# HIGHLANDERS BASKETBALL 2023-24

G1 - NJIT (0-0, 0-0 AE) at #13 Miami (FL) (0-0, 0-0 ACC)

Monday, November 6, 2023 • 7pm • Watsco Center • Coral Gables, FL • ACCNX

2034-23 Record   AE:7-22   4-12
2022-23 Record   AE:11-18   6-12
2022-23 AE Finish8th
KenPom:323
All-Time Record vs. ACC0-0
Head Coach:Grant Billmeier
Record at NJIT (1st):0-0
Career Record (1st):0-0



2023-24 Record   ACC:	20-10   14-2
2022-23 Record   ACC:	
2021-22 ACC Finish	1st
KenPom:	45
NJIT All-Time vs. UM	0-0
Head Coach:Jir	n Larranaga
Record at UM (13th):	255-149
Career Record (38th):	725-483

### CIT SEMIFINALISTS 2015, 2016 $\cdot$ MEMBER OF THE AMERICA EAST CONFERENCE

### **2022-23 SCHEDULE**

### NOVEMBER

6	at Miami (FL)	7pm
11	SAINT PETER'S	4pm
16	at American	7pm
20	DELAWARE ST.	7pm
25	at Wagner	1pm
29	at George Mason	7pm

### **DECEMBER**

2	FDU	3:30pm
6	at Fordham	7pm
9	at Wake Forest	8pm
16	at Niagara	1pm
22	MEDGAR EVERS	12pm
31	MORGAN ST.	6pm

### **JANUARY**

6	UALBANY*	3:30pm
11	at UMass Lowell*	6:30pm
13	at Vermont*	2pm
18	NEW HAMPSHIRE*	7pm
20	MAINE*	2pm
25	BRYANT*	7pm
27	at UMBC*	7pm

### **FEBRUARY**

1	at Binghamton*	6:07pm
8	VERMONT*	7pm
10	UMASS LOWELL*	4pm
15	at UAlbany*	7pm
17	BINGHAMTON*	3:30pm
22	at New Hampshire*	7pm
24	at Maine*	2pm
29	UMBC*	7pm

### MARCH

2	at Bryant*	4pm
9	AE QUARTERFINAL	TBD
12	AE SEMIFINAL	TBD
16	AE CHAMPIONSHIP	11am

HOME GAMES IN BOLD CAPS
\*America East Conference Game



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### **BROADCAST INFORMATION:**

Video:	ACCNX
Talanti	

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- \* Monday's game is the first of the 2023-24 season which marks NJIT's 18th participating in Division I, fourth as a member of the America East and seventh in the Wellness & Events Center
- \* NJIT's roster makeup is rather unique with nine freshmen, one junior, one senior, and five post-graduate players, including four in their sixth collegiate season
- \* The Highlanders return just five members from their 2022-23 squad, led by Mekhi Gray and Adam Hess, who each started most of last season.
- \* Kjell de Graaf is the most tenured Highlander as he is now in his sixth season with the program. Mekhi Gray is in his fourth season as a Highlander.
- \* NJIT is 0-3 all-time against ACC squads. The Highlanders lost to current ACC members Virginia and Boston College as well as Maryland when it was in the league.
- \* If the Highlanders start two freshmen on Monday, it will mark the first time two rookies were in the starting lineup at the same time since 2013-14 and the first time on Opening Night since 2009-10.
- \* There are 25 NCAA Division I coaches making their debuts this week, including NJIT's Grant Billmeier, who will go up against Jim Larranaga, who is coaching his 1209th career game on Monday.
- \* NJIT's Sebastian Robinson won three high school state titles at three different schools: Camden HS (freshman year), Elizabeth HS (junior year), Roselle Catholic (senior year).
- \* Two Highlanders Elijah Buchanan and Daniel Schreier followed top assistant coach RaShawn Stores to Newark from Manhattan College where Stores served as Interim Head Coach last season.

RECORDS		
Overall	0-0	
Home	0-0	
Away	0-0	
Neutral (	0-0	
America East	0-0	
Home	0-0	
	0-0	
Non-Conference	0-0	
Home	0-0	
Away	0-0	
Neutral (	0-0	
Current streak r	1/a	
Long. W streak	n/a	
	n/a	
	0-0	
Trailing at Half	0-0	
Tied at Half	0-0	
Overtime (	0-0	
Travel Days	0-0	
Day	0-0	
Night (6 PM on)	0-0	
Ranked Teams	0-0	
	0-0	
All-Time 196-3	315	
Division I 164-3	315	
Non Division I 3	2-0	

### PROBABLE STARTERS

# Name PO YR HT WT Notes

WITH 11 NEW PLAYERS, INCLUDING NINE FRESHMEN, WE REQUEST YOUR PATIENCE IN ANNOUNCING OPENING NIGHT PROJECTED STARTERS.

### CHECK @NJITHOOPS TWITTER AT 6:45PM ON GAME NIGHT AND WE'LL GIVE YOU THE ACTUAL STARTERS!



# 2023-24 HIGHLANDERS

### **HIGHLANDERS BY THE NUMBERS**

NJIT victories over Power 6 Conference Teams. The Highlanders beat then-#17 Michigan in 2014-15 and St. John's in 2015-16

After having no New Jersey natives on the roster a season ago, the Highlanders have

four Garden State

natives on this

year's team

The NJIT roster features 11 newcomers this season, including a pair of graduate transfers and nine freshmen

America East in three-point field goal percentage last season, making 59-of-136 for a 43.4%

Adam Hess led the Graduate student Elijah Buchanan scored 817 points over 117 games in his career as a Manhattan Jasper

### 2022-23 Quick Rewind:

NJIT finished the 2022-23 season with a 7-23 record and reached the America East Conference Tournament as the eight seed where it bowed out to top-ranked Vermont. Other season highlights include:

- Miles Coleman erupted for 33 points to lead the Highlanders past host Sacred Heart .on November 22
- The Highlanders split their first four America East games of the season, defeating UAlbany at home and Maine on the road in overtime.
- Adam Hess had a breakout season for NJIT, scoring 23+ points on three occasions, including at USF when he was 7-of-8 from three-point range. The sharpshooter led the America East in 3FG% at
- Kevin Osawe set the program record for single-season rebounds (271). The graduate student scored 29 points and pulled down 19 boards in a home OT loss to Conference Champion Vermont.

### Last Time Out: UNH 59, NJIT 58 | Tues. 2/28 in Durham, NH

Kevin Osawe posted his 10th double-double of the season and put the NJIT men's basketball team ahead twice late in the game, but host New Hampshire scored the final basket of the contest to win 59-58 in both team's regular season finales on Tuesday evening.

The Highlanders scored the game's first six points and led 8-3 five minutes in before five-straight UNH points knotted things up at 8-8. NJIT answered with the next 12 points to go ahead by a game-high 12 at the under-eight media timeout. The Highlanders once again led by 12 at the under four media timeout, but a late spurt from the Wilcats made the score 28-21 as the teams entered their locker rooms for halftime. Osawe was a big reason the Highlanders led at the half, as the graduate student scored 12 points and grabbed seven rebounds in the first 20 minutes.

UNH opened the second half with another run and eventually tied the game at 32-32 on a jumper from Clarence Daniels with 15:41 on the clock. Christian Moore followed up Daniels' basket with a three-pointer to put UNH in front for the first time less than 30 seconds later. The Wildcats extended their lead to as many as seven midway through the second half, but the Highlanders didn't go away easy. UNH led 55-49 with 4:13 to play before a 7-0 NJIT run that was capped by a Osawe runner in the paint put the Highlanders back in front. Osawe's basket was answered with a layup from NIck Johnson with just over a minute to play, but Osawe was able to get the lead back one last time on the next trip down the floor, hitting a layup with 39 seconds left. UNH called a time out and Kyree Brown was able to get to the basket to put the Wildcats back in front with 28 seconds to play. NJIT couldn't score on its next possession, but Daniels missed the front end of a 1-and-1 with nine seconds left. Osawe grabbed the rebound and the Highlanders got the ball down the floor, but were unable to get a clean look giving UNH the one-point win and series sweep of NJIT after it also defeated the Highlanders earlier this month in overtime in Newark.

### NJIT vs...Miami (FL)

Monday's matchup is the first all-time between the Highlanders and Hurricanes. The NJIT women's basketball team play at Miami next month, while the Highlanders' baseball team is slated to open its season with four games at The U in February.

### NJIT vs. the ACC

The Highlanders are 0-3 all-time against opponents from the ACC. NJIT has lost to current ACC members Virginia and Boston College as well as Maryland when it was a member of the conference.

### **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS:**

Grant Billmeier's 2023-24 NJIT team features players from four different countries. The Highlanders have 13 players who hail from five different American states, while the following players come from other countries:

Jeffrey Akintolu: England Kiell de Graaf: Netherlands Eyal Nankin: Israel

### **#PROTECTTHEWEC**

NJIT enters its seventh campaign in the state-of-the-art Wellness and Events Center (WEC) . In fiveplus seasons playing in the WEC, the Highlanders are 40-40 in this three story, 220,000-square-foot building that features a 3,500-seat basketball arena.

### **NJIT: QUICK FACTS**

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION		
Location:	University Heights, Newark, NJ	
Founded:	1881	
Enrollment:	11,900 (undergraduate & graduate)	
Nickname/Colors:	Highlanders/Red & White (Blue accent)	
Affiliation:	NCAA Division I	
Transition to Division I:	2006-07	
Conference:	America East (Fourth season)	
University President:	Dr. Teik Lim (@NJITRollTeik)	
Director of Athletics:	Lenny Kaplan (@NJITAD)	
Athletic Dept. Phone:	973-596-3636	
NJIT website:	www.njit.edu	
Athletics website:	www.njithighlanders.com	
Tickets website:	www.njittix.com	
Twitter/Instagram:	@NJITHoops	
Facebook:	NJIT Men's Basketball	

### **HEAD COACH GRANT BILLMEIER**

Alma Mater:	Seton Hall '07
Seasons:	1st
Career Record:	0-0 (n/a); 0 games
America East Record:	0-0 (n/a) reg. season only

### **TEAM INFORMATION**

Assistant Coaches:	RaShawn Stores (1st season)
	Pete Lappas (1st season)
	Thomas Messinger (1st season)
	Mike Hamlin (2nd season)
Dir. of Basketball Ops:	Vincent Tamburro (1st season)
2021-22 Record:	7-23
2021-22 Postseason:	AE Quarterfinals
Final NET:	333
Returning/Lost (Starters):	5/9 (2/3)

### **SPORTS INFORMATION**

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### PROGRAM RECORDS

Inaugural Season:	1922
All-Time Record:	967-917 (.513) / 1,884 games
Pre-NCAA (1922-73):	264-270 (.493)
Division III Era (1974-96):	368-160 (.697) / 528 games
Division II Era (1997-06):	118-133 (.470) / 251 games
Division I Era (2006-pres):	196-312 (.386) / 508 games
Vs. Division I Teams:	164-294 (.361) / 456 games
Vs. Division III Teams:	25-0 (1.000)
Vs. Non NCAA Teams:	7-0 (1.000)
Conference Titles (Reg):	1 (Great West 2012-13)
Conference Titles (Tour):	0
National Postseason Tour:	7-3

### **WELLNESS & EVENTS CENTER (WEC)**

Address:	100 Lock St., Newark, NJ, 07102						
Year Opened:	2017						
Capacity:	3,500						
Home Record (WEC):	40-40 (.500) / 80 games						
Home Record (D-I Era):	126-100* (.565) / 226 games						
Home Record (Billmeier):	0-0 (n/a) / 0 games						
Home Record (AE Conference): 9-15 (.375) / 24 games							

<sup>\*</sup>Does not include 0-9 in home games at Prudential Center

### **AMERICA EAST CONFERENCE**

Established:	19789						
Former Name:	Eastern College Athletic ConfNorth						
Number of Teams:	9						
Headquarters:	Boston, Massachusetts						
Commissioner:	Brad Walker						
Sr. Assoc. Commissioner (Media): Sean Tanish							
Website:	www.AmericaEast.com						
2020-21 Champs (Reg):	Vermont						
2020-21 Champs (Tour):	Vermont						
NJIT All-Time Record:	16-34 (.320) / 50 games						
NJIT Tournament Record:	0-3 (.000) / 3 games						

<sup>\*\*</sup>Does not include 0-2 in conference home games at Prudential Center

### **2022-23 AMERICA EAST STANDINGS**

SCHOOL	CONF	СРСТ.	OVERALLPCT. STREAK
Vermont	14-2	.875	20-10 .667 W12
UMass Lowell	11-5	.688	24-7 .774 W4
New Hampshire	9-7	.562	14-14 .500 W1
UMBC	8-8	.500	18-13 .581 W1
Binghamton	8-8	.500	12-17 .414 L4
Bryant	8-8	.500	17-12 .586 L2
Maine	7-9	.438	13-16 .448 W2
NJIT	4-12	.250	7-22 .241 L5
UAlbany	3-13	.188	8-23 .258 L1

### **Around the America East**

Monday, November 6 Rivier at UMass Lowell, 6pm UMBC at Louisville, 7pm New Hampshire at Syracuse, 7pm Maine at Charlotte, 7pm Merrimack at Vermont, 7:30pm Manhattan at Bryant, 7:30pm Binghamton at Northwestern, 8pm

Tuesday, November 7 UAlbany at UMASS 7pm

BY STATE/ COUNTRY:	BY CLASS:
	Graduate Student (5):
California (4):	Justin Anderson
JJ Chaikovsky	Elijah Buchanan
Jake Goldberg	Kjell de Graaf
Adam Hess	Adam Hess
Daniel Schreier	Daniel Schreier
Mondond (1)	Senior (1):
Maryland (1): Levi Lawal	Mekhi Gray
Levi Lawai	,
New Jersey (4):	<u>Junior (1)</u> :
Isaac Hester	Eyal Nankin
Cameron Piggee	Freshmen (9):
Jalen Robinson	<u>Fresnmen (9)</u> : Jeffrey Akintolu
Sebastian Robinson	JJ Chaikovsky
l	Tariq Francis
New York (2):	Jake Goldberg
Elijah Buchanan	Isaac Hester
Mekhi Gray	Levi Lawal
5	Cameron Piggee
Pennsylvania (2):	Jalen Robinson
Justin Anderson	Sebastian Robinson
Tariq Francis	
England (1):	
Jeffrey Akintolu	
ĺ	
<u>Israel (1)</u> :	
Eyal Nankin	
Netherlands (1):	
Kjell da Graaf	
Njeli da Graai	
1	
1	

Opponent	Record	AE Play*	Streak	Last W	Last L
Albany	1-11	1-5	L1	1/14/23	2/25/23
Binghamton	2-6	1-5	L3	1/8/22	2/15/23
Bryant	1-3	0-2	L3	2/17/09	2/22/23
Maine	8-4	4-2	$W_2$	2/11/23	2/20/22
New Hampshire	4-3	1-3	L3	2/9/22	2/28/23
UMass Lowell	7-8	3-3	L2	2/16/22	2/4/23
UMBC	4-4	2-4	L1	1/25/23	2/8/23
Vermont	1-10	1-5	L4	12/28/20	2/18/23



## 🚄 🛮 America East Rankings 🚄



112 118 179 239
179
230
233
267
273
297
334
343

	KEN POM**	
1	Vermont	137
2	UMass Lowell	191
3	Bryant	224
4	Maine	258
5	UMBC	273
6	Binghamton	297
7	New Hampshire	300
8	UAlbany	302
9	NJIT	323

### THE HIGHLANDERS RECORD WHEN...

THE HIGHERADERS RECORD	AA IIIIIA
Winning the opening tip	0-0
Scoring first	0-0
Scored on first	0-0
Leading at the half	0-0
Trailing at the half	0-0
Tied at the half	0-0
Leading with 2:00 left (regulation)	0-0
Trailing with 2:00 left (regulation)	0-0
Tied with 2:00 left (regulation)	0-0
In games decided by > 10 points	0-0
In games decided by 5-10 points	O <b>-</b> O
In games decided by < 5 points	O <b>-</b> O
Scoring 90+ points	0-0
Scoring 80-89 points	0-0
Scoring 70-79 points	0-0
Scoring 60-69 points	0-0
Scoring 50-59 points	0-0
Scoring < 50 points	0-0
Opponent scores 70+ points	0-0
Opponent scores < 70 points	0-0
Shooting > 50 percent	0-0
Shooting 40-49.9 percent	0-0
Shooting 30-39.9 percent	0-0
Shooting < 30 percent	0-0
No players in double figures	0-0
One player in double figures	0-0
Two players in double figures	O-O O-O
Three players in double figures	0-0
Four players in double figures Five players in double figures	0-0
Six players in double figures	0-0
Seven players in double figures	0-0
Making 7+ 3-pointers	0-0
Recording 12+ assists	0-0
Committing < 15 turnovers	0-0
Blocking 3+ shots	0-0
Making 5+ steals	0-0
Outshooting opponent (percentage)	0-0
Outshot by opponent (percentage)	0-0
Outrebounding opponent	0-0
Outrebounded by opponent	0-0
Rebound margin is even	0-0
At night (5 p.m. or later)	0-0
During the day	0-0
On Monday	0-0
On Tuesday	0-0
On Wednesday	0-0
On Thursday Thursday	0-0
On Friday	0-0
On Saturday	0-0
On Sunday	0-0
In November	0-0
In December	0-0
In January	0-0
In February	0-0
In March	0-0
White Uniforms	0-0
Red Uniforms	0-0

<sup>\*</sup>Final 2022-23 Rankings

<sup>\*\* 2023-24</sup> Preseason Rankings



### 2022-23 NJIT Men's Basketball Season/Career Statistics All games

Page 1/1 as of Mar 02, 2023

Summary	mmary																			
	Season Statistics										Career Statistics									
Player	GP-GS	MIN/G	FG%	3FG%	FT%	R/G	A/G	STL	BLK	PTS/G	GP-GS	MIN/G	FG%	3FG%	FT%	R/G	A/G	STL	BLK	PTS/G
ANDERSON, Justin	25-1	11.2	.338	.282	.450	1.2	0.2	4	5	2.8	79-53	26.9	.449	.323	.722	3.2	1.4	68	57	13.1
COLEMAN, Miles	17-16	29.4	.403	.373	.720	4.1	2.2	16	2	14.5	55-44	29.1	.416	.347	.735	4.6	1.7	54	6	14.0
DE GRAAF, Kjell	29-8	17.3	.433	.323	.629	2.4	0.7	12	11	5.6	102-18	13.9	.394	.309	.678	2.0	0.6	23	34	3.5
DIAKITE, Souleymane	27-21	22.1	.480	.000	.442	4.6	1.4	16	17	6.1	119-83	22.8	.488	.000	.523	5.5	1.2	65	121	5.7
FAISON, Da'mir	21-1	12.9	.651	.400	.615	2.7	0.4	4	12	3.5	44-5	11.3	.544	.333	.600	2.1	0.4	9	15	2.8
GRAY, Mekhi	29-26	27.9	.437	.311	.683	3.3	1.9	30	18	7.0	76-46	23.4	.435	.288	.634	2.8	1.2	61	35	6.3
HESS, Adam	28-23	28.1	.468	.446	.784	2.2	0.9	19	4	10.9	56-34	25.5	.406	.397	.716	2.2	0.8	42	6	9.2
MASON, Keeshawn	10-0	7.5	.393	.000	.600	1.0	0.2	1	0	2.8	34-0	7.2	.479	.000	.618	1.1	0.1	3	3	2.7
MCMILLAN IV, Paul	24-2	17.4	.388	.268	.816	1.6	1.3	12	2	5.9	24-2	17.4	.388	.268	.816	1.6	1.3	12	2	5.9
NANKIN, Eyal	11-0	2.9	.500	.500	.000	0.5	0.0	1	0	0.3	30-0	6.8	.304	.250	.571	1.0	0.3	5	4	0.7
OSAWE, Kevin	29-19	27.3	.470	.179	.694	8.9	0.8	12	7	11.2	77-25	19.4	.417	.256	.724	5.1	0.6	25	9	6.8
SULLIVAN, Raheim	29-28	28.8	.349	.337	.600	3.2	2.9	29	3	7.8	73-52	26.0	.384	.335	.672	2.7	2.5	74	6	8.4

Scoring																	
			Seaso	n Stat	istics			Career Statistics									
Player	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	PTS	PTS/G	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	PTS	PTS/G	
ANDERSON, Justin	25-74	.338	11-39	.282	9-20	.450	70	2.8	388-864	.449	90-279	.323	169-234	.722	1035	13.1	
COLEMAN, Miles	81-201	.403	31-83	.373	54-75	.720	247	14.5	267-642	.416	84-242	.347	150-204	.735	768	14.0	
DE GRAAF, Kjell	52-120	.433	20-62	.323	39-62	.629	163	5.6	113-287	.394	50-162	.309	82-121	.678	358	3.5	
DIAKITE, Souleymane	73-152	.480	0-0	.000	19-43	.442	165	6.1	285-584	.488	0-0	.000	113-216	.523	683	5.7	
FAISON, Da'mir	28-43	.651	2-5	.400	16-26	.615	74	3.5	49-90	.544	3-9	.333	24-40	.600	125	2.8	
GRAY, Mekhi	80-183	.437	14-45	.311	28-41	.683	202	7.0	178-409	.435	36-125	.288	90-142	.634	482	6.3	
HESS, Adam	104-222	.468	58-130	.446	40-51	.784	306	10.9	175-431	.406	104-262	.397	63-88	.716	517	9.2	
MASON, Keeshawn	11-28	.393	0-3	.000	6-10	.600	28	2.8	35-73	.479	0-3	.000	21-34	.618	91	2.7	
MCMILLAN IV, Paul	50-129	.388	11-41	.268	31-38	.816	142	5.9	50-129	.388	11-41	.268	31-38	.816	142	5.9	
NANKIN, Eyal	1-2	.500	1-2	.500	0-0	.000	3	0.3	7-23	.304	3-12	.250	4-7	.571	21	0.7	
OSAWE, Kevin	135-287	.470	5-28	.179	50-72	.694	325	11.2	202-484	.417	32-125	.256	84-116	.724	520	6.8	
SULLIVAN, Raheim	82-235	.349	35-104	.337	27-45	.600	226	7.8	223-580	.384	76-227	.335	88-131	.672	610	8.4	

Totals																			
			S	eason S	tatistic	s			Career Statistics										
Player	O-REB	D-REB	TOTAL	PF	FO	Α	то	A/TO	O-REB	D-REB	TOTAL	PF	FO	Α	то	A/TO			
ANDERSON, Justin	8	21	29	27	0	5	15	0.3	82	169	251	140	3	108	139	0.8			
COLEMAN, Miles	9	60	69	48	2	37	45	0.8	40	211	251	139	4	95	139	0.7			
DE GRAAF, Kjell	17	54	71	47	0	20	13	1.5	59	144	203	144	2	59	46	1.3			
DIAKITE, Souleymane	43	82	125	55	1	38	31	1.2	206	444	650	272	5	139	149	0.9			
FAISON, Da'mir	15	42	57	39	1	8	11	0.7	24	69	93	64	1	16	21	0.8			
GRAY, Mekhi	27	68	95	60	4	54	49	1.1	54	156	210	119	4	93	103	0.9			
HESS, Adam	9	53	62	44	1	24	27	0.9	21	104	125	84	1	45	57	0.8			
MASON, Keeshawn	5	5	10	19	0	2	3	0.7	17	20	37	39	0	5	13	0.4			
MCMILLAN IV, Paul	5	34	39	24	0	30	28	1.1	5	34	39	24	0	30	28	1.1			
NANKIN, Eyal	2	4	6	1	0	0	1	0.0	13	17	30	15	0	10	13	0.8			
OSAWE, Kevin	69	189	258	47	0	24	36	0.7	108	283	391	85	0	49	57	0.9			
SULLIVAN, Raheim	12	82	94	50	0	85	41	2.1	21	174	195	96	0	179	123	1.5			

2023-24 Indi	vidu	al Te	am-	Lead	ers
(	includ	es ties)			
Player Name	Pts	Reb	Ast	Blk	Stl
Jeffrey Akintolu					
Justin Anderson					
Elijah Buchanan					
JJ Chaikovsky					
Kjell de Graaf					
Tariq Francis					
Jake Goldberg					
Mekhi Gray					
Adam Hess					
Isaac Hester					
Levi Lawal					
Eyal Nankin					
Cameron Piggee					
Jalen Robinson					
Sebastian Robinson					
Daniel Schreier					

### 2023-24 Individual Stat Distribution

Player Name	10+ Pts	20+ Pts	10+ Rbs	
Jeffrey Akintolu				
Justin Anderson				
Elijah Buchanan				
JJ Chaikovsky				
Kjell de Graaf				
Tariq Francis				
Jake Goldberg				
Mekhi Gray				
Adam Hess				
Isaac Hester				
Levi Lawal				
Eyal Nankin				
Cameron Piggee				
Jalen Robinson				
Sebastian Robinson				
Daniel Schreier				

### ALL-TIME RECORDS BY D-I CONFERENCES

America East (31-60)	Ivy League (4-18)
American (1-8)	MAAC (5-17)
Atlantic 10 (3-5)	MAC (0-3)
ASUN (32-43; 1-5 PS)	MEAC (7-7)
ACC (0-3)	Mountain West (0-1)
Big 10 (1-7)	NEC (23-16)
Big 12 (0-1)	Pac 10 (0-1)
BIG EAST (1-24)	Patriot (16-30)
Big Sky (1-1)	SEC (0-1)
Big South (0-1)	Sun Belt (2-1)
CAA (2-3)	WAC (0-1)
C-USA (0-3)	WCC (0-1)
Great West (27-41)	Independents (7-15)
Horizon (1-0)	



# **2023-24 NJIT HIGHLANDERS ROSTER**

NO.	NAME	POS	HT	WT	YR	HOMETOWN/HIGH SCHOOL (LAST SCHOOL)
0	Sebastian Robinson	G	6′1	190	Fr.	Montclair, NJ / Roselle Catholic
1	Jalen Robinson	G	5′9	170	Fr.	South Orange, NJ / Columbia
2	Justin Anderson	G	6-3	170	Gr.	Philadelphia, PA / Archbishop Carroll (Bloomsburg)
3	Isaac Hester	G	5′11	180	Fr.	Ocean Township, NJ / Ranney School
4	Adam Hess	G	6-4	205	Gr.	Westlake Village, CA / Westlake (E. New Mexico)
5	Jake Goldberg	G	6'4	190	Fr.	Pasadena, CA / IMG Academy (FL)
7	Cameron Piggee	G	6'0	180	Fr.	North Brunswick, NJ / Rutgers Prep
8	Jeffrey Akintolu	F	6′7	210	Fr.	Welling, England / Avon Old Farms (CT)
10	Eyal Nankin	F	6-7	210	Jr.	Ra'anana, Israel / Emek Harod
11	Daniel Schreier	F	6-9	225	Gr.	Santa Monica, CA / Vermont Academy (VT) (Manhattan)
12	JJ Chaikovsky	F	6′7	205	Fr.	Manhattan Beach, CA / El Segundo
20	Tariq Francis	G	6'0	180	Fr.	Pittsburgh, PA / First Love Christian Academy
22	Levi Lawal	F	6′7	195	Fr.	Laurel, MD / Mt. Zion Prep
24	Mekhi Gray	G	6-4	190	Sr.	Montrose, NY / Putnam Science Academy (CT)
30	Elijah Buchanan	G	6-5	190	Gr.	Bronx, NY / Mount St. Michael (Manhattan)
33	Kjell de Graaf	F	6-10	230	Gr.	Rotterdam, Netherlands / Canaries Basketball Academy (CBA)

**Head Coach**: Grant Billmeier (Seton Hall '07), First season

Assistant Coaches: RaShawn Stores (Manhattan '15), First season

Pete Lappas (Boston College '12) First season Thomas Messinger (Emerson '11), First season Mike Hamlin (Bloomsburg '11), Second season

**Director, Basketball Operations**: Vincent Tamburro (Seton Hall '23), First Season

Athletic Trainer: Matt Koscs

Strength & Conditioning Coach: Bobby Fisk

Sports Information Director: Myles Rudnick

### **PRONUNCIATIONS**

Eyal Nankin	Ay-al Nan-kin	Cameron Piggee	Pih-jhay
Daniel Schreier	Shreye-er	JJ <b>Chaikovsky</b>	Cheye-kov-skee
Mekhi Gray	Mick-hi	Jeffrey <b>Akintolu</b>	Ack-in-toe-loo
Kjell de Graaf	Kyell duh-GRAF	Grant Billmeier	Bill-my-er





# **HEAD COACH GRANT BILLMEIER**

Seton Hall '07 | 1st Season as Head Coach (0-0)

@GrantBillmeier

### **BILLMEIER'S CAREER**

**GRANT BILLMEIER** WAS NAMED THE 12TH HEAD COACH IN NJIT MEN'S BASKETBALL HISTORY IN APRIL, 2023.

A NATIVE OF PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY, AND GRADUATE OF ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL AND SETON HALL UNIVERSITY, BILLMEIER CAME TO NEWARK AFTER ONE SEASON ON THE STAFF AT MARYLAND, WHERE HE FOLLOWED KEVIN WILLARD FROM SETON HALL IN APRIL 2022. THE TERRAPINS WERE 22-13 IN 2022-23, AND FINISHED 16-1 AT HOME AND 11-9 IN BIG TEN PLAY EARNING AN AT-LARGE BERTH INTO THE NCAA TOURNAMENT WHERE THEY DEFEATED WEST VIRGINIA IN THE FIRST ROUND, BEFORE BOWING OUT TO ALABAMA, THE TOP OVERALL SEED.

PRIOR TO MARYLAND, BILLMEIER SERVED ON WILLARD'S STAFF AT SETON HALL FOR SEVEN SEASONS, CULMINATING WITH THE 2021-22 SEASON WHEN HE WAS PROMOTED TO ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH. BILLMEIER HELPED LEAD THE PIRATES TO THE 2016 BIG EAST TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP AND 2020 BIG EAST REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP DURING HIS SECOND STINT ON THE COACHING STAFF IN SOUTH ORANGE.

BILLMEIER'S FIRST COLLEGIATE COACHING EXPERIENCE ALSO CAME AT SETON HALL FROM 2010-14 WHEN SERVED AS THE DIRECTOR OF BASKETBALL OPERATIONS. HE THEN SPENT ONE SEASON AS AN ASSISTANT COACH AT FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON BEFORE RETURNING TO SETON HALL AS AN ASSISTANT COACH PRIOR TO THE 2015-16 CAMPAIGN.

DURING HIS SUCCESSFUL TENURE COACHING AT SETON HALL, BILLMEIER PLAYED A LARGE ROLE IN DEVELOPING THE PIRATES' POST PLAYERS. BILLMEIER MENTORED 2018 KAREEM ABDUL-JABAAR NATIONAL CENTER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER ANGEL DELGADO, WHO LED THE NATION IN REBOUNDING (13.1 RPG)

AND EARNED A GREAT DEAL OF OTHER ACCOLADES INCLUDING ALL-AMERICA RECOGNITION IN ADDITION TO BEING UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO THE ALL-BIG EAST TEAM AND NAMED THE MBWA PLAYER OF THE YEAR.

BILLMEIER ALSO HELPED DEVELOP SANDRO MAMUKELASHVILI, WHO WENT FROM PLAYING LESS THAN 10 MINUTES PER GAME AS A FRESHMAN TO BEING THE BIG EAST PLAYER OF THE YEAR AS A SENIOR. MAMUKELASHVILI WAS A SECOND-ROUND PICK IN THE 2021 DRAFT AND CURRENTLY PLAYS FOR THE SAN ANTONIO SPURS. ANDROW MAMUKELASHVILI WAS A SECOND-ROUND PICK IN THE SAN ANTONIO SPURS. ANDROW MAMUKELASHVILI WAS A SECOND-ROUND PICK IN THE SAN ANTONIO SPURS.

OTHER SETON HALL BIG MAN THAT WAS MOLDED BY BILLMEIER IS ROMARO GILL, THE 2020 BIG EAST DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR AND BIG EAST MOST IMPROVED PLAYER AWARD WINNER. GILL FINISHED THIRD IN THE NATION, BLOCKING 3.2 SHOTS PER GAME AND ALSO WAS EFFICIENT OFFENSIVELY, SHOOTING 63.5% FROM THE FIELD IN LEAGUE PLAY.

THE 2007 SETON HALL GRADUATE PLAYED FOUR SEASONS FOR

### **HEAD COACH (1):**

YEAR	SCH	CONF	W-L	PCT	NOTE
2023-2	4 NJIT	ΑE	0-0	.000	First year as a D-I Head Coach
TOTAL			0-0	.000	

### **ASSISTANT COACH (12):**

YEAR	SCH	CONF	HEAD COACH W-L	NOTE
2022-23	UMD	B1G	Kevin Willard 22-13	3 Won NCAAT Gamee
2021-22	SHU	BE	Kevin Willard 21-1	1 NCAAT Qualifier
2020-21	SHU	BE	Kevin Willard 14-13	3
2019-20	SHU	BE	Kevin Willard 21-9	NO NCAAT (COVID)
2018-19	SHU	BE	Kevin Willard 20-1	4 NCAAT Qualifier
2017-18	SHU	BE	Kevin Willard 22-13	2 Won NCAAT Game
2016-17	SHU	BE	Kevin Willard 21-1	2 NCAAT Qualifier
2015-16	SHU	BE	Kevin Willard 25-9	NCAAT Qualifier
2014-15	FDU	NEC	Greg Herenda	
2013-14	SHU	BE	Kevin Willard 17-1	7
2012-13	SHU	BE	Kevin Willard 15-18	3
2011-12	SHU	BE	Kevin Willard 21-13	3 NIT 2nd Round
2010-11	SHU	BE	Kevin Willard 13-1	7

### **DIVISION-I PLAYING CAREER (4):**

2003-04 Seton Hall BE 21-10 31	8	Won NCAA Tourn. Game
2004-05 Seton Hall BE 12-16 28	19	
2005-06 Seton Hall BE 18-12 30	17	Made NCAA Tourn.
2006-07 Seton Hall BE 13-16 17	14	

THE PIRATES, SERVING AS A CAPTAIN TWICE AND HELPING LEAD THE TEAM TO A PAIR OF NCAA TOURNAMENTS IN 2004 AND 2006. BILLMEIER PLAYED IN 106 GAMES DURING HIS CAREER. BILLMEIER WENT ON TO PLAY PROFESSIONALLY IN GERMANY AND PORTUGAL

BEFORE BEGINNING HIS COACHING CAREER.

BILLMEIER PLAYED FOR KEVIN BOYLE AT ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL, WHERE HIS TEAM WON THE 2003 NEW JERSEY TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS. ADDITIONALLY, BILLMEIER'S FIRST COACHING POSITION CAME AT ST. PATRICK WHERE HE SERVED ON BOYLE'S STAFF FOR THE 2009-10 SEASON.

BILLMEIER AND HIS WIFE, JENNIFER, WERE MARRIED IN MAY 2017 AND ARE PARENTS TO THEIR DAUGHTER, AVERY, BORN MARCH 2018, AND SON, LUKE, BORN JUNE 2021.



### **NJIT HIGHLANDERS ASSISTANT COACHES**



### RASHAWN STORES

### MANHATTAN '15 | 1ST SEASON AT NJIT

RaShawn Stores was added to the NJIT men's basketball coaching staff as an Assistant Coach in April, 2023.

Stores came to NJIT after spending six seasons on the staff at Manhattan College, where he most recently served as the Jaspers' Interim Head Coach for the 2022-23 season.

Prior to serving on the staff at Manhattan, Stores was a student-athlete for five seasons, redshirting his first year and playing an important role on the team for the next four seasons. Stores was a two-time captain for the Jaspers and helped lead Manhattan to 71 wins and a pair of MAAC Tournament titles and two NCAA Tournament appearances. His name is etched throughout Manhattan's record books as he graduated ninth in program history in assists (314) and converted on 39.3 percent (143-of-364) from three-point range.

In 2012-13, Stores was named to the MAAC All-Rookie Team after starting 14 games and playing in 32 contests. As a junior, Stores led the MAAC in assist to turnover ratio (2.9) and during his senior season he was named a Lefty Driesell Defensive All-American.

Following his playing career, Stores remained at Manhattan as an Assistant Coach before being promoted to Associate Head Coach prior to the 2018-19 season. Days before the 2022-23 campaign, Stores was announced as the Interim Head Coach at Manhattan and he led the team to 12 wins, including 10 in MAAC play.

Stores earned his undergraduate degree in business management at Manhattan in 2015 and in 2017 he received a master's degree in organizational leadership.

Stores is a native of The Bronx and he and his wife Callan are the proud parents of one daughter, Raylan.



### PETE LAPPAS

### BOSTON COLLEGE '12 | 1ST SEASON AT NJIT

Pete Lappas was added to the NJIT men's basketball coaching staff as an Assistant Coach in April, 2023.

Lappas came to NJIT after spending the 2022-23 season at Wagner and the eight previous seasons at FDU. At Wagner he served as an Assistant Coach and at FDU Lappas was the Director of Basketball Operations for three seasons before being

promoted to Assistant Coach for his final five.

At FDU, Lappas helped coach the Knights to a pair of NEC Championships and NCAA Tournament berths. The 2019 team won the program's first-ever NCAA Tournament game. Lappas also helped recruit and develop five NEC All-Rookie selections and the 2022 NEC Rookie fo the Year, Anguan Hill,

Lappas' first coaching job was as a Graduate Assistant Manager at Temple, where he helped the Owls win 24 games and qualify for the NCAA Tournament.

A native of Pennsylvania, Lappas earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications from Boston College and a Master's Degree in Sport and Recreation Management from Temple. Lappas' father, Steve, was a Division I Head Coach for 17 seasons, making stops at Manhattan (1988-92), Villanova (1992-2001), and UMass (2001-04). Steve Lappas currently serves as a a college basketball analyst at CBS Sports.

Lappas is engaged to his fiance, Emily.



### THOMAS MESSINGER

### **EMERSON '11 | 1ST SEASON AT NJIT**

Thomas Messinger was added to the NJIT men's basketball coaching staff as an Assistant Coach in June, 2023.

Messinger arrived in Newark after nearly a decade on the coaching staff for the Postgraduate Team at Hargrave Military Academy, including the past three as Head Coach. In three seasons leading the program, Messinger's teams went 114-8 overall and finished #2, #4. and #1 in the final national polls.

In 2022-23, Messinger brought the Hargrave Postgraduate team to new heights, as it finsished 44-2 and closed out the final eight weeks of the season as the #1 team in the national polls. Messinger was honored as the Next Up Recruits National Postgraduate Coach of the Year and the Elite Prep League (EPL) Coach of the Year as Hargrave also won the EPL Regular Season and

Messinger played collegiately at Emerson College in Boston and helped lead his team to a program-record 24 wins in 2007-08. He finished his career second in Great Northeast Athletic Conference history in both three-pointers made (252) and three-point field goal percentage (44.0). Messinger graduated from Emerson in 2011 with a degree in Marketing Communication. He went on to earn his Master's Degree in teaching from Smith College in 2012.

A native of Northampton, MA, Messinger was a top player at Northampton High School before wrapping up his high school career with a postgraduate season at Deerfield Academy. At Deerfield, Messinger was named Team MVP, All-NEPSAC, and All-Region.

Messinger is married to his wife Katie and they have one daughter. Millie



### **MIKE HAMLIN**

### **BLOOMSBURG '11 | 2ND SEASON AT NJIT**

Mike Hamlin joined the NJIT men's basketball staff as its Director of Basketball Operations in July 2022, and was promoted to Assistant Coach in the summer of 2023.

He came to Newark ollowing a tenure of almost 15 seasons in a variety of roles at his alma mater, Bloomsburg University.

Hamlin, a native of a Philadelphia, started as a student assistant coach during his undergraduate years at Bloomsburg and was eventually promoted to volunteer assistant coach before spending the past seven seasons as the program's full-time assistant coach.

Between his stints in the volunteer and full-time roles at Bloomsburg, Hamlin spent one season as and assistant coach at Mansfield University.

During his almost 15-year tenure at Bloomsburg, Hamlin had various roles including operations and game planning, NCAA compliance, academic advisement, video coordination, recruiting, and fundraising. Hamlin coached several players who earned high individual accolades, including and NABC First Team All-American, eight First Team All-American, a PSAC Player of the Year and Freshman of the Year, and several 1,000 point scorers.

In addition to working at Bloomsburg, Hamlin has also spent many years working with The Hoop Group in its Elite Camp, Skills Camp, Top 100 Camp and many other high-level camps and clinics.

Hamlin received his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Bloomsburg in 2011 and went on to earn his Master's in Educational Leadership from Bloomsburg in 2021.



### **VICENT TAMBURRO**

### SETON HALL '23 | 1ST SEASON AT NJIT

Vincent Tamburro was named Director of Basketball Operations for the NJIT men's basketball team, Head Coach Grant Billmeier announced on July 1, 2023.

Tamburro is no stranger working with Billmeier as the pair spent three years together on staff at Seton Hall, where Billmeier served as Associate Head Coach and Tamburro was a student manager.

As a student manager, Tamburro had many duties including practice set-up, working out student-athletes before and after practice, laundry, and travel to away games. In his final two seasons in South Orange, Tamburro served as the Head Student Manager

During his time with the Pirates, Seton Hall had a winning season each year and qualified for the 2022 NCAA Tournament. The Pirates also won a BIG EAST Regular Season Championship in 2020 before the postseason was canceled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

In addition to his work specifically with the men's basketball program, Tamburro also worked in the equipment room at Seton Hall one summer and most recently was on staff at Shaheen Holloway's Basketball Camp until he was officially hired at NJIT.

A native of Dumont, NJ, Tamburro graduated from Seton Hall in 2023 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Sport Management and Marketing and a Certificate in Marketing Research.



# SEBASTIAN ROBINSON O

FR | G | 6-1 | 190 | Montclair, NJ | Roselle Catholic

### **HIGH SCHOOL:**

Played alongside classmates DJ Wagner and Aaron Bradshaw (both currently at Kentucky) as freshmen at Camden HS and helped lead the team to a state title before COVID-19 ended the season prior to the Tournament of Champions...spent sophomore and junior seasons at Elizabeth HS...team played roughly 10 games as a sophomore due to COVID-19, but won state title and made it to TOC semifinals as a junior...played senior season at Roselle Catholic, where he scored his 1,000th career HS point and helped lead his team to a state title.

### **PERSONAL:**

Played AAU for NY Jayhawks, PSA Cardinals, and NJ Legacy (alongside currently NJIT teammates Tariq Francis and Jalen Robinson)...brother Izaiah currently plays at Dartmouth...intends to major in Business and one day wants to open his own business.

$\mathbf{R}$	03	171	<u>30</u>	$\Sigma_{k}$	S G	ΑN	/12	1:	<u>}'4</u>	C	7÷\	1771	2
		F	G	3FG	FT	REB							
DATE	OPP	GS N	И-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	TOT	PF	TP	Α	то	BK ST	M
11-6	@UM												
11/11	SPU												
11/16	@AU												
11/20	DSU												
11/25	@WAG	ì											
11/29	@GML	J											
12/2	FDU												
12/6	@FU												
	@WFL	J											
12/16													
12/23	MEC												
12/31	MSU												
1/6	UA												
	@UML												
1/13	@UVN	1											
1/18	UNH												
$\dot{-}$	UM												
	BRY												
1/27	@UME	3C											
2/1	@BU												
2/8	UVM												
2/10	UML												
2/15	@UA												
2/17	BU							_	_	_	_		_
2/22	@UNH	1								_			
2/24	@UM												
2/29	UMBC												
3/2	@BRY												
						$\overline{}$							

### SEASON/CAREER HIGHS Points: Season: Career: Rebounds: Season: Career: Assists Season: Career: Blocks Season: Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes Season: Career:

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			MIN		SHC	OTING	ì	3-P	TS		F-TI	HROW	S	REB	OUND	S									SCO	RING
YEAR	GP	GS	TOT	AVG	FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	FO	Α	APG	то	BLK	STL	PTS	PPC
2023-24																										



# **JALEN ROBINSON**

170 | South Orange, NJ | Columbia HS

### HIGH SCHOOL:

Played four seasons for his father Eugene Robinson at Columbia High School...helped lead Columbia to the Essex County Semifinals as a senior...two-time First Team All-Essex County...scored 1,000th point as a senior.

### PERSONAL:

Played AAU for NJ Legacy on the EYBL alongside current teammates Tariq Francis and Sebastian Robinson... father played at Felician and also coached at Irvington before his tenure at Columbia...brother played college football at Liberty and Rhode Island...plans to major in Business.

					<u> </u>									
			FG	3FG	FT	REB				_				
DATE		GS	M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	TOT	PF	TP	Α	то	ВК	ST	М
11-6	@UM													_
11/11														
11/16														
11/20														
	@WAG													
	@GMI	U												_
12/2														
12/6	@FU													
12/9	@WFU	J												
12/16	@NU													
12/23	MEC													
12/31	MSU													
1/6	UA													
1/11	@UMI	L												
1/13	@UVN	Л												
1/18	UNH													
1/20	UM													
1/25	BRY													
1/27	@UMI	вс												_
2/1	@BU													_
2/8	UVM													_
2/10	UML													
2/15	@UA													
2/17	BU													
2/22	@UNF	1												_
2/24	@UM													_
2/29	UMBC	:												_
3/2	@BRY													_
														_

Season/Career Highs
Points:
Season:
Career:
Rebounds:
Season:
Career:
Assists
Season:
Career:
Blocks
Season:
Career:
Steals
Season:
Career:
3-Pointers
Season:
Career:
Minutes
Season:
Career:

								1	$\mathbf{OBI}$	<b>NSU</b>	7, 2	CAR	1996	STA	112										
MIN			SHOOTING			3-P	3-PTS		F-TI	F-THROWS		REBOUNDS										SCOR	lING		
YEAR	GP	GS	TOT	AVG	FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	FO	Α	APG TO	BLK	STL	PTS	PPG
2023-34																									



# JUSTIN ANDERSON

GR | G | 6-3 | 170 | Philadelphia, PA | Archbishop Carroll (Bloomsburg)

### 2022-23:

Played in 26 games, including one start...scored a season-high 12 points in 27 minutes of action vs. St. Elizabeth...scored 1,000th career collegiate point vs. New Hampshire (2/1)...scored nine points in final game of the regular season at New Hampshire (2/28)

### Prior to NJIT:

Earned undergraduate degree in just three years at Bloomsburg, where he scored 965 points in two seasons, averagin 17.9 ppg for his career. Named First Team All-PSAC during a junior season where he started all 26 games and led the team in scoring (18.7 ppg). Scored a career-high 35 vs. Mansfield (2/2/22).

FG 3FG FT REB	
DATE OPP GS M-A M-A M-A O-D TOT PF TP A TO BE	ST M
11-6 @UM	
11/11 SPU	
11/16 @AU	
11/20 DSU	
11/25 @WAG	
11/29 @GMU	
12/2 FDU	
12/6 @FU	
12/9 @WFU	
12/16 @NU	
12/23 MEC	
12/31 MSU	
1/6 UA	
1/11 @UML	
1/13 @UVM	
1/18 UNH	
1/20 UM	
1/25 BRY	
1/27 @UMBC	
2/1 @BU	
2/8 UVM	
2/10 UML	
2/15 @UA	
2/17 BU	
2/22 @UNH	

ANDERSON'S GAME-BY-GAME

# Career: 12 vs. Saint Elizabeth (12/27/23) Rebounds: Season: Career: 5 vs. UMBC (1/25/23) Assists Season: Career: 1 (5) last: at UAlbany (2/25/23) Blocks Season: Season:

**SEASON/CAREER HIGHS** 

Career: 2 (2) last: vs. Bryant (2/22/23)

Steals
Season:

3-Pointers
Season:
Career: 2 vs. Saint Elizabeth (12/27/23)
Minutes

Season: Career: 27

Career:

2/24 @UM 2/29 UMBC 3/2 @BRY

**Points:** Season:

vs. Saint Elizabeth (12/27/23)

							AND	ΕR	SON	'S CA	133	er s	TVA VIII	STI	CS (I	NJIT	ONI	.Y)								
			MIN		SHC	OTING	ì	3-P	TS		F-TI	HROWS	S	REBO	OUND	S									sco	RING
YEAR	GP	GS	TOT	AVG	FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	FO	Α	APG	то	BLK	STL	PTS	PPG
2022-23	26	1	294	11.3	27	80	.338	12	42	.286	9	20	.450	8	22	30	1.2	27	0	5	0.2	15	5	4	75	2.9
2023-34																										

CAREER 26 1 294 11.3 27 80 .338 12 42 .286 9 20 .450 8 22 30 1.2 27 0 5 0.2 15 <u>5</u> 4 75 2.9



# **ISAAC HESTER**

3

### FR | G | 5-11 | 180 | Ocean Twp., NJ | Ranney School

### HIGH SCHOOL:

Played final three seasons at The Ranney School after spending freshman season at Gill St. Bernard's...team was top five in the state at Gill St. Bernard's...led Ranney to Shore Conference Championship game as a senior when he was named First Team All-Shore Conference...was one of New Jersey's top scorers as a senior, averaging more than 21 ppg.

### Personal:

Played AAU for New Heights and Team Rio...calls his older brother of 12 years a huge influence and role model...plans to major in FinTech.

	<b>;</b>   ¥	7	¥ 24 3	દંડ	G/A	W	2	3	<u> </u>	7÷	W	113		
			FG	3FG	FT	REB								
DATE	OPP	GS	M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	тот	PF	TP	Α	то	вк	ST	М
11-6	@UM													
11/11	SPU													
11/16	@AU													
11/20	DSU													
11/25	@WAG	G												
11/29	@GM	U												
12/2	FDU													
12/6	@FU													
12/9	@WFl	J												
12/16	@NU													
12/23	MEC													
12/31	MSU													
1/6	UA													
1/11	@UM	L												
1/13	@UVN	И												
1/18	UNH													
1/20	UM													
1/25	BRY													
1/27	@UM	вс												
2/1	@BU													
2/8	UVM													
2/10	UML													
2/15	@UA													
2/17	BU													
2/22	@UNH	1												
2/24	@UM													
2/29	UMBC	:												
3/2	@BRY													_

### SEASON/CAREER HIGHS

Points:
Season:
Career:
Rebounds:
Season:
Career:
Assists
Season:
Career:
Blocks
Season:
Career:
Steals
Season:
Career:
3-Pointers
Season:
Career:
Minutes
Season:

Career:

### **HESTER'S CAREER STATISTICS (NJIT ONLY)**

MIN SHOOTING 3-PTS F-THROWS REBOUNDS SCORING

YEAR GP GS TOT AVG FG FGA PCT FG FGA PCT FT FTA PCT OFF DEF TOT AVG PF FO A APG TO BLK STL PTS PPG

2023-24



# **ADAM HESS**

4

GR | G | 6-4 | 205 | Westlake Villiage, CA | Westlake HS (E. New Mexico)

### 2022-23

Played in 29 games, making 24 starts...led the America East in three-point field goal percentage (43.4)... finished third on the team in scoring (10.7 ppg)...scored 10+ points 16 times, including three games with at least 20 points...was 7-for-8 from deep en route to 23 points at South Florida (12/22)...scored a season-high 25 points while playing all 40 minutes vs. Bryant (2/22).

### PRIOR TO NJIT:

Hess began his collegiate career at California Baptist, but played his first season at Salt Lake Community College, where he helped lead the team to a 29-4 record. After his time at SLCC, Hess moved on to UTEP where he played sparingly and spent last season at Eastern New Mexico. Hess appeared in 21 games for ENMU and drained 41 three-pointers on the season. He scored a career-high 20 points against New Mexico Highlanders.

	1;1	$\pm$	SS.	S (	÷ 1/	/   ==	1:}'	٩	• 7÷	1	<b>71</b> :			
			FG	3FG	FT	REB								
DATE	OPP	GS	M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	TOT	PF	TP	Α	то	BK	ST	М
11-6	@UM													
11/11	. SPU													
11/16	@AU													
11/20	DSU													
11/25	@WAG	G												
11/29	@GM	U												
12/2	FDU													
12/6	@FU													
12/9	@WFl	J												
12/16	@NU													
12/23	MEC													
12/31	MSU													
1/6	UA													
1/11	@UM	L												
1/13	@UVN	N												
1/18	UNH													
1/20	UM													
1/25	BRY													
1/27	@UM	BC												
2/1	@BU													
2/8	UVM													
2/10	UML													
2/15	@UA													
2/17	BU													
2/22	@UNH	1												
2/24	@UM													
2/29	UMBC	:												
3/2	@BRY													

81	:ASON/	Career Highs
Points:		
Season:		
Career:	25	vs. Bryant (2/22/23)
Rebound	ds:	
Season:		
Career:	5	at Maine (1/8/23)
Assists		
Season:		
Career:	3	at UAlbany (2/25/23)
Blocks		
Season:		
Career:	1 (5) last:	at Vermont (3/4/23(
Steals		
Season:		
Career:	3 (2) last:	Maine (2/11/23)
3-Pointe	rs	
Season:		
Career:	7	at South Florida (12/22/22)
Minutes		
Season:		
Career:	45	vs. Vermont (2/18/23)

								18	S' C	AREL	R S	TVAV	TSTI	CS (	NJII	ON	LY)									
			MIN		SHC	OTING	3	3-P	TS		F-TI	HROW	S	REB	OUND	S									SCO	RING
YEAR	GP	GS	TOT	AVG	FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	FO	Α	APG	то	BLK	STL	PTS	PPG
2022-23	29	24	810	27.9	106	231	.459	59	136	.434	40	51	.784	9	54	63	2.2	45	1	24	0.8	30	5	19	311	10.7
2023-24																										

CAREER 29 24 810 27.9 106 231 .459 59 136 .434 40 51 .784 9 54 63 2.2 45 1 24 0.8 30 5 19 311 10.



# **JAKE GOLDBERG**

5

FR. | G/F | 6-4 | 190 | Pasadena, CA | IMG Academy

### **HIGH SCHOOL:**

Spent post graduate year alongside five other Division I players at IMG Academy in Florida playing for Coach Alex Popp...played three seasons of varsity basketball at St. Francis HS in Lacanada, CA, where he helped lead the team to a state championship as a sophomore...named Team MVP as a junior and senior...McDonald's All-America Game Nominee.

### Personal:

Played AAU for West Coast Elite...plans to major in FinTech.

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			ru	3FG	г	KED							
DATE	OPP	GS	M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	TOT PF	TP	Α	то	BK	ST	М
11-6	@UM												
11/11	. SPU												
11/16	@AU												
11/20	DSU												
11/25	@WA	G											
11/29	@GM	U											
12/2	FDU												
12/6	@FU												
12/9	@WF	J											
12/16	@NU												
12/23	MEC												
12/31	MSU												
1/6	UA												
1/11	@UM	L											
1/13	@UVN	N											
1/18	UNH												
1/20	UM												
1/25	BRY												
1/27	@UM	вс											
2/1	@BU												
2/8	UVM												
2/10	UML												
2/15	@UA												
2/17	BU												
2/22	@UNI	1											_
2/24	@UM												
2/29	UMBC	_											_
3/2	@BRY												

### SEASON/CAREER HIGHS

Points:
Season:
Career:
Rebounds:
Season:
Career:
Assists
Season:
Career:
Blocks
Season:
Career:
Steals
Season:
Career:
3-Pointers
Season:
Career:
Minutes
Season:
Career:

### **GOLDBERG'S CAREER STATISTICS (NJIT ONLY)**

MIN SHOOTING 3-PTS F-THROWS REBOUNDS SCORING

YEAR GP GS TOT AVG FG FGA PCT FG FGA PCT FT FTA PCT OFF DEF TOT AVG PF FO A APG TO BLK STL PTS PPG

2023-24



# **CAMERON PIGGEE**

7

### FR | G | 6-0 | 180 | North Brunswick, NJ | Rutgers Prep

### **HIGH SCHOOL:**

Played four seasons of varsity basketball at Rutgers Prep for Coach Matt Bloom...hit the game-winning shot to win the Somerset County Tournament as a senior...helped lead Rutgers Prep to its first-ever Non-Public A state title as a junior...named First Tam All-County as a senior,

### PERSONAL:

Played AAU for the New Jersey Panthers...paternal grandfather was invited to try out for the Cleveland Caveliers, while maternal grandfather played soccer for Bermuda's national team...majoring in business and would like to start his own business one day...lists yoga and meditation as his hobbies.

	PIC	:GEI	E'S	GA	1//1:	:B)	<b>-</b> 0	†÷	1//1:	
		FG	3FG	FT	REB					
DATE	OPP	GS M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	TOT P	т ТР	Α	то вк	ST N
11-6	@UM	l								
11/11	. SPU									
11/16	@AU									
11/20	) DSU									
11/25	@WA	G								
11/29	@GM	U								
12/2	FDU									
12/6	@FU									
12/9	@WF	U								
12/16	@NU									
12/23	MEC									
12/31	MSU									
1/6	UA									
1/11	@UM	IL								
1/13	@UVI	M								
1/18	UNH									
1/20	UM									
1/25	BRY									
1/27	@UM	IBC								
2/1	@BU									
2/8	UVM									
2/10	UML									
2/15	@UA									
2/17	BU									
2/22	@UNI	Н								
2/24	@UM									
2/29	UMBO									
3/2	@BRY	,								

Points:	
Season:	
Career:	
Rebounds:	
Season:	
Career:	
Assists	
Season:	
Career:	
Blocks	
Season:	
Career:	
Steals	
Season:	
Career:	
3-Pointers	
Season:	
Career:	
Minutes	
Season:	
Career:	

									$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{G})$	GEE'	S C	41()=	ER S	174	SIII	CS									
			MIN		SHO	OTING	ì	3-P	TS		F-TI	HROW	S	REB	OUND	S								SCOF	RING
YEAR	GP	GS	TOT	AVG	FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	FO	Α	APG TO	BLK	STL	PTS	PPG
2023-24																									



# JEFFREY AKINTOLU 8

FR | F | 6-7 | 210 | Welling, England | Avol Old Farms (CT)

### **HIGH SCHOOL:**

Played three seasons of high school basketball in the United States, including two at the Kiski School outside of Pittsburgh and his final year at Avon Old Farms in Connecticut...named First Team All-NEPSAC and Second Team All-Founders at Avon Old Farms.

### Personal:

Spent the summer of 2023 playing for Great Britain at the U20 European Championships...played for the Brentwood Fire while in his native England...plans to major in business.

			FG	3FG	FT	REB								
DATE	OPP	GS	M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	TOT	PF	TP	Α	то	вк	ST	М
11-6	@UM													
11/11	SPU													
11/16	@AU													
11/20	DSU													
11/25	@WA	G												
11/29	@GM	U												
12/2	FDU													
12/6	@FU													
12/9	@WF	U												
12/16	@NU													
12/23	MEC													
12/31	MSU													
1/6	UA													
1/11	@UM	L												
1/13	@UVI	VI												
1/18	UNH													
1/20	UM													
1/25	BRY													
1/27	@UM	ВС												
2/1	@BU													
2/8	UVM													
2/10	UML													
2/15	@UA													
2/17	BU													
2/22	@UNI	Н												
2/24	@UM													
2/29	UMBC	:												
3/2	@BRY													

**AKINTOLU'S GAME-BY-GAME** 

### SEASON/CAREER HIGHS

Points:
Season:
Career:
Rebounds:
Season:
Career:
Assists
Season:
Career:
Blocks
Season:
Career:
Steals
Season:
Career:
3-Pointers
Season:
Career:
Minutes

Season: Career:

### **AKINTOLU CAREER STATISTICS**

MIN SHOOTING 3-PTS F-THROWS REBOUNDS SCORING

YEAR GP GS TOT AVG FG FGA PCT FG FGA PCT FT FTA PCT OFF DEF TOT AVG PF FO A APG TO BLK STL PTS PPG

2023-24



# **EYAL NANKIN**

10

### JR | F | 6-7 | 210 | Ra'anana, Israel | Emek Harod

### 2022:23:

Played in 11 games as a reserve...drained his only three-point attempt in a win vs. St. Elizabeth (12/27)... played seven minutes and grabbed a pair of rebounds at UMass Lowell (2/4).

### 2021-22

Played in 19 games, all of the bench...scored first-career points on a put-back at Lehigh (11/13)...grabbed a career-high 10 rebounds (four offensive) in 21 minutes of action to help the Highlanders defeat UMass Lowell (2/16).

### PRIOR TO NJIT:

Nankin, an Israeli native, has represented his country on its National Team at several different levels...spent the last three years fulfilling his Israeli service requirement as a basketball educator.

	N A	ŽĮ.	<b>(11)</b>	ī"S	G/	W	F.	3	7-(	7	: <b>\</b> \	/   >	
			FG	3FG	FT	REB							
DATE	OPP	GS	M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	TOT	PF	TP	Α	то	BK ST	М
11-6	@UM												
11/11	SPU												
11/16	@AU												
11/20	DSU												
11/25	@WA	G											
11/29	@GM	U											
12/2	FDU												
12/6	@FU												
12/9	@WF	J											
12/16	@NU												
12/23	MEC												
12/31	MSU												
1/6	UA												
1/11	@UM	L											
1/13	@UVN	N											
1/18	UNH												
1/20	UM												
1/25	BRY												
1/27	@UM	вс											
2/1	@BU												
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2/17	BU												
2/22	@UNI	1											_
2/24	@UM												_
2/29	UMBC	:											
3/2	@BRY												
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### **Points** Season: Career: 3 (3) last: vs. St. Elizabeth (12/27/22) Rebounds: Season: Career: vs. UML (2/16) Assists Season: Career: at Stony Brook (3/1) Blocks Season: vs. St. Eliz. (12/2) Career: Steals Season: Career: at Stony Brook (3/1/22) 3-Pointers Season:

vs. Saint Elizabeth (12/27)

at Stony Brook (3/1)

Career: 1(2) last:

Minutes Season: Career: 21

SEASON/CAREER HIGHS

									NAR	YKUN	'S C	ARE	ER S	ТАТ	IST	<b>ICS</b>										
			MIN		SHC	OTING	3	3-P	TS		F-TI	HROWS	5	REBO	DUNDS	S									sco	RING
YEAR	GP	GS	TOT	AVG	FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	FO	Α	AG	то	BLK	STL	PTS	PPG
2021-22	19	0	172	9.1	6	21	.286	2	10	.200	4	7	.571	11	13	24	1.3	14	0	10	0.5	12	4	4	18	0.9
2022-23	11	0	31	2.8	1	2	.500	1	2	.500	0	0	.000	2	4	6	0.5	1	0	0	0.0	1	0	1	3	0.3
2023-24																										
2024-25		Ť		,													,									

CAREER 30 0 203 6.8 7 23 .304 3 12 .250 4 7 .571 13 17 30 1.0 15 0 10 0.3 13 4 5 21 .7



# DANIEL SCHREIER

11

GR | F | 6-9 | 225 | Santa Monica, CA | Manhattan College

### PRIOR TO NJIT:

Team member at Manhattan College for five seasons...bounced back after several years of injuries to play in 14 games in 2022-23...scored 10 points in 10 minutes of action in a win vs. Siena (3/2/23)...pulled down career-high four rebounds at Niagara (1/8/22)....was coached by current NJIT Assistant Coach RaShawn Stores all five years, including 2022-23 when Stores was the Jasper's Interim Head Coach...played alongside current NJIT teammate Elijah Buchanan at Manhattan...three-time MAAC All-Academic.

### PERSONAL:

Spent a postgraduate year at Vermont Academy after playing four seasons for Santa Monica High School... helped lead Santa Monica to a 20-8 record during senior season.

Ş	CH	$\mathbf{R}$	<b>31:</b>	$\mathbb{R}^2$	S G	ΑW	12	В	Ÿ-	G	Ą	\ <b>'</b> ,   :	
			FG	3FG	FT	REB							
DATE	OPP	GS	M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	тот	PF	TP	Α	то	BK ST	М
11-6	@UM												
11/11	. SPU												
11/16	@AU												
11/20	) DSU												
11/25	@WA	G											
11/29	@GM	U											
12/2	FDU												
12/6	@FU												
12/9	@WF	U											
12/16	@NU												
12/23	MEC												
12/31	MSU												
1/6	UA												
1/11	@UM	L											
1/13	@UVI	VI											
1/18	UNH												
1/20	UM												
1/25	BRY												
1/27	@UM	вс											
2/1	@BU												
2/8	UVM												
2/10	UML												
2/15	@UA												
2/17	BU												
2/22	@UNI	Н											
2/24	@UM												
2/29	UMBO	_											
3/2	@BRY												
													_

### **SEASON/CAREER HIGHS** Points: Season: Career: 10\* vs. Siena (3/2/23) Rebounds: Season: Career: vs. Niagara (1/8/23) Assists Season: Career: 1\* (5) at Siena (3/2/23) Blocks Season: at Quinnipiac (2/26/23) Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: 1\* (3) last: at Canisius (2/17/19) Minutes Season:

vs. Fairfield (1/31/19)

Career: 14\*

\* Occurred while member of Manhattan

				SCHE	131:	R'S	CAR	려려;	ST	ATIS	TIC	S (Fi	irst fi	ve se	easo	ns at	Mai	nha	ttaı	ı C	olleg	je)				
			MIN		SHC	OTING	i	3-P	ΓS		F-TI	HROWS	S	REB	OUND	S									SCO	RING
YEAR	GP	GS	TOT	AVG	FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	FO	Α	APG	то	BLK	STL	PTS	PPG
2018-19	17	1	98	5.8	5	10	.500	3	8	.375	0	0	.000	3	8	11	0.6	9	0	3	0.2	6	2	0	13	0.8
2019-20	Mis	ssed	Seaso	n Due	to In	jury																				
2020-21	Mis	ssed	Seaso	n Due	to In	jury																				
2021-22	Mis	ssed	Seaso	n Due	to In	jury																				
2022-23	14	0	62	4.4	7	14	.500	0	2	.000	5	6	.833	3	13	16	1.1	9	0	2	0.1	5	4	0	19	1.4
2023-24																										
Career	31	1	160	5.2	12	24	.500	3	10	.300	5	6	.833	6	21	27	.9	18	0	5	0.2	11	6	0	32	1.0



# **JJ CHAIKOVSKY**

12

Fr | F | 6-7 | 205 | Manhattan Beach, CA | El Segundo

### **HIGH SCHOOL:**

Spent three years at El Segundo after going to Mira Costa as a freshman..helped lead El Segundo to league championship as a junior...First Team All-League as a junior.

### PERSONAL:

Played AAU for Elev8, alongside six other Division I players...has a twin brother who attends USC...plans to major in Biology and attend medical school after his basketball career...enjoys to surf.

### **CHAIKOVSKY'S GAME-BY-GAME**

			FG	3FG	FT	REB						
DATE	OPP	GS M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	TOT PF	TP	Α	то	вк	ST	М
11-6	@UM											
11/11	SPU											
11/16	@AU											
11/20	DSU											
11/25	@WA	G										
11/29	@GM	U										
12/2	FDU											
12/6	@FU											
12/9	@WFl	IJ										
12/16	@NU											
12/23	MEC											
12/31	MSU											
1/6	UA											
1/11	@UM	L										
1/13	@UVN	M										
1/18	UNH											
1/20	UM											
1/25	BRY											
1/27	@UM	BC										
2/1	@BU											
2/8	UVM											
2/10	UML											
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2/17	BU											
2/22	@UNH	1										
2/24	@UM											_
2/29	UMBC											_
3/2	@BRY											_

### **SEASON/CAREER HIGHS**

Points:
Rebounds: Season: Career: Assists Season: Career: Blocks Season: Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Season: Career: Assists Season: Career: Blocks Season: Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Career: Assists Season: Career: Blocks Season: Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Assists Season: Career: Blocks Season: Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Season: Career: Blocks Season: Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Career: Blocks Season: Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Blocks Season: Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Season: Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
3-Pointers Season: Career: Minutes
Season: Career: Minutes
Career: Minutes
Minutes
Season:
Career:

### CHAIKOVSKY'S CAREER STATISTICS (NJIT ONLY)

MIN SHOOTING 3-PTS F-THROWS REBOUNDS SCORING
YEAR GP GS TOT AVG FG FGA PCT FG FGA PCT FT FTA PCT OFF DEF TOT AVG PF FO A APG TO BLK STL PTS PPG

2023-24



# **TARIQ FRANCIS**

20

### FR | G | 6-0 | 180 | Pittsburgh, PA | First Love Christian Academy

### **HIGH SCHOOL:**

Spent final two seasons at First Love Christian Academy after attending Obama High School in Pittsburgh for first two...helped lead Obama to a City Championship as a freshman and was name First Team All-City.

### PERSONAL:

Played AAU for Rise High in Pittsburgh and alongside current teammates Sebastian Robinson and Jalen Robinson for NJ Legacy...played final two AAU seasons for the NY Rens in the EYBL...father is a New Jersey native and attended Seton Hall Prep...calls Rutgers Assistant Coach and former Pittsburgh standout Brandon Knight as a mentor and cousin...intends to major in Business.

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			FG	3FG	FT	REB								
DATE	OPP	GS	M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	TOT	PF	TP	Α	то	BK :	ST	M
11-6	@UM													
11/11	SPU													
11/16	@AU													
11/20	DSU													
11/25	@WA	G												
11/29	@GM	U												
12/2	FDU													
12/6	@FU													
12/9	@WFl	J												
12/16	@NU													
12/23	MEC													
12/31	MSU													
1/6	UA													
1/11	@UM	L												
1/13	@UVN	Л												
1/18	UNH													
1/20	UM													
1/25	BRY													
1/27	@UM	BC												
2/1	@BU													
2/8	UVM													
2/10	UML													
2/15	@UA													
2/17	BU													
2/22	@UNH	1												
2/24	@UM													
2/29	UMBC	:												_

3/2 @BRY

Minutes Season: Career:

### Points: Season: Career: Rebounds: Season: Career: Assists Season: Career: Blocks Season: Career: Steals Season: Career: 3-Pointers Season: Career:

**SEASON/CAREER HIGHS** 

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			MIN		SHC	OOTING	3	3-P	TS		F-TI	HROW	S	REB	OUND	S								SCOF	RING
YEAR	GP	GS	TOT	AVG	FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	FO	Α	APG TO	BLK	STL	PTS	PPG
2023-24	l .																								



# **LEVI LAWAL**

22

### FR | F | 6-7 | 190 | Laurel, MD | Mt. Zion Prep

### **HIGH SCHOOL**:

Played for four seasons at River Hill before finishing up his high school career with a post graduate season at national power Mt. Zion Prep...played with five other Division I players at Mt. Zion...First Team All-County as a senior at River Hill...scored a layup in the final seconds to help his team advance in the playoffs that season.

### PERSONAL:

Two aunts, Nnea Ogwumike and Chiney Ogwuimike, played at Stanford and were both the first overall picks in their respective WNBA draft classes...plans to major in Media/Communications and is also into architecture.

	LA	W	ĻΝ	'S	GA	1//	1	Y	G	÷۱	W	1>		
			FG	3FG	FT	REB								
DATE	OPP	GS	M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	тот	PF	TP	Α	то	вк	ST	М
11-6	@UM													
11/11	SPU													
11/16	@AU													
11/20	DSU													
11/25	@WA	G												
11/29	@GM	U												
12/2	FDU													
12/6	@FU													
12/9	@WF	U												
12/16	@NU													
12/23	MEC													
12/31	MSU													
1/6	UA													
1/11	@UM	L												
1/13	@UVI	VI												
1/18	UNH													
1/20	UM													
1/25	BRY													
1/27	@UM	BC												
2/1	@BU													
2/8	UVM													
2/10	UML													
2/15	@UA													
2/17	BU													
2/22	@UNI	4												
2/24	@UM													
2/29	UMBO	:												
3/2	@BRY													

### SEASON/CAREER HIGHS

Points:
Season:
Career:
Rebounds:
Season:
Career:
Assists
Season:
Career:
Blocks
Season:
Career:
Steals
Season:
Career:
3-Pointers
Season:
Career:
Minutes
Season:
Career:

### LAWAL'S CAREER STATISTICS (NJIT ONLY)

MIN SHOOTING 3-PTS F-THROWS REBOUNDS SCORING
YEAR GP GS TOT AVG FG FGA PCT FG FGA PCT FT FTA PCT OFF DEF TOT AVG PF FO A APG TO BLK STL PTS PPG

2023-24



# **MEKHI GRAY**

24

### SR | G | 6-4 | 190 | Montrose, NY | Putnam Science Academy (CT)

### 2022-23:

Played in all 30 games, making 26 starts...scored 10+ points 10 times, including a season-high 18 in a win vs. UMBC (1/25)...broke a tie with a driving layup in the final seconds to lead NJIT to that win vs. UMBC...scored 16 points in a season-high 42 minutes in an overtime win at Maine (1/8)...pulled down a season-high seven rebounds vs. UMBC (1/25)...dished out a season-best six assists at Bryant (1/19).

### 2021-22:

One of three Highlanders to play in all 29 games, making 10 starts...scored 10+ points on nine occasions, including a career-high 19 in the regular-season finale at Stony Brook (3/1)...was forced to move to the point guard spot late in the season and dished out five assists at Stony Brook (3/1).

### 2020-21:

America East All-Rookie Team...played in 18 games, including 10 starts...season-high 13 points in regular season finale vs. Binghamton (2/21)...pulled down a season-high five rebounds vs. Binghamton (2/20)...played a season-high 31 minutes in America East Playoffs vs. Albany.

### PRIOR TO NJIT:

Attended Henry Hudson High School for three years before spending a year each at South Kent and national power Putnam Science Academy (CT) ...helped lead PSA to Co-National Championship in final season...was one of nine Division I commits on Head Coach Tom Espinoza's PSA squad in 2019-20...played AAU for the PSA Cardinals and was coached by Terrance "Munch" Williams..

	G	R.A	AY'	SC	ΗAT	/II:	В	Z	H	÷V.	<b>V</b> (	Ξ	
			FG	3FG	FT	REB							
DATE	OPP	GS	M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	тот	PF	TP	Α	то	BK S	ΓМ
11-6	@UM	1											
11/11	SPU	_							_	_	_		
11/16	6 @AU	_							_	_	_		
11/20	DSU	_							_	_	_		
11/25	@WA	G						_	_	_			_
11/29	@GM	ıU_						_	_	_			_
12/2	FDU												
12/6	@FU	_						_	_	_			_
12/9	@WF	U											
12/16	6 @NU												
12/23	3 MEC												
12/31	l MSU												
1/6	UA												
1/11	@UM	IL_											
1/13	@UVI	М											
1/18	UNH												
1/20	UM												
1/25	BRY												
1/27	@UM	IBC						_		_			
2/1	@BU												
2/8	UVM												
2/10	UML							_		_			
2/15	@UA												
2/17	BU							_		_			
2/22	@UNI	H						_		_			
2/24	@UM	Ī_						_		_			
2/29	UMBO	<u>-</u>						_		_			
3/2	@BRY	r						_		_			
ı													

### SEASON/CAREER HIGHS **Points** Season: Career: 19 at Stony Brook (3/1/22) Rebounds: Season: Career: 7(3) last: vs. UMBC (1/25/23) Assists Season: Career: 6(2) last: at Bryant (1/19/23) Blocks Season: at Hartford (2/26/22) Career: 4 Steals Season: Career: vs. Niagara (12/18/22) 3-Pointers Season: Career: 4 vs. UNH (2/23/22) Minutes Season: Career: 42 at Maine (1/8/23)

									GR	AYAS	CA	(())	RST	4 <b>V</b> V F	SHE	<b>. .</b> .										
			MIN		SHC	OTING	ì	3-P	TS		F-TH	IROW	S	REBO	DUND	S									SCOF	RING
YEAR	GP	GS	TOT	AVG	FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	FO	Α	APG	то	BLK	STL	PTS	PPG
2020-21	18	10	238	13.2	23	54	.426	2	11	.182	19	30	.633	10	17	27	1.5	17	0	10	0.6	14	4	6	67	3.7
2021-22	29	10	732	25.2	74	171	.433	20	69	.290	43	71	.606	17	71	88	3.0	42	0	29	1.0	40	13	25	211	7.3
2022-23	30	26	836	27.9	82	189	.434	15	47	.319	29	42	.690	27	68	95	3.2	61	4	56	1.9	51	18	32	208	6.9

CAREER 77 46 1806 23.5 179 414 .432 37 127 .291 91 143 .636 54 156 210 2.7 120 4 95 1.2 105 35 63 486 6.3



**GAME 1: AT MIAMI (FL)** 

Bronx, NY | Mount St. Michael | Manhattan College

### PRIOR TO NJIT:

Played five seasons at Manhattan College, including 2022-23, which was cut short after five games due to injury...played in 117 games over five seasons at Manhattan, including 85 starts...averaged 7.0 ppg and 3.6 rpg as a Jasper...broke out as a junior, starting all 19 games and averaging 11.4 ppg and 6.2 rpg...123 career steals...was coached by current NJIT Assistant Coach RaShawn Stores all five years, including 2022-23 when Stores was the Jasper's Interim Head Coach...played alongside current NJIT teammate Daniel Schreier at Manhattan.

### Personal:

Spent postgraduate season at Woodstock Academy (CT) after helping lead Mount St. Michael's to the 2017 CHSAA Archdiocesan Championship...averaged 22.4 ppg as a senior at Mount St. Michael's and was named All-New York City Boys First Team.

### **BUCHANAN'S GAME-BY-GAME**

			FG	3FG	FT	REB								
DATE	OPP	GS	M-A	M-A	M-A	O-D	TOT	PF	TP	Α	то	BK	ST	М
11-6	@UM													
11/11	. SPU													
11/16	@AU													
11/20	DSU													
11/25	@WA	G												
11/29	@GM	U												
12/2	FDU													
12/6	@FU													
12/9	@WF	J												
12/16	@NU													
12/23	MEC													
12/31	MSU													
1/6	UA													
1/11	@UM	L												
1/13	@UVN	И												
1/18	UNH													
1/20	UM													
1/25	BRY													
1/27	@UM	вс												
2/1	@BU													
2/8	UVM													
2/10	UML													
2/15	@UA													
2/17	BU													
2/22	@UNI	1												
2/24	@UM													
2/29	UMBC													
3/2	@BRY													

### SEASON/CAREER HIGHS

Points:		
Season:		
Career:	26*	at Iona (2/12/21)
Rebound	ds:	
Season:		
Career:	13*	at Iona (2/13/21)
Assists		
Season:		
Career:	7*	at Iona (2/13/21)
Blocks		
Season:		
Career:	3*	vs. FDU (11/30/21)
Steals		
Season:		
Career:	6*	vs. Fordham (11/12/21)
3-Pointe	rs	
Season:		
Career:	4*	at FDU (11/13/21)
Minutes		
Season:		
Career:	47*	at Quinnipiac (1/8/21)

\* Occurred while a member of Manhattan

			BUC	HAN	ΑN	S CI	AREE	R S	J V A	ISTI	CS	(Spe	nt firs	st fix	re se	asor	s at	Ma	nha	atta	n Co	lleg	ge)			
			MIN		SHC	OTING	i	3-P	TS		F-TI	HROW	S	REBO	DUNDS	S									SCO	RING
YEAR	GP	GS	TOT	AVG	FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	FO	Α	APG	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	PPG
2018-19	32	9	422	13.2	32	121	.264	6	42	.143	20	45	.444	12	45	57	1.8	71	4	36	1.1	39	5	16	90	2.8
2019-20	31	25	676	21.8	92	237	.388	18	68	.265	27	48	.563	26	73	99	3.2	79	0	61	2.0	65	2	33	229	7.4
2020-21	19	19	607	31.9	80	225	.356	16	57	.281	41	58	.707	42	75	117	6.2	60	3	44	2.3	34	25	33	217	11.4
2021-22	30	27	855	28.5	81	217	.373	21	73	.288	43	66	.652	22	106	128	4.3	76	1	43	1.4	54	16	37	226	7.5
2022-23	5	5	123	24.6	19	46	.413	8	18	.444	9	13	.692	7	19	26	5.2	9	0	9	1.8	16	3	4	55	11.0
2022 24																										

Career



# KJELL DE GRAAF

33

### GR. | F | 6-10 | 175 | Rotterdam, Netherlands | Canaries Basketball Academy

### 2022-23:

One of four team members to play in all 30 games, making nine starts...scored 10+ points seven times, including 16 twice...one of those 16-point efforts came in an overtime victory at Maine where he hit four three-pointers and played 33 minutes...pulled down a season-high eight boards in a home win vs. Maine (2/11).

### 2021-22:

Played in 20 games after missing the beginning of the season due to injury...scored a season-high eight points in a 20T win at Lafayette (12/5) where he played 35 minutes...

### 2020-21:

Played in 18 games, making seven starts...scored a season-high eight points on two occasions (at Albany 1/17; vs. UMBC, 1/31)...pulled down career-best nine rebounds (five offensive) in 30 minutes of action vs. Binghamton (2/21).

### 2019-20:

Played in first nine games before suffering a season-ending knee injury during practice in early December.. tallied 11 points at Army to score 10+ in back-to-back games for first time in career. 3-of-7 from long range... made first start of season at Rutgers and set career-highs in points (13), rebounds (five) and minutes (38)... scored all six of his points at Cornell at the free throw line (6-for-6)...came off the bench to play 21 minutes at Providence.

### 2018-19:

- Appeared in 26 of 35 games as freshman, including two starts
- 3/28 vs. Hampton (CIT Quarterfinals): Started second consecutive game and tied career-high 5 rebounds in 20 M
- 3/18 vs. Quinnipiac (CIT First Round): Earned first career start and played career-high 26 minutes; 8 points (2-4 3FG, 2-2 FT)
- 2/25 at Lipscomb: Career-high 9 points on 3-4 three pointers in 24 M
- 1/24 at Stetson: Hit 2-3 three pointers and one free throw for 7 points
- 1/21 at UNF: Totaled 6 points (1-2 3FG, 3-4 FT) and career-high 5 rebounds
- 1/16 vs. Lipscomb: Knocked down a three pointer and snatched 2 rebounds
- 11/17 vs. Cornell: Scored 5 pts (2-3 FG, 1-1 3FG) with first NCAA three-pointer; added 3 rebounds
- 11/14 vs. Kean: Drained his first career NCAA field goal; finished with 2 points, 4 rebounds in 11 M

### HIGH SCHOOL:

Played last two seasons for the Canarias Basketball Academy in Gran Canaria, Spain... The Academy, considered the top prep school in Europe both academically and athletically, has sent over 80 players to Division-I schools in recent years... averaged 14.5 points per game and 7.2 rebounds per game while shooting 45-percent from three-point territory for the Elite A Team... spent his first two years of high school at The Thornbecke Voortgezet Ondrewijsin (Holland)... played on the Netherlands Junior National Team since he was 14 years old and was a member of the 14u European Championship team in 2013.

### PERSONAL:

Kjell De Graaf... recieved undergraduate degree in chemical engineering in May, 2022.

### DE GRAAF'S GAME-BY-GAME

			FG	3FG	FT	REB								
DATE	<b>∩</b> DD	cc	M-A	M-A	M-A		тот	DE	TD	٨	то	Dν	ст	ьл
11-6	@UM	03	IVI-A	IVITA	IVI-A	0-0	101	-	"	_	-10	DIC	31	IVI
11/11														
11/16														
11/20														
<u> </u>	@WAG	3												
	@GMI													
12/2														
12/6														
	@WFL	J												
12/16														
12/23	MEC													
12/31	MSU													
1/6	UA													
1/11	@UMI	L												
1/13	@UVN	Л												
1/18	UNH													
1/20	UM													
1/25	BRY													
1/27	@UMI	вс												
2/1	@BU													
2/8	UVM													
2/10	UML													
2/15	@UA													
2/17	BU													
2/22	@UNH	1												
2/24														
2/29	UMBC	:												
3/2	@BRY													

### SEASON/CAREER HIGHS

Points		
Season:		
Career:	16	at Maine (1/8/23)
Rebound	ds	
Season:		
Career:	8	vs. Maine (2/11)
Assists		
Season:		
Career:	4	vs. UMBC (2/2/21)
Blocks		
Season:		
Career:	2	vs. Binghamton (2/11/23)
Steals		
Season:		
Career:	2 (2) last:	vs. Maine (2/11)
3-Pointe	rs	
Season:		
Career:	4	at Maine (1/8/23)
Minutes		
Season:		
Career:	38	at Rutgers (11/26/19)

|--|

			MIN		SHC	OOTING	3	3-P	TS		F-TI	HROWS	S	REB	DUNDS	5									SCOR	≀ING
YEAR	GP	GS	TOT	AVG	FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	FO	Α	APG	то	BLK	STL	PTS	PPG
2018-19	25	2	224	9.0	15	47	.319	11	35	.314	5	7	.714	12	23	35	1.4	26	0	12	0.5	9	6	3	46	1.8
2019-20	8	1	146	18.3	13	36	.361	7	21	.333	12	14	.857	4	10	14	1.8	14	0	2	0.3	7	2	4	45	5.6
2020-21	12	5	234	19.5	16	38	.421	6	22	.273	12	19	.632	17	19	36	3.0	30	1	13	1.1	7	5	1	50	4.2
2021-22	20	0	213	10.7	12	31	.387	5	15	.333	9	13	.692	7	27	34	1.7	12	0	8	0.4	8	6	3	38	1.9
2022-23	30	9	535	17.8	57	131	.435	24	68	.353	39	62	.629	18	58	76	2.5	47	0	21	0.7	14	14	12	177	5.9
2023-24																										

CAREER 95 17 1352 14.2 113 283 .399 53 161 .329 77 115 .670 58 137 195 2.1 129 1 56 0.6 45 33 23 356 3.7

# **2022-23 CUMULATIVE TEAM STATS**

2022-2023 New Jersey Institute of Technology Men's Basketball Overall Statistics (as of Feb 28, 2023)

						1 1				1				i								
					FG		3PT		FT			Reb	ounds									
#	Player	GP-GS	MIN	AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	DQ	Α	то	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
05	Coleman, Miles	17-16	503	29.6	81-201	.403	31-83	.373	54-75	.720	9	60	69	4.1	48	2	37	45	2	16	247	14.5
20	Osawe, Kevin	29-19	793	27.3	135-287	.470	5-28	.179	50-72	.694	69	189	258	8.9	47	0	24	36	7	12	325	11.2
04	Hess, Adam	28-23	786	28.1	104-222	.468	58-130	.446	40-51	.784	9	53	62	2.2	44	1	24	27	4	19	306	10.9
00	Sullivan, Raheim	29-28	835	28.8	82-235	.349	35-104	.337	27-45	.600	12	82	94	3.2	50	0	85	41	3	29	226	7.8
24	Gray, Mekhi	29-26	810	27.9	80-183	.437	14-45	.311	28-41	.683	27	68	95	3.3	60	4	54	49	18	30	202	7.0
21	Diakite, Souleymane	27-21	599	22.2	73-152	.480	0-0	.000	19-43	.442	43	82	125	4.6	55	1	38	31	17	16	165	6.1
34	McMillan IV, Paul	24-2	417	17.4	50-129	.388	11-41	.268	31-38	.816	5	34	39	1.6	24	0	30	28	2	12	142	5.9
33	de Graaf, Kjell	29-8	503	17.3	52-120	.433	20-62	.323	39-62	.629	17	54	71	2.4	47	0	20	13	11	12	163	5.6
35	Faison, Da'mir	21-1	269	12.8	28-43	.651	2-5	.400	16-26	.615	15	42	57	2.7	39	1	8	11	12	4	74	3.5
02	Anderson, Justin	25-1	280	11.2	25-74	.338	11-39	.282	9-20	.450	8	21	29	1.2	27	0	5	15	5	4	70	2.8
25	Mason, Keeshawn	10-0	74	7.4	11-28	.393	0-3	.000	6-10	.600	5	5	10	1.0	19	0	2	3	0	1	28	2.8
10	Nankin, Eyal	11-0	31	2.8	1-2	.500	1-2	.500	0-0	.000	2	4	6	0.5	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	0.3
Total		29	5900	203.4	722-1676	.431	188-542	.347	319-483	.660	256	739	995	34.3	461	9	327	322	81	156	1951	67.28
Opponents		5900	203.4	776-1726	.450	221-667	.331	325-488	.666	297	782	1079	37.2	476	8	382	296	95	149	2098	72.34	

Team Statistics	NJIT	OPP	Conf	Date	Opponent	W/L	Score	Att.
SCORING	1951	2098		11/07/22	at Saint Peter's	L	59-73	1,129
Points Per Game	67.3	72.3		11/11/22	at California Baptist	L	43-59	5,050
Scoring Margin	-5.0	-		11/13/22	at San Diego	L	64-74	835
FIELD GOALS-ATT	722-1676	776-1726		11/19/22	AMERICAN	L	53-58	478
Field Goal Pct	.431	.450		11/22/22	at Sacred Heart	W	85-75	443
3 POINT FG-ATT	188-542	221-667		11/27/22	WAGNER	L	57-62	316
3PT FG Pct	.347	.331		11/30/22	at Cincinnati	L	60-86	8,769
3PT Made Per Game	6.5	7.6		12/03/22	BUCKNELL	L	63-79	299
FREE THROWS-ATT	319-483	325-488		12/07/22	at Army West Point	L	62-63	510
FT Pct	.660	.666		12/11/22	at Fairleigh Dickinson	L	71-73	437
FT Made Per Game	11.0	11.2		12/18/22	NIAGARA	W	62-53	229
REBOUNDS	995	1079		12/22/22	at South Fla.	L	73-92	2,026
Rebounds Per Game	34.3	37.2		12/27/22	SAINT ELIZABETH	W	79-51	188
Rebounds Margin	-2.9	-	*	12/31/22	UMASS LOWELL	L	64-67	222
ASSISTS	327	382	*	01/08/23	at Maine	W (OT)	91-83	835
Assists Per Game	11.3	13.2	*	01/11/23	BINGHAMTON	L (OT)	71-72	411
TURNOVERS	322	296	*	01/14/23	UALBANY	W	74-67	711
Turnovers Per Game	11.1	10.2	*	01/19/23	at Bryant	L	75-87	777
Turnovers Margin	-0.9	-	*	01/22/23	at Vermont	L	69-85	2,321
Assist/Turnover Ratio	1.0	1.3	*	01/25/23	UMBC	W	69-65	411
STEALS	156	149	*	02/01/23	NEW HAMPSHIRE	L (OT)	67-74	416
Steals Per Game	5.4	5.1	*	02/04/23	at UMass Lowell	L	61-90	527
BLOCKS	81	95	*	02/08/23	at UMBC	L	63-72	1,422
Blocks Per Game	2.8	3.3	*	02/11/23	MAINE	W	65-50	489
ATTENDANCE	5,810	28,927	*	02/15/23	at Binghamton	L.	67-86	2,082
Dates/Avg Per Date	13-447	16-1,808	*	02/18/23	VERMONT	L (OT)	80-82	708
Neutral Site #/Avg	-	0-0	*	02/22/23	BRYANT	L	78-79	932
			*	02/25/23	at UAlbany	L	68-82	1,253
Seem by Berlade	1at 2nd	OT Total	*	02/28/23	at New Hampshire	L	58-59	511

Score by Periods

NJIT Opponents

\* = Conference game

### **INDIVIDUAL HONORS**

2023-24

### 2023-24 NJIT HIGHLANDERS HEAD SHOT CHART







**ASST. COACH** PETE LAPPAS THOMAS MESSINGER



































