

Danville Area Junior College

1991 NJCAA Division II Basketball Champions



Danville Jaguar Championship Team Coach John Spezia is on Extreme Right

Bigger Faster Stronger has been a major factor in the success of our basketball program at Danville Area Community College the past seven years. We have won the NJCAA Division II Mens Basketball National Championship in 1991 and finished 7th in 1992. We have also won twenty games five out of the last seven years.

Our team has been one of the top defensive teams in the country finishing 3rd, 4th and 5th the past three out of four years while setting records in defensive average. A large part of the strength, flexibility and endurance we have developed through the Bigger Faster Stronger program has helped make our basketball program one of the top Division II Basketball programs in the country. Over 40 of our players have received four-year scholarships. We thank you for your program.

John Spezia: Head Basketball Coach Danville Area Community College

By Dr. Greg Shepard

John Spezia is one of the most highly energized people in the world. He loves the coaching profession and goes after Upper Limit goals. Coach Spezia does everything. He is the athletic director, the sports information director, the strength coach and the head basketball coach. The amazing part of the story is that he still looks for extra things to do. For example, having his team work with young kids on reading or setting up a Juco Jamboree in the pre-season where 14 junior college teams played games for 12 hours. Seventy-five coaches from colleges and universities came from all over the nation. Through Spezia's efforts Danville now hosts the Division II men's national junior college tournament. He turned it in to a real community involvement type of event. In his spare time,

Coach Spezia conducts a variety of basketball camps. In fact he has had over 20 years of summer camp experience. Basketball is not only in his blood but also must be in his bones, skin, brain and heart.

Coach Spezia was the NJCAA Division II Coach of the Year in 1991 and the NJCAA Region 24 Coach of the Year in 1991 & 1992. He has over 200 career wins and his teams are continually in the top 5 Free Throw Percentage teams nationally. He has coached four Academic All-Americans. Academics are a top priority for Coach Spezia. Freshmen need to have a 2.75 GPA on a 5.0 to meet NJCAA requirements. Most of the Jaguar players are far above that. Helping kids understand the importance of academics is considered by Spezia to part of his role as coach. "They're going to go someplace else," said Coach Spezia. "When they do, they'll step in

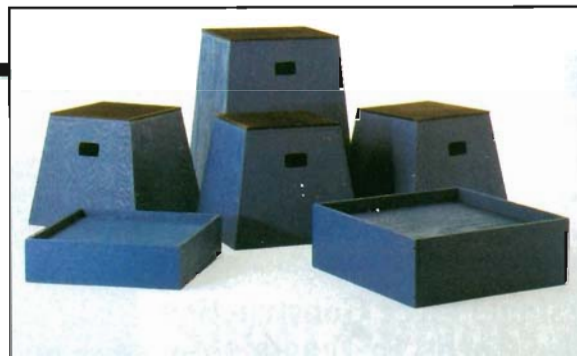
and not have a lot of problems. If they are up on basketball fundamentals and academics that helps your chances of being recruited."

Danville Area Community College is located in Danville, Illinois which is in the center of the state on the Indiana border. It is only 134 miles from Chicago and 86 miles from Indianapolis. The Danville area was home to Native Americans of the Woodland and Mississippi cultures between 500 and 1000 AD. As a result the county area boasts the largest acreage per capita of state and county public park tracts in the state of Illinois. It has over 10,000 acres of park grounds dotted with ponds and lakes. The some 3,000 students at Danville Area Community College have a wonderful environment to learn their academics and to enjoy quality basketball.....□

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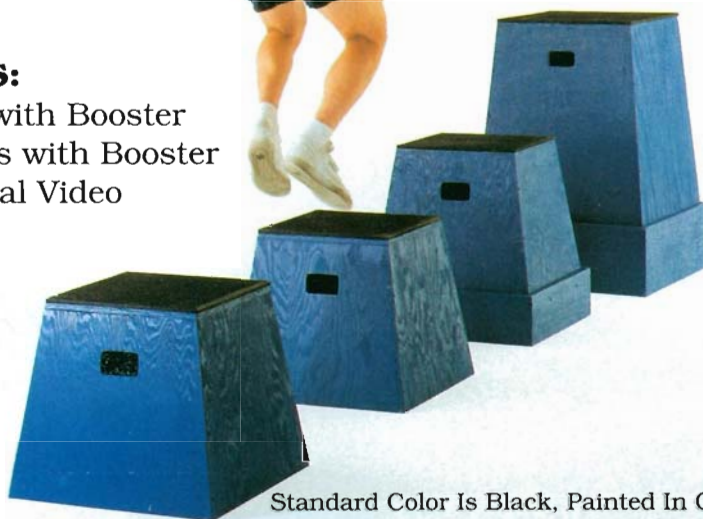
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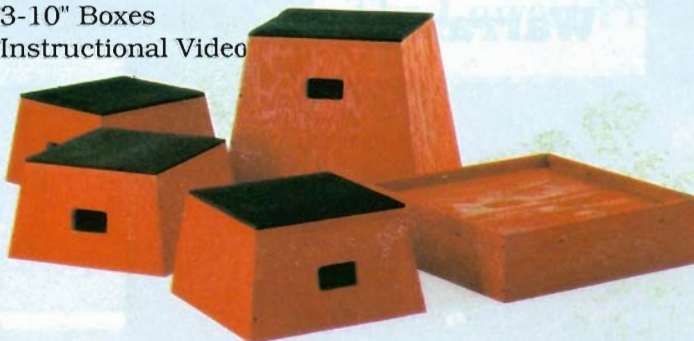
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