

Lady Patriots Soccer and Volleyball

The Lady Patriot Soccer and Volleyball squads continued their tradition of excellence during the Fall 2009 Season. With improved records and tournament championships, the teams gave their all each game with incredible results.

Under the leadership of Head Coach Cathy Ray, the Lady Patriot Volleyball Team carried their 2008 success into the 2009 season. The Lady Patriots finished with an overall season record of 20-17 and were 10-4 in Heartland Conference play. Their efforts earned DBU a Heartland Conference Tournament Championship and a first-ever bid to the NCAA South Central Regional Tournament in Warrensburg, Missouri.

The Lady Patriots were led the entire season by senior Amanda Emmert and sophomores Kaylyn Frink and Kristin Secord. All three were selected to the Heartland All-Conference First Team. Frink led the Lady Patriots in kills with 421 during the season, while Secord recorded a total of 369. Emmert was strong on defense with an average of 5.58 digs per game and ended the season with a total of 775.

Four Lady Patriots earned Heartland Conference Player of the Week honors throughout the season. Frink and freshman Christina Steinkruger received the award once and Emmert and freshman May Allen both received the award twice. Seniors Lauren Zegarelli and Emmert were each recognized as members of the College Sports Information Directors of American Academic All-District Third Team as they excelled in the classroom as well as on the court.

After a strong regular season finish, the Lady Patriots advanced to the conference tournament as a number three seed and defeated the Lady Cardinals from the University of the Incarnate Word to advance to the Heartland Conference Tournament Championship Game.

Trailing 2-1 against the number one seeded Hilltoppers from St. Edward's University, the Lady Patriots went on to win the next two sets to seal the tournament championship, 3-2.

Zegarelli and Secord earned All-Tournament honors, while Frink was named the Heartland Conference Tournament MVP.

The Lady Patriots' season came to an end after facing the Jennies from Central Missouri in the opening round of the NCAA South Central Regional Tournament. The Jennies high-powered offense proved to be too much for DBU to overcome, as they were defeated by the score of 3-0. Secord and Frink each recorded six kills while Emmert maintained her strong defensive play with 12 digs.

"Our success can be traced back to several key things this season. We had some big wins along the way and learned from some tough losses," said Coach Ray. "Erin Black (senior), Amber Byrd (junior), Kaylyn Frink and Amanda Emmert gave us all they had on defense this year and truly led our team. Our senior leadership was invaluable as well as they took the younger girls under their wings and showed them the success that comes from motivation and desire. These girls did everything I asked of them, and I am so proud of each and every one of them," added Ray.

The Lady Patriot Soccer Team finished the 2009 season with their highest conference finish in the last five years. An 11-12-1 overall record and a 7-5 conference record led to a third place finish in the Heartland Conference and an appearance at the National Christian College Athletic Association National Tournament.



2009 LADY PATRIOT VOLLEYBALL TEAM: Back row (l-r) Lauren Secord (student assistant), Claire Stephens, Kaylyn Frink, Lauren Zegarelli, Cathy Ray (head coach), Christina Steinkruger, Kristin Secord, Kara Kemp, Lindsay Ali (assistant coach). Front row (l-r) Amanda Emmert, May Allen, Amber Byrd, Erin Black, Tiffany Coffey, Brittini Nilson.

All-Heartland Conference Honorees



Amanda Emmert, Senior
Keller, Texas
Defensive Specialist/Outside
Hitter
All-Heartland Conference
First Team



Kaylyn Frink, Sophomore
McKinney, Texas
Outside Hitter
All-Heartland Conference
First Team



Kristin Secord, Sophomore
White Oak, Texas
Middle Blocker
All-Heartland Conference
First Team

2009 Year in Review

"The 2009 season was a success in many ways. We continued to build on a foundation that we laid last year as a serious competitor in the Heartland Conference, finishing only behind two nationally ranked teams," Head Coach Michelle Lenard stated.

The Lady Patriots' attack was led by junior Allyson Bales who recorded 13 goals, five assists, and a total point score of 31 on the season. Sophomore Haley Corbell finished another great season at the goalkeeper position allowing only 21 goals with a 78% save percentage. She also notched four shutouts and three wins to lead DBU. In addition to Bales and Corbell, senior Sarah Meierhofer and sophomore Brittany Layne were key contributors for the Lady Patriot offense.

Three Lady Patriots were recognized for their performance in Heartland Conference play. Layne earned All-Heartland Conference First Team honors, while sophomore Hope Adams and freshman Andrea Hutchins each garnered All-Heartland Second Team honors.

After the conclusion of regular season play, the Lady Patriots earned a trip to the NCCAA Regional Tournament in Oklahoma City where they faced the Cougars from Colorado Christian University in the opening round. Tied 1-1 at the end of regulation and both overtime periods, the game moved on

to penalty kicks to determine a winner. Colorado Christian lost as DBU scored four goals to Colorado Christian's three to claim the victory.

A 2-1 win over MidAmerica Nazarene University in the Regional Championship Game sent the Lady Patriots to the NCCAA National Tournament in Kissimmee, Florida. After a hard fought 2-1 loss to the number one-seeded Olivet Nazarene, the Lady Patriots defeated Roberts Wesleyan University in the second round, 1-0. A 3-1 loss to Palm Beach Atlantic concluded the Lady Patriots' season and wrapped up a sixth place finish in the NCCAA Tournament.

With a strong recruiting class and the return of 10 starters, DBU looks to build on their success as they prepare for the 2010 season.

"This year we had to face quite a bit of adversity with numerous injuries and illness, but the team stayed mentally strong and managed to peak at the right time to carry us into the NCCAA Regional Championship and a trip to the NCCAA National Tournament," Lenard stated. "We came very near to knocking off the number one seed in the tournament with a 2-1 loss to Olivet Nazarene and played one of our best games all year. I believe with the experience that we gained this year and the strength of our 2010 recruiting class, next season will prove to be our best yet," she added.



2009 LADY PATRIOT SOCCER TEAM: Back row (l-r) Jon Callahan (assistant coach), Haley Corbell, Kourtney Edwards, Andrea Hutchins, Brittany Leitch, Amanda Ferguson, Ashley Saunders, Allyson Bales, Baylie Hill, Sarah Meierhofer, Lindsay Cox, Emily Evans, Michelle Lenard (head coach). Front row (l-r) Austin Cooper (student assistant), Stephanie Emmert, Ashleigh Elkins, Tasha Garr, Beryl Hough, Sheila Heath, Hope Adams, Chelsea Smith, Lexie Bales, Shella Jones, Brittany Layne.



Brittany Layne, Sophomore
Midlothian, Texas
Forward
All-Heartland Conference
First Team



Hope Adams, Sophomore
Arlington, Texas
Midfielder
All-Heartland Conference
Second Team



Andrea Hutchins, Freshman
Cedar Hill, Texas
Defender
All-Heartland Conference
Second Team