



NEWS

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Philadelphia University Men's Basketball Coach Herb Magee Honored by Philadelphia Mayor Nutter at City Hall Ceremony

Coach Magee became the winningest NCAA men's coach in history when he won his 903rd game on Feb. 23

PHILADELPHIA, March 9, 2010 – Philadelphia University Men's basketball Coach Herb Magee, who became the winningest NCAA coach in history on Feb. 23, was honored today by Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter at a City Hall ceremony.

"This is a personal achievement, and we're very proud of him as a city," said Nutter, who presented Magee with the city's Liberty Bell Award. "He's a hometown guy, and we love for a hometown guy to be successful."

During the ceremony, Nutter reeled off a list of Magee's major achievements: most NCAA wins in history – 905 and counting, NCAA national championship in 1970, 25 trips to the NCAA tournament, including this year, 30 seasons of 20-plus wins, named to the Philadelphia and Pennsylvania Sports Halls of Fame, nominee to the Naismith Memorial Hall of Fame, and "shot doctor" to NBA stars.

"Herb Magee has distinguished himself as one of the very highest basketball achievers," Nutter said. "He is in the singular category of winningest NCAA basketball coach in history."

Magee, who recalled a city motorcade celebration when the Rams won the NCAA national championship in 1970, said the recognition by Nutter and the city "is much appreciated by me and my family and the entire Philadelphia University community."

Among those attending the ceremony were Philadelphia University President Stephen Spinelli Jr., Athletics Director and Women's basketball Coach Tom Shirley and John Pierantozzi, special assistant to the president and a member of the Rams' 1970 NCAA championship team. Temple University Basketball Coach Fran Dunphy was on hand to congratulate his friend.

“He’s had 50 years of greatness at Philadelphia University,” Spinelli said of Magee. “It’s amazing to have that kind of commitment and dedication to one university.”

Referring to Magee’s myriad accomplishments, Spinelli said, “He should be in the Hall of Fame.”

Philadelphia University, founded in 1884, is a private university with 3,350 students enrolled in more than 50 undergraduate and graduate programs. As the model professional university for the 21st century, the University focuses on professionally oriented programs that prepare students for successful careers, with a strong foundation in the liberal arts and a commitment to engaged, real-world and collaborative learning. Philadelphia University includes Schools of Architecture, Business Administration, Design and Media, Engineering and Textiles, Liberal Arts, and Science and Health.