

= 2010 ? 11 Princeton Tigers men 's basketball team =

The 2010 ? 11 Princeton Tigers men 's basketball team represented Princeton University in intercollegiate college basketball during the 2010 ? 11 NCAA Division I men 's basketball season . The head coach was Sydney Johnson , who was in his fourth season . The team 's tri @-@ captains were senior Kareem Maddox , senior Dan Mavraides , and junior Patrick Saunders . The team played its home games in the Jadwin Gymnasium on the University campus in Princeton , New Jersey . The team competes in the Ivy League athletic conference . The team was coming off of a 22 ? 9 2009 ? 10 season in which it achieved the most wins by a Tigers men 's basketball team since the 1998 ? 99 team and its first back @-@ to @-@ back finishes of at least second place in the Ivy since 2001 ? 02 season . The team was also following on the heels of its first postseason appearance since the 2003 ? 04 team went to the 2004 NCAA Men 's Division I Basketball Tournament , and its first postseason victory since the 1998 ? 99 team won two games in the 1999 National Invitation Tournament .

The team was led by returning second team All @-@ Ivy League selections junior Douglas Davis and senior Dan Mavraides . This was the first team to have two returning first or second All @-@ Ivy players since the 2003 ? 04 team returned Will Venable and Judson Wallace . The team was attempting to defend its scoring defense statistical championship , which it won for the twentieth time since 1976 in 2010 . Following the season , seniors Mavraides (2nd team) and Maddox (1st team , unanimous) earned All @-@ Ivy recognition . They were joined by sophomore Ian Hummer (2nd team) . Maddox earned conference Defensive Player of the Year .

After the annual 14 @-@ game round robin home and away schedule , Harvard and Princeton tied as co @-@ champion , resulting in a one @-@ game playoff to determine the league 's automatic bid to the 2011 NCAA Men 's Division I Basketball Tournament . The Tigers prevailed . Princeton then lost its round of 64 NCAA contest against Kentucky . The season marked the team 's 26th Ivy League championship and 24th invitation to the NCAA Men 's Division I Basketball Championship .

= = Preview = =

Princeton entered the season having not won a championship since the 2003 ? 04 Princeton Tigers men 's basketball team achieved the feat and went to the 2004 NCAA Men 's Division I Basketball Tournament . The six @-@ season championshipless spell tied a school record and put the team on the verge of establishing a new one should the season not be successful . The team entered the season with its top five scorers from the prior season returning . The team 's schedule included the 2010 NCAA Men 's Division I Basketball Tournament champion Duke as well as Tournament participant Siena who were the 2010 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference champions (both regular season and tournament) .

Most preseason publications predicted Princeton would finish in first place and Harvard would finish in second place , although the Sporting News projected that Cornell would finish in first followed by Princeton and Harvard . Breaking a three @-@ year streak by Cornell , the Ivy League media poll selected Princeton as the top team with twelve first place votes , Harvard second with four first place votes and Cornell third with one first place vote . It was the first Princeton team to be the preseason top @-@ ranked media selection since the 2004 ? 05 Princeton team .

= = Playing style = =

Head coach Johnson employs the Princeton offense . However , in 2010 , Johnson tweaked it to be a slightly more uptempo version of the motion offense , which resulted in the highest scoring Princeton team in decades . The offense was still considered slow compared to most schools .

= = Schedule = =

The team lost to its only two ranked opponents (# 1 Duke and # 21 University of Central Florida) ,

but defeated Siena in overtime . The team also defeated power conference opponents Tulsa of Conference USA , Saint Joseph 's of the Atlantic 10 Conference and Rutgers of the Big East Conference . Princeton recorded its 11th and the Ivy League 's 30th perfect conference record at the halfway point of the 14 @-@ game conference schedule . The team posted a perfect 12 ? 0 home record . It was the team 's sixth perfect home season in 42 full seasons at Jadwin gymnasium . In 2009 , the team adopted 11 @-@ year @-@ old Christian Michael " Crunch " Regulski , a pediatric brain tumor patient , as part of the Friends of Jaclyn program . In early February , Crunch , who had previously sat on the team 's bench , lost his cancer struggle . During the season , Princeton swept defending Ivy League champion Cornell .

Mavraides scored 25 including 5 three @-@ point shots , but Princeton lost to Harvard at Lavietes Pavilion on March 5 and giving them a split of the season series . Princeton fell a half game behind Harvard who clinched at least a share of the 2010 ? 11 Ivy League men 's basketball season Championship with a 12 ? 2 conference record . Princeton fell to 11 ? 2 with one conference game remaining to force a one @-@ game playoff for the conferences automatic bid to the 2011 NCAA Men 's Division I Basketball Tournament . Following the game , Sydney Johnson made his team sit on the bench and watch the Harvard fans celebrate . On March 8 , Princeton defeated Penn to force a one @-@ game playoff at the Payne Whitney Gymnasium at Yale University in New Haven , Connecticut . Maddox scored 21 of his 23 points from off the bench in the second half to key the victory .

The one @-@ game playoff is the eighth in Ivy League history and the eighth for Princeton , who has won at least a share of twenty @-@ six league titles . The share of the championship ended a six @-@ season championshipless run , which tied a record for the longest in school history . In the one @-@ game playoff , Harvard took 58 ? 57 lead with 2 : 33 remaining and then the teams traded one @-@ point leads 5 times . Princeton won by a 63 ? 62 margin thanks to a last second shot by Davis to earn its 24th NCAA Men 's Division I Basketball Tournament bid . Although Princeton did not appear in the 2010 ? 11 NCAA Division I men 's basketball rankings all season , in the final regular season poll on March 13 , Princeton received 3 points in the Coaches ' Poll .

Princeton was awarded the number thirteen seed and a first round match against the Kentucky Wildcats . Kentucky had eliminated Ivy League representative Cornell the prior season . Kentucky emerged victorious by a 59 ? 57 margin on a last second layup .

= = Honors = =

= = = In season = = =

Ian Hummer was a National Association of Basketball Coaches First Team All @-@ District selection , and Kareem Maddox was a Second Team selection . Each week the Ivy League selects a player of the week and a rookie of the week .

= = = Postseason honors = = =

The league selected its postseason awards on March 9. Defensive Player of the Year : Kareem Maddox , Princeton (Sr. , F , Oak Park , CA) All @-@ Ivy League (ALL CAPS : Unanimous)
First Team All @-@ Ivy : KAREEM MADDOX , Princeton (Sr. , F , Oak Park , CA)
Second Team All @-@ Ivy : Ian Hummer , Princeton (So . , F , Vienna , VA) ; Dan Mavraides , Princeton (Sr. , G , San Mateo , CA)