Nicholas tabbed as Longstreth/NFHCA Division III National Player of the Year

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GILBERT, Ariz. — Erin Nicholas, sophomore defender from Middlebury College, has been named the 2018 Longstreth/NFHCA Division III National Player of the Year.

Last week, Nicholas was named the 2018 Longstreth/NFHCA Division III New England West Region Player of the Year after her exceptional season with the Middlebury College Panthers. Nicholas was an integral part of the Panthers' championship year which started with a 2018 New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Championship and culminated with the 2018 NCAA National Championship.

Nicholas led the Panthers in points (45), goals (17) and assists (11) and recorded points in 18 of the team’s 22 games this season. She led in the conference in scoring and was tied for second in assists. Nicholas also had five game-winning goals, including the winning tally in the NCAA Championship win over Tufts.

Nicholas was named a Longstreth/NFHCA Division III All-American for the first time this year and garnered Longstreth/NFHCA Division III New England West All-Region accolades for the second time. She was also recently selected as just the fifth Panther to be named the NESCAC Player of the Year and the first since 2013. Nicholas was also named to the NESCAC Fall All-Academic Team and the NESCAC All-Conference First Team.

Since joining the Middlebury program, Nicholas has been a part of two NESCAC Championships and two NCAA National Championships — she is the first Middlebury player to earn NESCAC Rookie of the Year and Player of the Year honors in back-to-back seasons.