

## **Coach Dan Durkin Testimonials**

*I have known Dan Durkin for 33 years. With his many years of coaching experience at all levels, Coach Durkin knows what today's college coaches are looking for and wanting in future student-athletes. Dan is an effective communicator who can help lay the groundwork for a successful recruiting process. As the parent of a prospective Division 1 student-athlete, I would trust Coach Durkin to help us identify colleges, connect with coaches and find a school where my daughter can pursue her degree and continue her athletic career.*

Kris Veatch Nolan  
New Mexico State University 1984-1988  
NMSU Athletic Hall of Fame 1993  
NMSU Women's Basketball Ring of Honor (Inaugural Class) 2009  
Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame 2015

*Coach Dan had an incredible impact on my life on and off the court, and it is hard to think of anyone more willing to help and mentor their players in all facets of being a student-athlete. Dan has helped me transition quickly into American culture and style of play, and his coaching and mentoring had a huge influence of in helping me get to WNBA. For years after my college career, we had stayed in touch and the mentoring and warm advice continued. In addition to his obvious care about his players, Dan has a tremendous eye for evaluating talent and his vast experiences and connections on D1 level makes him a fantastic asset in a recruiting process.*

Korie Hlede  
Duquesne Women's Basketball 1998  
WNBA 1998-2003

*Coach Dan has always been someone that I am able to talk to about anything, on and off the court. He and his staff at Providence College began recruiting me my sophomore year of high school, and were always forthcoming about what to expect from my college career. He educated me on not only the physical demands required of a successful collegiate athletic career, but of the mental aspects as well. Even in our two years together at PC, I knew that his door was always open and that he was always available to answer any basketball or life questions. He really encouraged me to "find my why" I play, and taught me perhaps one of the best centering tricks in the game. Right before you go on the court, make sure you tie your shoes last and really take a moment to breath and prepare for the task ahead. Overall I know in my heart that Coach Dan has been an essential key to my college career, from the very beginning. I'm very lucky to have him.*

Brianna Frias  
Providence College Women's Basketball #25  
Class of 2018

*Talk about a one of a kind type of guy; Dan Durkin is the most honest, caring person I have ever met. Not only was he there for me when I was in college with any questions or concerns, he is still there for me to this day. Coach Durkin always calls or emails me just to see what I am up to and how I'm doing. He constantly reminds me that if I ever need anything to let him know and he will help me any way possible. To have someone who exemplifies such great communication skills and is trustworthy is something to never take for granted. He constantly takes time out of his day to check on me simply because he cares. Currently I play professionally overseas, and I still talk to Coach Durkin before I make a major basketball decision. His knowledge of the game is second to none. He is very well connected in the basketball community so much that I would tease him because every time we walked into a gym he knew at least a handful of people. In a world where people have the wrong motives, I know I can always count on Coach Durkin because he will tell the truth and do what's right.*

Kristen McCarthy  
Temple University Class of 2012

*My name is Josie Chaves and I am a student at the University of Rhode Island. I am also a member of the Women's Basketball Team, and I first met Dan Durkin in the 2016-2017 basketball season. He joined our team as an assistant coach, and it was clear from the start that he had tremendous leadership skills. Coach Dan made an effort to personally connect with each and every member of the team, he always had a smile on his face and brought energy and life to every practice and game. Coach Dan used his communication skills to help us to continue to grow as a team and focus on our long-term goals. He had an immediate impact due to his experience and his extensive basketball knowledge. His positive relationship with each member of our team proved that Coach Dan has a remarkable ability to guide, inform and motivate young players. In a short period of time, Coach Dan had an immense influence on the players and coaches on the University of Rhode Island Women's Basketball team. His outstanding leadership and communication skills and his overall knowledge and passion for the game of basketball make him an exceptional coach and person. He would be a positive attribute to any program.*

Josie Chaves

University of Rhode Island Class of 2019

*Dan Durkin has been a great mentor for me for over 25 years. Dan was my position coach when I played at Penn State and years later he became my top assistant coach when I was the head coach at Providence College. Dan helped me become the 1992 Wade Trophy Winner and a First Team All-American. He is someone that I credit as having a big influence on me becoming a college coach. With Dan's 30 plus years of coaching and recruiting, he has developed one of the most extensive networks of relationships in women's basketball both nationally and internationally. For me, the most important thing is that Dan is a person of high character and integrity. He has always lived his life with high ethical standards and a strong desire to always do the right thing. Dan's work ethic and his lifetime commitment to the game of women's basketball is so appreciated and highly impressive.*

Susan Robinson Fruchtl, Director of Athletics at Saint Francis University  
Former All-American and Wade Trophy Winner at Penn State University  
2017 NCAA Silver Anniversary Award Recipient  
Former Women's Basketball Assistant Coach at Penn State University  
Former Women's Basketball Head Coach at Saint Francis University  
Former Women's Basketball Head Coach at Providence College