SUCCESS LEAVES CLUES

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE ATHLETICS
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 2021-JUNE 2022
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Friartown,

I want to extend my extreme gratitude to Father Sicard, Bob Driscoll, Ann Manchester-Molak, John Sweeney, and all members of the Providence College community for the opportunity to serve as your next Athletic Director. Friartown is a special place, and it is a dream come true to be able to lead the next generation of student-athletes, coaches, staff, and teammates at my alma mater.

At the beginning of the school year, I gave each student-athlete and staff member a Purpose with Passion t-shirt. My goal is for everyone to achieve their potential through this motto.

Plan with Purpose • Meet with Purpose • Work with Purpose • Practice with Purpose • Play with Purpose

My vision for Providence College Athletics is to build academic and wellness support for student-athletes, provide coaches with the necessary tools and resources to be successful, continue to be trailblazers in the NIL space, and build state-of-the-art facilities for our teams to compete for BIG EAST, Hockey East, and National Championships.

I look forward to continuing a legacy of dignity, respect, and success at the highest level. Thank you for all your generosity, support, and passion for Friar Athletics!

With Gratitude,

Steve Napolillo, Director of Athletics
Kick starting athletic fundraising at PC, Driscoll created The Friars Forever Athletic Fund and instituted seat licensing to raise critical funds. This led to the completion of a $6M field hockey and lacrosse complex which later was named Lennon Family Field.

BOB DRISCOLL TIMELINE

2002
Bob Driscoll is hired as Director of Athletics. A visionary and strategic leader, his goals for the athletics department consisted of being the most respected athletic program in the country, graduating every student-athlete, and competing for championships.

Leaders can identify leaders and Driscoll’s most successful hires in his tenure include Head Men’s Soccer Coach Craig Stewart, Head Men’s Ice Hockey Coach Nate Leaman and Head Men’s Basketball Coach, Ed Cooley.

Constantly working to improve our facilities, Driscoll worked with city and state officials on an $80M renovation of the Dunkin’ Donuts Center. Additionally, he lead a $3M renovation of Alumni Hall including seat backs, new lighting, video scoreboard, and other amenities.
Women's Cross Country clinched its second NCAA title under Ray Treacy. Men's Basketball won the Big East Tournament and advanced to the NCAA. It was the first of five consecutive NCAA appearances for the team. Men's Soccer won the 2014 Big East title and went to the NCAA Final Four, for the first time. Ray Treacy Track was completed.

Men's Hockey captured the NCAA championship over Boston University at TD Garden. Providence College Athletics officially dedicated Chapey Field at Anderson Stadium, the new state-of-the-art facility for the Men's and Women's Soccer and Men's Lacrosse teams.

Bob Driscoll is recognized as Under Armour 1-AAA Athletics Director of the Year. The $35M Ruane Friar Development Center is completed.

In honor of Bob Driscoll’s impact, the Robert and Cathy Driscoll endowed Volleyball Scholarship Fund was announced.
- To donate to this fund please contact Eric Burtchell at eburtche@providence.edu.

Creating a culture of excellence in and out of the classroom, Friar student-athletes boast a graduation rate of 97% and collectively contribute thousands of hours each year to community causes.
With the support of our administration and generosity of our donors, we have created and maintained one of the most successful college hockey programs over the past 12 years. Specifically, we would like to thank John Sweeney for his unwavering support of our program and his commitment to provide the necessary resources to compete for championships. Your faith in our program contributes to our success both on and off the ice and we are incredibly grateful.

– Nate Leaman, Head Men’s Ice Hockey Coach

Providence College Chief Financial Officer, John Sweeney has been the catalyst to make the vision of Friartown a reality. His presence can be felt everywhere on campus from move in day to commencement and his genuine care for the students and his relentless pursuit of improvement have made him a trusted friend to the PC Community.

As a donor, you can rest assured that your generous investments will lead to impact in the lives of our student-athletes and will pave the road for sustainable success for our athletic programs.

“I don’t know how you can truly appreciate the value that John Sweeney brings to our campus. He is the best problem solver I have been around and his ability to connect with our student body and alumni has enabled us to bridge the gap between the needs of our college and the philanthropy of our donors. He is a household name in Friartown and we owe a lot of our athletic success to his support.”

– Steve Napolillo, Athletic Director

“With the support of our administration and generosity of our donors, we have created and maintained one of the most successful college hockey programs over the past 12 years. Specifically, we would like to thank John Sweeney for his unwavering support of our program and his commitment to provide the necessary resources to compete for championships. Your faith in our program contributes to our success both on and off the ice and we are incredibly grateful.”

– Nate Leaman, Head Men’s Ice Hockey Coach
A YEAR IN REVIEW

LADONTAE “BUCKETS” HENTON JOINS THE MEN’S BASKETBALL COACHING STAFF AS SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE HEAD COACH

AMICA MUTUAL PURCHASES NAMING RIGHTS TO AMICA MUTUAL PAVILION

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE MEN’S SOCCER UNDEFEATED AT HOME

50 YEARS OF WOMEN IS CELEBRATED AT WATERFIRE DURING 2021 HOMECOMING WEEKEND

BOTH THE WOMEN’S AND MEN’S SOCCER TEAMS SECURE A BID TO THE NCAA TOURNAMENT

STEVE NAPOLILLO ’98 IS ANNOUNCED AS THE COLLEGE’S NEXT VICE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

KEVIN HOOD ’23 & JUSTIN VIOTTO ’22 ARE MEN’S BIG EAST SWIMMING AND DIVING CHAMPIONS

THE MEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM IS CROWNED BIG EAST REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONS

THE MEN’S BASKETBALL TEAM CLINCHES THE #4 SEED IN THE NCAA TOURNAMENT

BRETT BERARD NAMED NEW ENGLAND DIVISION I ALL-STAR

LILLY TUCK WINS THE 10,000 METERS (35:17.98) AT THE BIG EAST OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

SEASON TICKETS REACHED NEW HEIGHTS WITH MORE THAN 10,000 SEASON TICKET HOLDERS
One of the nation’s most successful coaches, Ray Treacy is in his 38th season as Director of Cross Country and Track at Providence College. In his 38 years at Providence, Treacy has coached 67 All-Americans, who have received a total of 179 All-American accolades, seven NCAA individual champions, who have captured 15 NCAA titles overall, 47 BIG EAST individual champions, who have captured 123 BIG EAST titles, and 11 Olympians.

In addition, his women’s teams have captured two NCAA Cross Country Championships (1995 and 2013), 14 NCAA Northeast Regional Cross Country Championships, 22 BIG EAST Cross Country titles and 20 New England Championships.

During the 2021-22 season, Treacy’s team had a number of successes in the BIG EAST conference. After winning the BIG EAST indoor mile and the BIG EAST outdoor 1500 meters, Shannon Flockhart earned 1st team All-American in the 1,500 meters after placing seventh at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships. Kimberley May placed 2nd in BIG EAST outdoor 1,500 meters. Additionally, Lilly Tuck took 1st in BIG EAST outdoor 10,000 meters. Continuing the Friar wins, relay team Shannon Flockhart, Alex O’Neill, Kimberely May, and Halle Atkinson won the 4x800 meters at the BIG EAST Outdoor Track Championships. AJ Earnst claimed 2nd team All-American after placing 16th in the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships.
ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

The Providence College Women's Soccer team earned an at-large selection to the 2021 NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Championship. The Friars traveled to Hofstra University for the First Round match-up.

The Friars returned to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 1993. Head Coach Sam Lopes made his first appearance in the NCAA Tournament.

Providence entered the NCAA Tournament with a 10-6-3 overall record. The team finished fifth (5-3-2) in the BIG EAST Conference final standings. The Friars were one of five BIG EAST Teams to make this year's tournament field. It was the most BIG EAST Teams to qualify for the NCAA Tournament since 2010.

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE WOMEN'S SOCCER EARNS NCAA TOURNAMENT BID

The Providence College Men's Soccer team finished the 2021 season with a 12-5-4 overall record, including a 5-2-3 mark in the BIG EAST.

The team finished second in the BIG EAST Conference and earned the No. 2 seed and a First-Round bye in the BIG EAST Tournament.

The Friars earned their 11th NCAA Tournament berth in program history and advanced to the Third Round for the fourth time. The team was ranked 15th in the final NCAA RPI prior to the start of the NCAA Tournament.

The Friars were ranked No. 18 in the final regular-season United Soccer Coaches' Poll released on Nov. 9. Providence was ranked inside the top-25 of the United Soccer Coaches Poll for eight-consecutive weeks to close the regular season.
ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

BIG EAST REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONS
ED COOLEY
Werner Ladder Naismith Coach of the Year
BIG EAST Coach of the Year
Sporting News Coach of the Year
NABC District 5 Coach of the Year
USBWA District 1 Coach of the Year

NATE WATSON
All-BIG EAST Second Team
Second Team NABC All-District 5
Preseason All-BIG EAST First Team
Preseason Kareem Abdul-Jabbar Watch List

JARED BYNUM
All-BIG EAST Second Team
BIG EAST Sixth Man Award
USBWA All-District 1

AL DURHAM
Second Team NABC All-District 5
BIG EAST All-Tournament Team
NCAA Midwest Regional
All-Tournament Team

HISTORIC SEASON

POSTSEASON AWARDS
ED COOLEY
Werner Ladder Naismith Coach of the Year
BIG EAST Coach of the Year
Sporting News Coach of the Year
NABC District 5 Coach of the Year
USBWA District 1 Coach of the Year

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NCAA Midwest Regional
All-Tournament Team
SELECTION SUNDAY

#4 Seed - Highest in Program History

DANCING & ADVANCING

Friars Defeat South Dakota State | 57-66 | March 17, 2022
Friars Defeat Richmond | 79-51 | March 19, 2022
Keybank Center, Buffalo, N.Y

NCAA SWEET 16

Friars Fall to Kansas, 65-60
March 25, 2022 | United Center, Chicago, IL
**FRIARS IN THE PROS**

- **Jarrod Neumann ’17**: Won the 2021 Premiere Lacrosse Championship.
- **Brandon Tanev ’16**: Signed with the Seattle Kraken of the NHL in May 2022.
- **Julian Gressel ’16**: Plays as a full-back for Major League Soccer Club Vancouver Whitecaps.
- **Shelby Hogan ’20**: Made her debut as a goalkeeper for the Portland Thorns FC.
- **Emily Sisson ’14**: Set the Olympic trials record in the 10,000m.
- **Jovana “Yoyo” Nogic ’16**: Plays for VCB Perfumer as Avenida.
EMILY SISSON ‘14
Sisson finished in the top 10 in the women’s 10,000-meter at the Beijing Olympics. She is one of the most decorated Friars of all-time. She helped the Friar Cross Country team capture the NCAA Championship in 2013 and she won NCAA titles in the Indoor and Outdoor 5,000 meters at the NCAA Championships in 2015. She also won seven BIG EAST titles during her career as a Friar. Sisson won the Olympic Trials in a record time of 31:03.82.

BEN CONNOR ‘15
Connor competed in the men’s marathon for Great Britain. He also competed for Great Britain in the 5,000 meters at the IAAF World Athletics Championships in Doha, Qatar. He qualified for the Olympics by finishing second at the British Olympic Trials on March 26 at Kew Gardens in London. As a Friar, he earned All-America honors and was named Providence College Student-Athlete of the Year in 2014.

DAVID LASSONDE ’84
Friar alumnus David Lassonde ’84 served as the goaltending coach for the 2022 U.S. Men’s Olympic Team that competed at the Winter Olympic Games in Beijing from Feb. 4-20, 2022.

SARA HJALMARSSON ’22
Sara Hjalmarsson (Bankeryd, Sweden) was named to the Olympic Women’s Ice Hockey Team for the 2022 Beijing Olympics.

ALI DOMENICO
At the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics, Domenico served as the Canadian’s Women Ice Hockey Team Assistant Coach and lead her team to a gold medal victory.
**BIG EAST FUNDRAISER**
**NEW YORK, NY**
The premier BIG EAST Tournament fundraiser was held on Wednesday, March 9th sponsored by Tom Boyan ’85 and held at PJ Clarke’s. This fundraiser raised over $50k and welcomed fellow Friars for a festive kick-off to BIG EAST week.

**DONOR EVENTS**

**WELCOME DINNER**
**BUFFALO, NY**
Donors arrived at Hutch’s in Buffalo, NY for a welcome dinner ahead of the 1st & 2nd rounds of the NCAA Tournament. Friars were joined by BIG EAST Commissioner - Val Ackerman and national college basketball broadcaster and writer for FOX Sports - John Fanta.

**OPEN PRACTICE**
**BUFFALO, NY**
Friar fans were invited to attend an open practice prior to the Men’s Basketball team taking on South Dakota State in the First Round of the NCAA Tournament.

**MASS & NIAGRA FALLS**
**BUFFALO, NY**
Father Cuddy welcomed Friar fans to join him for Mass ahead of the Men’s Basketball team NCAA Tournament debut and donors took a day trip to Niagara Falls.

**FRIARS SEND-OFF**
**BUFFALO, NY**
Providence College donors, guests, and staff wished the Friars luck as they headed to the KeyBank Center.
DONOR EVENTS

THANK YOU
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

SEASON TICKET HOLDER PARTY PROVIDENCE, RI
On Monday, June 6, the Providence College Athletic Department held a season ticket holder party on Slavin Lawn at Providence College. Over 3,000 season ticket holders attended the event and joined together to celebrate the Friars’ successful athletic seasons.

FLYING IN STYLE CHICAGO, IL
Providence College donors, guests, & staff headed to the Windy City in the New England Patriots plane.

SEND-OFF CHICAGO, IL
Hundreds of Friar fans lined the lobby and wished the Men’s Basketball team well wishes as they headed to the United Center.

WELCOME DINNER CHICAGO, IL
Providence College donors, guests, and staff gathered for a welcome dinner along the Chicago River.

FLYING IN STYLE CHICAGO, IL
Providence College donors, guests, & staff headed to the Windy City in the New England Patriots plane.
GOLF TOURNAMENTS

Cooley Cup
Challenge
Winged Foot

Santander Spring
Vision Cup
The Stanwich Club

Hannoush Friar
Golf Classic
Warwick Country Club

MIH Vision Cup
Old Sandwich

Santander Fall
Vision Cup
Newport Country Club

Joe Canavan '65
Memorial Outing
Presented by
Finetco
Point Judith Country Club

6 GOLF TOURNAMENTS
800+ PLAYERS
NEARLY $700,000 RAISED

GOLFTOURNAMENTS
Thank you to all those who participated in this year’s tournaments. Your generosity continues to support all student-athletes at Providence College.

THANK YOU SPONSORS
Alumni, Friends & Parents gathered at Karl ‘88 and Kerry ‘88 Anderson’s home for a meet and greet with Men’s Basketball coach Ed Cooley and other members of the Friar Family. This event welcomed the class of 2026 and took place in conjunction with the Santander Vision Cup Golf Tournament held at The Stanwich Club.
### Historic Numbers

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<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>6th</strong></td>
<td>Men’s Basketball Student Season Tickets sold out for the 6th consecutive season.</td>
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<td><strong>168,869</strong></td>
<td>2021-22 Men’s Basketball Total Attendance was 3rd in the BIG EAST and 34th Nationally.</td>
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<td><strong>31,936</strong></td>
<td>2021-22 the Men’s Hockey Total Attendance was 31,936. This was the highest in the last 5 years.</td>
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<td><strong>10,499</strong></td>
<td>Men’s Hockey Total Student Attendance in 2021-22 was 2.2 times higher than previous record season.</td>
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*It has been incredible watching how the community has rallied behind our teams over the last few seasons! I love seeing our alumni, donors, students, and student athletes making memories that will last a lifetime, while helping to provide the resources our student athletes need to continue to compete for championships. We’re continuing to work on new ways to improve our game day experiences and are looking forward to the Friar Family continuing to grow for years to come!*  

- Andrew Schoepfer  | Associate Athletic Director
The “Star of the Year” award is presented to an organization achieving outstanding results in ticketing, marketing and fundraising. “Star of the Year” winners embrace innovative strategies and new technologies while developing successful programs to engage fans and drive revenue. They leverage the various Paciolan platform tools’ combined power to drive exceptional results.

Providence College Athletics was able to achieve this excellence by embracing our community, and persevering through the pandemic to bring our community together.

- The Friars used their call center capabilities to perform wellness checks to students and fans in the community, who were isolated due to COVID.
- Saw growth in our season ticket bases for all ticketed sports, including a 93% growth for Women’s Basketball.
- Embraced mobile technology, with over 80% of tickets distributed as mobile tickets. The Providence Friars Gameday App saw 150% growth in downloads.
Providence College Athletics launched the “Honor HER Experience Fundraising Campaign” to celebrate 50 Years of Women and 50 Years of Women’s Athletics at the College. The initiative was meant to honor and celebrate our former, current and future female student-athletes. The women who have left their mark on our campus, and those who will do so in the future, represent Friartown and their respective teams and programs with tremendous character and dedication. Each striving to become the best versions of themselves in competition, in the classroom and professional careers and as members of the community.
# The Pillars

## Personal Enhancement
Encourage student-athletes to understand, appreciate and actively engage in their personal development by fostering a growth mindset.

## Academics
Promote meaningful engagement in the learning process where all students are challenged to realize their full potential.

## Career
Offer opportunities to exploration and development that supports each student-athletes’ transition from college to career.

## Leadership
Facilitate understanding of unique leadership styles, inspiring student-athletes to grow as confident, effective leaders.

## Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
Embrace the inherent value of a diverse, equitable and inclusive community through purposeful education, collaboration and celebration.

## Community
Spark a lifelong commitment to serving others through experiences that develop genuine connections with our communities.

### Athletics Department Cumulative GPA
- **3.37**

### Advantedge NIL Education Programs
- **4**

### Student-Athlete Staff & Coach DEI Session Attendees
- **375**

### Total Community Service Hours
- **3,546**

### Upperclassman Friar Edge Program Facilitators
- **58**

### Student-Athletes Engaged with the Career Center via Events and 1 V 1
- **211**
THANK YOU SENIORS
CLASS OF 2022

STUDENT-ATHLETE GRADUATION RATE

97%
The Providence College Athletics Department hosted the 61st Annual All-Sports Gala on Monday, May 2.

Prior to the All-Sports Gala, 76 student-athletes were inducted into the Letter Winner’s Society during a brief ceremony. Both events were held in Alumni Hall. This celebration also marked the final All-Sports Gala for Athletics Director Bob Driscoll, who retired on June 30 after 21 years on the job. Additionally, the 2021-22 academic year marked 50 Years of Women at Providence College and 50 Years of Women’s Athletics.

AWARD WINNERS

MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR FOR TEAM SPORTS
NATE WATSON - MEN’S BASKETBALL

MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR FOR INDIVIDUAL SPORTS
MARCELO ROCHA - CROSS COUNTRY / TRACK & FIELD

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR FOR TEAM SPORTS
MEG HUGHES - WOMEN’S SOCCER

FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR FOR INDIVIDUAL SPORTS
LAURA MOONEY - CROSS COUNTRY / TRACK & FIELD

PAUL CONNOLLY AWARD
CHRISTINA RODGERS - WOMEN’S SOCCER

MAL BROWN AWARD
AL DURHAM - MEN’S BASKETBALL

SINE QUA NON AWARDS
NOAH HORCHLER - MEN’S BASKETBALL

JANE THOMPSON AWARD
RAINIER LEE - LACROSSE
On behalf of the men’s basketball program, I would like to thank Joe and Sugar Calabria for their life-long support of Providence College Athletics. The Calabria Hall of Fame has helped highlight the history and tradition that defines Providence College basketball. We are so grateful for their generosity and we are proud to have them in the Friar Family.

- Ed Cooley | Men’s Basketball Head Coach

The Calabria Hall of Fame was completely remodeled and renovated. These renovations were made possible by a generous gift from Providence College alumnus and Trustee Joe Calabria ’65 and his wife Sugar. The Calabria’s have been long-time donors to the school and wanted to showcase the proud tradition of Friar basketball. The project includes new construction which connects the space to the Slavin Center via the bookstore. The changes include:

- The creation of a Friars Theater which shows PC basketball highlights and documentaries
- 9 new display cases which house PC basketball memorabilia and trophies
- 9 new jersey displays highlighting Friars uniforms in college, and the pros
- New historical displays including Friars in the Pros, Friars Overseas, and Friars Court History
- A mascot historical display

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On June 15, 2022, Bobby Benson was named head coach of the Providence College Men’s Lacrosse program. Benson became the ninth head coach in program history and will patrol the sidelines in his first season with the Friars during the 2022-23 academic year.

“Coach Benson is one of the brightest minds in the game. I was lucky to play for him and even luckier to build a relationship with him after college. I know he’ll be great at Providence and wish him all the best.”
– Paul Rabil – Co-Founder of the Premier Lacrosse League / Former PLL All-Star and Major League Lacrosse MVP and Offensive Player of the Year.

**BENSON’S COACHING EXPERIENCE**

2021-22: Maryland (Assistant Coach / Offensive Coordinator)
2007-20: John’s Hopkins (Assistant Coach / Offensive Coordinator)
2006: Loyola (Assistant Coach / Offensive Coordinator)
2004-05: UMBC (Assistant Coach / Offensive Coordinator)
The Friar Family Collective was founded to create an avenue for Providence College student-athletes in assisting them to make positive contributions to businesses and our local communities, while receiving compensation and growing their respective brands.

For more information visit:

https://friarfamilynil.com/
Swimming was everything to me at Providence. It was the one constant, the thing I could rely on most during a time that was full of life lessons. Both in and out of the pool, I experienced major wins and major losses, and it taught me how to be a better person. The support I received from the Providence College swim team was always there to push me to do better, to not be afraid to achieve just good enough performance.

Providence College and the Providence College swim team have given me the strength of my heart and the skills to achieve what I've done. Therefore, I feel that we have the right to look at the future and think of ‘Thorpe Family Literacy’ in the name of the future for the program.

"Courageous Living" -- Keilah E. Thorpe
The lessons that I've learned from the bands made up are still with me today. And over the years the program has expanded beyond the pool, engaging in charitable endeavors and fostering lifelong friendships. Vicki DeMello has been privileged to give back to a program that has meant so much to me and has had a positive impact on my life. I hope examples of our support inspire the next generation of alumni to do the same, allowing future Friars to be part of the pool.
As a student-athlete of Providence College, I have personally experienced an amazing influence and involvement in our athletic department.

When I arrived on campus as a freshman, I was a part of the Providence College men’s basketball team. I quickly realized the commitment and dedication required to succeed in this sport.

In my first year, I played in all 30 games, starting on the bench. I averaged 5.3 points per game and 3.8 rebounds per game. I also had 49 steals and 13 blocks during the season.

During my second year, I continued to improve my game and became a key player on the team. I started in all 29 games and averaged 12.1 points per game, 5.6 rebounds per game, and 3.5 assists per game.

In my junior year, I was named to the All-Conference First Team and was named to the All-Regional Team. I also set a school record for blocks in a season with 65.

During my senior year, I was named to the All-Conference Second Team and was named to the All-Regional Team again. I also set a new school record for points in a season, scoring 1,122 points.

I am proud to have been a part of such a successful team and I am grateful for the opportunities that Providence College provided me.

Ultimately, I hope to continue playing basketball at the professional level and I am confident that my experience at Providence College will help me achieve this goal.

Thank you for your support and I hope to see you at the next game!