Craig Gellerman (CSI) def. #7 Lisa Walters (York)
#5 Jeff Chen (Brooklyn) def. Boris Shenderovich (Hunter)
#6 Salman Shah (CCNY) def. #3 Hector Alzate (John Jay)

Play-In

8-3

Quarterfinals

8-1

8-3

9-8 (7-5)

8-3

Semifinals

10-3

10-6

FINAL

6-3, 3-6, 7-5

Play-In

8-6

Quarterfinals

7-0 (retired)

8-6

8-6

9-8 (7-5)

Semifinals

10-3

10-7

FINAL

6-0, 6-1

Quarterfinals

8-1

8-3

8-1

8-6

Semifinals

10-7

10-2

FINAL

5-7, 6-3, 6-0

Play-In

8-5

Quarterfinals

8-0

8-3

8-2

8-2

Semifinals

10-8

10-5

FINAL

6-4, 2-6, 6-4

Quarterfinals

8-0

8-5

8-4

8-2

Semifinals

11-10 (7-3)

10-5

FINAL

6-1, 6-1

Quarterfinals

8-0

8-0

8-4

8-4

#1 Chander Goel (Baruch) def. #5 Jeff Chen (Brooklyn)

#2 Craig Gellerman (CSI) def. #6 Salman Shah (CCNY)

#1 Chander Goel (Baruch) def. #2 Craig Gellerman (CSI)

FLIGHT #1 DOUBLES

#8 Thach Phu & Amir Tsekun (Baruch) defeated

#9 Fernando Andrade & Raphael Lynch (NYCTC)

#1 Oded Meiron & Anand Moses (Hunter) defeated

#8 Thach Phu & Amir Tsekun (Baruch)

#3 Mourad Mourad & Brian Wendleton (CSI) defeated

#6 Ramon Smart & Dwayne Watson (York)

#4 Dino DeSaverio & Vitaly Zubri (John Jay) defeated

#5 Pavan Khurana & Eugene Girshtel (Brooklyn)

#7 James Jackson & Greg Van Vorhis (Lehman) defeated

#2 Kinta Gumbs & Michael Kessler (CCNY)

#1 Oded Meiron & Anand Moses (Hunter) defeated

#4 Dino DeSaverio & Vitaly Zubri (John Jay)

#3 Mourad Mourad & Brian Wendleton (CSI) defeated

#7 James Jackson & Greg Van Vorhis (Lehman)

#1 Oded Meiron & Anand Moses (Hunter) defeated

#3 Mourad Mourad & Brian Wendleton (CSI)

FLIGHT #2 DOUBLES

#8 Youseff Chafei & Jay Jayasuriya (York) defeated

#9 Yongke Cai & Henry Newton (NYCTC)

#1 Vladimir Goldin & Farhad Sarwani (Baruch) defeated

#8 Youseff Chafei & Jay Jayasuriya (York)

#2 Paul Ricciardi & Jay Song (CSI) defeated

#7 Fedor Kharpatin & Mrugank Shukla (Brooklyn)

#3 Richard Abraham & Vince Salomson (Hunter) defeated

#6 Frank Rivera & Igor Brikman (Lehman)

#5 John Gomez & Joe Phillip (CCNY) defeated

#4 Sal Oliveri & Steven Pires (John Jay)

#5 John Gomez & Joe Phillip (CCNY) defeated

#1 Vladimir Goldin & Farhad Sarwani (Baruch)

#3 Richard Abraham & Vince Salomson (Hunter) defeated

#2 Paul Ricciardi & Jay Song (CSI)

#3 Richard Abraham & Vince Salomson (Hunter) defeated

#5 John Gomez & Joe Phillip (CCNY)

FLIGHT #3 DOUBLES

#1 Eugen Balagula & Chander Goel (Baruch) defeated

#8 Gabriel Crespo & John Gegaj (Lehman)

#2 Karthik Jothianandan & Odell Juris (CCNY) defeated

#7 Wade Thomas & Lisa Walters (York)

#3 Marcel Sandougout & Francesco Sciortino (CSI) defeated

#6 Alexander Braun & Amiran Modzgrvishvili (Hunter)

#5 Kevin Allicock & Jeff Chen (Brooklyn) defeated

#4 Hector Alzate & Luke Torres (John Jay)

#1 Eugen Balagula & Chander Goel (Baruch) defeated

#5 Kevin Allicock & Jeff Chen (Brooklyn)

#3 Marcel Sandougout & Francesco Sciortino (CSI) defeated

#2 Karthik Jothianandan & Odell Juris (CCNY)

#1 Eugen Balagula & Chander Goel (Baruch) defeated

#3 Marcel Sandougout & Francesco Sciortino (CSI)

Semifinals

10-1

10-7

FINAL

6-4, 6-3

Play-In

8-2

Quarterfinals

8-3

8-2

9-8 (7-4)

8-3

Semifinals

11-9

8-3

FINAL

3-6, 6-3, 6-4

Play-In

8-2

Quarterfinals

8-1

8-1

Semifinals

10-9

FINAL

3-6, 6-3, 6-4

Play-In

8-2

Quarterfinals

8-1

8-1

Semifinals

10-9

FINAL

3-6, 6-3, 6-4

Quarterfinals

8-1

Semifinals

10-9

FINAL

3-6, 6-3, 6-4

Quarterfinals

8-1

Semifinals

10-7

FINAL

8-3

FINAL

3-6, 6-3, 6-4