Hello from Amherst,

Summer has come to an end and Amherst Women’s Tennis (AWT) is poised to follow up on its 2015 Cinderella Season. We refer to it as a “rags to riches year” because we lost the majority of our starting line-up, number one, two, three and five singles as well as one and two doubles to 2014 graduation. Luckily someone forgot to tell the squad it was “a rebuilding year” and the team fought their way back to the NCAA Final Four and a third place national finish. AWT had just one first-year student, Vickie Ip, in the line-up and depended heavily upon veterans Sue Ghosh, Sarah Monteagudo and Safi Aly who slid up the ladder and Megan Adamo, Claire Carpenter, Simone Aisiks, Maddy Sung and Jackie Calla sophomores and juniors who went from support players in 2014 to key players in 2015. AWT’s larger than normal squad size pays off again!

Speaking of large squad sizes, AWT welcomes seven new first-year students this fall. We are totally psyched to welcome this large and diverse class to our team. Kelsey Chen from California, Joanna Booth from Pennsylvania, Jane Fraley and Kelly Yang from Minnesota, Ashley Park from South Korea, Camilla Trapness and Simone Aisiks’ sister, Sofia from NYC. The team also welcomes a new assistant coach, Morven McCulloch. Morven played Big Ten Tennis for Iowa and is originally from Scotland.

I would like to take this time to thank all our supporters! Without you we could not provide a sustainable positive experience for our athletes. Your support has enabled us to hire quality assistants who are dedicated and devoted to our student-athletes. With your help we take the team on a memorable spring training every year that facilitates team bonding and sets the stage for our spring success. Our team banquet, special meals out on the road, recruiting trips, uniforms, and equipment are all enhanced by our loyal supporters!

Hope to see you at the courts,

Jackie Bagwell, Women’s Tennis Coach