Dear Fans and Supporters of Duquesne Athletics,

We are proud to present the 2011-12 Athletics Annual Report, which celebrates the competitive success and academic achievements of the over 350 student-athletes who proudly represent Duquesne University.

The positive outcomes of our student-athletes is a testament to their hard work along with the commitment to excellence shared by their coaches, administrators and the entire campus community who support the athletic endeavors and academic rigor that shape their lives at Duquesne.

The 2011-12 academic year was highlighted by our football program being crowned co-champions of the Northeast Conference and the women’s basketball program recording their fourth consecutive 20-win season and fourth-straight WNIT appearance. The women’s volleyball team advanced to the Atlantic 10 Championship semifinal for the second straight year, men’s cross country finished second at the conference championships and the women’s indoor track and field team finished a program best third at the Atlantic 10 Championships.

Several of our student-athletes were recognized for outstanding achievements in their respective sports. In the fall, Serge Kona (football) was named NEC Defensive Player of the Year and was selected as an AP Third Team All American, Josh Patterson (men’s soccer) was named A-10 Conference Offensive Player of the Year and Danica Snyder (women’s cross country) was recognized as A-10 Rookie of the Year. During the spring, two members of the women’s lacrosse program were singled out for their accomplishments – Amanda Kidder was honored as A-10 Rookie of the Year and Liz Walker was named A-10 Defensive Player of the Year.

Without a doubt, the greatest achievement of our student-athletes is their continued success in the classroom. In the spring semester, our student-athletes maintained better than a 3.25 grade point average (GPA). Over 235 students athletes earned a 3.0 GPA or above and 115 student-athletes were named to the Atlantic 10 Commissioner’s Honor Roll. Zach Richert (football) was named to the FCS Athletics Directors Academic All-Star Team and the women’s swimming program achieved Scholar All-American Status.

As always, we are grateful for your support of our 16 programs. Each of those is poised for continued success both in competition and in the classroom. We appreciate the commitment you have made to demonstrate your confidence in Duquesne Athletics and its greatest asset, its student-athletes.

Sincerely,

Greg J Amodio
Director of Athletics

3.26 Combined GPA for Duquesne’s 351 student-athletes for the 2011-12 academic year.

12 Duquesne’s 2011-12 rosters included student-athletes from 12 countries spanning six continents: Morocco and Senegal (Africa), Malaysia (Asia), Australia (Australia), United Kingdom, Norway, Hungary, Latvia, Netherlands and Sweden (Europe), Canada (North America) and Colombia (South America).

14 Fourteen of Duquesne’s 16 athletics teams posted a GPA of 3.0 or better in 2011-12.

16 Duquesne’s student-athletes compete in 16 intercollegiate sports: (m/w) basketball, (m/w) cross country, football, (w) lacrosse, (w) rowing, (m/w) soccer, (m/w) tennis, (m/w) indoor track, (w) outdoor track, (w) swimming and (w) volleyball.

19 Duquesne’s student-athletes represented the University in 19 of the nation’s 50 states while competing in 2011-12. DU’s athletics teams traveled to 61 cities across the country.

21 Number of student-athletes who posted a 4.0 GPA in the spring of 2012.

26 A total of 26 states - from New Hampshire to Hawaii - were represented by Duquesne student-athletes.

36 Percentage of student-athletes (127 of 351) who earned a GPA of 3.5 or above in 2011-12.

67 Percentage of student-athletes (235 of 351) who earned a GPA of 3.0 or above in 2011-12.

115 Number of student-athletes who earned a spot on the Atlantic 10 Commissioner’s honor roll this spring.

16 Number of schools who will compete in the Atlantic 10 Conference in 2012-13. The A-10 will span ten states from Rhode Island to Missouri with the addition of Butler and VCU who joined the conference over the summer. The A-10 is the nation’s largest non-football NCAA Division I conference. Atlantic 10 members for 2012-13 include: Butler, Charlotte, Dayton, Duquesne, Fordham, George Washington, La Salle, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Richmond, St. Bonaventure, Saint Joseph’s, Saint Louis, Temple, Xavier and VCU. Charlotte and Temple will be leaving the conference following the 2012-13 year to bring the total number of schools back to 14.

115 Number of student-athletes who earned a spot on the Atlantic 10 Commissioner’s honor roll this spring.
Dukes on the Move

Duquesne Olympians

Duquesne was represented by two athletes at the 2012 London Olympic Games. Stirling, Scotland native Kieron Achara (2004-08) was one of 12 players named to the British Olympic basketball team and Andrea St. Bernard (1999-02), a former standout volleyball player for the Dukes, represented her native Grenada in taekwondo.

St. Bernard finished tied for the seventh in the 67kg class - losing to a pair of medalists. In the preliminary round, she fell to silver medalist Nur Tatar of Turkey 5-1 (5-0, 0-1, 0-0) and in the repechage contest she was defeated by bronze medalist Paige McPhearson of the United States 15-2 (2-0, 5-2, 8-0).

Achara played in four of five games for Great Britain which finished 1-4. He saved his best for last, scoring a game-high 16 points in leading Great Britain to its first win in Olympic history, 90-58 over China in the team’s final game. Achara added six rebounds and three blocked shots in 21 minutes for the British who entered the Olympics ranked 43rd in the world. China was ranked No. 10. Earlier in the Games, Great Britain lost to world No. 2 – and Olympic silver medalist – Spain 79-78 and also dropped a close 67-62 decision to Brazil.

“Basketball is not big in this country,” said Achara to Agence France-Presse following the win over China. “This is the start of something. Hopefully the sport can grow from here.”

National Honors

Duquesne student-athletes were honored with national awards for their performance both in the athletics arena as well as in the classroom. Here is a list of those who earned national mention in 2011-12.

Football

- SERGE KONA
  Associated Press Third Team
  FCS All-America
- ZACH RICHERT
  FCS ADA Academic All-Star Team

Lacrosse

- LIZ WALKER
  IWLCA Division I North-South Senior All-Star Game (4th player in school history to be so honored)
  Second Team IWLCA All-West/ Midwest Region
- CAITLIN PRINCE
  Second Team IWLCA All-West/ Midwest Region

Men’s Soccer

- ADAM CLEMENT
  NSCAA Division I Second Team
  All-Mid-Atlantic Region
- SIMON GOMEZ
  NSCAA Division I First Team
  All-Mid-Atlantic Region
- JOSHUA PATTERSON
  NSCAA Scholar All-American (5th player in school history to be so honored)
  NSCAA Division I Second Team
  All-Mid-Atlantic Region

Volleyball

- NICOLE WRIGHT
  Capital One District 2 Academic All-America

Capital Improvements

The Department of Athletics continued to upgrade facilities and amenities in 2011-12.

In September, a new 1st Grade, Northern Hard Maple playing floor was installed in the Palumbo Center. The surface replaced a portable parquet floor which made its debut in the summer of 1995. This is the third floor for the Palumbo Center which opened its doors in 1988.

In addition to the new floor, new basketball goals - Spalding Arena Pro Backstops which include the official board and rim of the NCAA - were also in place for the 2011-12 men’s and women’s basketball seasons.

The Sihugo Green practice gym also received an upgrade with the addition of a pair of scoreboards taken from the Palumbo Center main arena. In addition, renovation of the visiting locker room in Palumbo Center began at the conclusion of the 2011-12 basketball season.

The Aloe Suite, located just off the Palumbo Center main arena also received an extensive renovation which will give the multi-use room the capability to accommodate team study halls as well as post-event media conferences.

New strength and conditioning equipment was also ordered for the athletics weight room located on the concourse level of Palumbo Center. The equipment will be in place for the 2012-13 athletic season.
The Dukes won their final five games to finish the season 9-2 and earn a share of the Northeast Conference title with a 7-2 record (tied with Albany).

Duquesne has now defeated every team in the NEC under current head coach Jerry Schmitt.

DU is 12-4 in NEC play over the past two seasons (5-3 in 2010 and 7-1 in 2011). The Dukes went 4-11 in their first two seasons in the conference (2-5 in 2008 and 2-6 in 2009) while adopting a scholarship model.

Eleven players were named All-NEC by the league’s coaches. The 11 honorees (six first team) were a NEC high for the Dukes.

DU players combined to earn seven Player of the Week honors.

The Dukes, anchored by AP Third Team All-America safety Serge Kona, led the nation in pass defense. Duquesne also ranked 4th among FCS schools in total defense, 6th in pass efficiency defense and 8th in scoring defense.

The Dukes led the NEC in five categories: rushing offense, total defense, pass defense, pass efficiency defense and scoring defense.

DU received 26 points in the final Sports Network FCS Top 25 Poll. The 26 points translated into a No. 34 final ranking.

Running back Larry McCoy finished ninth nationally with a 125.6 yards per game rushing average. McCoy set a new school record with nine 100-yard games in rushing for 1,381 yards and 12 touchdowns.

Duquesne, a member of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Football League from 1994 through 2007, has competed for the past four seasons as an associate member of the Northeast Conference Football League. With the move to the NEC, Duquesne offered 18 scholarships in February of 2008 - a number that has steadily increased to the current number of 32. DU, which granted only need-based financial aid for football playing student-athletes as a member of the MAAC, has seen its investment in scholarships pay off as the team has posted records of 3-7, 3-8, 7-4 and 9-2 while integrating a scholarship model.

The NEC Football League, which was established in 1996, includes full-time conference members Bryant University, Central Connecticut State University, Monmouth University, Robert Morris University, Sacred Heart University, Saint Francis (Pa.) University and Wagner College along with associate members the University at Albany and Duquesne University.
ATLANTIC 10 CONFERENCE

- The Dukes recorded their fourth consecutive 20-win season and fourth-straight Women’s National Invitation Tournament appearance.
- Duquesne was 12-3 before losing starting point guard Vanessa Abel for the season (stress fracture) in early January.
- DU put together a school record eight-game win streak in November/December highlighted by a 61-55 win over NCAA Tournament participant West Virginia. The win was DU’s first over the Mountaineers since 1995.
- The senior class of Alex Gensler and Vanessa Abel finished as the winningest class in program history with 84 victories.
- The 2011-12 Dukes set a program record with 385 steals as junior guard Jocelyn Floyd led the way with a single-season record 121. Floyd’s 3.78 steals per game average ranked 6th nationally.
- Three Dukes were honored by the Atlantic 10 Conference. Senior Alex Gensler and sophomore Wumi Agunbiade were named Second Team All-Atlantic 10 and junior Jocelyn Floyd was named to the All-Defensive Team.
- Gensler finished her career as Duquesne’s career leader in 3-pointers made with 238.
- The Dukes received votes in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll two times during the season.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

WOMEN WIN 20 AND ADVANCE TO POST SEASON ONCE AGAIN

20-12, 7-7 17th in the Atlantic 10 Fourth-straight WNIT appearance

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Duquesne is 99-60 in five seasons under head coach Suzie McConnell-Serio with 84 of the victories coming over the past four seasons (20-12, 20-12, 24-9 and 20-12). Duquesne, which was 21 games under .500 in the five seasons prior to McConnell-Serio’s arrival, has made four consecutive WNIT appearances.

INTERNATIONAL IMPACT

Sophomores Wumi Agunbiade and Orsi Szecsi spent a portion of their summer competing for teams in their respective home countries. Agunbiade, a Pickering, Ontario native, was one of five NCAA players named to the Canadian Senior “B” Team which played a five-game schedule in May. Szecsi, who hails from Budapest, Hungary, played for the Hungarian National Team in the EuroBasket Women’s Qualification Round in June.
ATLANTIC 10 CONFERENCE

• The Dukes finished 3rd nationally in turnover margin, 19th in assist/turnover ratio and 19th in assist/turnover ratio.

• It was the fourth consecutive season the Dukes posted 15 or more wins. It is the longest streak since 1968 through 1973 when DU posted six-straight 15-plus win campaigns.

• According to Basketball State, Duquesne faced the fourth-toughest schedule among the Atlantic 10’s 14 schools.

• Duquesne snapped George Mason’s 18-game home win streak with a 75-64 victory at the Patriot Center on Dec. 21. It was GMU’s first double-digit home loss since February of 2007. DU also posted its first win at Rhode Island since 2004 (78-71 on Jan. 14). The Dukes’ 83-73 win at Dayton on Feb. 1 marked the school’s largest margin of victory ever on the road against the Flyers.

• Duquesne went 10-5 at home including a win over Penn State at CONSOL Energy Center. The Dukes are 51-19 at the Palumbo Center over the past five seasons, including a 24-14 record in A-10 games.

• This was the fifth consecutive season the Dukes posted double-digit home wins (10-5). The last time DU strung together five or more consecutive seasons with 10 or more home wins was from 1967-68 through 1973-74 (seven times).

A NEW DIRECTION

Jim Ferry took over as head coach of the Dukes on April 10. Ferry, who led LIU Brooklyn to its second consecutive NCAA Championship appearance this March, is the 16th head coach in the 95-year history of Duquesne basketball. Ferry has won 254 games in 14 years as a head coach at the Division I, Division II and Division III levels. The Elmont, N.Y. native left LIU with a 27-game home win streak - second only to national champion Kentucky’s 52 consecutive home victories. He also left behind four returning starters including 2011-12 NEC Player of the Year Julian Bond.
MEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
- Finished second in the Atlantic 10 for the second-straight year. The Dukes have finished among the top two teams in six of the past eight seasons.
- Finished tied for 5th of 17 teams at the IC4A Championship. Jim Spisak finished 6th of 154 runners in the event.
- Finished 8th of 25 teams at the NCAA Mid-Atlantic Regional Championship.

WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
- Finished 5th of 11 teams at the ECAC Cross Country Championship.
- Finished 8th of 29 teams at the NCAA Division I Mid-Atlantic Regional. The finish was the second-best among Atlantic 10 participants.
- Reached a ranking of No. 10 in the Mid-Atlantic Region by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (Oct. 17).
- Finished sixth at the Atlantic 10 Championship with Meg Ecker placing 9th and Rookie of the Year Danica Snyder 18th of 128 runners.

LACROSSE
- Finished tied for second in the Atlantic 10 regular season. It was DU’s top regular season finish since 2005.
- Went 7-1 at home with lone loss to 10th ranked UMass (10-8 in OT).
- Reached the Atlantic 10 Championship semifinal.
- Eight players received a total of 12 Atlantic 10 post-season awards.

ROWING
- Nineteen of the team’s 34 rowers were freshmen.
- Quad won Gold and the varsity eight Bronze at the Atlantic 10 Championship.

MEN’S SOCCER
- Earned a No. 3 seed at the Atlantic 10 Championship for second-straight year.
- Return four of five starters in 2012-13.
- Has had at least two First Team All-Conference performers in each of the past two seasons.

WOMEN’S INDOOR TRACK
- Finished a program-best third at the Atlantic 10 Championship with 81.5 of the team’s 97.5 points scored by underclassmen.
- Had six medal winners - including five underclassmen - at the Atlantic 10 Championship.
- Placed 27th (of 50 teams) at the ECAC Division I Championship.

MEN’S OUTDOOR TRACK
- Seventy-two of the team’s 86 points at the Atlantic10 Championship were scored by underclassmen.
- Had four medal winners - all underclassmen - in finishing 5th at the Atlantic 10 Championship.
- Nicole Cherok was the Atlantic 10 Gold medalist in the 400m hurdles.

VOLLEYBALL
- Advanced to the Atlantic 10 Championship semifinal for the second-straight year.
- Earned an AVCA Team Academic Award for the 6th time in the past 12 years.
- Placed a league-high two players (Arielle Love and Patti Abshire) on the Atlantic 10 All-Rookie Team.
- Finished 19-13 with non-conference wins over Mississippi State, DePaul and New Mexico State.
- Went 10-1 at home.
ATLANTIC 10 CONFERENCE

MEN'S BASKETBALL
• T.J. MConnell
  All-Defensive Team
  Third Team All-Conference

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
• WUMI AGUNBIADE
  Second Team All-Conference

• JOCELYN FLOYD
  All-Defensive Team

• ALEX GENSLER
  Second Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
• ERIK ANDERSON
  All-Conference

• ADAM SHRAWDER
  Academic All-Conference

• JIM SPISAK
  All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
• MEG ECKER
  All-Conference

LACROSSE
• CASEY BRIGLIA
  All-Rookie Team

• AMY GLADFELTER
  Second Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

• AUBREY GREEN
  Second Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

• CLARE HURLEY
  All-Rookie Team

• AMANDA KIDDER
  Rookie of the Year
  First Team All-Conference
  All-Rookie Team

• HALY MARAFIOTI
  Second Team All-Conference

• CAITLIN PRINCE
  First Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

• LIZ WALKER
  Defensive Player of the Year
  First Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

ROWING
• RACHAEL THORNTON
  Second Team All-Conference

MEN'S SOCCER
• ADAM CLEMENT
  First Team All-Conference

• SIMON GOMEZ
  First Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

• JOSH PATTERSON
  Offensive Player of the Year
  First Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

• CARTER POE
  Academic All-Conference

WOMEN'S SWIMMING
• CAITLIN ZAJKO
  First Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

WOMEN'S TENNIS
• VANESSA STEINER
  First Team All-Conference

WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK
• ASHLEY ADAMS
  Second Team All-Conference
  (shot put)

• BRITTNEY EDWARDS
  Second Team All-Conference
  (triple jump)

WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK
• NICOLE CHEROK
  First Team All-Conference
  (400m hurdles)

• SHERIE KEY
  Second Team All-Conference
  (high jump)

VOLLEYBALL
• PATI ABSHIRE
  All-Rookie Team

• LIZ HOMAN
  Second Team All-Conference

• JESSE ABUEHR
  Second Team All-Conference

• PETE CARPENTER
  First Team All-Conference

• RICH ROBBIE
  Honorable Mention All-Conference

MEN'S TENNIS
• ARAM ABGARYAN
  First Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

• ARIELLE LOVE
  All-Rookie Team

• SARA SCHEIRMAN
  Honorable mention All-Conference

• NICOLE WRIGHT
  Academic All-Conference

FOOTBALL
• CONNOR DIXON
  First Team All-Conference
  (WR)

• RON DUNN
  First Team All-Conference
  (OL)

• AARON FITZPATRICK
  Second Team All-Conference
  (DB)

• SEAN PATTERSON
  Second Team All-Conference
  (QB)

• JARED WILLIAMS
  First Team All-Conference
  (DB)

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
• DANICA SNYDER
  Rookie of the Year

NORTHEAST CONFERENCE

MEN'S SOCCER
• ADAM CLEMENT
  First Team All-Conference

• SIMON GOMEZ
  First Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

• JOSH PATTERSON
  Offensive Player of the Year
  First Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

• CARTER POE
  Academic All-Conference

WOMEN'S TENNIS
• VANESSA STEINER
  First Team All-Conference

WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK
• ASHLEY ADAMS
  Second Team All-Conference
  (shot put)

• BRITTNEY EDWARDS
  Second Team All-Conference
  (triple jump)

WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK
• NICOLE CHEROK
  First Team All-Conference
  (400m hurdles)

• SHERIE KEY
  Second Team All-Conference
  (high jump)

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
• MEG ECKER
  All-Conference

• ADAM SHRAWDER
  Academic All-Conference

• JIM SPISAK
  All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

VOLLEYBALL
• PATI ABSHIRE
  All-Rookie Team

• LIZ HOMAN
  Second Team All-Conference

• JESSE ABUEHR
  Second Team All-Conference

• PETE CARPENTER
  First Team All-Conference

• RICH ROBBIE
  Honorable Mention All-Conference

MEN'S TENNIS
• ARAM ABGARYAN
  First Team All-Conference
  Academic All-Conference

• ARIELLE LOVE
  All-Rookie Team

• SARA SCHEIRMAN
  Honorable mention All-Conference

• NICOLE WRIGHT
  Academic All-Conference

FOOTBALL
• CONNOR DIXON
  First Team All-Conference
  (WR)

• RON DUNN
  First Team All-Conference
  (OL)

• AARON FITZPATRICK
  Second Team All-Conference
  (DB)

• SEAN PATTERSON
  Second Team All-Conference
  (QB)

• JARED WILLIAMS
  First Team All-Conference
  (DB)
2011-12 SENIOR DINNER
The 2011-12 Duquesne Student-Athletes of the Year were announced at the annual Senior Dinner on April 24. The dinner, which took place in the Union, is held to recognize and thank senior student-athletes from each of DU’s 16 sports. In addition, the annual Bluff Cup, presented in recognition of the athletics team which demonstrates outstanding service, support and participation in the Duquesne University community was awarded to women’s swimming.

STUDENT-ATHLETES OF THE YEAR
Student Athlete of the Year awards are annually presented to Duquesne’s “triple threat” student-athletes. In addition to being outstanding students, recipients are recognized for their athletic participation as well as their commitment to service. The 2011-12 calendar year produced two honorees.

RACHAEL THORNTON - ROWING
A doctor of physical therapy student with a 3.45 GPA, Thornton was described by her coach as “a real leader and role model” to her teammates. She earned second team All-Atlantic 10 honors while competing on the Dukes’ Women’s Quad which won gold at the A-10 Championship. She was also a member of the Petite 8 which finished third at the championship and the Varsity 8 which finished fourth in its heat. An active member of the Laval service project and nursing home volunteer, she also worked as a calculus tutor. Thornton was also selected to attend U.S. rowing’s under 23 lightweight sculling camp.

MEG ECKER - CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK
A physical therapy student with a 3.50 GPA, Ecker is the school record holder in the 5000 meter run. An all-conference cross country performer, she also earned Academic All-Atlantic 10 honors. Described by her coach as “an excellent representative of Duquesne in all ways” Ecker not only tutored in biology and Spanish but also served as a para-educator for children with disabilities.

FOUR PARTICIPATE IN NCAA CAREER IN SPORTS FORUM
Simon Gomez (soccer), Carter Poe (soccer), Zach Richert (football) and Sara Scheirman (volleyball) were among 281 student-athletes who attended the NCAA Career in Sports Forum in Indianapolis in mid-June.

The four Dukes were chosen from a pool of over 1,100 nominees - from all three NCAA Divisions - who were required to submit a detailed application which included essay questions on career goals, passions and aspirations. The applications were then submitted by DU’s Athletics Student Services Department.

The Forum helps provide student-athletes with the resources to become the industry’s next generation of leaders. A range of seminars discussed key issues coaches and administrators face, examined the participants’ personality traits and how they can help or hinder their paths to success, and introduced them to networking and communication skills that are essential to breaking into and navigating the athletics world.

Athletes seeking careers in coaching discussed safety and injury prevention, and learned from current coaches about how to build and maintain quality programs. Those interested in administrative careers learned about media and public relations, directing facility and event operations and managing finances. Participants were also provided an opportunity to be certified in CPR, promoting safety in athletics since coaches and athletes are often the first responders to an emergency.
DUQUESNE AND THE ACADEMIC PROGRESS RATE

Duquesne’s men’s outdoor track and women’s basketball teams received Academic Progress Rate Public Recognition Awards for posting APR’s in the top 10 percent of their sport for the 2010-11 academic year. In all, 12 of DU’s 16 athletics programs scored above the national average for its sport according to the latest multi-year Academic Progress Rate (APR) report released on June 20.

The APR provides a real-time look at a team’s academic success each semester by tracking the academic progress of each student-athlete. The APR includes both retention at an institution and academic eligibility in its calculation and provides a clear picture of the academic culture in each sport. The current multi-year APR report covers the 2007-08 through 2010-11 academic years.

The men’s soccer program showed an APR jump of 22 points to 976 for the largest multi-year rate improvement among Duquesne’s athletics programs. Seven programs scored 990 or above including men’s cross country (995), men’s outdoor track (995), women’s basketball (995), women’s lacrosse (991), women’s swimming (991), women’s indoor track (990) and women’s outdoor track (990).

A score of 925 or higher puts a program in good standing with the NCAA with 1,000 serving as the maximum score. Every athletic program scored above 955 in the latest report.

Duquesne programs have been recognized by the NCAA for placing among the top 10 percent nationally in their respective sports 18 times. No DU program has been penalized in the eight-year history of the APR. (This is the seventh year of immediate - or contemporaneous - penalties for teams that score below 925 APR and have a student-athlete who leaves school academically ineligible.)

THE NEC AND THE APR

Duquesne, which competes as an associate member in the Northeast Conference in the sport of football, posted the third-highest multi-year APR among nine schools. Only Bryant (976) and Monmouth (967) had a higher APR than DU’s 964.

THE ATLANTIC 10 AND THE APR

The Atlantic 10 Conference achieved the fifth-highest overall APR out of 32 Division I Conferences with a 981 average. The league boasted 40 squads with perfect scores and 104 teams with a score of 990 or better. In total, 188 A-10 teams were at or above the national average, representing 79 percent of all A-10 teams.

Of the 21 championship sponsored sports in the Atlantic 10, 19 had a sport average higher than the national average.

The A-10 ranked fourth in number of teams publically recognized by the NCAA, behind only the Ivy League, the Patriot League and the Big East Conference.
DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS HOSTS SUCCESSFUL NCAA TOURNAMENT

For a whirlwind four days, the City of Pittsburgh, CONSOL Energy Center and Duquesne University were the center of attention as the 2012 NCAA Men’s Basketball Championship rolled into town. Eight teams from around the nation took part in Second and Third Round games that brought record crowds to Pittsburgh.

The Department of Athletics served as host of the event, which drew 56,928 fans for the three tournament sessions (six total games) on March 15 & 17. The opening day second session crowd of 19,413 was the largest for any indoor arena event in Pittsburgh history.

Thursday’s NCAA games, which aired from Pittsburgh on truTV and TNT, reached 7.7 million total viewers and Saturday’s doubleheader featuring Syracuse vs. Kansas State and Ohio State vs. Gonzaga was shown nationally on CBS, giving the Duquesne brand - which was displayed on courtside banners as well as the playing floor - exclusive exposure across the country.

Overall, the 2012 NCAA Second and Third Round games had the highest viewership since 1994.

Steve Orsini of the NCAA Division I Men’s Basketball Committee, was at CONSOL for the event and told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review afterward, “CONSOL Energy Center – great facility. Great host school and event administration from Duquesne University. The staff here was fantastic.”

This was the fourth time Duquesne University has hosted NCAA Championship basketball in Pittsburgh. The others were 1997 Men’s First/Second Rounds; 2001 Women’s East Regional and 2002 Men’s First/Second Rounds.

NCAA TOURNAMENT BY THE NUMBERS

1. Number of Vice-Presidents in attendance on Saturday, March 17 (Joe Biden, in town for Pittsburgh’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade, was on hand to watch Syracuse take on Kansas State).
2. Total games played (four on Thursday and two on Saturday)
3. Number of teams that competed (Syracuse, Ohio State, Gonzaga, Kansas State, West Virginia, Southern Mississippi, UNC Asheville and Loyola University of Maryland).
4. Number of media credentials processed in a 48 hour span for the event.
5. Attendance for the tournament’s second session on March 15. It was the largest crowd for an indoor arena event in Pittsburgh history.
6. Total attendance for the three tournament sessions.
7. Total number of copies made in the media support area during the four days of the tournament.
8. Total number of television viewers for all Championship third round games played on March 17.