

# DUKES IN THE PROS

## DUQUESNE AND THE NBA/ABA

21 Dukes have played in either the National Basketball Association or/and American Basketball Association

### DUQUESNE'S NBA HISTORY

Duquesne University has had a total of 33 players drafted, with 21 Dukes having seen action in an NBA game. Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Famer Chuck Cooper became the first Duquesne player - and first black player - drafted in the history of the National Basketball Association when he was chosen in the second round of the 1950 draft by the Boston Celtics.

The first DU players to see action in the NBA were Moe Becker, Ed Melvin and Walt Miller, who all debuted in 1946 with the Pittsburgh Ironmen (Becker also played for the Boston Celtics and Detroit Falcons that season).

Duquesne has had three first round picks in Dick Ricketts (1955), Si Green (1956) and Norm Nixon (1977). Ricketts and Green were both the first players selected in the draft, making Duquesne the only school in NCAA history to have the back-to-back first picks in the NBA Draft. Few remember that Green was selected ahead of San Francisco's Bill Russell in '56.

DU was most recently represented in the NBA by Aaron Jackson, who was signed by the Houston Rockets prior to the last regular-season game of 2017-18. Jackson played in eight games (one regular season and seven play-off) for the Western Conference finalists.

Jackson was preceded by guard Mike James, who played for the Dukes from 1995-98. James, who originally signed as a free agent with the Miami Heat in 2001, completed a 12-year NBA career with the Chicago Bulls in 2013-14. James played for 11 teams in 12 NBA seasons.

### DU AND THE NBA FAST FACTS

**Total Duquesne draftees:** 33, a total of 21 Dukes have seen action in a NBA game.

**First player drafted:** Chuck Cooper, 1950 - second round by the Boston Celtics.

**Most recent draftee:** Derrick Alston, 1994 - second round (34th overall) by the Philadelphia 76ers.

**Most Dukes drafted in one year:** Three in 1954, 1962 & 1971.

**First round picks (3):** Dick Ricketts (1955, 1st overall by the Milwaukee Hawks), Si Green (1956, 1st overall by the Rochester Royals) and Norm Nixon (1977, 22nd overall by the Los Angeles Lakers).

**First players to play:** Moe Becker (six games for the Boston Celtics, 20 for the Detroit Falcons & 17 for the Pittsburgh Ironmen), Ed Melvin (57 g. for the Pittsburgh Ironmen) and Walt Miller (12 g. for the Pittsburgh Ironmen) all in 1946.

**Last to see action in an NBA game:** Aaron Jackson, Houston Rockets at the Golden State Warriors on May 26, 2018 (NBA Playoffs).

**Longest career:** Mike James 12 seasons with 11 teams from 2002 through 2014 (played overseas in 2010-11).

### MEMBERS OF NBA CHAMPIONSHIP TEAMS

Jim Tucker	1954-55	Syracuse Nationals
Sihugo Green	1965-66	Boston Celtics
Bill Zopf	1970-71	Milwaukee Bucks
Norm Nixon	1979-80 & 1981-82	Los Angeles Lakers
Mike James	2003-04	Detroit Pistons

### NBA/ABA ALL-STAR GAMES

#### NORM NIXON

(NBA - 1981-82 with Los Angeles Lakers & 1984-85 with Los Angeles Clippers)

#### WILLIE SOMERSET

(ABA - 1968-69 with Houston Mavericks)

### DUQUESNE NBA/ABA DRAFT HISTORY

33 total draftees - rounds not available for ABA picks

Player	Year	Rnd	(pick)	Team
Chuck Cooper	1950	2	(13)	Boston Celtics
<i>First African-American player drafted in NBA history</i>				
Ed Dahler	1950	2	(15)	Philadelphia Warriors
"Red" Manning	1951	8	(74)	Fort Wayne Pistons
Hal Cerra	1952			Fort Wayne Pistons
Jim Kennedy	1952			Syracuse Nationals
Al Bailey	1953			Syracuse Nationals
Jim Tucker	1954	3	(24)	Syracuse Nationals
Don McLane	1954	4	(33)	Syracuse Nationals
Fletcher Johnson	1954	9	(77)	Syracuse Nationals
Dick Ricketts	1955	1	(1)	Milwaukee Hawks
Sihugo Green	1956	1	(1)	Rochester Royals
Mickey Winograd	1956	6		Philadelphia Warriors
Bob Slobodnik	1961	6	(52)	Cincinnati Royals
				Pittsburgh Rens (ABL)
Ned Twyman	1961	6	(58)	Boston Celtics
				Pittsburgh Rens (ABL)
Clyde Arnold	1962	7	(62)	Boston Celtics
				Los Angeles Jets (ABL)
Mike Rice	1962	8	(66)	Detroit Pistons
				Pittsburgh Rens (ABL)
Paul Benec	1962	9	(73)	New York Knicks
				Pittsburgh Rens (ABL)
Willie Somerset	1965	7	(59)	Baltimore Bullets
Ron Guziak	1968	6	(66)	Seattle Supersonics
				New York Nets (ABA)
Gary Major	1969	9	(127)	Baltimore Bullets
				Kentucky Colonials (ABA)
Bill Zopf	1970	2	(33)	Milwaukee Bucks
				Pittsburgh Condors (ABA)
Jarrett Durham	1971	4	(62)	Detroit Pistons
		9	(95)	New York Nets (ABA)
Garry Nelson	1971	5	(70)	Buffalo Braves
		2	(22)	Utah Stars (ABA)
Barry Nelson	1971	5	(85)	Milwaukee Bucks
		6	(60)	Pittsburgh Condors (ABA)
Mickey Davis	1972	7	(113)	Milwaukee Bucks
		2		*Denver Rockets (ABA)
Mike Barr	1972	13	(180)	Chicago Bulls
		9		Virginia Squires (ABA)
	1976	2	(12)	+K.C. Kings (dispersal draft)
Ruben Montanez	1973	9	(147)	Chicago Bulls
		7	(65)	Virginia Squires (ABA)
Lionel Billingy	1974	4	(72)	Milwaukee Bucks
		3	(24)	Virginia Squires (ABA)
Oscar Jackson	1975	8	(129)	Atlanta Hawks
Norm Nixon	1977	1	(22)	Los Angeles Lakers
Bruce Atkins	1982	4	(91)	Philadelphia 76ers
Joey Myers	1983	8	(179)	New Jersey Nets
Derrick Alston	1994	2	(33)	Philadelphia 76ers

\* - Mickey Davis was selected in the 1971 ABA Special Circumstance Draft which included underclassmen who did not satisfy the "four-year rule" regarding the regular draft. The draft itself included just three selections.

+ - When the NBA expanded to include ABA teams from Denver, Indiana, New York & San Antonio, players from the two remaining ABA teams - the Kentucky Colonials and Spirits of St. Louis - were made available in a dispersal draft on August 5, 1976. Mike Barr was the last of 12 players chosen.

updated through June 2022

## DUQUESNE'S ALL-TIME NBA ROSTER

Player	Seasons	Years	Position	Ht	Wt	High School	Professional Team(s)
Moe Becker	1	1947	G	6-1	185		Boston Celtics/Detroit Falcons/ Pittsburgh Ironmen (1947)
Ed Melvin	1	1947	F	5-9	170	Pittsburgh South HS	Pittsburgh Ironmen (1947)
Walt Miller	1	1947	F	6-2	190	Homestead (Pa.) HS	Pittsburgh Ironmen (1947)
Stan Noszka	3	1947-49	G	6-1	185	Pittsburgh Schenley HS	Pittsburgh Ironmen (1947) Boston Celtics (1948-49)
Chuck Cooper	6	1951-56	F	6-5	210	Pittsburgh Westinghouse HS	Boston Celtics (1951-54) Milwaukee Hawks (1955) Fort Wayne Pistons (1956)
Ed Dahler	1	1952	F	6-5	190	Hillsboro, Ill. (hometown)	Philadelphia Warriors (1952)
Jim Tucker	3	1955-57	F	6-7	185	Paris (Ky.) HS	Syracuse Nationals (1955-57)
Dick Ricketts	3	1956-58	F	6-7	215	Pottstown (Pa.) HS	Rochester Royals (1956-57) Cincinnati Royals (1958)
Sihugo Green	9	1957, '59-66	G	6-2	185	Brooklyn (N.Y.) Boys HS	Rochester Royals (1957) St. Louis Hawks (1959-61) Chicago Zephyrs (1962-63) Baltimore Bullets (1964-65) Boston Celtics (1966)
Willie Somerset	2	1966, '68-69	G	5-8	170	Farrell (Pa.) HS	Baltimore Bullets (1966) Houston Mavericks - ABA (1968-69)
Moe Barr	1	1971	G	6-4	195	Pittsburgh Penn Hills HS	Cincinnati Royals (1971)
Bill Zopf	1	1971	G	6-1	170	Monaca (Pa.) HS	Milwaukee Bucks (1971)
Jarrett Durham	1	1972	F	6-5	188	Aliquippa (Pa.) HS	New York Nets - ABA (1972)
Barry Nelson	1	1972	C	6-10	230	Fox Chapel (Pa.) HS	Milwaukee Bucks (1972)
Mike Barr	5	1973-77	G	6-3	180	Canton (Ohio) Lehman HS	Virginia Squires - ABA (1973-74) Spirits of St. Louis - ABA (1975-76) Kansas City Kings (1977)
Mickey Davis	5	1973-77	F	6-7	195	Monaca (Pa.) HS	Milwaukee Bucks (1973-77)
Lionel Billingy	1	1975	F	6-9	215	Bronx (N.Y.) Our Savior Lutheran	Virginia Squires - ABA (1975)
Norm Nixon	10	1978-86, '89	G	6-2	170	Macon (Ga.) Southwest HS	Los Angeles Lakers (1978-83) San Diego Clippers (1984) Los Angeles Clippers (1985-86, '89)
Derrick Alston	3	1995-97	C	6-11	225	Hoboken (N.J.) HS	Philadelphia 76ers (1995-96) Atlanta Hawks (1997)
Mike James	12	2002-10, '12-14	G	6-2	188	Amityville (N.Y.) HS	Miami Heat (2002-03) Boston Celtics/Detroit Pistons (2004), Milwaukee Bucks/Houston Rockets (2005), Toronto Raptors (2006), Minnesota Timberwolves (2007), Houston Rockets/New Orleans Hornets (2008), New Orleans Hornets/Washington Wizards (2009), Washington Wizards (2010), Chicago Bulls (2012), Dallas Mavericks (2013), Chicago Bulls (2014) <i>(James played overseas in 2010-11)</i>
Aaron Jackson	1	2017-18	G	6-3	185	Worcester (Mass.) Academy	Houston Rockets (2017-18)

## DRAFT PICKS BY TEAM

### NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA)

Team	Draftees	Player(s)
Syracuse Nationals	5	Kennedy, Bailey, Tucker, McLane, Johnson
Fort Wayne/Detroit Pistons	4	Manning, Cerra, Rice, Durham
Philadelphia Warriors/76ers	4	Dahler, Winograd, Atkins, Alston
Milwaukee Bucks	4	Zopf, B. Nelson, Davis, Billingy
Boston Celtics	3	Cooper, Twyman, Arnold
Baltimore Bullets	2	Somerset, Major
Chicago Bulls	2	Mike Barr, Montanez
Milwaukee/Atlanta Hawks	2	Dick Ricketts, Jackson
Rochester/Cincinnati Royals	2	Green, Slobodnik
Buffalo Braves	1	G. Nelson
Los Angeles Lakers	1	Nixon
New Jersey Nets	1	Myers
New York Knicks	1	Benec
Seattle Supersonics	1	Guziak

### AMERICAN BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (ABA)

Team	Draftees	Player(s)
Virginia Squires	3	Mike Barr, Montanez, Billingy
New York Nets	2	Guziak, Durham
Pittsburgh Pipers/Condors	2	Zopf, B. Nelson
Denver Rockets	1	Davis
Kentucky Colonials	1	Major
Utah Stars	1	G. Nelson

### AMERICAN BASKETBALL LEAGUE (ABL)

Team	Draftees	Player(s)
Pittsburgh Rens	5	Slobodnik, Twyman, Rice, Benec, Stromple
Los Angeles Jets	1	Arnold

*The ABL was formed in 1961 by Harlem Globetrotters owner Abe Saperstein in response to the NBA moving to the West Coast in 1960. The league folded midway through its second season.*

## DUQUESNE NBA DID YOU KNOW?

### DID YOU KNOW?

Duquesne is the only school to produce the No. 1 overall pick in back-to-back NBA drafts (Dick Ricketts by the Milwaukee Hawks in 1995 and Sihugo Green by the Rochester Royals in 1956).

### DID YOU KNOW?

All-American guard Willie Somerset holds the distinction of being first Duquesne player drafted by Major League Baseball. Somerset, who was taken as an infielder in the 3rd round (50th overall) of the 1966 January draft by the Pittsburgh Pirates, is the highest drafted DU baseball player ever. (1966 was also the first year in which a January draft was held in addition to the regular June draft. The practice of holding two drafts per year would last until the 1986 Amateur Draft, after which it was discontinued.)

### DID YOU KNOW?

Duquesne not only produced the first Black player to be drafted by an NBA team (Chuck Cooper by the Boston Celtics in 1950), but that a former Duke, Jim Tucker, along with Earl Lloyd were the first two African-Americans to play for an NBA Championship team (the Syracuse Nationals in 1954-55).

### DID YOU KNOW?

Jim Tucker is also part of another NBA footnote. On February 20, 1955, the rookie forward took just 17 minutes to reach double digits in three statistical categories - the fastest triple-double in NBA history - in a 104-84 win over the New York Knicks. Tucker finished the game with 12 points, 10 rebounds and 12 assists. The mark stood until Denver's Nikola Jokic broke it in 14:33 of court time vs. Milwaukee (30-17-15) on Feb. 15, 2018.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Three time All-American Dick Ricketts is one of 12 who have played both in the NBA and Major League Baseball. The first overall pick in the 1955 NBA Draft by the St. Louis Hawks, Ricketts played three seasons for the Hawks and Royals before giving up basketball - and a then-sizable five-figure salary - to pursue a career in baseball. Ricketts, who pitched and played first base at Duquesne, pitched in 12 major league games for the St. Louis Cardinals in 1959. He continued playing minor league ball through 1964.

Frank Baumholtz, Ohio U. (1947)  
Chuck Connors, Seton Hall (1949)  
Howie Schultz, Hamline (1949)  
Gene Conley, Washington State (1952)  
Dick Groat, Duke (1952)  
**DICK RICKETTS, Duquesne (1959)**

MLB 10 yrs., NBA 1 yr.  
MLB 2 yrs., NBA 2 yrs.  
MLB 6 yrs., NBA 3 yrs.  
MLB 11 yrs., NBA 6 yrs.  
MLB 14 yrs., NBA 1 yr.  
**MLB 1 yr., NBA 3 yrs.**

Steve Hamilton, Morehead State (1961)  
Dave DeBusschere, Detroit Mercy (1962)  
Cotton Nash, Kentucky (1967)  
Ron Reed, Notre Dame (1966)  
Danny Ainge, BYU (1981)  
Mark Hendrickson, Washington State (2002)

MLB 12 yrs., NBA 2 yrs.  
MLB 2 yrs., NBA 12 yrs.  
MLB 3 yrs., NBA 1 yr.  
MLB 19 yrs., NBA 2 yrs.  
MLB 3 yrs., NBA 14 yrs.  
MLB 10 yrs., NBA 4 yrs.

<https://sabr.org/bioproj/person/dick-ricketts/> • [https://www.baseball-almanac.com/legendary/baseball\\_and\\_basketball\\_players.shtml](https://www.baseball-almanac.com/legendary/baseball_and_basketball_players.shtml)

## DUQUESNE AND THE WNBA

*2 Dukes have played in the Women's National Basketball Association*

Duquesne University has had two players drafted in the history of the WNBA. Korie Hlede, the leading scorer in Dukes and Atlantic 10 history, was taken with the fourth overall pick of the 1998 draft by the first-year Detroit Shock. Candace Futrell, DU's second all-time leading scorer, was chosen with the third pick in the third round of the 2004 draft by the Connecticut Sun.

Hlede enjoyed a five-year playing career with the Shock, Utah Starzz and New York Liberty before moving over a couple of seats and serving as an assistant coach for the Shock for two seasons. She was part of a staff that helped the Shock to the 2003 Championship.

Futrell, an Altoona, Pa. native, played in 20 games for the Sun as a rookie in 2004.

### DU AND THE WNBA FAST FACTS

**First player drafted:** Korie Hlede, 1998 1st round (4th overall) by the Detroit Shock

**Most recent draftee:** Candace Futrell, 2004 3rd round (29th overall) by the Connecticut Sun

**Most Dukes drafted in one year:** One in 1998 and 2004

**First round picks (1):** Korie Hlede (1998, 4th overall by the Detroit Shock)

**Number of Dukes who have played in the WNBA:** 2 total

**First player to play:** Korie Hlede with the Detroit Shock in 1998

**Last to see action in a WNBA game:** Candace Futrell for the Connecticut Sun in 2004

### ALL-TIME WNBA PLAYERS

Player	Seasons	Years	Position	Ht	Wt	High School	Professional Team(s)
Korie Hlede	5	1998-02	G	5-9	150	Zagreb, Croatia VII Gimnazija	Detroit Shock (1998-99); Utah Starzz (1999-01); New York Liberty (2002)
Candace Futrell	1	2004	G	5-10	154	Altoona (Pa.) HS	Connecticut Sun (2004)

### NOTES

Hlede led the WNBA in 3-point field goal percentage in 2000 (25-of-58, 43.1%)

# DUQUESNE AND THE NFL

45 Dukes have played in the National Football League

Duquesne University, which competed at the NCAA's highest level for 31 seasons between 1902 and 1950, has had a total of 22 players drafted by the National Football League. Of the 22 draftees, eight never played in an NFL game.

Mike Basrak, the fifth overall pick in the 1937 draft by the Pittsburgh Steelers, was the first DU player drafted. The last time a Duquesne player was drafted was in the 19th round of the 1951 draft when Ralph Longmore was taken by the New York Yanks.

In 2003, Duquesne saw two former players make NFL rosters when free agents Leigh Bodden and Josh Rue (practice squad) earned spots on the Cleveland Browns and Arizona Cardinals respectively. Bodden, who finished his career with the New England Patriots in 2011, was credited with nine NFL seasons. Rue never made it to the active roster.

Christian Kuntz, an All-American linebacker for the Dukes from 2012-16, made his NFL debut as a free agent long-snapper for the Steelers in 2021. Kuntz was the first Duke to suit up for the Steelers since Chuck Mehelich in 1951 - a span of 70 years.

Forty-five Dukes have played in the NFL, with a total of 35 suiting up for the Pittsburgh Steelers between 1937 and 1951. Bodden was the first Duquesne player to take the field for an NFL game since Al Demao played for the Washington Redskins from 1945-53. Demao was named one of the 70 greatest Redskins of all-time in the fall of 2002.

## DU AND THE NFL FAST FACTS

**First player drafted:** Mike Basrak, 1937 - 1st round (5th overall) by the Pittsburgh Steelers

**Most recent draftee:** Ralph Longmore, 1951 - 19th round (227th overall) by the New York Yanks - DNP

**Most Dukes drafted in one year:** Six in 1943

**First round picks (2):** Mike Basrak (1937, 5th overall by Pittsburgh) and Boyd Brumbaugh (1938, 3rd overall by Brooklyn)

**Draft picks by team (22 total):** Pittsburgh (13), Brooklyn (2), Cleveland (2), New York Yanks (2), Washington (2), Chicago (1)

**Number of Dukes who have played in the NFL:** 44 total

**First players to play:** Nick DeCarbo and Ray Kemp played for Pittsburgh in 1933. DeCarbo played in 11 games, Kemp in five.

**Last to see action in an NFL game:** Christian Kuntz (17 games as long snapper for the Pittsburgh Steelers in 2021). Prior to Kuntz: Leigh Bodden (5 games for the New England Patriots) in 2011. Bodden played nine NFL seasons.

## ORGANIZATIONS FOR WHICH DUKES HAVE PLAYED

(last player in parentheses)

**Arizona** (Josh Rue in 2003) • **Boston** (Steve Sinko in 1936) • **Brooklyn** (Joe Setcavage in 1943) • **Buffalo** (George Kisiday in 1948) • **Chicago** (John Rokisky in 1947) • **Cleveland** (Leigh Bodden in 2007) • **Detroit** (George Sirochman in 1944/Leigh Bodden in 2008) • **Miami** (Al Wukits in 1946) • **New England Patriots** (Leigh Bodden 2011) • **New York Yanks** (John Rokisky in 1948) • **Philadelphia** (John Binotto in 1942) • **Pittsburgh** (Christian Kuntz in 2021) • **Washington** (Al Demao in 1953)

## ALL-TIME NFL PLAYERS

Player	Seasons	Ht	Wt	Pos	High School	Professional Team(s)
Mike Basrak+	2	6-2	220	C/LB	Bellaire (Ohio) HS	Pittsburgh (1937-38)
John Binotto	1	5-10	185	HB/DB	Cecil HS	Pittsburgh/Philadelphia (1942)
Leigh Bodden	9	6-1	195	CB	Northwestern (Md.) HS	Cleveland (2003-07), Detroit (2008), New England (2009, 2011)
Boyd Brumbaugh+	4	5-11	195	FB/TB/HB	Steel Valley HS	Brooklyn (1938); Brooklyn/Pittsburgh (1939); Pittsburgh (1940-41)
Joe Cibulas+	1	6-0	220	T	Mount Pleasant HS	Pittsburgh (1945)
Ben Ciccone	3	5-10	297	C/LB	New Castle HS	Pittsburgh (1934-35); Chicago (1942)
Tom Corbo	1	5-11	210	G/LB	Altoona HS	Cleveland (1944)
Nick DeCarbo	1	5-9	185	G	New Castle HS	Pittsburgh (1933)
Al Demao+	9	6-2	214	C/LB	Arnold HS	Washington (1945-53)
Henry DePaul	1	5-11	225	G	Beaver Falls HS	Pittsburgh (1945)
Al Donelli	2	5-7	165	HB	South Fayette HS	Pittsburgh (1941-42)
George Gonda	1	5-10	175	HB/DB	Redstone HS	Pittsburgh (1942)
Ted Grabinski	2	6-2	207	LB/C/G	Ambridge HS	Pittsburgh (1939-40)
George Kakasic	4	5-10	200	G	Mingo Junction (Ohio) HS	Pittsburgh (1936-39)
John Karrs	1	6-1	210	BB/LB	Pittsburgh, Pa. (no HS listed)	Cleveland (1944)
Ray Kemp	1	6-1	215	T	Cecil HS	Pittsburgh (1933)
Max Kielbasa+	1	6-1	185	HB/DB	Brownsville HS	Pittsburgh (1946)
George Kisiday	1	6-1	220	T	Ambridge HS	Buffalo (1948)
<b>Christian Kuntz (active)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6-1</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>LS</b>	<b>Chartiers Valley HS</b>	<b>Pittsburgh (2021)</b>
Joe Malkovich	1	6-3	205	C/LB	Chisholm (Minn.) HS	Pittsburgh (1935)
Joe Maras+	3	6-1	203	C/LB/T	Hibbing (Minn.) HS	Pittsburgh (1938-40)
John Matisi+	2	6-2	218	T	Union Endicott (N.Y.) HS	Buffalo (1943, 1946)
Jim McDonald	1	6-0	195	HB/DB	Homestead, Pa. (no HS listed)	Pittsburgh (1936)
Charley Mehelich+	6	6-1	199	DE/OE	Verona HS	Pittsburgh (1946-51)
Carl Nery+	2	6-0	214	G	Springdale HS	Pittsburgh (1940-41)
Armand Niccolai	9	6-2	226	T/G/DE/OE	Monessen HS	Pittsburgh (1934-42)
John Nosich	1	6-3	230	T	Clariton HS	Pittsburgh (1938)
Mel O'Delli+	1	5-8	176	HB/DB	South Huntington HS	Pittsburgh (1945)

John Perko	8	6-1	207	G/LB	Chisholm (Minn.) HS	Pittsburgh (1937-40); Chi.-Pitt. (1944**); Pittsburgh (1945-47)
John Petchel	3	5-11	185	BB/DB/LB	Freeland HS	Cleveland (1942, '44); Pittsburgh (1945)
George Platukas+	5	6-0	196	OE/DE	West Hazelton HS	Pittsburgh (1938-41); Cleveland (1942)
George Rado	4	5-9	194	G/DE	Brookfield (Ohio) HS	Pittsburgh (1935-36); Philadelphia/Pittsburgh (1937); Philadelphia (1938)
John Rokisky+	3	6-2	202	DE/OE	Clarksburg (W.Va.) HS	Cleveland (1946); Chicago (1947); New York (1948)
Bernie Semes	1	5-7	188	HB/DE	Braddock HS	Chi.-Pitt. (1944**)
Joe Setcavage	1	5-11	190	BB/DB	Mahonoy City HS	Brooklyn (1943)
Steve Sinko	3	6-3	232	T/G	Chisholm (Minn.) HS	Boston (1934-36)
George Sirochman	2	6-2	215	G	Centerville (Ohio) HS	Pittsburgh (1942); Detroit (1944)
Art Strutt	2	6-0	202	HB/DB	Mingo Junction (Ohio) HS	Pittsburgh (1935-36)
Vic Vidoni	2	6-1	210	OE/DE	Fostoria (Ohio) HS/Bridgeville HS	Pittsburgh (1935-36)
Henry Weinberg	1	5-7	190	G/T	Mount Pleasant HS	Pittsburgh (1934)
Joe Wiehl (x)	1	5-11	254	T	Charleroi HS	Pittsburgh (1935)
Al Wukits+	4	6-3	218	LB/C/G	Millvale HS	Phil.-Pitt. (1943*); Chi.-Pitt. (1944**); Pittsburgh (1945); Buffalo/Miami (1946)
John Yurchey	1	5-11	188	HB/DB	Bridgeville HS	Pittsburgh (1940)
Silvio Zaninelli	4	5-10	207	BB/DB/LB/FB	Avella HS	Pittsburgh (1934-37)
Frank Zoppetti	1	5-11	185	TB/DB	Cherry Valley HS	Pittsburgh (1941)

+ - indicates draftee

\* - Steelers combined with Philadelphia Eagles

\*\* - Steelers combined with Chicago Cardinals

(x) - Joe Wiehl attended Washington & Jefferson and Duquesne

Josh Rue 0 6-4 245 FB Gateway HS Arizona (2003)

Josh Rue was on the Arizona Cardinals practice squad in 2003 but never appeared in an NFL game

## NOTES

- **Mike Basrak** was was First Team All-Pro pick as a rookie (1937)
- **Al Demao** was named one of the 70 greatest Redskins of all-time in the fall of 2002
- **Ray Kemp**, who was the first African-American player to play for the Pittsburgh Steelers, was one of the first two African-Americans to play in the NFL (along with Joe Lillard of Chicago). Kemp played in four games for the Steelers in 1933 prior to being released (Lillard was also released following the season). It wouldn't be until 13 years later, 1946, when Cleveland signed Marion Motley and Bill Willis and Los Angeles took Kenny Washington and Willie Strod that pro football would be integrated.
- **Charley Mehlich** was named First Team All-NFL by the Chicago Herald American in 1947.
- **Armand Niccolai** was named Second Team All-NFL by UPI in 1935 & 1936.
- **George Rado** was named First Team All-NFL by Collyers Eye Magazine and Second Team by the Chicago Daily News in 1936

## ATTENDED BUT DIDN'T FINISH AT DUQUESNE

Player	Seasons	Ht	Wt	Pos	High School	Professional Team(s)
Leo Elter* (a)	7	5-10	201	FB/HB	Shaler HS	Pittsburgh (1953-54); Washington (1956)
Bruce Gossett* (b)	11	6-1	204	K	Cecil HS	Los Angeles (1964-69); San Francisco (1970-74)
Forrest Hall* (c)	1	5-8	158	RB	Philadelphia St. Joseph's Prep HS	San Francisco (1948)
Val Jansante (a)	7	6-1	190	E	Bentleyville HS	Pittsburgh (1946-50); Pittsburgh/Green Bay (1951)
Bob O'Neil* (d)	3	6-1	229	LB/OG	Bridgeville HS	Pittsburgh (1956-57); New York Titans (1961)
Frank Wydo (e)	11	6-4	225	OT/DT	German Township HS	Pittsburgh (1947-51); Philadelphia (1952-57)

(a) - Leo Elter & Val Jansante attended Duquesne and Villanova

(b) - Bruce Gossett attended Ferrum, Clarion, Duquesne and Richmond

(c) - Forrest Hall attended Duquesne and San Francisco

(d) - Bob O'Neil attended Duquesne and Notre Dame

(e) - Frank Wydo attended Duquesne and Cornell

## DRAFTEES

DU has had a total of 22 players drafted

Last player drafted: Ralph Longmore in 1951 (19th round) - DNP

Drafted but did not play professionally: Phil Awesh (1942), Joe Goode (1943), Joe Gottlieb (1944), Ray Donelli (1944), Mike Wolak (1945), Frank Basilone (1945), Charley Rapp (1951), Ralph Longmore (1951)

Year	Player, Pos	Round	Overall	Team
1937	Mike Basrak, C	*1st	5	Pittsburgh
1938	Boyd Brumbaugh, B	*1st	3	Brooklyn
	George Platukis, E	4th	44	Pittsburgh
	Joe Maras, T	8th	81	Cleveland
1940	Carl Nery, G	8th	62	Pittsburgh
1942	Al Demao, C	9th	96	Washington

	Phil Awesh, B	10th	106	Washington
	John Rokisky, E	18th	161	Pittsburgh
1943	John Matisi, T	7th	54	Brooklyn
	Al Wukits, C	9th	97	Pittsburgh
	Max Kielbasa, B	14th	147	Pittsburgh
	Joe Cibulas, T	23th	237	Pittsburgh
	Ben Keller, G	24th	249	Chicago
	Joe Goode, B	26th	267	Pittsburgh
1944	Joe Gottlieb, B	16th	157	Pittsburgh
	Ray Donelli, B	26th	295	Cleveland
1945	Chuck Mehelich, E	5th	33	Pittsburgh
	Mike Wolak, B	7th	56	Pittsburgh
	Frank Basilone, B	12th	112	Pittsburgh
	Mel Odelli, B	14th	132	Pittsburgh
1951	Charley Rapp, B	14th	167	N.Y. Yanks
	Ralph Longmore, B	19th	227	N.Y. Yanks

\* - confirmed only first round picks in school history

#### OTHER

1944	Val Jansante, E	10th	91	Pittsburgh
1947	Frank Wydo, T	3rd	29	Pittsburgh

Jansante attended Duquesne and Villanova; Wydo attended Duquesne and Cornell

### DU AND THE STEELERS

A total of 36 former Dukes have suited up for the Pittsburgh Steelers, including the first Duquesne player ever drafted (Mike Basrak, 1st round, fifth overall in 1937). The last DU player to play for Pittsburgh prior to Christian Kuntz in 2021 was Chuck Mehelich in 1951. Pittsburgh has drafted 13 players from Duquesne in its history:

Player, Pos.	Team	Years
Mike Basrak, C/LB	Pittsburgh	1937-38
John Binotto, B	Pittsburgh	1942
Boyd Brumbaugh, B	Pittsburgh	1938-41
Joe Cibulas, T	Pittsburgh	1945
Ben Ciccone, C	Pittsburgh	1934-35
Nick DeCarbo, G	Pittsburgh	1933
Henry DePaul, G	Pittsburgh	1945
Al Donelli, B	Pittsburgh	1941-42
George Gonda, B	Pittsburgh	1942
Ted Grabinski, C	Pittsburgh	1939-40
George Kakasic, G	Pittsburgh	1936-39
Ray Kemp, T	Pittsburgh	1933
Max Kielbasa, B	Pittsburgh	1946
<b>Christian Kuntz, LS (active)</b>	<b>Pittsburgh</b>	<b>2021</b>
Joe Malkovich, C	Pittsburgh	1935
Joe Maras, C	Pittsburgh	1938-40
Jim McDonald, B	Pittsburgh	1936
Charley Mehelich, E	Pittsburgh	1946-51
Carl Nery, G	Pittsburgh	1940-41
Armand Niccolai, T/K	Pittsburgh	1934-42
John Nosich, T	Pittsburgh	1938
Mel O'Delli, B	Pittsburgh	1945
John Perko, G	Pittsburgh	1937-40, '44**, '45-47
John Petchel, QB	Pittsburgh	1945
George Platukas, E	Pittsburgh	1938-41
George Rado, G	Pittsburgh	1935-37
Bernie Semes, B	Pittsburgh	1944**
George Sirochman, G	Pittsburgh	1942
Art Strutt, B	Pittsburgh	1935-36
Vic Vidoni, E	Pittsburgh	1935-36
Henry Weinberg, G	Pittsburgh	1934
Joe Wiehl, T	Pittsburgh	1935
Al Wukits, C	Pittsburgh	1943*-44*-45
John Yurchey, B	Pittsburgh	1940
Silvio Zaninelli, B	Pittsburgh	1934-37
Frank Zopetti, B	Pittsburgh	1941

\* - Steelers combined with Philadelphia Eagles

\*\* - Steelers combined with Chicago Cardinals

#### Listed on Steelers all-time roster but not verified by Pro Football Encyclopedia or pro-football-reference.com:

George Kase	Pittsburgh	1939
Tony Rizzo	Pittsburgh	1938

# DUQUESNE AND MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

9 Dukes played Major League Baseball

## ALL-TIME MLB PLAYERS

Player	Seasons	Years	Position	Debut	Born	Professional Team(s)
Lew Moren	6	1903-04; 1907-10	RHP	Sept. 21, 1903	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Pittsburgh (1903-04); Philadelphia (1907-10)
Enos Kirkpatrick	4	1912-15	3B/SS/2B	Aug. 24, 1912	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Brooklyn (1912-13); Baltimore (1914-15)
Al Mamaux	12	1913-24	RHP	Sept. 23, 1913	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Pittsburgh (1913-17); Brooklyn (1918-23); NY Yankees (1924)
Jimmy Smith	8	1914-19; 1921-22	SS/2B/3B	Sept. 26, 1914	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Chicago (1914-15); Baltimore (1915); Pittsburgh (1916); NY Giants (1917); Boston (1918); Cincinnati (1919); Philadelphia (1921-22)
Johnny Miljus	7	1915; '17; '20-21; '27-29	RHP	Oct. 2, 1915	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Pittsburgh (1915); Brooklyn (1917, '20-'21); Pittsburgh (1927-28); Cleveland (1928-29)
John O'Connell	2	1928-29	C	Aug. 16, 1928	Verona, Pa.	Pittsburgh (1928-29)
Dick Ricketts	1	1959	RHP	June, 14, 1959	Pottstown, Pa.	St. Louis (1959)
Dave Ricketts	6	1963; '65; 1967-70	C	Sept. 25, 1963	Pottstown, Pa.	St. Louis (1963, '65, '67-'69); Pittsburgh (1970)
Joe Biemel	13	2001-11; 2014-15	LHP	April 8, 2001	St. Marys, Pa.	Pittsburgh (2001-03); Minnesota (2004); Tampa Bay (2005); LA Dodgers (2006-08); Washington (2009); Colorado (2009-10); Pittsburgh (2011), Seattle (2014-15)

## DRAFTEES

Player	Position	Year	Round	Overall	Team
Willie Somerset	INF	1966	*3	50	Pittsburgh Pirates
Ken Fulton	C	1970	*11	175	Pittsburgh Pirates
Joe Beigel	LHP	1998	18	538	Pittsburgh Pirates
B.J. Barns	OF	1999	6	182	Pittsburgh Pirates
Jim Popp	RHP	2002	48	1,414	Colorado Rockies
Jim Popp	RHP	2003	50	1,477	San Francisco Giants
Dan Schwartzbauer	SS	2004	41	1,222	Pittsburgh Pirates
Keith Meyer	RHP	2007	15	465	Seattle Mariners
Mark Tracy	C	2009	49	1,471	Colorado Rockies
Mark Tracy	C	2010	22	680	Colorado Rockies

\* - January draft

## WORLD SERIES APPEARANCES

Jimmy Smith	1919	Cincinnati vs. Chicago White Sox <i>played in one game did not have an at bat</i>	won series
Al Mamaux	1920	Brooklyn vs. Cleveland <i>pitched a total of 4.0 innings in three g. (0-0, 4.50 era)</i>	lost series
Johnny Miljus	1927	Pittsburgh vs. New York Yankees <i>pitched a total of 6.7 innings in two g. (0-1, 1.35 era)</i>	lost series
Dave Ricketts	1967	St. Louis vs. Boston <i>three at bats in three games (0-3, .000)</i>	won series
	1968	St. Louis vs. Detroit <i>one at bat in one game (1-1, 1.000)</i>	lost series

## NOTES

Major League Baseball's first amateur draft was in June of 1965 ... originally, three separate drafts were held each year ... the June draft, which was by far the largest, involved new high school graduates, as well as college seniors who had just finished their seasons ... a second draft was held in January for high school and college players who graduated in the winter ... finally, there was a draft in August for players who participated in amateur summer leagues ... the August draft was eliminated after only two years, while the January draft lasted until 1986 ... **All-American basketball player Willie Somerset was the first Duquesne player drafted by Major League Baseball** ... Somerset holds the honor of being the highest drafted DU player ever (3rd round, 50th overall) ... B.J. Barns was drafted in the sixth round by the Pirates in 1999 ... Joe Beigel was drafted in the 18th round of the 1998 amateur draft by the Pittsburgh Pirates ... Al Mamaux was 21-8 with 8 shutouts for Pittsburgh in 1915 (3rd in league in era at 2.04 and 3rd in wins) & 21-15 in 1916 (21 wins were fourth in the league) ... Dave Ricketts was signed by the St. Louis as an amateur free agent in 1957 ... he is the only Duke to play in two World Series' ... October 21, 1969 was traded with Dave Giusti to the Pirates for Carl Taylor and Frank Vanzin ... Duquesne's baseball program was discontinued following the 2010 season.

# DUQUESNE AND PROFESSIONAL SOCCER

19 Dukes have played professional soccer

## ALL-TIME PROFESSIONAL SOCCER PLAYERS

Player	Seasons	Years	High School	Professional Team(s)
Fabrizio Moscatiello	1	1999	Bethel Park (PA) HS	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (1999)
Derek Garrambone	1	2004	Fairfield (OH) HS	Palm Beach Pumas (2004)
Dave Kovalcik	1	2000	Bethel Park (PA) HS	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2000)
Nathan Salsi	5	2004-06; '08-09	Norwin (PA) HS	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2004-06; '08-'09)
Terry McNelis	3	2004	Exeter Township (PA) HS	Minnesota Thunder (2004) Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2005-06)
Dan Hartung	3	2004-06	Reading (PA) Wilson HS	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2004-06)
Jason Kutney	10	2003-06; '08-'13	Freehold Borough (NJ) HS	Jersey Shore Boca (PDL) (2003) Charleston Battery (2004-05) Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2006, '08-'13)
Damien Pottinger	6	2004-09	Scarborough, Ontario Mother Teresa HS	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2004-05) Philadelphia Kixx (2004-06) St. Louis Steamers (2006) Toronto Lynx (2006) Orlando Sharks (2007-09)
Derek MacKenzie	2	2005-06	Chartiers Valley (PA) HS	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2005-06)
Matt Mehler	2	2005-06	East Allegheny (PA) HS	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2005-06)
Steve Mellor	1	2006	Neshaminy (PA) HS (Appalachian State)	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2006)
Scott Gibson	2	2008-09	New Carlin Howe, Redcar, England	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2008-09)
Zach Varga	2	2008-09	Hempfield (PA) HS	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2008-09)
Travis MacKenzie	2	2008-09	Chartiers Valley (PA) HS	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2008) Milwaukee Wave (2009)
Ben Horner	1	2011	Butler (PA) HS	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2011)
Stefan Lundberg	3	2011-13	Kiski Area (PA)	Pittsburgh Riverhounds (2011-13)
Carter Poe	2	2012-13	West Geauga (OH) HS	AFC Cleveland (2012-13)
Adam Clement	1	2013	Erie McDowell (PA) HS	Vancouver Whitecaps (MLS – 2nd round) (2013)
Joshua Patterson	1	2013	Bowie (MD) HS	Vancouver Whitecaps (MLS – 3rd round) (2013)

## DUQUESNE'S OLYMPIANS

Four former Dukes have participated in the Olympics

### ALL-TIME OLYMPIANS

Player	Olympics	City	Represented	Birthplace	Sport
Arnd Neuhaus	1992 Summer	Barcelona, Spain	Germany	Hagen, West Germany	Basketball
Johnathan Steele*	2004 Summer	Athens, Greece	Grenada	Saint George, Grenada	Swimming
Kieron Achara+	2012 Summer	London	Great Britain	Stirling, Scotland	Basketball
Andrea St. Bernard^	2012 Summer	London	Grenada	Saint George, Grenada	Taekwondo

+ - Neuhaus played for the Dukes from 1987-89

\* - Steele swam for DU in 2003-04 (one season)

+ - Achara played center for the Dukes from 2004-08 (RS in 2006)

^ - St. Bernard played volleyball (middle hitter) at Duquesne from 1998-01