



Today's Scholar-Athletes - Tomorrow's Leaders

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American's Fomenko named Patriot League Men's Swimming and Diving Scholar-Athlete of the Year

Senior holds a 3.58 grade point average in International Business.

Center Valley, Pa. - American senior swimmer **Val Fomenko** (Jovy-En-Josas, France/Espadon Develizy) was named the Patriot League Men's Swimming and Diving Scholar-Athlete of the Year as voted on by the League's media relations directors.

Fomenko is an International Business major and owns a 3.58 cumulative grade point average.

In 2005-06 Fomenko was named to the Patriot League Swimming and Diving First-Team. At the 2006 Patriot League Championship the senior won the 100 and 200-yard backstroke events. He also posted first-place finishes in the 50-yard free and 200-yard backstroke at the George Washington/Catholic meet and helped three relay teams win at the Potomac Relays.

Fomenko career is filled with accolades. At the 2005 conference Championship he was named the Patriot League Swimmer of the Meet. Fomenko also owns the American record in the 100-yard butterfly and the second best time in the 200-yard butterfly.

To be eligible for the Patriot League Scholar-Athlete of the Year award, a student-athlete must have at least a 3.20 cumulative grade point average and be a starter or key player in his/her sport. Freshmen are not eligible for this honor.

The Patriot League Scholar-Athlete of the Year for each individual sport comprises the pool of nominees for the Patriot League Male and Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year given out in the summer. One male and one female are selected for this honor..

Others nominated for this award were: **Andrew Michaelson** (Army), **Todd Bauer** (Bucknell), **Greg Van Volkenburg** (Lafayette), **Grant Flothmeier** (Lehigh) and **Kevin Teague** (Navy).

The Patriot League, which was founded on the principles of admitting athletes who are academically representative of their class, is in its second decade of academic and athletic excellence. Participation in athletics at Patriot League institutions is viewed as an important component of the undergraduate experience. The Patriot League, which began as a successful Division I-AA football conference in 1986 and became an all-sport conference in 1990, includes American, Army, Bucknell, Colgate, Holy Cross, Lafayette, Lehigh and Navy as full members and three associate members. These institutions are among the oldest and most prestigious in the nation and their alumni have played leadership roles in the shaping of our country. In the most recent NCAA Graduation Rate Report of student-athletes, the Patriot League ranked FIRST among NCAA Division I conferences.