Amherst College

Men’s Tennis
2018-19 Season Program
Amherst College prepares students to use ideas to make a difference in the world. Since its 1821 founding in Western Massachusetts, Amherst has demonstrated steadfast confidence in the value of the liberal arts and the importance of critical thinking. Today, its financial aid program is among the most substantial in the nation, and its student body is among the most diverse. Small classes, an open curriculum and a singular focus on undergraduate education ensure that leading scholars engage daily with talented, curious students, equipping them for leadership in an increasingly global and complex world.

50:50
Male to Female Ratio

850 / 40
Courses / Majors

8:1
Student-Faculty Ratio

22,000+
Active Alumni

19
Average Class Size

45%
U.S. Students of Color

AMHERST ATHLETICS

Amherst College has the oldest athletics program in the nation, dating back to a compulsory physical fitness regimen that was put in place for all students in 1860. Today, over a third of the student body participates in varsity sports and eighty percent are involved in intramural and club sports teams.

With 27 intercollegiate athletic teams, Amherst College student-athletes have successfully blended academics and athletics for decades. In addition to capturing 13 NCAA Division III team championships - including 11 in the past 11 years - and 78 NCAA individual titles, Amherst student-athletes have also excelled in the classroom - earning 35 prestigious CoSIDA Academic All-America selections, including 21 selections since 2008.
AMHERST, Mass. – After a successful fall slate, the Amherst College men’s tennis team gears up for the spring portion of their schedule as they open up competition in Florida on Sunday (March 10th) with six matches in their seven day venture, returning all eight members from last seasons roster.

Todd Doebler, who is in his fifth season at the helm of the Amherst men’s tennis team, is joined by assistant coach John Taft who was brought on board in the fall of 2018.

“The guys have been working really hard and improving as we approached spring break” said Doebler leading up to the Florida competition.

The Mammoths are coming off a productive fall slate that included two dual match wins on September 22nd. The Purple & White held Skidmore and Hobart to one point each, winning 8-1 in both meetings before heading into tournament play. The next mark on their fall schedule was the ITA New England Regional Championships. Sean Wei ’21 concluded the Mammoths performances in the semifinals before traveling to Bates College to compete in the Wallach Invite. Zach Bessette ’19 and William Turchetta ’22 claimed the doubles draw at Bates before two doubles pairings, and one singles student-athlete, finished in the finals of their respective flights at the Tufts/Brandeis Invite to conclude the fall portion of their schedule.

Amherst returns all eight student-athletes from last season while adding three first-years that have already played an integral part of the team so far. Damien Ruparel ’22, William Turchetta ’22, and Harris Foulkes ’22 add depth to the Mammoth roster and are learning from a strong veteran corps.

The senior class holds the most representation as captains Zach Bessette ’19, Jon Heidenberg ’19, Oliver Kendall ’19, Jesse Levitin ’19, and Cameron Raglin ’19 lead the team on the court. Sophomore Sean Wei ’21 and junior Jayson Fung ’20 return to the team, rounding out the 2018-19 roster.

SCHEDULE

After their opening match against Oglethorpe, the Mammoths will set their sights on Kenyon (March 11) before Carnegie Mellon on Tuesday (March 12). Amherst will take a day off before concluding their Florida competition with Washington (Mo.), Case Western Reserve, and Colorado College.

The Purple & White will return to home court when they host Claremont-Mudd-Scripps on March 22nd in their home opener. They will then host Swarthmore (March 24th) before beginning conference action against Tufts on March 30th. The Mammoths will hit the road April 6th-7th when they take on Colby College and Trinity College before returning to Amherst, hosting Bowdoin (April 14th) and Bates College (April 17th).

Amherst rounds out their regular season with Little Three Rivals Williams and Wesleyan (Conn.) before hosting Middlebury College on April 27th which begins at 12:00 PM.
## AMHERST COLLEGE 2019 MEN’S TENNIS ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student-Athlete</th>
<th>Cl.</th>
<th>Hometown / Previous School</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harris Foulkes</td>
<td>Fy.</td>
<td>Belmont, Mass. / Roxbury Latin School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damien Ruparel</td>
<td>Fy.</td>
<td>Westfield, N.J. / Westfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Turchetta</td>
<td>Fy.</td>
<td>Pound Ridge, N.Y. / Brunswick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Ma</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>San Ramon, Calif. / Venture School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Wei</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>Yorktown Heights, N.Y. / Yorktown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zach Bessette</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Bradenton, Fla. / Saint Stephen’s Episcopal School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon Heidenberg</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Tampa, Fla. / Freedom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver Kendall</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Newton, Mass. / Buckingham Browne &amp; Nichols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesse Levitin</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Manhasset, N.Y. / Manhasset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameron Raglin</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>Reynoldsburg, Ohio / Reynoldsburg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Head Coach:** Todd Doebler (5th season)  
**Assistant Coach:** John Taft  
**Captains:** Zach Bessette ’19, Jon Heidenberg ’19, Oliver Kendall ’19, Jesse Levitin ’19, Cameron Raglin ’19

### Head Coach  
**Todd Doebler**

Todd Doebler enters his fifth season as head coach of the Amherst College men’s tennis program in 2018-19.

Prior to his arrival at Amherst, Doebler served as the associate head coach of the men's tennis team at Texas Christian University. While at TCU, Doebler was responsible for assisting the head coach with all aspects of the tennis program. The Horned Frogs faced 13 top-35 Division I programs and finished 12-12 overall before falling to the eventual national runner-up Oklahoma in the Big 12 Conference tournament.

Doebler served two and a half years as the director of men's and women's tennis as well as the fitness center coordinator at Colorado College and spent the previous five seasons at the helm of the Penn State men's tennis program, where he notched four consecutive winning seasons and led the Nittany Lions to 21 wins over ranked opponents from 2006 to 2011. In his five seasons in Happy Valley, he amassed 71 career wins to rank fourth on Penn State's all-time list.

He enjoyed immediate success with the Lions as they reached the NCAA Championship in his first two seasons with the program. In 2007, Penn State finished with a program-best record of 6-4 in the Big 10 Conference and tied that record a year later. That same season, just his second with the Lions, Doebler guided the team to its first-ever NCAA tournament win in the modern era as they finished the season ranked 38th in the final Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) poll, a program-best. The team also strived in the classroom under Doebler and twice finished with the highest cumulative team GPA for men's sports at the university.

Doebler joined Penn State after four years as an assistant coach at Notre Dame. He was named associate head coach prior to the 2005-06 season and garnered 2004 and 2006 ITA Midwest Region Assistant Coach of the Year laurels.

Doebler is no stranger to the NESCAC either and served as head coach at Connecticut College for men's and women's tennis for two seasons prior to a stint at Pepperdine. He was also the men's and women's squash coach during those two years. In the summer of 1997, a year before heading to Connecticut College, Doebler began his coaching career at Trinity College as an assistant for the men's and women's tennis programs. Both squads ranked within the top-25 in Division III that year.

A native of Hatfield, Pa., Doebler graduated from Bloomsburg University with a degree in psychology in 1996 and also excelled on the court during his playing career. He won the conference doubles and team championships in 1994, as well as the conference singles, doubles and team championship titles in 1995. Following his undergraduate studies, Doebler went on to complete his master’s degree in psychology in 1998 from the University of Hartford.
John Taft joined the Amherst men's tennis program in October of 2018. Prior to joining the Purple & White, Taft was the graduate assistant coach at Smith College for the last two seasons. His responsibilities included implementing practice plans, match coaching, recruiting, travel itineraries, and managing the programs budget. He also directed a youth summer tennis program for the Campus School.

Before Smith, he was in New Jersey coaching high performance junior tennis players from 2014 to 2017. A PTR certified professional, Taft coached and helped develop over 90 sectional and nationally ranked players that were 4-star recruits and higher. He used his expertise as a Dartfish Certified Technologist to break down video and match play to further develop the athletes through on-court training, and off-court sessions with thorough film analysis. While focusing on techniques and strategies, Taft was also able to lead the fitness development and mental toughness training on a daily basis.

Taft earned a B.S. in Physical Education from SUNY Cortland and a B.S. in Studio Art from SUNY Oneonta. A four-year student-athlete at SUNY Oneonta, he was named to the North Atlantic Conference (NAC) Men's Tennis All-Conference First Team in singles and doubles. Taft also amassed a SUNYAC All-Academic Team selection in 2011. During his undergraduate studies, he trained and competed at the Saddlebrook Tennis Academy and the Eastside Racquet Club.
Meet The Seniors

Zach Bessette
Bradenton, Fla.

Jon Heidenberg
Tampa, Fla.

Oliver Kendall
Newton, Mass.

Jesse Levitin
Manhasset, N.Y.

Cameron Raglin
Reynoldsburg, Ohio
Meet The Team

HARRIS FOULKES
First Year
Belmont, Mass

DAMIEN RUPAREL
First Year
Westfield, N.J.

WILLIAM TURCHETTA
First Year
Pound Ridge, N.Y.

JAYSON FUNG
Junior
San Francisco, Calif.

KEVIN MA
Sophomore
San Ramon, Calif.

SEAN WEI
Sophomore
Yorktown Heights, N.Y.