

# ST JOHN'S FENCING

NICHOLAS  
VOMERO

MARAT  
ISRAELIAN

EVGENIYA  
KIRPICHEVA

IRINIA  
KOROLEVA

YURY  
GELMAN  
HEAD COACH

## 2012 NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP MEDIA GUIDE





## Marat Israelian



**Class:**  
Senior

**Hometown:**  
Ashkelon, Israel

**High School:**  
Ort Henri Ronson

**Height:**  
6'0

**Previous NCAA experience:**

2011 - 1st place  
2010 - 1st place

**2011-12 Season In Review:**

Overall Record: 47-23

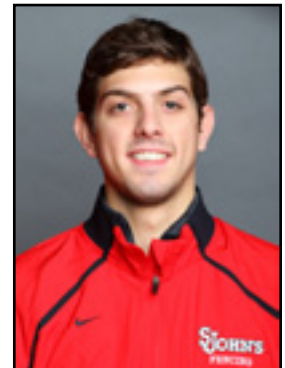
Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	9-4
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	11-4
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	7-3
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	4-5
March 11	Northeast Regionals	16-7, 4th

**Additional Information:**

- One of five St. John's fencers to win two individual NCAA Championships ... the others are: **Daryl Homer** (2010, 11), **Arpad Horvath** (2002, 04), **Ivan Lee** (2001, 02), and **Keeth Smart** (1997, 99).
- Serves as captain of the men's team.
- Helped lead men's epee to a first place finish at the 2012 U.S. Collegiate Squad Championships.
- Competed for the Israeli Junior National Team.
- Completed three years of Israeli military service before attending St. John's.



## Nicholas Vomero



**Class:**  
Senior

**Hometown:**  
Centerport, N.Y.

**High School:**  
Harborfields

**Height:**  
6'2

**Previous NCAA experience:**

2011 - 12th place  
2010 - 5th place  
2009 - 21st place

**2011-12 Season In Review:**

Overall Record: 49-20

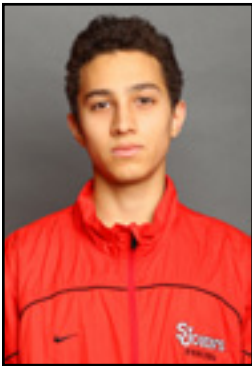
Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	8-2
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	7-8
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	9-3
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	7-2
March 11	Northeast Regionals	18-5, 2nd

**Additional Information:**

- Helped lead men's epee to a first place finish at the 2012 U.S. Collegiate Squad Championships.
- Made a top-eight finish at the 2011 World University Games in Shenzhen, China.
- Won gold at the Div. 1 North American Cup in Dallas, Texas in January 2011.
- Has competed with both the Empire United and New York Athletic Club fencing teams.



## Eli Schenkel



**Class:**  
Sophomore  
**Hometown:**  
Los Angeles, Calif.  
**High School:**  
El Camino Real  
**Height:**  
5'8

**Previous NCAA experience:**  
2011 - 13th place

**2011-12 Season In Review:**  
Overall Record: 53-20

Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	11-0
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	10-4
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	8-7
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	7-4
March 11	Northeast Regionals	17-5, 2nd

### **Additional Information:**

- Won gold at the 2011 Northeast Regionals as a freshman.
- Combined with teammates **Wilfred Curioso** (1st) and **Max Blitzer** (3rd) to sweep the top-three spots at the 2012 Northeast Regionals.
- Won bronze at the Junior North American Cup in Austin, Texas in November 2011.
- Helped lead men's foil to a third place finish at the 2012 U.S. Collegiate Squad Championships.



## Max Blitzer



**Class:**  
Sophomore  
**Hometown:**  
Staten Island, N.Y.  
**High School:**  
Stuyvesant  
**Height:**  
5'11

**Previous NCAA experience:**  
None

**2011-12 Season In Review:**  
Overall Record: 56-22

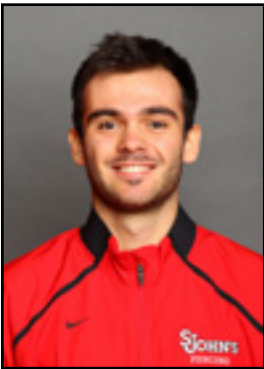
Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	14-0
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	11-4
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	6-9
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	10-2
March 11	Northeast Regionals	15-7, 3rd

### **Additional Information:**

- Combined with teammates **Wilfred Curioso** (1st) and **Eli Schenkel** (2nd) to sweep the top-three spots at the 2012 Northeast Regionals.
- Won bronze at the Junior North American Cup in Reno, Nev. in July 2011.
- Helped lead men's foil to a third place finish at the 2012 U.S. Collegiate Squad Championships.
- Led Stuyvesant High School to three consecutive PSAL championships (2007, 2008, 2009).
- Won the New York City individual championship in 2009.



## Alejandro Rojas



**Class:**  
Senior

**Hometown:**  
Madrid, Spain

**High School:**  
Lycee Francais de Madrid

**Height:**  
6'2

### Previous NCAA experience:

2009 - 11th place

### 2011-12 Season In Review:

Overall Record: 55-25

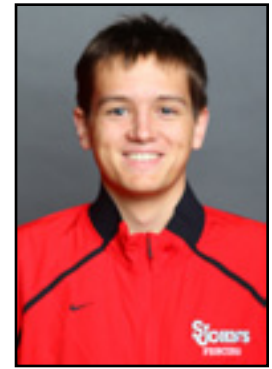
Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	14-1
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	9-6
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	7-8
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	8-4
March 11	Northeast Regionals	17-6, 3rd

### Additional Information:

- Was a member of the Spanish Junior National Team from 2005-2008.
- Combined with squadmate **Sean Buckley** for most wins by a duo on the men's team.
- This is the first year he and Buckley will compete together at the NCAAs.
- Helped lead men's saber to a third place finish at the 2012 U.S. Collegiate Squad Championships.
- His bronze medal at the 2012 Northeast Regionals was his first career Regionals medal finish.



## Sean Buckley



**Class:**  
Junior

**Hometown:**  
Secaucus, N.J.

**High School:**  
St. Peter's Preparatory School

**Height:**  
6'2

### Previous NCAA experience:

2011 - 8th place

2010 - 8th place

### 2011-12 Season In Review:

Overall Record: 58-22

Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	14-1
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	12-3
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	12-3
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	7-5
March 11	Northeast Regionals	13-10, 7th

### Additional Information:

- Led the men's team in victories (58) this year.
- As a freshman, he won the second-most bouts on the team (behind **Daryl Homer**) and won silver at the 2010 Northeast Regionals.
- Was named a CollegeFencing360.com Primetime Performer for the week of Jan. 16-22.
- Competed alongside **Daryl Homer** at the past two NCAA Championships.
- Placed seventh at the Div. 1 North American Cup in Kansas City, Mo. in December 2011.



## Alina Ferdman



**Class:**  
Sophomore  
**Hometown:**  
Ma'alot, Israel  
**High School:**  
Ort Ma'alot  
**Height:**  
5'4

**Previous NCAA experience:**  
2011 - 13th place

**2011-12 Season In Review:**  
Overall Record: 63-18

Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	16-2
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	10-4
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	11-4
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	9-2
March 11	Northeast Regionals	17-6, 6th

### Additional Information:

- Won silver at the 2011 Northeast Regionals.
- Fenced for the Israeli Junior National Team.
- Tied for second-most wins on the women's team.
- Born in Poltsk, Belarus.
- Led the women's epee squad in wins for the second consecutive year.
- Helped lead women's epee to a third place finish at the 2012 U.S. Collegiate Squad Championships.
- Combined with her women's epee squadmates for the most wins of any St. John's squad.



## Zsafia Fath



**Class:**  
Sophomore  
**Hometown:**  
Budapest, Hungary  
**High School:**  
II Rakoczi Ferenc Gimnazium  
**Height:**  
5'8

**Previous NCAA experience:**  
2011 - 16th place

**2011-12 Season In Review:**  
Overall Record: 55-16

Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	11-0
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	8-5
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	11-3
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	6-4
March 11	Northeast Regionals	19-4, 3rd

### Additional Information:

- Medaled at the Northeast Regionals for the second consecutive year (won silver in 2011).
- Combined with her women's epee squadmates for the most wins of any St. John's squad.
- Helped lead women's epee to a third place finish at the 2012 U.S. Collegiate Squad Championships.
- Her 55 wins were good for the fourth-most victories on the women's team this year.



## Evgeniya Kirpicheva



**Class:**  
Junior

**Hometown:**  
Ufa, Russia

**Height:**  
5'4

### Previous NCAA experience:

2011 - 3rd place  
2010 - 3rd place

### 2011-12 Season In Review:

Overall Record: 69-11

Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	15-1
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	10-5
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	12-2
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	10-2
March 11	Northeast Regionals	22-1, 1st

### Additional Information:

- Led the entire St. John's team in wins for the second straight year.
- In her freshman season, she trailed only **Dagmara Wozniak** for most wins on the team.
- Serves as captain of the women's squad.
- Helped lead women's foil to a third place finish at the 2012 U.S. Collegiate Squad Championships.
- Won bronze at the 2010 and 2011 Northeast Regionals.



## Irina Koroleva



**Class:**  
Junior

**Hometown:**  
Khimki, Russia

**Height:**  
5'2

### Previous NCAA experience:

2011 - 5th place  
2010 - 9th place

### 2011-12 Season In Review:

Overall Record: 51-29

Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	14-2
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	6-9
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	8-6
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	9-3
March 11	Northeast Regionals	14-9, 8th

### Additional Information:

- Won a silver medal at both the 2010 and 2011 Northeast Regionals.
- Helped lead women's epee to a third place finish at the 2012 U.S. Collegiate Squad Championships.
- Was a member of the Russian Junior National fencing team.
- Rebounded from a 6-9 performance at the St. John's Invitational to go 31-18 the rest of the way.
- Is an avid photographer.



## Anna Limbach



**Class:**  
Sophomore

**Hometown:**  
Cologne, Germany

**High School:**  
Norbert Gymnasium Knechtsteden

**Height:**  
5'8

**Previous NCAA experience:**  
2011 - 8th place

**2011-12 Season In Review:**  
Overall Record: 63-9

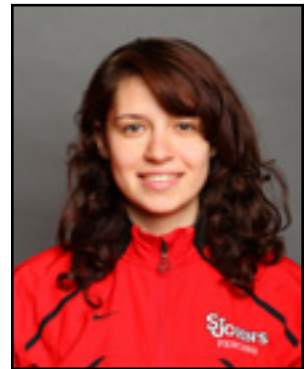
Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	15-3
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	13-2
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	15-10
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	Did Not Compete
March 11	Northeast Regionals	20-4, 1st

**Additional Information:**

- Has been a member of the German National Team since 2006 ... Missed the Temple Invitational due to the London World Cup, where she placed 30th.
- Her older brother, Nicolas, competed on the German men's saber team at the 2008 Olympics.
- Won bronze at the Div. 1 North American Cup in Kansas City, Mo. in December 2011.
- Tied for the second-most wins on the entire St. John's team this year.
- Was named College Fencing 360's National Fencer of the Week for Jan. 16-22.



## Martyna Wieczorek



**Class:**  
Redshirt Senior

**Hometown:**  
Sayreville, N.J.

**High School:**  
Sayreville War Memorial

**Height:**  
5'7

**Previous NCAA experience:**  
2010 - 10th place  
2008 - 11th place

**2011-12 Season In Review:**  
Overall Record: 46-37

Dec. 4	Brandeis Invitational	15-3
Jan. 21	St. John's Invitational	3-12
Jan. 22	NYU Invitational	9-6
Feb. 25	Temple Invitational	7-5
March 11	Northeast Regionals	12-11, 8th

**Additional Information:**

- Rejoined the fencing team after taking the 2010-11 campaign off.
- Rebounded from a 3-12 performance at the St. John's Invitational by going 28-23 the rest of the way.
- Won bronze at both the 2008 and 2010 Northeast Regionals.
- Born in Wazbrzych, Poland.