

All American Dragon

By Judy Stearns, The Purcellville Gazette
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2007 was an unbelievable season for the Notre Dame Academy Men's Lacrosse program, winning the CAC Championship, MILL Championship and the coveted Virginia State Championship. Anytime an athletic program has a season with an abundance of team achievements inevitably players from the team will be recognized for their individual performances as well. This is the case with Devin Pinkston, Senior attack-man and co-captain for the Dragons. Pinkston has been a fixture at attack for the Dragons starting every game since his sophomore year.

As the final chapter to Pinkston's career with the Dragons closes he takes with him the fond memories of all the team successes and also some significant personal achievements as well:

2007 – MILL Conference Player of the Year
2007 – 1st Team All State
2007 – 1st Team All MILL Conference
2007 – Washington Post All Extra Team
2006 – 1st Team All State
2006 – 1st Team All MILL Conference
2006 – 1st Team All CAC Conference
2006 – Washington Post All Extra Team

Career Numbers

Goals: 152
Assists: 175
Points: 327
Avg Points Per Game: 4.91

On top of all those awards Pinkston received the prestigious honor of being named **H.S. All-American in 2007**, which is the first time a Lacrosse Player from Notre Dame Academy has received such an honor. This is a very significant award from US Lacrosse. High School All-American honors are bestowed upon the best players from each US Lacrosse area of play. Very few players from Loudoun County have been selected as High School All-Americans. Pinkston received this award from the Maryland Independent region.

Pinkston has had great success in his four years at Notre Dame Academy on the lacrosse field as well as in the classroom where he maintained a 3.7 GPA. He leaves the lacrosse program holding the single season (126 pts) and career (327 pts) scoring records. Both these numbers shatter the previous Loudoun County records, the season mark by 20 points and the career mark by over 100 points. The most intriguing thing about the record, is that he has played for a team that has challenged itself each and every year with by far the toughest schedule in the area. "I am not big into scoring a lot of points against teams that are not that talented, I just feel that does not show respect for your opponent. In games like that I would rather get other people involved by passing to them or even sit so that the younger guys can get some experience. This was one of the reasons I decided to play at Notre Dame, because we play a much tougher schedule than the other local schools". In 2007 the Dragons ended up 18 – 2 with their only two losses being against Georgetown Prep and Saint Stephens Saint Agnes who were both ranked in the top 10 Nationally.

Pinkston decided to attend to Notre Dame Academy after Coach Horne visited one of his games while he was in the 8th grade. "It meant a lot that a High School coach would come and see me play and talk to me after the game, but that's what coach Horne is all about."

Pinkston now leaves the Dragons after four seasons under Coach Horne to play collegiately with Division 1 Presbyterian College in South Carolina where he has accepted an athletic scholarship. Pinkston was recruited by several colleges after his junior year, receiving six national letters of intent.



Coach Childs from Presbyterian College is quoted in his press release on the signing of Pinkston. "We are getting a very good offensive threat in Devin he is a very versatile attackman with a lot of potential to get even better. He has such a great balance of assists and goals and will be very productive early in his career because he can see the field so well. When he goes to the goal he knows to keep his head up, and that is rare to find an attackman doing it this well at such a young age. With Devin hopping on board, Our offense will grow just because of what he will be able to do both on and off ball. With all that being said, I am more excited about the type of person Devin is. Throughout the entire recruiting process he was very polite, kind and eager to do what was needed to be a part of this program. Devin was an incredible recruit for us to land, I am very excited to have him as part of the Presbyterian College Lacrosse program for the next four years."

When asked about his time at NDA Pinkston responded "I will definitely miss NDA, I have had such a fun time playing with some great team mates and the best coach around in Coach Horne. It is gonna be really weird not being on the same field with Steve (Stephen Ide NDAs Goalie) we have been playing together every year since 5th grade. They will still have a lot of great players and I expect to see them challenge for conference and state titles again next year. I hope I can get back on breaks and root them on since the program has been such a big part of my life."