

# Summer Events 2009

## *BASKETBALL CAMPS*

June 22nd-24th  
Individual Camp I  
Grades 4th-9th  
9am-4pm

June 19th-21st  
Varsity Team Camp  
Open to Varsity Teams

August 3rd-5th  
Individual Camp II  
Grades 4th-8th  
9am-4pm

## *Duquesne Athletic Fund*

SATURDAY, MAY 9th  
Football Golf Outing  
Hickory Heights Golf Club  
1 pm shotgun start

THURSDAY, MAY 28th  
Men's Basketball Fundraiser  
The Rivers Club  
6-9 pm

THURSDAY, JUNE 18th  
South Hills Steak Fry  
Locust Pavilion Scott Township Park  
6-9 pm

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6th  
North Hills Steak Fry  
Avonworth Community Park  
6-9 pm

MONDAY, SEPTMBER 28th  
Athletic Fund Golf Outing  
Treesdale Golf & Country Club  
12:30 shotgun start



Volume 2, Issue 1

Greetings!

It has been a historic and exciting year for our women's basketball team at Duquesne. We have done things that I knew were possible, but wasn't sure it would happen this fast. Our number one goal as a team was to make it to the post season, something that has never been done before. With a phone call at 10pm on selection Monday, that goal was achieved with an invitation to participate in the WNIT. A second goal was a 20 win season, something else that has never been accomplished at Duquesne. With a win in the first round of the Atlantic 10 conference tournament over UMASS, that goal was also achieved. The bar has been raised to a level I expected and couldn't be more proud of this team for making those goals a reality. This season has solidified what I knew could be possible at Duquesne if we set goals and constantly worked hard to achieve them.

I'm excited to sit here and think that we can continue to build Duquesne University into a program that can stay in the top half of the Atlantic 10 Conference and begin competing for conference championships on a regular basis. There is nothing I love more than a challenge. I hope that this taste of success will motivate the entire team to raise the bar even higher and think it is realistic to believe we can grow as a team on what we have already accomplished.

This season was one of the most gratifying I have ever had as a coach. I saw Kristi Little, our lone senior, finish her career with a second consecutive conference Defensive Player of the Year and First Team All-Conference selection, an incredible accomplishment. I saw a team completely change their mind set from hoping they can win, to a team that expected to win. I saw a community and university rally around our teams success when 1,500 amazing fans showed up to cheer us on in the WNIT, including almost every single athlete at Duquesne University.

It really was an exciting year on the "bluff" in many ways, but mainly because of the excitement I get knowing what the future holds. I hope you continue to support and follow the Dukes and can't wait for another season to begin.

Go Dukes!

Suzie McConnell-Serio

# 2008-2009 SEASON IN REVIEW

## *Most successful season yet*

The Duquesne women's basketball team continued its turnaround under second-year head coach Suzie McConnell-Serio by posting the program's first-ever post-season appearance while setting a school record with 20 wins.

The Dukes, who were picked to finish eighth in the Atlantic 10 Conference, had their first winning A-10 season since 2003-04 while finishing tied for fourth with a 9-5 record. DU set a program record by winning their last six conference games. Additionally, the Dukes opened the season with six consecutive wins, marking the school's best start since 1998-99.

Individually, the lone senior, Kristi Little, won her second consecutive Defensive Player of the Year honor. Little was also named First Team All-Conference as well as to the All-Defensive team. Little's four spectacular years on the Bluff finished with her joining the Duquesne Women's Basketball program's 1,000 point club this season, as she became its 19th member.

The Dukes' schedule featured 10 teams that qualified for the post-season. With this, DU had their second consecutive winning non-conference season, posting a 10-5 record. In the conference, the A-10 schedule was highlighted by wins over Temple, Richmond and St. Bonaventure. And in March during the Atlantic 10 Championship, Duquesne (a number six seed) advanced into the quarterfinal round with a victory over Massachusetts. Duquesne was rewarded at the end of the season by being selected to host a game in the Women's National Invitational Tournament versus Butler University.

## *Duquesne "Firsts"*

- First-ever 20-win season
- First-ever WNIT appearance
- Longest A-10 winning streak in program history
- First "Philly Sweep" beating Temple, LaSalle and St. Joseph's
- 14 3-pointers in one game vs. LaSalle
- Program record 2,208 points scored
- Program record 214 3-pointers made
- Program record 643 3-point attempts
- Program record 1990 FG attempted
- 122 blocks was one shy of tying program record
- Tied Program record 487 assists
- First post-season appearance
- 35 wins is best two-year win total in program history
- First time A-10 had seven 20-win teams in conference
- Duquesne led A-10 in scoring
- Duquesne led A-10 in assist/turnover ratio
- Duquesne led A-10 in 3-pointers made
- Improved scoring by 8.4% from 2007-08 to 2008-09
- Increased win total 185.7% from 2006-07 to 2008-09

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW - BETH FRIDAY

Each newsletter issue will provide a "Where Are They Now" piece, recognizing former Duquesne Dukes women's basketball players, in an effort to reconnect our alumni with the current program. Our first issue features Beth Friday-Bovay, a 2003 graduate of the University, and a current member of the Duquesne Athletics Hall of Fame. Catch up with Beth as we highlight her life as a Duquesne Dukes Alumni!

### **#40 Beth Friday-Bovay**

#### **Life before College**

High school attended: Upper St Clair High School

Accolades received: 1999 AAAA Pennsylvania State Girls Basketball Champion, 1st team Pennsylvania All-State selection (basketball), 1998 AAAA WPIAL Soccer Champion, 1st team Pennsylvania All-State (soccer), 1999 Pittsburgh Post Gazette High School Female Athlete of the Year

#### **Life as a Duquesne Duke**

Major and Graduation Year: 2003, Accounting

Favorite Professor and class: Dr. Austin and Dr. Nagle, Financial Accounting

#### **Fondest memory playing as a Duke**

*Biggest win* - beating Pitt 3 out of 4 years in college

*Highest honor* - having her jersey retired on Senior night with her friends and family there to support her

*Fondest memory* - her overall experience throughout her four years; getting to compete at the Division I/A-10 level, and travel to so many different places, seeing the sights, and meeting some great people.

#### **Fondest memory as a Duquesne student**

Meeting her husband Nick

#### **Where are you now (Life after College)**

Current occupation: Senior Auditor, CPA

Location: Schneider Downs & Co, Pittsburgh, PA.

Location/residence: Currently resides in Carnegie Pa

Spouse: Nick Bovay

Plans for the future: Beth hopes to start a family, and get back involved in basketball.





# DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS BEAT

## Renovations on campus

**Duquesne University Power Center:** Within the past year, several renovations have taken place on Duquesne University's Campus. In January 2008 Duquesne University dedicated the Power Recreation Center on Forbes Avenue. This new five-story building provides student fitness facilities including modern cardio-fitness exercise equipment, basketball and racquetball courts, locker rooms, exercise and dance studios as well as recreation offices and a wellness resource center. The building also houses banquet facilities, retail shops, restaurants and a Barnes and Noble bookstore. The 130,000-square-foot Power Center is named for Duquesne's first president, Spiritan Fr. William Patrick Power.



**Arthur J. Rooney Field:** Within the Athletics Department, the most recent project has been the renovation of Arthur J.



Rooney Field which was completed last summer. Part of the recently completed renovation is permanent grandstand seating on Bluff Street, replacing temporary bleachers that had been installed for the past 14 football seasons. Permanent concession stands and restrooms have also been added to the south side of the field. The Academic Walk sideline has also gained additional seating, and the playing surface was replaced with Sportex synthetic turf. As part of the second stage of the renovation, the fieldhouse located at the east end of the field will be remodeled and expanded to provide an area for a new football locker room, football coaches suite and additional locker room space for the soccer, lacrosse and swim teams. Fieldhouse construction is scheduled to begin soon. Rooney Field has enjoyed the national spotlight as the host of three televised games. On Monday, Oct. 31, 1994, ESPN2 televised DU's 16-12 win over Iona to a national audience. In addition, two games in 1995 - the MAAC Championship-deciding game vs. St. John's and the ECAC Bowl game vs. Wagner - were aired locally by then-Prime Sports.

**Duquesne University Student Union:** The second floor of the Duquesne University's student union building has also been renovated. Nearly 40% of the old space (once housing the University Bookstore, and DU Card Center) is devoted to the new student lounge which has become a popular social hub and studying area for commuter and resident students alike. Its prime location - across from Starbucks and facing the Locust Street Circle - makes it a perfect meeting spot for students heading off to the Power Recreation Center for a workout, taking a study break between classes, or just relaxing with friends. A new welcome center was also put in place on the second floor, for perspective students and their families that will offer a convenient centralized location for tours so visitors can build familiarity with Duquesne. Additionally, a Health Services Center was constructed. The space will better accommodate the growing number of students enrolled at the University by providing a larger area to meet health needs. Finally, a smaller Barnes and Noble/convenience center is now located behind Starbucks, and fits the need of students and passerby's looking for some book store items in the middle of campus; a PNC banking facility is now located directly behind this space.



## DUKES IN THE COMMUNITY

### Making a difference on and off the court

The month of April kicked off the start of two community service projects for the Duquesne women's basketball team. While continuing to raise awareness of the women's program in the community, the Duquesne Dukes participated in two community service events. The first project kept the team on campus for the Jump Into Spring! event, a community-wide jump roping event supporting the work of Strong Women, Strong Girls, a mentoring program that fosters high aspirations among low-income elementary school girls.



The team along with other college volunteer mentors took part in fun and healthful jump roping challenges and a celebration of the Strong Women, Strong Girls program year. The girls spearheaded the "Communication Station", teaching the younger participants how to communicate with each other during the various jump roping activities.

Towards the end of the month, the Dukes put on their working gloves and pulled up their sweat pants to help "Beautify the Burgh"! The team spent a gorgeous Saturday morning walking through various



neighborhoods surrounding campus picking up litter in Uptown, the Hill District, and the South Side. Later in the day, the team hauled large bags of mulch, then soiled land, and plotted plants and trees all during the annual Duquesne University Spring Clean-Up initiative, sponsored by Spiritan Campus Ministry.

Jump Into Spring! and Spring Clean-Up are just the first of many community service projects that the team will be involved with during the summer months, and well into the 2009-2010 school year. Future community service plans

include mentoring children and participating in afterschool activities at local YMCA recreation centers, helping stock food warehouses that distribute food to the less fortunate, along with helping out at soup kitchens during the holiday seasons. Visit the Duquesne Dukes official athletics website at [www.goduquesne.com](http://www.goduquesne.com) to view photos of the most recent community service events!



## Check this out....

*Follow the Dukes online!*

*The Duquesne women's team has brought "Blogging" to their online website! Follow the student-athletes as they present journal entries about their personal experiences as a Duquesne Duke. Entries will include what goes on during the summer, class, as the team hits the road during the non-conference and conference seasons, holiday tournaments, and as they describe life in general as a Duquesne student-athlete. Also, catch up with the coaching staff as they prepare for summer camps, and move on into the next season! These updates will be posted throughout the year starting with the off season during May, June and July. Check out the first "Blog" of the series, as lone senior Kristi Little reflects back on four successful years on the bluff, noting her experiences with the team, against competitors, her favorite trips, biggest wins, and much, much more! For more information, visit the Duquesne Dukes official athletic website at [www.godukesne.com](http://www.godukesne.com).*

## Next Issue!

*Stay tuned for upcoming issues of Hoopin' in the 'Burgh. In the next issue, the "Where are they now" segment will feature Nicole Sinclair, a 2007 graduate of the University. Catch up with Nicole as we highlight her life as a Duquesne Dukes Alumni! If there is a former Duke that you would like to see featured, we would love to hear from you. Email all suggestions to Coach Carmen Bruce at [brucec@duq.edu](mailto:brucec@duq.edu)*