

2012-13

Montana State Billings

MSUB Signs Pair of Prep Guard (5/10/12)

Montana State Billings has signed two high school guards-Brandy Kumm and Katie Schermele - to letters-of-intent.

"I am excited to have both Katie and Brandy join our basketball program this fall," MSUB coach Kevin Woodin said. "I believe they will help solidify our depth on the perimeter for the coming season and I know they will both compete at a very high level."

Kumm (5-5, Great Falls, MT - C.M. Russell) adds tenacity and toughness to the Yellowjackets' backcourt with a well-rounded game. She is a dual-sport student-athlete lettering in soccer two years and basketball for four.

Kumm started in all 24 contests for the Rustlers last season and averaged 8.29 points per game, dished 52 assists, grabbed 69 rebounds and recorded 45 steals.

Schermele (5-7, Great Falls, MT) will provide versatility and depth. Along with lettering in basketball for three years, she also lettered in softball for four and was an all-state catcher in 2010 and 2011. This past season Schermele averaged 6.1 points per game, 2.9 rebounds, 1.4 assists and 2.1 steals.

MSUB Gets Transfer from Rocky Mountain (4/25/12)

Austin Hanser, a 5-7 guard from Billings, has transferred from Rocky Mountain College, to play for Montana State Billings.

Last season, Hanser led the Battlin' Bears with 367 points off 141 made field goals, including a team-high 30 three-pointers. In 30 games, she averaged 12.2 points and shot .396 from the field en route to earning all-Frontier Conference first team honors.

Prior to her time at Rocky, Hanser was a standout two-sport athlete for Billings Central High School playing both basketball and soccer. She was a first team all-state selection for both her senior year and earned academic all-state honors in both sports as well.

She claimed Most Valuable Players honors in the State "A" basketball tournament her senior year as she helped guide her team to winning the state basketball championship.

She also helped guide her soccer team to the state championship her junior and senior seasons as the starting goalie.

MSUB Adds Local Player To Roster (4/24/12)

Tenika Capouch, a 5-11 post player from Billings' Skyview High School, has signed a letter-of-intent with Montana State Billings.

A two-year varsity starter, Capouch comes to MSUB after having a break-out season last year as a senior that saw her average a double-double. She averaged 15.9 points and 11.2 rebounds per game to go along with a .660 free throw percentage. Her 11.2 rebounds per game led the state in class AA.

For her outstanding senior year, Capouch was named a first team all-conference selection as well as a first team all-state selection. She was also named to the Montana-Wyoming All-Star team.

Northwest Nazarene

NNU Signs Players from Hawaii, California (5/11/12)

Hawaiians Taylor Babbitt and Toe Motu and Californian Cierra White have signed National Letters-of-Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene and play basketball for the Crusaders.

Babbitt (5-7, Fr., G, Mililani, HI) comes to the Crusaders from Mililani High School where she averaged 11.5 points, 4.8 rebounds and 3.4 steals per game in her senior season.

A first-team Oahu Division I West all-conference selection and a "Fab 15" Hawaii pick, Babbitt led her team to a 10-0 regular season record and a fifth-place finish in the Hawaii State Basketball Tournament. The "Fab 15" is a ranking for the top-15 girls basketball players in the state of Hawaii.

"We are really looking forward to Taylor impacting our program," commented NNU head coach Kelli Lindley. "She is a very athletic guard who is a great defender, has very good offensive decision-making skills and has an outstanding ability to get to the basket or create for her teammates. She will fit in perfectly to our style of play."

Motu (6-2, Fr., P, Kapolei, HI) joins the NNU program from Kapolei High School in Hawaii where she averaged 13.2 points and 5.0 rebounds per game last season in being named the Oahu Division I West Player-of-the-Year and a Oahu Division I West first-team all-conference selection.

"We are really excited that Toe has chosen to be a part of NNU basketball," coach Lindley added. "Toe is a very good athlete who is solid in the low post but also can hit the outside shot. As she gets stronger she will be even tougher to guard...because she can also handle the ball."

White (5-7, Fr., G, Modesto, CA/Beyer) becomes a Crusader from Beyer High School in Modesto, Calif.

Cierra averaged 11.8 points, 3.2 rebounds, 3.1 assists and 2.5 steals per game last season and earned a Modesto Metro all-conference first-team selection.

“Cierra is a special athlete with explosive speed and a lot of tools offensively,” Lindley commented. “But probably the best thing about her is her defense. She has the ability to make opponents very uncomfortable and she knows how to play hard. She will no doubt thrive at NNU both on and off the court.”

Crusaders Sign Three Players to National Letters (4/25/12)

Guards Kylee Schierman and Taylor Simmons and post Katie Swanson have each signed National Letters of Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene and play for the Crusaders next year.

Schierman (5-10, Jr., Portland, OR) will transfer to NNU from The College of Southern Idaho where she averaged 10.0 points, 6.5 rebounds and 2.6 assists per game as a sophomore.

“Kylee has been playing at a very high level and has set herself apart as a great defender and rebounder,” NNU head coach Kelli Lindley said.

Named to the SWAC All-Conference team this year as an honorable mention selection, Kylee was also a 6A Mt. Hood Conference first-team selection and the conference MVP as a senior at Central Catholic High School in Portland, Ore. Her Central Catholic High School teams finished third in the Oregon 6A State Championships in both her sophomore and junior seasons.

Simmons (5-8, Fr., Middleton, ID) joins the Crusaders from Middleton High School where she was named the Idaho 4A Player of the Year in leading her team to a 26-0 record and the Idaho 4A State Championships this season.

Averaging 12.4 points, 4.4 assists, 3.3 rebounds and 3.1 steals per game as a senior, Taylor was a 4A Southern Idaho Conference first-team selection and completed her high school career 75-3 overall and the winner for three state championships.

Swanson (6-2, Fr., Vancouver, WA) becomes a Crusader from Skyview High School in Vancouver, Wash., where she was a 4A Washington all-region honorable mention and a Greater Saint Helens League first-team all-conference pick this year.

Her Skyview High School team won the 2012 Washington 4A State Championship and she averaged 9.0 points and 5.2 rebounds per game.

“Katie comes from a very successful high school program, competing at the highest level in Washington state,” Lindley added. “She has great touch around the basket, nice footwork in the post and can really run the floor.”

Crusaders Sign Post Player From Eugene (11/11/11)

Ellen Ferrenburg, a 6-1 post from North Eugene High School in Eugene, Ore, has signed a National Letter Intent to play basketball at Northwest Nazarene beginning in the 2012-13 season.

A two-time first-team All-Midwestern League selection, Ferrenburg averaged 18.1 points, 8.5 rebounds and 4.0 blocks per game as a junior, also earning Oregon 5A all-state honorable mention honors.

“Ellen is a very impressive athlete who knows how to score,” said NNU 11th-year head coach Kelli Lindley. “She has a ton of potential, an outstanding work ethic, and we are looking forward to watching her become an impact post player here at NNU.

“Ellen is the type of person you want as a teammate and you want to coach,” Lindley added, noting that Ferrenburg also carries a 3.86 GPA in the classroom. “She comes from a great family and we are thrilled to have them become a part of the NNU women's basketball program.

Seattle Pacific

Two Prep Standouts Sign With Falcons (5/25/12)

Skyview's Brooke Bowen, the Most Valuable Player from the Washington Class 4A state high school tournament in March, and Shorecrest's Brianne Lasconia, the leading scorer in the state 3A tournament, will join the Seattle Pacific University women's basketball program for the upcoming season.

Bowen, a 5-10 guard, comes to SPU after helping Skyview capture the 4A state title in March. She came up with 10 points and two rebounds in the championship game as the Storm wiped out an early double-digit deficit to beat Central Valley of Spokane 46-43. She had 20 points and five rebounds in a 55-54 quarterfinal victory against Federal Way, and supplied seven points and five boards in a 63-50 semifinal triumph against Gonzaga Prep of Spokane.

Lasconia is a 5-9 guard who led Shorecrest to the fourth-place trophy in the 3A state tourney, averaging 17 points per game for three games. She came up big in the final two games, posting a double-double of 20 points and 11 rebounds in a 59-48 consolation-bracket victory against Kamiakin, then had 22 points and seven boards in a 40-37 victory against Seattle Prep in the trophy game.

Falcons Sign Player from Juanita (11/23/11)

Juanita High School's Molly Grager has signed a letter of intent to play basketball at Seattle Pacific.

The 6-foot-2 Grager averaged 9.1 points, 11.3 rebounds and 4.1 blocks per game as a junior for Juanita, helping the Rebels go 19-7 overall and advance to the Sea-King District tournament.

SPU coach Julie Heisey said Grager brings a lot of potential to the Falcons' program. “She has a huge upside,” Heisey said. “She's long and is a good defender, and I feel like she runs the floor well.

“She's playing for a good coach in a good program, and she knows how to win. She has been a big part of building that

program at Juanita, and their team has gotten better every year." Grager said SPU has its share of up side, as well.

Heisey had seen Grager play previously during the high school season, but was especially impressed with Grager during a tournament this past summer in Oregon.

"It was back and forth, and she hit five baskets in a row to give them a little surge," Heisey said. "She scored from the block and in transition. That was the first time I had seen her play during the summer, and I thought, 'Wow, she has really improved.' She just caught my eye there."

In addition to basketball, Grager is a standout in cross country and track for Juanita. She has qualified for the Washington state high school cross country meet twice, placing 61st among 138 athletes in the Class 3A race earlier this month in Pasco.

Grager also has two trips to the state track and field meet, qualifying twice in the high jump and once in the triple jump. Her personal-bests are 5 feet, 6 inches in the high, and 35-2 in the triple.

Simon Fraser

Clan Adds Player from Ontario (6/22/12)

Meg Wilson, a 6-1 forward from London, Ontario, has agreed to play her college basketball at Simon Fraser University.

"I'm excited for the opportunity to play at SFU and to have a chance to learn more from coach (Bruce) Langford," said Wilson. "The excellent reputation of the coaching staff and the commitment of the players are what attracted me to SFU.

"Playing with SFU in the NCAA and the GNAC is going to be a great experience and a great challenge. I'm excited to challenge myself and grow as a player."

She comes to SFU from A.B. Lucas Secondary School and the London Ramblers of Ontario's elite JUEL Basketball League.

"I haven't had the luxury of seeing Chelsea Reist (Mission, BC) play live, but I think Meg is a very similar type of player," said assistant coach of the rival Barrie Royals Jerrold Van Dyke.

"She runs the floor and finishes well, has a decent mid-range game and never stops working. Having watched her play for the past couple of seasons, I have seen the continuous improvement that has really elevated her game."

Wilson also helped the Ramblers to an undefeated regular season and a second place finish in the provincial playoffs.

"Meg is a great competitor as she has grown in a very good environment, having played for the well coached London Ramblers," said Langford. "Coach Dave Brown's team in London has been one of the top JUEL teams in Ontario

premier club basketball since the league formed two years ago and great coaching is a big part of that."

In addition to her success with the Ramblers, Wilson was named the Graduating Female Athlete of the Year at A.B. Lucas Secondary and was also named to the Thames Valley Regional Athletics All-Star team in 2011-12 and in 2010-11.

"Last year as one of the most consistent players on the team, Meg played a huge role in an undefeated regular season. She really competes defensively and has a good basketball IQ on offence where she sees the floor and shares the ball well. She is going to fit well with our culture and she brings a skill set that should have success early in her career," finished Langford.

Clan Adds Player From Coquitlam (6/12/02)

Another local player - Laiken Cerenzie of Coquitlam, BC - has committed to Simon Fraser for the 2012-13 season.

"Laiken is an unorthodox basketball player," said head coach Bruce Langford. "On first appearance she has a rather unrefined skill set but it is quite deceiving. Her shot may not look great, but she had the second best three point shooting percentage on a good high school shooting team."

Cerenzie joins the Clan from Riverside Secondary School, where she played with Michelle Spacek who also recently committed to Simon Fraser.

"I am a fast, aggressive, competitive player," said Cerenzie. "I have a must win personality and I strive to get better every game."

The 5-8 forward was an HSBC Classic all-star in 2009 and 2011, a Fraser Valley all-star in 2009 and 2010, and a provincial second team all-star in 2010.

In 35 games with Riverside last season, Cerenzie averaged 10.7 points per game, which was the third highest average on the team.

"Laiken took over many games in her high school career with her slashes to the hoop and ability to get to free throw line," Langford said. "She is one of the most competitive high school players in BC. In many big games, she stepped up and was the difference maker for Riverside.

"No doubt, as she matures her game, with her already competitive fire, she will add a key component to our team," added Langford.

Clan Adds Player From New Westminster (6/7/12)

Ariana Sider of New Westminster will join the Simon Fraser University women's basketball program atop Burnaby Mountain this fall.

"Ariana first caught my eye when she was very young," said head coach Bruce Langford. "She was feisty, competitive and

a go to scorer as a grade nine on a senior team. Her shot has only gotten better since then.

"Our team needs a player who can ruffle a few feathers and she can do that. All high school players need to mature for our league and Ariana has the determination and high basketball IQ for a promising future."

"I would say that I am a tenacious defender who is quick and competitive with a high basketball IQ," said Sider. "I'm excited to be a part of a program with such an impressive tradition and am eager to learn from a coaching staff that's committed to getting the best out of their players."

Last season, the 5-7 guard averaged 17 points, seven assists and six rebounds per game. She earned several all-star awards after being named to the Lower Mainland All-Tournament team, earning a Top Ten Tournament second team all-star selection and being named a Burnaby-New Westminster all-star.

Clan Adds Player From Turkey (6/5/12)

Turkey's Belce Yoruk has committed to play for Simon Fraser for the 2012-13 season.

"Belce will bring some very unique qualities to our team," said SFU coach Bruce Langford. "One is her physical strength. She is much stronger than typical high school players. That strength helps in another area as Belce has excellent vision, making her a great passer as she is able to pinpoint passes the full length of the floor."

Yoruk (5-7, Fr.) spent last year in Halifax, Nova Scotia, at the Halifax Grammer School, a private secondary school. She was the captain of the Halifax Grammer School senior basketball team last year and helped the squad win the Grammer Classic Tournament Championship.

"I'm excited about the challenge of competing in the NCAA," said Yoruk. "SFU plays in a good league and I look forward to the competition. I would describe myself as a strong guard with good passing ability."

In 2010-11, Yoruk helped the Halifax Grammer School win the Capital Region High School Championship and was named a Metro High School all-star.

Yoruk is no stranger to winning with four championships in the Turkish women's league on her resume - one at the under-14 level, two in the under-16 category, and one under-18 championship. She was also a member of the Turkish under-16 national team.

Port Coquitlam Guard To Play For Clan (6/5/12) Michelle Spacek, a 5-7 guard from Riverside Secondary School, will join Simon Fraser's basketball program this winter.

Spacek was a first team all-star at the provincial championship tournament last year. Spacek played in 34 games last season and led the team with an average of 12.6

points per game. She was her team's best three-point shooter draining 105 treys.

"Michelle has been on one of the top teams in the province for several years," said SFU head coach Bruce Langford. "She was the best three-point shooter on the best shooting high school team. She is extremely competitive and puts in quality time to work on her athleticism, strength and skill. Our league requires players who have some fire and she has it."

Western Oregon

Shooting Guard Signs With Wolves (5/7/12)

Katie Goddard, a 5-10 shooting guard from Lake Stevens, Wash., has signed a national letter of intent with Western Oregon University.

Goddard was named to the first team All-Wesco League (4A) this past season as well as garnering All-Area honorable mention honors after averaging 14.9 points while shooting 49 percent from the field.

She set both the single-season (59) and single-game (7) records for 3-point field goals made. Katie was named Most Valuable Player of the Washington 4A vs. 3A All-State game after leading all scorers with 22 points.

She helped lead LSHS to both League (two seasons) and District (three seasons) championships while qualifying for the state tournament as a sophomore, junior (4th place), and senior.

"Katie is a big time shooter who can also get to the basket off the dribble," said WOU Coach Greg Bruce. "In addition, she has the work ethic and determination to be an outstanding college player. We are very fortunate to be able to sign a player of Katie's skill and personal qualities late in the recruiting period. She is a winner and will make our program more competitive the minute she steps on campus this fall."

Her high school coach Randy Edens was excited for Goddard to have the opportunity to continue her basketball career:

"While most who know Katie would say she is strictly a shooter, she has developed her game so much the past four years to become a complete player. I expect even bigger and better things for her at Western Oregon with the type of work ethic she has to be successful. I think Katie and WOU are a great fit for each other."

Californian To Play For Wolves (11/21/11)

Whitney Rodriguez, a 6-2 center from Yucca Valley, Calif., has inked a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at Western Oregon University.

Rodriguez was a first team All-De Anza League selection and first team All-CIF Southern Section honoree as a junior. She helped lead YVHS to the De Anza League championship and the state tournament. She averaged a double-double with 10.4

points and 10.7 rebounds per game. She also paced her squad with 1.8 blocks while shooting 45 percent from the field.

"Whitney will be the first legitimate back to the basket post we've had since I took over in 2006," said coach Greg Bruce. "She most definitely gives us a presence on the interior both offensively and defensively.

"She is a warrior on the boards and does an excellent job of outletting the ball." Bruce added. "Whitney is a very motivated young lady who wants to be the best she can be! She is going to have a breakout season as a senior at Yucca Valley and carry that right into her freshman year at WOU. I'm looking forward to having her in our program."

Utah Forward Signs With Western Oregon (11/14/11)

Kelsey Henry, a 6-1 forward from Morgan High School in Utah, has signed a national letter of intent with Western Oregon University.

Henry was an All-Region 11 selection last season after helping lead MHS to its second consecutive Region 11 Championship and the Utah 3A state tournament. She paced her team in field goal percentage (46.8) and free throw percentage (77.0), and ranked third in rebounding (6.6).

"Kelsey brings much-needed size to our program," Western Oregon sixth-year head coach Greg Bruce. "She is a very good athlete who runs the floor exceptionally well and can score on the block or from the perimeter.

"In addition, Kelsey is extremely competitive, has a tremendous desire to be the best she can be, and possesses a team-oriented attitude," Bruce continued. "Kelsey's game will blossom at the college level and she will be a major contributor to our future success."

This last year Henry also enjoyed a successful season with the Salt Lakers Club team where she averaged 11.5 points and 7.5 rebounds.

Wolves Sign Players From Washington, California (11/11/11)

Jackie Steiger and Mariah Durian, who hail from Washington and California, respectively, have signed National Letters of Intent with Western Oregon University.

Steiger is a 5-7 shooting guard out of South Kitsap High School in Port Orchard, Wash. She was named to the first team All-Narrows League (4A) as a junior after averaging 12.5 points, 5.4 rebounds, 1.2 steals and shooting 59.7 percent from behind the arc.

She helped lead South Kitsap to the state tournament with a record of 20-6 and was selected as one of the top six players in Kitsap County ('Super Six')

"Jackie is a big time shooter with unlimited range," said WOU coach Greg Bruce. "In addition, she has all of the intangibles you look for in a student-athlete: tremendous work

ethic, the determination to be the best she can be, and outstanding personal qualities.

"Because of the type of person that she is and the skills and athletic ability she possesses, Jackie is going to have a great four-year career as a Wolf."

Dorian joins the Wolves out of Esperanza High School in Yorba Linda, Calif. She is a 5-11 wing who was an all-state selection as a junior after averaging 13.9 points, 7.8 rebounds and shooting 44.8 percent from the field. Dorian is also a two-time all-league selection and an accomplished hurdler in track.

"Simply put, Mariah is a player," Bruce said. "She has a great combination of size (as a perimeter player) and skill along with being a tremendous athlete.

"She can shoot from distance, drive and finish at the hoop, and has a college-ready pull-up jumper. She will be a force on the boards as a 3."

Western Washington

Vikings Add Two Washington Prep Standouts (5/18/12)

Two high school standouts, Kortney Grattic from Lynden and Jasmine McCleave from Renton, who is attending Holy Names Academy, have accepted formal offers of admission from Western Washington University and will join the women's basketball team beginning this fall.

Grattic, a 5-foot-10 post-player, was a first-team Class 2A all-State selection as a senior at Lynden High School. Named Most Valuable Player of the Northwest Conference and a Bellingham Herald all-Whatcom County choice, she averaged 17.0 points and 8.0 rebounds in helping the Lions to a 19-9 record and the state semifinals. There Grattic was named to the state all-tournament second team.

As a junior, Grattic earned all-county honors as she averaged 13.0 points and 8.0 rebounds on a team that won the league title and placed sixth at state.

Grattic, who also earned all-star honors in volleyball as a senior at Lynden, played her first two high school seasons at Squalicum High School, receiving all-county honors as a sophomore on a Storm squad that got to state.

McCleave, a 5-10 forward, was a third-team all-Metro League choice as a senior at Holy Names, averaging 13.0 points on 19-5 Cougar squad. She received all-league honorable mention as a junior, playing on an undefeated team (27-0) that won league, district and Class 3A state tournament championships.

As a sophomore, McCleave competed on a squad that took league and district crowns and placed second at state, and as a freshman was on a team that won a district title and finished third at state.

Vikings Add Player from Mount Rainier (5/11/12)

Kiana Gandy, who earned first-team South Puget Sound League North Division all-star honors at Mount Rainier High School in Des Moines, has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball at Western Washington University.

“She's got great athleticism, great potential and she's a great student,” said WWU coach Carmen Dolfo. “That combination makes her a wonderful addition to our team.”

As a senior, the 5-foot-10 Gandy helped the Rams to a 27-2 record, league and district titles, and third place at the Class 4A state tournament. She averaged 14.2 points, 5.6 rebounds and 1.2 blocks.

Mount Rainier 's team captain her last two seasons, Gandy scored 27 points in a game against Kentlake. She averaged 12.1 points and 7.4 rebounds as a junior on a 22-7 squad that finished seventh at state. That year she grabbed 19 rebounds in one contest.

Gandy lettered four years and started three for the Rams. She also earned three letters in track and field.

Vikings Sign Prep All-Star From Spokane (4/26/12)

Aleisha Hathaway, a first-team Greater Spokane League all-star for the third straight year as a senior at Shadle Park High School in Spokane, has signed a national letter of intent to play women's basketball at Western Washington University.

“I really like her confidence and skills and how smart she plays,” said WWU coach Carmen Dolfo. “Her personality really fits in well with our team. She's going to add so much to our program.”

A 5-foot-9 forward, Hathaway was Shadle Park 's team captain and MVP for the final three years of her career there.

As a senior, Hathaway helped the Highlanders to the District 8 championship and the first round of the Class 3A state tournament. She led the team in points with a 12.7 per game average, rebounds, assists, steals and three-point percentage.

Hathaway averaged 14 points and 10 rebounds as a junior. As a sophomore, she received all-state honorable mention, playing on a squad that won the district title and placed third at state.

As a freshman, Hathaway was the top reserve on a team that finished second at state.

Hathaway has a 4.0 grade point average at Shadle Park and is one of the school's seven senior class valedictorians.

2011-12

Alaska Anchorage

Alaska Anchorage Adds To Front Court (6/1/11)

Alaska Anchorage has bolstered its frontcourt with the signing of London native Miriam Seale to a National Letter of Intent. Seale, a 6-3 center, is transferring to UAA from South Georgia Technical College in Americus, Ga., where she averaged 9.9 points, 6.7 rebounds and 1.9 blocks in 2010-11 leading her team to a 29-4 record.

“Miriam is a great addition to our team because she has the ability to be a fierce defender and rebounder,” said UAA coach Tim Moser. “She also provides our team with another post threat who will complement her teammates really well. We couldn't be more excited to have Miriam join our UAA family.”

As a freshman, Seale played at junior-college power Midland (Texas) College, where she was a key reserve on the Chaparalls' 31-5, Elite Eight squad in 2009-10.

Before coming to the United States, Seale was a one of the prep players in England, making that nation's Under-16 and Under-18 National Teams.

Seawolves Add Player From Seattle (5/25/11)

Alaska Anchorage head coach Tim Moser added another talented prep star to his roster Wednesday as he announced that Seattle native Alli Madison has signed a National Letter of Intent with the Seawolves.

Madison, a 5-8 guard, was a four-year letterwinner at Washington Class 3A power Kennedy Catholic High School where she helped the Lancers to a 100-12 overall record and four straight WIAA State Tournament appearances. As a sophomore in 2008-09, she played for Kennedy's undefeated, state-title squad.

“We feel that Alli is a diamond in the rough,” said Moser, whose Seawolves have been nationally ranked for four straight seasons. “She is very solid as she has the ability to score off the bounce or from the perimeter, and plays great defense. We love her toughness and the fact that she has been well coached. We are thrilled that Alli chose UAA and are enthusiastic about her future as a Seawolf.”

Last season, Madison averaged 16.0 points, 6.3 rebounds, 3.6 steals and 1.9 assists per game in captaining the Lancers to a 25-4 overall record (14-0 in the Seamont League) and a 4th-place finish at the WIAA State Tournament. She was a First Team All-Seamont League selection, and played in both the WIBCA and Queens of the Hardwood senior all-star games this spring.

Seawolves Sign Player From Denmark (5/16/11)

Another international talent has committed to play for the University of Alaska Anchorage as Denmark's Gritt Ryder has signed a National Letter of Intent with the Seawolves.

Ryder, a 5-10 guard from Rungsted Kyst, Denmark, has been one of the top players for her country's age-group national teams the past three years.

In 2010, she averaged 16.1 points, 7.0 rebounds, 2.6 assists and 2.3 steals, and shot 79 percent from the free throw line at the European Under-18 Championships in Romania. She was the tournament's fourth-leading scorer, posting a high game of 24 points, nine rebounds, five steals and three assists in a 65-57 win over Bosnia & Herzegovina.

Ryder was also on the Danish U-16 squad at the 2008 European Championships in Bulgaria where she averaged 7.3 ppg, 3.8 rpg, 2.4 apg and 1.5 spg, and shot 80 percent at the charity stripe.

“Gritt is a very determined young woman who is focused on success both in the classroom and on the court,” said Moser, who has led the Seawolves to 135 victories and two Final Four appearances in five seasons.

“She is one of those rare players who makes her teammates better. Her ability to see the game, her toughness and ability to score give her the potential to be a very special player in our league. We couldn't be more excited that Gritt picked UAA as her school. Her future here looks very promising.”

Last season, Ryder averaged 10.0 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 2.7 apg and 2.1 spg for the Horsholm 79ers club team, helping her squad to a 13-8 record and runner-up finishes in the Dame Ligaen regular season and playoffs.

Ryder and fellow signee Bruna Deichmann (Brazil) are the eighth and ninth international players signed by Moser, including returning senior Hanna Johansson (Sweden).

Seawolves Sign JC Standout for Utah (5/11/11)

One of the nation's top women's basketball junior-college players – Utah native Haley Holmstead – has signed a National Letter of Intent with Alaska Anchorage.

Holmstead, a 5-8 guard, spent the last two seasons at national power Salt Lake Community College, where she became just the 16th woman in NJCAA history to earn back-to-back first team All-America honors.

She was also the first woman to earn consecutive Scenic West Athletic Conference Player-of-the-Year awards as SLCC won the regular-season league title both years.

“Haley is a proven winner. Her accolades speak loudly for her talent and work ethic,” said UAA coach Tim Moser, who has led the Seawolves to five straight NCAA Tournaments. “She has a natural gift to score and a high basketball IQ. She is a very driven and coachable young lady who is battle-tested and

ready for GNAC play. We are so very excited that Haley chose to wear the Green & Gold.”

Holmstead led the nation with 21.6 points per game as a freshman and ranked third as a sophomore with 23.6 ppg. The American Fork, Utah, native left SLCC with school records for points in a game (44), season (658) and career (1,328), while also setting numerous free-throw marks, shooting 87 percent (400 of 462) from the stripe for her career.

At American Fork High School, Holmstead led her team to the 2009 Class 5A state title with a 22-2 record, earning MVP honors at the state tournament. She was the Utah Gatorade Player of the Year as a senior and earned 5A MVP honors from both the Salt Lake Tribune and Deseret News .

Eastern Utah Guard To Play For Alaska Anchorage (5/6/11)

Bruna Deichmann, a 5-9 guard from the College of Eastern Utah, has signed a National Letter of Intent with the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Deichmann was an All-Scenic West Athletic Conference second team selection as a sophomore posting averages of 16.9 points, 3.8 rebounds, 2.2 steals and 1.7 assists per game.

The native of Balneario-Camboriu, Brazil, shot 41 percent from the field and 70 percent (116-167) at the free throw stripe for the Eagles, finishing with SWAC ranks of third in scoring, fourth in steals per game, 15th in field goal percentage and sixth in minutes per game (28.9).

Last season she posted four games with at least 25 points, including 28 points, six rebounds, five steals and four assists against Colby (Kan.) CC, and 27 points on nine of 12 shooting against SWAC rival Snow College.

The first Brazilian ever to suit up for the Seawolves in basketball, Deichmann will reunite with former CEU teammate Kaylie Robison, who played a key role on last year's UAA team that finished with a No. 15 national ranking in NCAA Division II.

“Bruna is a combo guard who possesses a unique skill set,” said UAA coach Tim Moser. “Her ability to drive and create shots for herself and her teammates will be a great addition to our team. We love her athleticism and her ability to defend, but what is really impressive about Bruna is her commitment to learn and improve. We are extremely excited about Bruna's future in our program.”

Seawolves Sign Prep Standout From Utah (4/27/11)

Katie Richens an all-state guard from Roosevelt, Utah, has signed a National Letter of Intent with the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Richens earned her second straight first team All-State honors from both the Salt Lake Tribune and Deseret News after leading Union High School to a 37-8 record the past two seasons.

As a senior last year, the McDonald's All-American nominee averaged 19.5 points per game and repeated as the Region 10 MVP, helping Union advance to the Class 3A State tournament.

As a junior, Richens was the Tribune 's Class 3A State MVP and led Union to a runner-up finish at the 2010 UHSAA State Championships. The Cougars went 22-2 overall in 2009-10, with Richens averaging 15.8 points, 5.1 rebounds and 3.6 steals per game.

“Katie is a really tough kid who will have a great career at UAA. She is a very skilled combo guard who has great leadership skills,” said Moser, who has led the Seawolves to five straight NCAA Tournaments.

“We obviously recruited Katie because of her basketball skills, but what separates players at this level is the drive and determination that lies within the individual, and she possesses those intangibles. Her love for basketball will be demonstrated by her work ethic. We are extremely excited to have Katie for four years.”

Richens was a four-year letter winner at Roosevelt, earning first-team all-region as a sophomore and second-team all-region as a freshman.

Washington Prep Star To Play for Seawolves (4/13/11)

Jessica Madison, a 5-8 guard from Port Angeles, Wash., has signed a national letter of intent with the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Madison, who inked her NLI during the November signing period, was a four-year starter at Port Angeles, earning three straight Olympic League MVP honors and back-to-back first team all-state accolades from the Associated Press.

“Jessica can flat-out shoot it, but she is also a good defender and all-around player,” said UAA coach Tim Moser, who has a 135-27 record in his five years at UAA. “As she gains strength and becomes accustomed to the college game, we are confident she will be a major contributor in our program.”

As a senior in 2010-11, she averaged 21.9 points, 5.7 rebounds, 4.3 assists and 3.3 steals per game, helping the Roughriders to a 21-6 overall record and a 16-0 league mark. Madison 's teams won their last 37 straight Olympic League games, dating back to her sophomore season.

The sister of former Seawolf men's player Jon Madison (1996-2000), she finished with Port Angeles' ' all-time scoring record – girls and boys – with 1,896 points. Her point total topped that of another brother, James, who went on to become the career three-point leader and is still the No. 5 career scorer at Division I Cleveland State.

Montana State Billings

Yellowjackets Add Player From Billings (5/2/11)

Billings West High School's Devan Dennehy has signed a letter of intent to play basketball at Montana State University Billings.

"Devan is an exceptional student-athlete who can play multiple positions on the perimeter," MSUB coach Kevin Woodin said. "She is a great competitor and defender, and I know she will have a positive impact on our team."

Dennehy prepped at West High School where she lettered three years in basketball while earning all-conference and all-state tournament honors as a senior. Dennehy helped lead West High School to the Montana Class AA State Championship in 2011.

She averaged seven points per game, four steals and two assists, while carrying a 3.93 grade point average. Dennehy also participates in softball and is active in National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Trading Cards.

Yellowjackets Sign Four For 2011-12 Season (4/23/11)

Four players including Kayleen Goggins, Annie Depuydt, Janiel Olson and Kabri Emerson have signed with Montana State Billings for the 2011-12 season.

"I am very excited with our four women's basketball recruits who signed with us," MSUB coach Kevin Woodin said. "They all are very talented athletes from successful Montana high school programs. I look forward to working with each one of them."

Goggins, a 6-1, forward from Shepherd, Mont., was a four-year letter winner at Shepherd High School where she was a first team all-conference selection and earned all-state honors. Goggins was a Treasure State Classic all-star selection and is scheduled to play in the Montana-Wyoming All-Star game this summer.

As a senior, Goggins averaged 19 points, 10 rebounds and three steals per game while helping her team to a third place finish at the 2011 State Class "B" basketball championship. She also participated in volleyball and track. She was an honor student and involved in FFA at both the local and state levels.

Depuydt, a 5-8, guard from Saco, Mont., was a four year letter winner at Saco-Whitewater High School. There, she was a first team all-conference selection and earned all-state honors. She was named the Class "C" Divisional Most Valuable Player and earned Class "C" State Tournament MVP honors.

She averaged 14 points, nine rebounds and three assists per game helping her team to the 2011 State "C" championship this year. Depuydt also excelled in the classroom as she had a 4.0 grade point average, was a member of the student council

and participated in BPA and 4H. She also participated in volleyball.

Olson, a 5-10, forward from Billings, Mont., was a four year letter winner at Billings West High School. There, she earned first team all-conference, all-state honors and was an honor student. She was a Treasure State Classic all-star and was an all-state player in volleyball, while lettering in four different sports at West High School.

She averaged 12 points, 10 rebounds, four steals and two assists per game and helped lead her team to the 2011 State "AA" championship.

Emerson, a 6-1, post from Butte, Mont., lettered three years at Butte High School. She was a first team all-conference selection and second team all-state honoree, as well as being named a Treasure State Class all-star. Emerson also participated in track and volleyball and was involved with Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Key Club, T.I.P. and was an honor student.

As a senior, she averaged 13 points and nine rebounds per game helping Butte High School to the state tournament.

These four recruits will join Quinn Peoples, of Butte Central High School and Monica Grimsrud of Helena High School next fall. Both Peoples and Grimsrud signed with MSUB during the early signing period last November.

Yellowjackets Add Players from Butte, Montana City (11/24/10)

Quinn Peoples, from Butte and Monica Grimsrud from Montana City, Mont. have signed letters of intent to attend Montana State University Billings. Grimsrud will play both basketball and volleyball for the Yellowjackets.

"I'm excited to have both Quinn and Monica join our basketball program next season," MSUB coach Kevin Woodin said. "They are both outstanding student-athletes at their respective high schools. I look for each of them to make a positive and immediate impact on our program. They are both very versatile players and possess tremendous work ethics."

Peoples, a 5-11 forward, is in her senior season at Butte Central Catholic High School and she has lettered in basketball, volleyball and softball. She earned first team all-state and all-conference honors as a junior last season, helping Butte Central to its first state tournament appearance since 1982. Peoples averaged 16.4 points and 6.8 rebounds per game as a junior. She has 96 career 3-pointers through her junior season.

In the classroom, Peoples also has been very successful as she is a member of National Honor Society and is a three-time MCA All-Academic team selection. Peoples plans to major in Education with an emphasis in Special Education.

The 6-1 Grimsrud from Helena High School has lettered three years in basketball, volleyball and track to this point. She is a

two-time all-state and all-conference selection heading into her senior season of basketball. Grimsrud also earned first team all-conference and all-state honors in volleyball, and recently led her team to the 2010 state AA volleyball championship.

Academically, Grimsrud earned Academic All-State honors in basketball from 2007-2010. She is a member of National Honor Society, Key Club and Mentoring Teams Against Drugs (MTAD). She plans on majoring in Physical Therapy with a minor in Business.

Northwest Nazarene

Crusaders Sign Two Europeans (6/16/11)

Veronika Skokankova and Vanessa Schindler have both signed Letters of Commitment to attend Northwest Nazarene and play for the Crusaders this fall.

Skokankova (So., 6-0, F, Prague, Czech Republic/New Mexico JC) joins the Crusaders after spending her freshman collegiate season at New Mexico Junior College and playing for the USK Praha club team in Prague.

Ranked as the 10th best women's basketball club worldwide (USK Praha), Veronika was also a member of the 2009 Czech Republic National Team. "Veronika is very skilled and capable of making an immediate impact," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said.

"She has strong moves around the basket and can also hit the outside shot. Her athletic build will help her fit in with our up-tempo system while still being able to play physical inside."

Schindler (Fr., 5-11, F, Leimen, Germany/KusG Leimen) comes to NNU having most recently helped lead her KusG Leimen team to a second-place finish in the 2nd Division South DBBL League.

Winning three straight U18 Baden-Wurtembergischer championships, Vanessa averaged 18.5 points per game in the Regionalliga for KusG Leimen. "Vanessa has outstanding ball skills for a forward," Lindley added. "Her ability to make decisions off the dribble and handle the ball under pressure will hopefully cause some problems for other teams."

"Both Veronica and Vanessa have played for very successful clubs in their respective countries against older, experienced players. I think this will be advantageous for them as they transition to NCAA Division II basketball."

Kayla Schumann Signs With Crusaders (11/22/10)

Kayla Schumann has signed a National Letter-of-Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene and play basketball for the Crusaders next fall.

A senior at Turlock High School in California, Schumann averaged 13.4 points, 2.3 rebounds, 2.5 steals, and 2.7 assists per game as a junior.

Named to both the All-District and All-Central California Conference first-teams, playing in the Division 1 California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) San-Joaquin Section, Schumann led her team to a 23-5 overall record.

"We are very fortunate to have signed a player of Kayla's caliber," NNU interim coach Ryan McCarthy said. "I have never seen a high school student-athlete with the commitment to the game like hers. As a legit 5-9 point guard, her potential is very high."

"She comes from one of the most successful high school programs in her area of California and has obviously been instrumental in their success."

Over the course of the last three seasons, Schumann's Turlock High School Bulldogs have a combined record of 70-15, won three league titles, and been undefeated in league play for the past two seasons.

"She is extremely skilled and can score in a number of ways, but what most impresses me is how well she sees the floor. She sees the game at a different speed," McCarthy added. "Knowing Kayla and her family, I am confident she will be a great addition to our basketball family and will have a great four years at Northwest Nazarene University."

Seattle Pacific

Issaquah Product Signs With Falcons (11/17/10)

Maddey Pflaumer, a 5-foot-11 post player from Issaquah High School, has signed a national letter of intent to join the Seattle Pacific women's basketball program beginning in the fall of 2011.

Pflaumer is heading into her fourth year on the Issaquah varsity, and as served as a team captain for two years. She was a first-team All-Kingco Conference selection last season as a junior, averaging 12.5 points, 6.8 rebounds and 1.3 blocked shots per game.

She broke the Issaquah single-season school record for blocks, finishing with 52. And, she was voted the team's best offensive player.

Last winter, Pflaumer helped Issaquah advance to the Class 4A state tournament semifinals.

Falcons Sign Standout from Monroe (11/12/10)

Suzanna Ohlsen packs a lot of talent – both athletic and academic – onto her 5-foot-7 frame. Starting next fall, she'll bring that basketball and classroom talent to Seattle Pacific.

Ohlsen, a three-sport star at Monroe High School in neighboring Snohomish County north of Seattle, has signed a national letter of intent to join the Falcons.

"Suzanna is definitely one of the best players in the state," SPU head coach Julie van Beek Heisey said of the point guard. "She had a lot of opportunities to go to Division I

schools. We feel really fortunate to sign a player as well as a student of her caliber.”

On the court, Ohlsen has been a starter for the Bearcats since her freshman year. She owns school records for steals both in a single game and for a season, points scored in a season field goals made and attempted in a season, and best single-season free throw percentage. Ohlsen was both an All-Wesco and an all-area first-team selection last year as a junior, and was All-Wesco honorable mention as a sophomore.

She also has been a four-time state cross country participant for Monroe, and is a two-time state qualifier in track.

Western Oregon

Wolves Sign Five For 2011-12 Season (6/8/11)

Western Oregon has added five players to its 2011-12 women's basketball roster, including four prep standouts and a transfer from Northern State.

The recruits include point guards Jacqee Jasinski (Rapid City, S.D. - Rapid City Central) and Elise Miller (Milwaukee, Ore./Clackamas), wings Andi Maleiki (West Linn, Ore./Wilsonville) and Amber Reade (Phoenix, Ariz./Paradise Valley), and post Dana Goularte (Burley, Wash./South Kitsap).

The 5-6 Jasinski comes to Western after one season at Northern State. An integral member of an NSU squad that made the NCAA Tournament, she led the team in three-point shooting percentage (.391) in more than 13 minutes per game.

As a senior at Rapid City Central High School, Jasinski averaged 12.1 points and 7.5 rebounds while shooting 37 percent from three-point range, earning first team all-state honors. She was also a semifinalist for South Dakota Miss Basketball.

"Jacqee brings quality playing experience at the DII level from a very competitive program to our program," WOU head coach Greg Bruce said. "She is a great athlete who is a very intense competitor and possesses a high basketball I.Q.

Miller joins the Wolves out of a highly successful prep program in Clackamas High School. The 5-6 guard started every game for the 27-2 Cavaliers who spent a majority of the season ranked as the top team in the state.

She garnered All-Three Rivers League honorable mention honors after posting averages of 6.6 points, 6.4 assists, 4.1 steals, and 3.4 rebounds this past season. She was also recognized with the squad's Best Defensive Player award.

"Elise is the epitome of a true point guard," Bruce said. "With her team-oriented attitude, she would rather get credit for an assists over shooting herself. She is a very savvy player and has been the floor leader of two very successful high school programs. Quite simply, Elise is a winner and will bring a great work ethic to WOU."

Maleike (5-8) comes to Western after spending her senior year at Wilsonville High School. She put up averages of 12.7 points, 1.8 rebounds, 2.5 assists, and 1.8 assists in 28 games for the Wildcats, including a 22-point outburst in the season opener. Maleike was an all-league performer as a sophomore and junior at West Linn High School.

"Andi is an outstanding three-point shooter with unlimited range," Bruce said. "She has a very high basketball IQ and was a major contributor at Wilsonville. I think her best basketball is still ahead of her and she has an opportunity to be a solid all-around player at the DII level."

Reade joins the Wolves after a stellar four-year career at Paradise Valley High School in Phoenix, Ariz. The 5-8 wing posted averages of 15.7 points, 7.2 rebounds, 2.3 assists, and 3.0 steals per game as a senior while shooting 43-percent from the field.

A member of the varsity squad all four years, Reade was an all-state honorable mention selection as a junior and senior, and was named Paradise Valley's Athlete of the Year.

"Amber is a flat-out scorer," said Bruce. "She can hurt you in a number of ways, from the three-point line, driving to the basket, or even posting up. She has already developed a college-ready pull-up jumper, but the best part about Amber is that she is not satisfied with her skill set. She has the chance to be an impact player the moment she arrives in Monmouth."

Goularte (5-11) enters WOU as a four-year varsity starter, the last two years of which came at South Kitsap High School. She led her squad to a 20-6 finish and a berth in the state tournament as a senior, averaging 9.5 points, 8.5 rebounds, 2.2 assists, and 2.0 steals per game. Goularte was a first team all-league selection as a junior and senior.

"WOU basketball fans are going to love watching Dana play because she has a great team-oriented attitude and is a real hustler," noted Bruce. "She is a warrior on the boards and is extremely fast running the floor. Dana has the ability to influence the game in so many different ways, and her athleticism and personal qualities are a perfect match for our program."

Western Washington

Vikings Add East Region MVP to 2011-12 Roster

Guard Trishi Williams, who was the NWAACC East Region MVP last winter, is transferring from Columbia Basin College to attend Western Washington University and play for the Vikings.

Western also was the choice of two freshmen, 5-foot-11 forward Mackenzie Cooper (Tumwater) and 5-5 guard Chantel Dixon (Federal Way). Both are expected to redshirt this season.

The 5-9 Williams averaged 12.0 points, 7.2 rebounds and 4.4 assists as she led the Hawks to a 26-3 record, the East Region title (12-2) and the semifinals of the NWAACC

Championships. She was a second-team NWAACC all-tournament pick and a NWAACC all-academic choice.

As a senior at Mabton High School, Williams was co-MVP of the South Central Athletic Conference as a senior. She averaged 17.0 points and 12.0 rebounds for the Vikings that season.

Williams also was a Class 1A state champion in track and field as a javelin thrower and a first-team all-league pick as an outside hitter in volleyball.

Cooper was a first-team Class 2A all-state choice as a senior at Tumwater High School, earning first-team state all-tournament honors in helping the Thunderbirds place fourth. She averaged 12.0 points and 10.0 rebounds.

Dixon missed her senior season at Federal Way High School because of torn knee ligaments. She was an honorable mention South Puget Sound League North Division all-star as a freshman, sophomore and junior.

Dixon averaged 8.6 points as a junior on a 21-8 team that reached the state tournament.

Vikings Sign NWAACC MVP (5/11/11)

Point guard Brandi Benner, who was the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges' Northern Region Most Valuable Player as a sophomore last winter at Skagit Valley CC, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at Western Washington University.

The 5-foot-5 Benner, who is a graduate of Lynden High School, scored a team-leading 12.9 points per game in helping SVCC to a 22-6 record and the North Division championship (15-1). She also averaged 3.0 assists, 3.0 rebounds and 1.6 steals.

“She’s an extremely hard worker, who is really going to help us out in the back court,” said Western coach Carmen Dolfo. “We’re very excited to have such an outstanding player and person from this community join our team.”

As a freshman at SVCC, Benner was a second-team all-region pick, averaging 11.9 points, 3.6 rebounds and 2.0 assists on a 27-2 team that won the division title with a perfect 16-0 record.

Benner also lettered as a freshman in tennis at SVCC, winning the NWAACC doubles title and placing second in No.2 singles.

Benner, who plans to either major in kinesiology or take a program in pre-medicine at Western, maintained a 4.0 grade point average at SVCC. She served as secretary for the Associated Students of SVCC, organizing a variety of community service projects throughout Skagit County, and was recipient of the school’s distinguished Charles H. Lewis Memorial Award.

As a senior at LHS, Benner was named the Bellingham Herald Whatcom County League All-Sports Athlete of the Year. A Washington Interscholastic Basketball Coaches Association Class 2A All-State pick and state tournament MVP, she averaged 15.0 points, 4.1 assists and 3.7 rebounds in leading the Lions to a 23-4 record and the state championship.

Benner was twice named a first-team Northwest Conference and Whatcom County all-star.

A three-sport athlete for the Lions, Benner was twice a WashingtonPreps.com second-team all-state choice as a libero in volleyball, leading Lynden to third place at state as a senior and sixth as a junior. In tennis, she won league, district and state doubles titles as a junior and senior.

Vikings Add Division I Transfer (3/28/11)

Forward Sarah Hill, a transfer from NCAA Division I University of Maryland-Baltimore County, has enrolled for spring quarter at Western Washington University and will play for the Vikings beginning this fall.

The 6-foot-3 Hill has not competed the last two seasons after playing basketball and volleyball for the Retrievers during the 2008-09 academic year. Her older sister, Celeste, earned All-America honors at Western in 1999-2000 on a 27-4 team that reached the NCAA II national semifinals and ranks third on the school’s career scoring list with 1,658 points.

Hill was a four-sport letter winner at Lloyd C. Bird High School in Chesterfield, Virginia. As a senior in basketball, she helped the Skyhawks to the Central Region Championship and the Class AAA State tournament.

Two Post Players Early Signees for Western (11/22/10)

Two senior post-players, 6-foot-3 Kayla Bernsen from Moses Lake High School and 6-0 Sydney Donaldson from Edmonds-Woodway, have signed national letters of intent to play basketball at Western Washington University beginning next fall.

Last season as a junior, Bernsen led Moses Lake to eighth place at the Class 4A state tournament. She earned second-team Columbia Basin Big Nine League all-star honors, averaging 12.8 points and 7.9 rebounds.

As a sophomore at Connell High School, Bernsen played on an Eagles team that finished 24-2, won the South Central Athletic Conference title, placed second at districts and finished sixth at the Class 1A state tournament.

Donaldson was a second-team Western Conference all-star as a junior at Edmonds-Woodway, averaging 10.6 points, 8.0 rebounds, 3.6 assists and 3.0 blocked shots. She helped the Warriors to a 25-3 record, a Wesco South Division title and fifth place at the Class 4A state tournament. Donaldson made five 3-pointers in scoring a career-high 18 points versus Federal Way at the state tourney.

2010-11

Alaska Anchorage

Seawolves Sign Four Freshman to National Letters (6/29/10)

Freshmen Kylie Burns, Morgan Lee, Brittany Neeley and Caitlin Nelson have signed National Letters of Intent to play basketball for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Burns, a 5-9 guard from Kansas City, Kan., averaged 19.8 points and 6.0 rebounds as a senior at Bishop Ward High School earning first team all-state honors from the Topeka Capital-Journal.

She was also named second team all-state by the Wichita Eagle and Kansas Basketball Coaches Association/ The Wyandotte County Player of the Year posted 10 games with 20 or more points, including a season-high of 34 against Basehor-Linwood. She was also named the Kansas Female High School Athlete of the Year in the Kansas City Metro area by the Kansas City Sports Commission.

"Kylie's honors speak volumes about her skills on the basketball court, but we have been equally impressed by her maturity throughout the recruiting process," said UAA coach Tim Moser "With her all-around talent and willingness to grow and learn, we think Kylie can be a special player by the time her career at UAA is finished."

Lee, a 6-2 post from Fontana, Calif., comes north after a solid prep career at Etiwanda High School. As a senior last season, she helped the Eagles to a 24-8 record, including a 10-0 mark in the Baseline Conference, and a spot in the California CIF State Championships.

"Morgan did not put up huge statistics in high school because she played behind a pair of highly recruited Division I-type players during her career," said Moser. "However, at 6-2 and with a college-ready build, she is ready to face the demands of playing on the interior. We think Morgan gives us an solid post presence and we're very excited she chose to become a Seawolf."

Neeley, a 6-1 forward from Colton, Calif. , joins the Seawolves after averaging team-highs of 15.8 points and 1.0 blocks per game at Redlands High School in 2009-10, earning All-Southern Section honorable-mention honors from the Riverside Press-Enterprise and All-Citrus Belt Conference accolades from MaxPreps.com. She also averaged 6.7 rebounds, 2.4 assists and 2.1 assists as a junior.

"With her height and shooting skills, Brittany is another player whose versatility should lend itself well at this level," Moser said. "Not only is she a tenacious rebounder, but she can step outside and nail the three-pointer, and she is a tough defender as well."

Nelson, a 6-2 forward from Riverton , Utah , was a second team all-state honoree by the Salt Lake Tribune and played in the prestigious Utah WBCA Senior All-Star Game this spring. As a junior and senior, Nelson helped the Wolverines to a combined 41-6 record and a pair of state tournament appearances, including runner-up honors in 2008-09.

"Caitlin is a terrific athlete who really started to come into her own as a basketball player last year," said Moser. "Playing on one of the top prep teams in Utah the last few seasons, she knows what it takes to be a winner on the court and in the classroom.

"Caitlin brings a never-say-die attitude every time she steps on the floor as she demonstrated in her final high school game when she nearly single-handedly brought her team back from a huge halftime deficit to lose a the buzzer."

Seawolf Women Bolster Backcourt With JC Star (5/21/10)

Alaska Anchorage has added more firepower to his 2010-11 roster with the addition of Tijera Mathews who has signed a National Letter of Intent.

A 5-10 guard/forward from Palmdale, Calif., Mathews earned first-team All-State and All-Foothill Conference honors as a sophomore at Antelope Valley (Calif.) College last season. She averaged 11.8 points, 6.4 rebounds, 2.1 assists, 1.6 steals and 1.0 blocks per game, leading the Marauders to a second straight playoff appearance.

Mathews was named MVP of the both the AVC Holiday and Santa Barbara City College tournaments, boosting AVC to the SBCC tourney title with 17 points and 17 rebounds in an overtime title-game victory over Grossmont. Her career-high of 29 points came in a home win over Rio Hondo.

"Tijera is a terrific addition to our lineup," said UAA coach Tim Moser, whose Seawolves are coming off a 24-5 campaign and their fourth straight NCAA Tournament appearance. "She can play multiple positions offensively and showed good three-point range last year, shooting 35 percent. Those qualities should allow her to create match-up problems for our opponents. Her athletic ability and tenacity on defense will also be a plus on that end of the court."

As a freshman, Mathews posted averages of 10.3 points and 6.2 rebounds. Teaming with fellow UAA signee Siedah Wilson, the pair helped AVC to a 53-16 record and back-to-back Foothill Conference titles over the last two seasons.

Swedish Player Signs With Alaska Anchorage (5/17/10)

Swedish guard Kajsa Lundahl has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

The 6-foot guard from Lund, Sweden, becomes the third Swede to sign with the Seawolves in the past five seasons, joining returning junior Hanna Johansson and former guard/forward Maria Nilsson (2006-08).

"We have certainly had great success with both Hanna and Maria, and Kajsa gives us every indication that she will continue that tradition," said UAA coach Tim Moser, who enters his fifth season at the Seawolf helm in 2010-11.

"She has great size for a backcourt player and plays with a good deal of confidence. We are especially excited about her defensive abilities as she is often assigned to guard the opposing team's best player regardless of position."

Lundahl has been a three-year member of the Swedish Under-18 National Team, which is currently preparing for the 2010 European U-18 Championship in Poprad, Slovakia, July 29-Aug. 8. At the same tournament last year, Lundahl averaged 5.1 points, 2.3 rebounds and 2.4 assists per game as Sweden captured third place.

She also helped the Swedes to a repeat title at the 2009 U-18 Nordic Championship and a runner-up finish in '09 Baltic Sea Cup as a 17-year-old.

"Along with her talent, we were especially impressed by Kajsa's work ethic," Moser added. "She is the kind of player who never stops working to make herself better and shows great 'coachability.' We are extremely happy she has chosen to join the Seawolf family."

Seawolves Add Center from Eastern Utah (5/11/10)

Utah junior college center Kaylie Robison has signed a National Letter of Intent to play for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

A 6-1 center, Robison was a first-team All-Scenic West Athletic Conference performer the past two seasons at College of Eastern Utah in Price, Utah. As a sophomore last year, she was the SWAC's second-leading scorer (16.9 ppg) and third-leading rebounder (9.3 rpg), along with other league ranks of first in offensive rebounding (4.9 orpg), third in blocks (1.2 bpg) and fourth in field-goal pct. (.522).

Robinson scored 20-plus points on 11 occasions and gathered double-digit rebounds 15 times, including a 28-point, 18-rebound performance in a Dec. 12 road win over Colorado Northwestern.

As a freshman in 2008-09, she led the Golden Eagles with averages of 13.1 points, 10.4 rebounds and 1.5 blocks, shooting .526 from the floor.

"Kaylie is a tough and talented post player who will certainly give us an element we were missing a year ago," said Seawolf coach Tim Moser, whose Seawolves went 24-5 and reached the NCAA Division II Tournament second round in 2009-10.

"She understands how to use her body to gain position down low and has a soft touch around the basket. We are thrilled she has chosen to continue her career here at UAA."

Prior to her accomplishments at CEU, the Sandy, Utah, native was a prep star at Jordan High School. As a senior in 2007-08, she averaged 14.4 points per game and was named First Team

All-State in the large-schools division by the Salt Lake Tribune.

Seawolves Tap California for Standout JC Guards (5/4/10)

Alaska Anchorage has added a pair of talented players from the California junior college ranks with the signings of Francesca De Angelis and Siedah Wilson to National Letters of Intent.

De Angelis, a 5-9 shooting guard, was a first-team all-league and second-team all-state honoree at Santa Barbara City College last season. The Laguna Niguel, Calif., native was the Western State Conference scoring champion with 20.2 points per game, while ranking third in the league in steals in 2009-10.

The Vacqueros' team captain and most valuable player, De Angelis tallied three games of 30 points or more, including a career-high of 34 on Dec. 18.

"Francesca is a multi-dimensional guard who can score from all over the court," said UAA coach Tim Moser. "We are really impressed with her toughness and drive to succeed on and off the court."

Wilson, a 5-6 point guard, was a two-time first-team All-Foothill Conference pick at Antelope Valley College in her hometown of Lancaster, Calif. As a sophomore last season, she averaged 7.8 points and 2.8 assists per game to lead AVC to its second straight league title. Wilson was the MVP of the Moorpark Invitational and made the all-tourney squad at two other events.

"Siedah is a natural leader who has a knack for making her teammates better," said Moser. "She is quick, smart and relentless - all of the qualities that make a successful point guard."

Alaska Fairbanks

Nanooks Sign Players from Juneau, Ketchikan (11/18/09)

Emily Johnson of Juneau and Ciara Patton of Ketchikan have signed letter-of-intents to play for the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

A 5-7 point guard, Johnson was a versatile player at Juneau Douglas where she was a part of the Bear's back-to-back Region V championship teams. Johnson brings versatility and tenacious defense, which should fit the Nanooks mold.

"Emily is a versatile and fundamentally sound player who will immediately help us," stated UAF coach Dave Thompson. "Emily has the ability to defend all positions extremely well and her competitiveness will be an asset for our program."

Patton, a 5-8 guard, will join the Nanooks after four successful years at Kechikan High School. Patton led the Lady Knights to a fifth place finish in the 2009 state playoffs

averaging 10.7 points per game, while shooting 62.5 percent from the field and 60 percent from behind the three-point line.

Central Washington

Wildcats Add Transfers, Assistant Coach (9/30/10)

Center/forward Aleyse Evans (Sacramento, Calif./Mesa Verde HS) from Loyola Marymount University and point guard Luv Rattler (Riverside, Calif./Kentlake HS [Wash.]) from Cameron University will join Central Washington University's women's basketball team this winter for their senior seasons.

Joining the coaching staff will be Stacy Clinesmith, 32, who places Rachael Ziemann as the Wildcats' full-time assistant coach. She starred in basketball at Mead High School in Spokane before embarking on a standout collegiate career at UC Santa Barbara (1996-2000) and then a professional career in the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA), the National Women's Basketball League (NWBL) and internationally in Puerto Rico. Clinesmith is a 2000 graduate of UCSB with a degree in sociology.

"The great thing about Stacy is that she has Northwest connections, which is huge for recruiting purposes," CWU head coach Jeff Whitney said. "She has great experience playing at a quality Division I program, and then for several seasons in the WNBA. Her credentials as a basketball player speak for themselves, but she also has great experience as from her time as an assistant at Oregon State."

Clinesmith finished her college career ranked second in UCSB history with 647 assists and is sixth on the Gauchos' all-time scoring list with 1,565 career points. She helped UCSB to a 107-20 record and four NCAA Division I tournament appearances during her playing career.

Following the conclusion of her playing career, Clinesmith spent one season (2008-09) as the Director of Basketball Operations at Oregon State University.

Evans, a 6-foot-1 senior, played for three seasons at Loyola Marymount in the West Coast Conference, appearing in 70 games for the Lions. She started 25 of 30 games in 2008-09 and led LMU with a sophomore class-record 7.1 rebounds per game -- an average that ranked sixth in the WCC. Last season, she appeared in 13 games with one start before leaving the team mid-season.

"Aleyse brings great size and athleticism to our post position," Whitney said. "All of her skills have been a proven commodity in the West Coast Conference. She is excellent on the boards, and her ability to block shots is outstanding."

Rattler, a 5-foot-4 senior point guard, prepped at Kentlake High School before attending Bellevue Community College and then Cameron University in Oklahoma. While at Bellevue, she earned Northern Region MVP honors in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) and helped the Bulldogs to the NWAACC championship game as a freshman. At Division II Cameron

last season, Rattler averaged 12.3 points and 4.4 assists per game.

"Luv is definitely a scoring point guard who is also a solid on-ball defender," Whitney said. "She is very quick and athletic. Her ability to get to the basket is incredible, and she has a true knack to get to the free throw line."

Wildcats Sign Prep Standouts From Ellensburg, Spokane (5/26/10)

Two high school seniors from the east side of the state of Washington, including hometown product Deaira Gordon, have signed National Letters of Intent to continue their basketball careers at Central Washington University.

Gordon, from Ellensburg, and Daisy Burke from Lewis and Clark High School in Spokane, have both declared their intentions to join the CWU women's basketball program for the 2010-11 season as true freshmen.

Gordon, a 5-foot-11 forward, helped lead Ellensburg High School to four Class 2A state trophies and was a first-team all-state forward as a senior for the Bulldogs.

She was a two-time all-Central Washington Athletic Conference (CWAC) selection who averaged 16.9 points per game as a senior for Ellensburg, which finished fourth at the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) Class 2A state tournament this past March. The Bulldogs also earned second, fifth, and seventh-place finishes at the state tournament over the course of Gordon's career.

"Deaira's ability to score both inside and out is what drew our attention to her early in the recruiting process," CWU coach Jeff Whitney said. "We later discovered that she is a very well-rounded player on both ends of the floor, has great court awareness, and is an extremely good passer."

"Deaira is a key component to our incoming freshman class," Whitney continued. "She comes from a winning program, and the experience of being associated with winning programs was an overall key to our recruitment this off-season."

Gordon finished her four-year Bulldog career with 1,221 points and with a total of three all-conference selections. She was a second-team all-CWAC choice as a sophomore before collecting first-team honors during her final two seasons at EHS.

Once she sees action for the Wildcats, Gordon will become the first former Ellensburg player to appear in a CWU women's basketball contest since Missy Thompson averaged 9.2 points per game during the 1992-93 season.

Burke, 5-foot-7, was a four-year letter winner at Lewis and Clark, helping the Tigers to state tournaments in each of her four seasons. LC won the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA) Class 4A state title during Burke's first two seasons, while placing fifth during her junior campaign. The Tigers qualified, but did not place, this past season.

"Daisy comes from one of the more successful high school programs in the state, especially over the past five years," Whitney said. "She was involved with the two state titles, and she also played on one of the top AAU teams (the Northwest Blazers).

"Daisy's mental toughness and her intensity are the things that attracted us to her in her recruitment to Central. She has all the skills necessary to be a solid point guard in the GNAC and at the Division II level," Whitney said.

As a prep, Burke earned honorable mention all-Greater Spokane League honors while averaging 10 points, four rebounds, and six assists per game.

Wildcats Get Point Guard From Sacramento State (4/2/10)

After spending most of the 2009-10 season without a true point guard in its lineup, Central Washington may have filled that void with the enrollment of former Sacramento State guard Nneka Payne. Payne has enrolled in classes at CWU this quarter and will join the Wildcats for the 2010-11 season.

"Nneka's transfer to Central fills a key spot that we as a program need to be successful in the coming years," Whitney said. "We now have a very athletic point guard who can score as well. She is a great shooter who can play excellent defense, and is a very solid all-around basketball player who should make an immediate impact in our program."

The 5-foot-6 Payne, who prepped at both Auburn and Auburn Riverside high schools and graduated from Auburn in 2008, played in 36 games over two seasons at Sacramento State. She averaged 4.0 points per game as a freshman in 2008-09, appearing in 28 of the Hornets' contests and earning her only start against Eastern Washington.

As a sophomore this past winter, she appeared in eight games and averaged 5.9 points per game in those appearances before leaving the team in December. During her high school career, Payne was a first-team all-South Puget Sound League honoree during her two seasons at Auburn.

A scoring point guard during her prep days, she averaged 14.0 points per game as a junior and 15.0 points per game as a senior with the Trojans. Her career scoring high at Auburn was a 29-point effort against Bonney Lake.

Central Signs Three Six-Footers (11/18/09)

Central Washington has signed three six-footers to national letters of intent including 6-foot-1 Amber Moser from Sheridan High School in Oregon, 6-foot-3 Annie Martinez from East Valley High School in Yakima and 6-foot-4 Marissa Pratt from Redmond High School.

"Adding these three players will help develop our inside game for the future," said CWU head coach Jeff Whitney. "We have been lacking an inside game, so to have the addition of players of this size bodes well in increasing our offensive and

defensive potential for the future. We have not had the ability to have this type of size (during my tenure)."

Moser will be a four-year letter winner in basketball at Sheridan High School in northwest Oregon and was a second-team all-state (Class 3A) selection for the Spartans as a junior. A three-sport standout (also starring in volleyball and track and field), she averaged 15.2 points and 6.6 rebounds per game in 2008-09.

"Amber is a very athletic forward that has the ability to play inside-out," Whitney said. "Her skill set is such that where she can jump, run the floor well, and is the type of player who will come in and play immediately for us."

"We were fortunate to get her (she was recruited by some Division I and top GNAC schools), and I think that (the coaching staff) did a great job getting her to commit to Central. Amber is a good kid with a great and very involved family."

Martinez has also been a three-sport standout during her prep career at East Valley of Yakima, where she has competed in basketball, volleyball, and track as well. She has twice been a first-team all-Central Washington Athletic Conference selection in volleyball but will turn her attention at the college level exclusively to basketball.

"Annie is a very coachable and enthusiastic player," Whitney said. "At 6-3, she has a very good frame to build upon. She has good court vision as a post player, has a nice mid-range shot, and is a great find for us."

Pratt will finish her prep career this winter as a three-year letter winner in basketball at Redmond High School. As a junior for the Mustangs, she averaged 6.9 points and 5.8 rebounds per game after posting similar numbers (6.3 points, 5.6 rebounds per game) as a sophomore. At 6-foot-4, she is the tallest women's basketball player to sign a National Letter of Intent with the Wildcat program in the school's history.

"Marissa's height is something that this program has needed," Whitney explained, "and you can't coach height. We look forward to bringing her in and developing her into a good college basketball player."

Montana State Billings

Yellowjackets Add Transfer from Montana State (7/7/10)

Former Billings Central High School and Montana State standout Jenny Heringer will play for Montana State Billings this coming season.

"Jenny was a superb player at both Billings Central and MSU. I believe she will have an immediate and positive impact on our team," MSUB coach Kevin Woodin said.

Heringer was a three-time all-state selection and led her team to three state basketball appearances at Billings Central. During her senior year, she averaged 21.6 points,

10.5 rebounds and 3.8 assists, while earning Montana Gatorade Player of the Year honors.

She also was the Most Valuable Player of the 2004 state high school basketball tournament and was a Street & Smith Magazine honorable mention All-America selection. In addition, she was the 2005 Billings Midland Roundtable Athlete of the Year.

In her three-year playing career at Montana State, Heringer played in 87 games and averaged nearly nine points and five rebounds per game. She shot over 80 percent from the free throw line. Heringer earned second team Big Sky All-Conference honors in 2007-08. In addition, she earned numerous conference Player of the Week honors and was a multiple selection on the Big Sky Conference all-academic team.

Yellowjackets Sign Former Montana State Standout (5/10/10)

Former Montana State University player Beata Bak will play for Montana State Billings this winter. "Beata will provide us with instant size and experience on the interior," said MSUB coach Kevin Woodin. "She is a very skilled player and I look for her to help us immediately."

Bak, a 6-2 forward/center from Stalowa Wola, Poland, played her junior season at MSU after transferring from Miles Community College. In Bozeman, Bak played in 31 of 32 games, averaging six points and four rebounds per game. She recorded a season-high 19 points in a game against UC Riverside, and pulled down a season-high 14 rebounds against Boise State.

Bak was named Montana State's Player-of-the-Week twice. On the season, she blocked 40 shots which was the third best season total in Bobcat history.

As a sophomore at Miles Community College, she was named the Montana-Dakota Conference's Most Valuable Player, averaging 17 points and nine rebounds per game.

Yellowjackets Sign Prep, JC Standouts (4/26/10)

Lisa Laslovich, a guard from Anaconda, Mont., and Brooke Tolman, who played JC ball at Central Wyoming, have signed national letter-of-intents with Montana State Billings.

Laslovich was a four-year letter winner and earned first team all-conference and first team all-state honors as a senior at Anaconda. She averaged 10 points, three steals and three assists per game. She helped lead the Copperheads to state all four years, where they garnered two state championships in 2008 and 2009. In addition, the Copperheads finished third at state in 2010.

She also earned Treasure State Classic All-Star honors and is scheduled to play on the Montana-Wyoming all-star team.

Not only did she excel on the court, but also in the classroom as she will graduate with a 3.98 grade point average and is a

member of National Honor Society and is the senior class president.

"Lisa is a tremendous leader and player," MSUB coach Kevin Woodin said. "She is a tenacious defender who plays with great intensity and I am confident she will have a positive impact on our program."

Tolman, from Honeyville, Utah, led Central Wyoming in scoring averaging 14 points per game and also averaged five rebounds and three assists. She shot 43 percent from beyond the arc as she connected on 91 triples. Tolman earned all-conference and all-region honors.

She prepped at Box Elder High School in Brigham City, Utah, where she was a four-year letter winner and a McDonald's All-American high school nominee. She also will play volleyball at MSUB next season.

"Brooke is a tremendous athlete and competitor," Woodin added. "She is committed to doing whatever it takes to help her team win."

Two Montana Prep Standouts Sign with Yellowjackets (11/19/09)

Bobbi Knudsen and Corie Smith have signed to play basketball for Montana State Billings starting in the 2010-11 season.

"Both Bobbie and Corie have had extremely successful high school careers and they both play extremely hard," MSUB coach Kevin Woodin said. "I believe their athleticism and abilities will improve our team and I look for them to make a positive impact on our program both on and off the court."

Knudsen, a 5-8 guard from Malta High School, is a three year letter winner in basketball and has also earned letters for cross country and track. For her career, she has averaged 11 points and 5.5 rebounds per game and has shot 59 percent from the floor.

Last season, Knudsen was named to the all-conference and all-state teams in helping Malta to district and divisional championships, leading to a runner-up finish at the state tournament. In all, she has helped MHS to three consecutive district and divisional titles with one state championship in 2007.

In the classroom, Knudsen is a member of the National Honor Society, student council and Youth Group FCCLA.

Smith, a 5-11 forward, has had a successful basketball and track career at Belgrade High School in Belgrade, Mont. Last season, Smith led the Central 'A' Conference in 12 rebounds per game and was in the Top 10 in field goal percentage (45.6 percent), steals (35) and scoring (9.89 ppg).

In 2007-08, she was named honorable mention all-conference and then last season, earned second team all-conference while being named to the first team Central 'A' all-divisional

tournament team. Smith also helped lead Belgrade to a divisional championship in 2009.

Off the court, Smith is a member of the National Honors Society and has earned both basketball and track academic all-state honors twice.

Northwest Nazarene

Five Sign Letters With Northwest Nazarene (5/19/10)

Five players including Monica Garcia, Alla Dzyidzhieshvili, Chelsie Luke, Leslie Warwick, and Susan Ruettgers - have each signed National Letters-of-Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene and play for the Crusaders next year.

Garcia (5-8, G, Jr., Guadalajara, Mexico), who comes to NNU from Chabot Community College in Oakland, Calif., averaged 17.1 points and 6.5 rebounds per game last season in leading her team to an Elite Eight appearance in the California Community College Athletic Association state playoffs.

An All-Coast Conference all-star as a sophomore, Monica was an honorable-mention All-Coast Conference selection as a freshman and is a nominee for the Chabot Athlete-of-the-Year Award and the Tenney Award.

"We could not be happier that we were able to get a player like Monica to join our program," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said.

"Monica is a scorer through and through who is able to play any of the guard positions. Her experience is evident in how she plays and interacts with her teammates and I am certain she will be play a huge role in leading this team next season both on and off the court."

Dzyidzhieshvili (5-6, G, Jr., Ontario, OR) attended Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore., and was a NWAACC East Region all-conference selection this past season, averaging 11.8 points, 4.6 rebounds, and 2.8 steals per game.

Alla finished as the TVCC career leader in steals and holds the single-game steals record with an impressive 11 in one game. A 2008 graduate of Ontario High School, Alla will graduate from TVCC in June with her Associate of Arts degree and carries a 3.21 GPA.

"Alla is a special athlete with exceptional jumping ability and strength," Lindley added. "She will immediately be able to defend the other team's best guard and make things happen defensively."

"I am really excited to watch her progress in our up-tempo system that particularly favors her natural gifts. Alla is the type of person you want on your team; she is a hard worker, team player, and will provide great leadership for us."

Luke (5-9, G, Fr., Meridian, ID) will graduate from Meridian High School and joins the Crusaders after averaging 16.2 points, 8.0 rebounds, 3.1 assists, and 3.0 steals per game for

the Warriors. A first-team all-Southern Idaho Conference selection this season, Chelsie was also an Idaho 5A first-team all-state team member.

"We are really excited that we were able to keep someone of Chelsie's ability here in the Treasure Valley," Lindley comments. "Besides being a quality person, Chelsie is an outstanding athlete who has a very good feel for the game. No doubt she will leave her mark here."

Warwick (5-11, P, Fr., Boise, ID) joins the Crusaders from Centennial High School where she averaged 6.0 points and 4.2 rebounds per game as a senior and earned a 3.70 GPA in the classroom.

"Leslie is going to surprise some people during her time at NNU," Lindley adds. "She is athletic, fundamentally sound, and a quick learner. We are thrilled to have an opportunity to coach her and watch her progress. On top of that, Leslie is a great person off the court who will only make our team better in every way."

Ruettgers (6-1, P, Fr., Sisters, OR) joins the Crusader family from Sisters High School where she was a first-team All-Sky-Em League selection as a senior, averaging 12.1 points and 11.0 rebounds per game.

"We are really excited to have the opportunity to coach someone with Susan's potential," Lindley comments. "She will be a great fit in our system due to her athleticism and ability to drive the ball from the high post. With her work ethic and desire to get better, I anticipate that she will end up being a great post player at NNU."

The Crusaders spring recruiting class joins Megan Hingston, who signed with NNU during the November signing period, bringing the 2010 class to six.

Hingston finished her senior season as the Central Valley Conference Player-of-the-Year, was an Oregon 6A first-team all-state selection, and averaged 15.5 points and 5.4 rebounds per game at McNary High School in Salem, Oregon.

Crusaders Sign Player From Keizer (11/29/09)

Megan Hingston has signed a National Letter-of-Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene University and play basketball for the Crusaders next year.

Hingston, a 5-9 senior guard at McNary High School in Keizer, Ore., was named the 6A Central Valley League Player-of-the-Year during her junior season, averaging 17.5 points, 9.8 rebounds, and 3.2 assists per game. She was also named to the Oregon 6A all-state second-team in 2008-09.

"We have no doubt that Megan has the potential to immediately impact our program," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "Megan is exactly the type of athlete that we needed. She is strong, jumps well, and plays very hard and physical."

In addition to her on-court talents, Hingston has excelled in the classroom, carrying a 3.96 grade point average at McNary High.

Seattle Pacific

Three Players Sign With Falcons (11/25/09)

A versatile player with a winning background; a solid, young rebounder with plenty of potential; and a sharp-shooting guard who also can pass are ready to take the next step in their basketball careers with Seattle Pacific University.

Aubree Callen, Riley Butler and Betsy Kingma all have signed national letters of intent to join the Falcons beginning in 2010-11.

Callen is a 5-foot-9 guard from Jerome High School in Jerome, Idaho. As a junior last season, she averaged 15 points, eight rebounds and six assists per game in helping the Tigers take third place in the Class 4A state tournament. She is a two-time All-Idaho first-team selection.

"She is a great competitor and a strong all-around player," SPU head coach Julie van Beek said. "She knows how to win and will find a way to get the job done in a tight situation. She's a very smart player who is tenacious on defense."

Butler is a 6-2 center from Kentlake High in Covington, southeast of Seattle. She averaged six points and eight rebounds for the Falcons last season.

"She has only been playing for a couple of years, so she has a huge upside," van Beek said. "One of things I really like about Riley is she isn't afraid of hard work and she really wants to learn. She's a very good rebounder and has good hands. And she does a good job of finishing around the basket."

Kingma, a 5-11 shooting guard, was an All-Kingco Conference first-teamer for Newport High School in the Seattle suburb of Bellevue. She averaged 16.9 points, 4.8 rebounds, 1.8 steals, 1.6 blocks and 1.3 assists per game, helping the Knights to 17-10 and earn a trip to the Class 4A state tournament.

"Betsy is a gym rat. She has the ability to put up a lot of points," van Beek said. "We'll count on her for 3-point shooting. She's smart and can make her teammates better with her passing ability. She has a long body and is able to use her length well on defense. And she's a great competitor."

Western Washington

Auburn Product Signs With Vikings (5/25/10)

Heather Restrepo, a senior guard/forward at Auburn High School, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at Western Washington University.

The 5-foot-9 Restrepo was a second-team all-South Puget Sound League North Division choice for the Trojans and played in the Washington State high school senior all-star game where she won the all-around shooting competition prior to the contest.

Auburn 's team MVP and captain, Restrepo averaged 15.0 points and 10.0 rebounds, scoring a career-high 27 points in one game.

As a junior, Restrepo was named Seattle Times and Auburn Reporter Athlete of the Week. As a sophomore, she started on a squad that reached the Class 3A state tournament.

East Valley's Jenni White To Play For Vikings (5/25/10)

Jenni White, a senior guard at East Valley High School in Spokane, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at Western Washington University.

The 5-foot-5 White was named to the Class 3A state all-tournament team as she helped the Knights place eighth. At state, she scored 22 points in a 77-72 two-overtime win over Mount Rainier .

White, who was selected to play in the senior all-state game, scored a career-high 25 points in a regional tournament win over Hanford .

White also made four straight state appearances in golf, earning second-team Greater Spokane League honors as a sophomore and junior.

Vikings Sign Elma Guard Katie Colard (5/19/10)

Katie Colard, a senior guard at Elma High School, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at Western Washington University.

The 5-foot-9 Colard received first-team Daily Olympian all-Area and all-Evergreen League recognition in helping Elma to a 21-6 record and the state quarterfinals. A three-time state all-tournament pick, she averaged 20.0 points, 6.5 rebounds and 6.0 assists for the Eagles and played in the senior all-state game.

"Katie is a great shooter," said Dolfo. "She has excellent mental toughness and just doesn't get rattled. She's going to bring a lot to our program."

As a junior, Colard was an all-Area pick and league co-MVP on a squad that finished 18-5 and got to the state semifinals. An honorable mention Sporting News All-American, she averaged 20.9 points, 5.3 assists, 6.8 rebounds and 1.8 steals.

In a state quarterfinal game against Prosser, Colard had 35 points, scoring 18 in the fourth quarter. She tied a state tournament record by hitting six three-pointers and broke the standard for made free throws with 15.

Colard will be the third family member to attend Western and compete in athletics. Her brother Kevin was a member of the football team, and her sister Kelly played basketball.

Pounds Signs Letter To Play for Vikings (5/19/10)

Marcel Pounds, a senior guard at Bonney Lake High School, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball for Western Washington University.

The 5-foot-8 guard was the South Puget Sound League co-Player of the Year and a second-team Tacoma News Tribune all-Area pick in leading the Panthers to a 19-7 record and a berth in the Class 3A state tournament.

Pounds set school records for points in a game (33), season (524) and career (1,218). As a senior, she averaged 20.2 points, which ranked third in the state and led the SPSL.

"Marcel has a great ability to score and a ton of potential," said 20th year Western coach Carmen Dolfo. "We are really excited about her attending Western."

Pounds, who scored 30 or more points in five games and had a school-record 11 steals in one contest, was selected to play in the Washington State senior all-star game.

As a junior, Pounds led the SPSL in scoring with an 18.7 average. She set school and league records by hitting six three-pointers in one game and 43 during the season.

Vikings Sign Guard From Everett (11/20/09)

Erin Feeney, a senior guard at Jackson High School in Everett, has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball for Western Washington University.

The 5-foot-8 guard, who is the team captain as a senior, was a first-team all-Western Conference South Division choice as a junior. That season she helped the Timberwolves to a third straight Class 4A state tournament appearance and third consecutive Wesco South Division title, averaging a team-leading 20.8 points.

Feeney, who was a Seattle Star Times pick as a junior, hit five 3-pointers in a game as a sophomore against Edmonds-Woodway. While playing sports at Jackson, Feeney attends Chrysalis High School in Woodinville.

2009-10

Alaska Anchorage

Seawolves Add NWAACC All-Star Guard from YVC (8/24/09)

Alaska Anchorage has solidified its backcourt with the addition of Yakima Valley College transfer Kaitlin McBride.

The 5-9 guard from Bothell, Wash., led the Yaks to an unbeaten (14-0) league record and the NWAACC East Region title a year ago. YVC finished 25-7 overall as McBride averaged 9.6 points, 3.5 rebounds, 2.2 assists and 1.8 steals per game.

McBride was a second team NWAACC pick during both the regular season and the postseason tournament. In the NWAACC East-West All-Star Game in March, she helped her squad to an 82-63 victory with team-highs of 14 points and six assists, plus seven rebounds.

“Kaitlin is a terrific defender and really understands the intricacies of the game as a point guard,” said UAA coach Tim Moser, who has led UAA to the past two NCAA Division II semifinals. “She brings a positive attitude to the court every day, and I think she’ll be a great Seawolf the next two years.”

McBride played her freshman season at GNAC rival Western Washington, averaging 2.7 points, 1.3 rebounds and 1.2 assists, while logging 11 starts.

Seawolves Add Top Player from Australia (8/13/09)

Sigourney Thompson, a 5-10 forward from Brisbane, Australia, has signed a scholarship agreement to play basketball this winter for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

The 5-10 forward captained her high school, St. Peter's Lutheran, to the Champion Basketball School of Queensland state title last September averaging 12.1 points, 12.2 rebounds and 4.5 assists per game. In December, she went on to average 14.8 points, 9.4 rebounds and 3.6 assists in the Australian Schools National Championships.

Thompson was the MVP of three separate tournaments in 2008, and earned a reserve spot on the Queensland Under-20 State Team despite being only 18 years old.

“From what we've seen on tape and everything we've learned about Sigourney, she is a gifted athlete who will help us in a number of ways,” said UAA coach Tim Moser, who will also have returning sophomores Hanna Johansson (Sweden) and Viki Wohlers (Germany) on his 2009-10 roster.

“Sigourney has a nice spot-up game from mid-range, but she has the versatility to play out-of-position on offense or defend players of varying size. We're excited that she has chosen to pursue her basketball and educational dreams at UAA.”

Thompson will be the first Australian ever to suit up for the Seawolf women, and the eighth international player to play for Moser, who enters his fourth season in November.

Utah Standouts Sign With Alaska Anchorage (6/23/09)

A pair of Utah natives – JC transfer Torle Nenbee and prep Brooke Larsen – have signed National Letters of Intent to play basketball for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Nenbee, a 5-8 guard, played her first two collegiate seasons at Snow College in Ephraim, Utah, where she gained NJCAA All-Region 18 first-team honors last season after averaging 12.6 points, 6.7 rebounds and shooting 58.7 percent.

Originally from Nigeria, she was a second-team all-state honoree at Salt Lake City Cypress High School in 2007, averaging 15.7 points as a senior.

Larsen, a 6-0 forward, garnered Class 5A first-team all-state honors from both the Salt Lake Tribune and Deseret News as a senior at Kearns High School. She was a McDonald's All-America nominee and gained a spot on the Deseret News' large-schools West Senior All-Star squad after averaging 13 points, 11 rebounds, four assists and 1.5 steals per game in 2008-09.

“Torle is a tremendous athlete and a perfect fit for our program,” said UAA coach Tim Moser. “Her athleticism will allow her to play different positions on both ends of the floor. She is an all-around player who can defend, post, rebound, and create shot opportunities for her teammates. She will definitely make an immediate impact.

“Brooke is going to have a great career at UAA. She is extremely tough and very skilled. She is a great perimeter shooter and not afraid of any challenge. Her character will allow her to reach her maximum potential as a player. We feel she'll be ready to contribute right away to our program.”

Seawolves Add Talented California JC Transfer (6/17/09)

Multi-dimensional guard Jessica Dela Cruz has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

The 5-8 Dela Cruz averaged 13.1 points, 3.7 assists and 2.3 steals per game for San Joaquin Delta College as a sophomore in 2008-09, leading the Mustangs to a 27-6 record and a runner-up finish at the California JC State tournament. The Big 8 Conference MVP and First Team All-State honoree also shot 42 percent from three-point range.

“Jessica has a great basketball IQ and will fit right into what we need in our program,” said UAA coach Tim Moser. “She is a proven winner who will provide intelligence and skill to our team. She loves basketball and that will be contagious for her teammates. We are excited to have her join our Seawolf family.”

As a prep, Dela Cruz was a four-year letterwinner at Galt High School, where she helped her team to a San Joaquin Valley Conference title as a junior. As a senior, she averaged 16.9 points and 4.7 steals, and was named to the prestigious Sacramento Optimist all-star team.

Seawolves Sign Local Player (11/20/08)

Colony High School standout Alex Coon has signed a National Letter of Intent to play her college basketball at Alaska Anchorage.

A 5-10 senior forward, Coon helped CHS to the 2008 Class 4A (large schools) state title last March, earning all-tournament honors. In the Knights' 49-45 state title-game win over Chugiak, she scored a team-high 17 points and was 6 of 6 from the free throw line in overtime. She averaged 13.7 points, 8.6 rebounds and 54.7 percent shooting for the season as a junior, and was an Anchorage Daily News /Alaska Media First-Team All-State selection.

"We think Alex has all the ingredients for success at the college level and we're thrilled that she chose to come to UAA," said Moser, the Seawolves' third-year coach. "She brings toughness, aggressiveness and a winning attitude every time she steps on the court. Our coaching staff is really looking forward to working with Alex and making her one of the building blocks of our future."

No. 71 currently at the forward position in ESPN's girls basketball recruiting rankings, Coon also brings extensive experience on the summer circuit, playing at tournaments throughout the Lower 48 for Team Alaska AAU.

Under Don Witzel at Colony and Dorena Bingham with Team Alaska, Coon has been coached by a pair of mentors with multiple 4A state championships to their credit.

Central Washington

West Region MVP Signs With Wildcats (5/27/09)

Brittany Duerr, a guard from Centralia College, has signed a National Letter of Intent to continue her college basketball career at Central Washington University.

Duerr, a native of Bellevue, Wash., and a graduate of Newport High School, was the Western Region Most Valuable Player in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) this past year. The 5-foot-9 guard finished sixth in the NWAACC in scoring with 16.1 points per game. She also averaged 5.1 rebounds and 3.2 assists per game for the Trailblazers.

"Brittany has a proven track record as a scorer, from high school to her days at the junior college level," Whitney said. "But beyond her abilities to score, she has an uncanny ability to see the floor from the three-guard position. Her passing abilities and court sense are also exceptional."

Duerr totaled 86 assists and ranked ninth in the NWAACC Western Region in that department. As a scorer, she reached

double figures in 23 of 27 games, including eight 20-point performances. She scored a career-high 26 points in a game twice as a sophomore. In addition, Duerr ranked second in the NWAACC with 74 three-pointers made.

"Brittany has the skills to penetrate like Elyse Maras, but shoots the ball a lot like Hanna Hull," Whitney described, comparing Duerr to a pair of recent standout Wildcat guards. "She has a lot of quickness and is very long and athletic."

Scoring was a problem for an injury-depleted CWU squad this past season, as the Wildcats averaged just 56.3 points per game -- a 11 points-per-game decrease from 2007-08 and the second lowest-scoring average in the program's 29-year history. Whitney feels that the addition of Duerr, plus a change in the Wildcats' offensive philosophy, will help Central return to a higher-scoring and higher-paced attack in 2009-10.

"We are trying to implement the up-tempo style," Whitney continued, "and Brittany fits right into the system we are looking to run. She will help us return to the pace we are accustomed to playing with at Central."

Prior to her season at Centralia in 2008-09 and a redshirt campaign with the Trailblazers in 2007-08, Duerr played as a freshman at North Idaho College.

Montana State Billings

JC All-Star, High School Standout To Play for MSUB (7/29/09)

Sarah McNamee and Kelcy Lott will play basketball this winter at Montana State Billings. McNamee previously was an all-star at Miles Community College.

McNamee, a native of Miles City, played two years at MCC where she was a MonDak first team all-conference selection and first team Region IX in 2007-08. She also was named to the conference academic team as well and a two-time MonDak Player of the Week. She set the MCC single-game scoring record with 39 points and averaged 16 points and five assists her final year.

Prior to Miles, McNamee prepped at Custer County High School where he was a first team all-state selection and all-conference in 2005-06. She was named Treasure State Most Valuable Player in 2006 and was a member of the Montana-Wyoming All-Star team. She helped lead Custer County HS to a second place finish at state her senior year, averaging 18 points per game.

"Sarah is an outstanding person and player," MSUB coach Kevin Woodin said. "She is a versatile guard who is very fundamentally sound and plays with a great deal of passion."

Lott graduated from Twin Bridges High School this past spring as she averaged 15 points, five assists and five steals during her senior year. She was a four-time all-conference selection and was a three-time all-state selection and was the Western C Divisional Most Valuable Player in 2009.

Not only did she excel on the court during her career, her team did, too. Lott helped lead Twin Bridges to an impressive 100-9 record during her high school career. They were undefeated in conference play from 2005-2009 and won four conference and district championships each. She also helped lead the team to three divisional championships and four consecutive state C tournaments.

Huntley Guard Signs With Yellowjackets (6/1/09)

Monica Hollowell, a 5-7 guard at Huntley Project High School (Mont.), has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball for Montana State Billings.

Hollowell averaged 21.9 points a game in helping Huntley Project qualify for the Class B State tournament last winter. She was a four-time all-state selection in basketball, played for the Montana Elite team in the summer of 2008 and was a three-time all-state selection in volleyball. Hollowell scored over 2000 points in her career, ranking her among the Top 10 in Montana history.

In addition to sports, Hollowell was active in other school activities. She was secretary of the Business Professionals of America, a member of the pep club and student council as well as being named homecoming queen as a senior. Hollowell was the class Valedictorian with a 4.00 GPA and plans on majoring in Nursing.

"Monica is an outstanding student-athlete," said MSUB coach Kevin Woodin. "She is a great competitor and I look for her to make a positive impact on our women's basketball program."

Oregon City Player Signs With Yellowjackets (4/27/09)

Ashley Reed, a 5-11 post player at Oregon City High School (Ore.), has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball at Montana State University Billings.

Reed averaged 7.7 points a game and shot 63 percent from the floor in leading Oregon City to a 24-2 record and the Oregon Class 6-A State Championship. During the state tournament, she averaged 9.7 points a game while shooting 69.2 percent from the floor and 84.6 percent from the free throw line. Reed was selected to the Class 6-A All-Tournament second team.

"Ashley is a tremendous player and person," said MSUB Coach Kevin Woodin. "She is a very versatile player. I believe she will make an immediate impact on our team."

During her last three seasons, Reed helped the Pioneers to a record of 70-10, two Three Rivers League championships and three trips to the Class 6-A state tournament.

She was a four-year letterwinner and guided her team to the state championship game as a junior. Reed plans on majoring in Health and Human Performance.

Yellowjackets Add Player From Malta (11/20/08)

Kylee Denham has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball at Montana State Billings. She averaged 11.3 points, 5.0 rebounds, 3.0 assists and 3.6 steals a game in leading Malta High School to a third-place finish at last year's Class B State Championship.

"I'm very excited to have Kylee join our basketball program," said head coach Kevin Woodin. "She comes from a great high school program and will fit nicely into our philosophy as she is extremely athletic and versatile. She is a quality student athlete and I look forward to working with her."

In her three seasons at Malta, Denham has scored 892 points with 467 rebounds while also recording over 200 steals and assists. She is a two-time all-conference and all-state first team selection. Denham has helped her team to two division titles, three district championships and one Class B state championship.

In addition, Denham has earned all-state honors in track and volleyball. She is a member of the National Honor Society and has been named Academic All-State three times.

"Montana State Billings has an excellent tradition of great basketball and education," said Denham. "My grandfather and both of my parents graduated from MSUB. I'm looking forward to being a Yellowjacket."

Northwest Nazarene

Prep Guard To Play Hoops for Crusaders (8/23/09)

Renee Tzeo has signed a letter of commitment to attend Northwest Nazarene and play basketball for the Crusaders this year.

Tzeo (G, 5-6, Fr., Portland, OR / Reynolds HS) joins the Crusaders from Reynolds High School in Portland, Oregon where she was named the Mt. Hood Conference Player of the Year, was an Oregon 6A first-team all-state selection, and carried a 3.70 Grade Point Average in the classroom.

"We are thrilled that Renee will be joining the Crusader women's basketball program," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "Renee is very skilled and has the ability to score from both of the guard positions. However, we have been most impressed with her passing ability and instincts on the floor. She definitely has the potential to make her teammates better."

Averaging 19.1 points, 6.0 assists, and 3.5 steals per game as a senior, Tzeo was invited to play in the 2009 Oregon-Washington High School All-Star Game this summer.

"Renee has played at a very high level in Oregon, which will no doubt help her transition well to NCAA Division II athletics," Lindley added. "We look forward to watching Renee progress over the next four years here at NNU."

Mountain Home Grad Signs With NNU (6/19/09)

Mountain Home High School's Francesca Hale has signed a commitment letter to attend Northwest Nazarene and play basketball for the Crusaders.

Hale, a 5-9 guard, was the Idaho 4A Southern Idaho Conference Player-of-the-Year, having averaged 14.0 points, 5.4 rebounds, 3.7 assists, and 3.5 steals per game. In addition to her team and conference awards, Hale was a second-team all-state selection.

"Francesca has tremendous natural athleticism and her ceiling for improvement is very high," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said.

Player From Germany Signs With Crusaders (5/29/09)

Katharina Schulte to Buhne has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene and play basketball for the Lady Crusaders next year.

"We are very excited to have a player of Katharina's talent and potential joining our team," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "At a true 6-4, she is surprisingly mobile and athletic and will fit into our system perfectly.

"She has played at a very high level in Germany and has the ability to make a smooth transition to NCAA Division II basketball. Signing such an impressive international recruit is a huge step for our program."

Schulte to Buhne (Fr., 6-4, C, Hagen a.T.W, Germany) has been a member of the Hagen Huskies Club Team since the age of 16 and also played with the German National Team for two years, placing 8th at the 2006 European Championships.

Offered a roster position on the U-20 German National Team, Katharina chose to attend NNU and pursue both her academic and athletic interests. Schulte to Buhne (pronounced 'Schulta-to-buhna') averaged 9.0 points and 5.4 rebounds this year with the Hagen Huskies.

Boise Product To Play for Northwest Nazarene (11/19/08)

Heather Adams has signed a National Letter-of-Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene University and play basketball for the Crusaders.

"We are thrilled that Heather is staying in the Treasure Valley and joining Crusader basketball," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "Heather is absolutely the type of player every coach wants in their program as she can really shoot the ball and handle it under pressure. She has an amazing work ethic, as evidenced by her 4.0 GPA in the classroom, and is just a great person to be around."

A 5-7 senior at Centennial High School in Boise, Adams was a 5A all-Southern Idaho Conference and a 5A Idaho all-state selection as a junior. Averaging 10 points, 4.2 assists and 2.1 rebounds, she helped lead a Centennial team that finished 24-2.

"Heather has the ability to play point guard or shooting guard for us, and will be able to contribute immediately due to her speed and shooting ability," Lindley added. "We look forward to watching Heather leave her mark here at NNU over the next four years."

Ramirez To Play Basketball, Compete in Track for NNU (11/26/08)

Maria Ramirez has signed a National Letter-of-Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene and compete in basketball and track and field for the Crusaders.

Ramirez, a 5-9 senior from La Pine, Ore., is a two-time first-team all-Sky Em League basketball selection and averaged 8.8 points, 6.8 rebounds, 6.2 assists and 3.1 steals per game as a junior.

"At 5-9, Maria brings a little different look for us at the point guard position," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "With her height, athleticism, and good understanding of the game, she has potential to immediately make an impact at the point.

"She sees the floor extremely well and is the type of player who will make her teammates better. We look forward to having her be a part of Crusader basketball."

Also a standout on the track, Ramirez will compete for the Crusader track & field team in the middle distance events.

An Oregon 4A all-state track & field selection in both 2007 and 2008, she finished third in the 1500 meters (4:52.39) and fourth in the 800 meters (2:20.15) at the 2008 Oregon 4A state championships.

Maria has been an all-Sky Em track & field first-team member all three years of high school and finished fourth in the 1500 meters (4:52.12) and fifth in the 800 meters (2:18.91) as a sophomore at the state meet.

Western Oregon

Wolves Get Transfer from Eastern Washington (5/29/09)

Western Oregon has added two players, including a transfer from Eastern Washington, to its 2009-10 women's basketball roster.

Transferring from the Big Sky school is 6-2 forward Meaghan White who prepped at Jesuit High School in Portland. White played in 21 games for the Eagles as a freshman. At Jesuit, she was a two-time All-Metro League performer as well as being a McDonald's All-American nominee.

White led the Crusaders to an Oregon 6A state runner-up finish as a junior. In the state championship against Southridge she scored over half of Jesuit's points, making all three of her three-point attempts and pulling down seven rebounds. She led the state tournament in three-point percentage (.571). In her senior season, she averaged 16.2 points, 8.3 rebounds and 4.0 assists.

"Meaghan was a highly recruited prospect out of Jesuit's outstanding girl's high school basketball program," Western Oregon head coach Greg Bruce said. "She brings much-needed size to our program, and she has really good perimeter skills. She can handle the ball and is a very accomplished three-point shooter who will fit perfectly into our spread offensive system."

Also joining the Wolves is Hannah Whitsett, a 5-8 shooting guard who played her high school basketball at Hermiston High School. As a senior, she led the Bulldogs to the state tournament while being named first team All-Intermountain Conference and leading the IMC in scoring, averaging 16.9 points per game.

She connected on 40.7 percent of her three-point shots and 86.5 percent of her 96 free throw attempts. In addition, she pulled down 3.6 rebounds and 3.0 steals per contest – highlighted by a school-record 11 steals against Cleveland in the opening game of the state tournament.

White was featured in ESPN's Rise Magazine as one of Oregon's "Top Players to Watch", named Umatilla County's "Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year", East Oregonian "Female Player of the Year" and was selected to the Tri-City Herald All-Area Media Classic team.

At the Media Classic all-star game, she won the overall (boy's and girl's) three-point shooting contest making 13 out of 16 in sixty seconds.

"Hannah is a lights-out three-point shooter who spends countless hours in the gym perfecting her shot," Bruce said. "Her quickness and agility make her an offensive threat in the open court and a pest on defense."

The addition of White and Whitsett now gives the Wolves three recruits with ties to Oregon along with Jamie Richardson from Grants Pass.

Wolves Sign Player from Alaska (5/8/09)

Lorrie Clifford, a 5-8 guard who played her high school basketball at Chugiak High School in Eagle River, Alaska, has signed a national letter of intent with Western Oregon University.

As a senior, Clifford was named to the all-state team for the second consecutive season and led the Mustangs to a 4A state championship. In the championship game against Colony High School, Clifford scored 16 of her team's 41 points while grabbing nine rebounds and three steals.

In the 2009 state tournament, Clifford made 70 percent of her field goals including 60 percent from behind the arc. She averaged 12.7 points, 4.3 rebounds and 2.3 steals and was named to the Alaska High School All-State tournament team for the second consecutive year.

"These numbers only tell part of the story about the type of person/player Lorrie has become," Western Oregon head coach Greg Bruce said. "For all this talk about offense, she is

driven by her ability to disrupt her opponent with relentless defensive pressure.

"Every team she has been a part of since middle school was below .500 before she arrived and without exception, won a championship before she left," continued Bruce. "The girl flat out knows how to win and the sacrifices that must be made to get there."

Wolves Sign Washington Player From Redmond (3/6/09)

Courtney Martin, a 5-11 guard/forward from Redmond High School in Redmond, Wash., has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball at Western Oregon University.

Martin led the Mustangs in scoring and rebounding as a senior. She averaged 17.9 points and 6.9 boards per game to go along with an 82.0 percent mark at the free throw line. As a junior she also paced RHS in scoring (17.0) and rebounding (7.3).

She earned first team All-KingCo Conference (4A) honors as both a junior and senior after leading the league in scoring both years. Martin was a three-time team MVP and only the second player in Redmond High School history to score over 1,000 career points.

She will also leave RHS as the school's all-time leader in nearly every free throw category as she holds or tied the record for consecutive free throws made (22), free throws made in a season (103), season free throw percentage (82.0), career free throws made (249) and career free throw percentage (76.0).

"Courtney is an outstanding all-around player who can play multiple positions," WOU coach Greg Bruce said. "She has a very high basketball IQ and seems to really understand the game. She can flat out score in a variety of ways and is always in the gym working to get better."

"We are extremely fortunate to be able to add a student-athlete of Courts caliber to our program," Bruce continued. "She has a chance to be an immediate impact player in her first year at WOU."

Wolves Sign Richardson In Early Signing Period (11/26)

Jamie Richardson, a 5-7 all-purpose guard from Hidden Valley High School in Grants Pass (Ore.) has become the first-ever fall signee for Western Oregon's women's basketball program.

As a junior she was named to the Skyline Conference first team all-star team. She was also an all-defensive team pick in addition to being an all-state selection.

Richardson helped lead Hidden Valley to the 4A state championship game as she averaged a team-leading 11.3 points per game and led the tournament in field goal percentage (.550) and three-point percentage (.570). She also finished fifth at the state championships in free throw

percentage (.730), third in assists (2.3) and second in steals (5.0).

"Rarely do you see an athlete who has the combination of skill, determination and knowledge that she has," said Hidden Valley head coach Michael Schaefer. "She will be a great player at the next level."

WOU coach Greg Bruce also believes Richardson skill set will translate well to the Division II level. "We are extremely excited to add a player of Jamie's caliber to our program," said Bruce.

"She is very athletic and has the versatility to play either of the guard positions. She can shoot it from deep, take defenders off the dribble for lay-ups and has a great pull-up. Most of all, Jamie will bring an attitude that she wants to be the best player she can be and is willing to do whatever is necessary to make that happen. She has the ability to have a major impact on our program the minute she steps on campus."

Western Washington

Nooksack Valley Standout To Play at WWU (5/13/09)

Erika Ramstead, a senior forward at Nooksack Valley High School, has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball for Western Washington University.

"We are excited to have Erika become part of our program," said WWU coach Carmen Dolfo. "She's a great all-around athlete and having a player from our community makes it even more special."

The 6-foot Ramstead finished her four-year Pioneer career with 1,365 points, 933 rebounds and 248 assists. She averaged 14.0 points and 10.0 rebounds as a senior, receiving first-team Associated Press all-State, all-Whatcom County League and Bellingham Herald all-County recognition.

Ramstead scored a career-high 38 points versus Mount Baker and participated in the Washington Interscholastic Basketball Coaches Association Senior All-State Game.

As a junior, Ramstead helped Nooksack Valley place seventh at the Class 2A state tournament, averaging 15.0 points and 10.0 rebounds. She was a second-team all-state pick as well as a first-team all-league and all-county choice.

Ramstead was a four-year starter for the Pioneers in basketball, softball and volleyball.

As a pitcher in softball, Ramstead already has posted a school-record 70 wins (old mark was 48) and has a 2.00 earned run average. She has twice received all-state honors and was named Bellingham Herald Pitcher of the Year as a junior.

In volleyball, Ramstead was an all-league pick as a senior and helped the Pioneers to state as a junior.

Vikings Sign Prep Standouts from Oregon and Washington (11/21/08)

Kendall Williams, a center at White River High School in Buckley and point guard Corinn Waltrip, a point guard at Tigard (Ore.) High School, have signed national letters of intent to play for Western Washington next season.

The 6-foot-1 Williams averaged 13.0 points and 10.0 rebounds for the Hornets as a junior, receiving honorable mention all-South Puget Sound League recognition. She also was a starter as a freshman and sophomore at Franklin Pierce High School, averaging 16.0 points both seasons.

The 5-5 Waltrip was a first-team all-Pacific Conference pick as a junior, averaging 15.2 points in helping the Tigers to a share of the league title and the first round of the Class 6A state playoffs. A second-team all-league choice as a sophomore, Waltrip is in her third year as team captain.

2008-09

Alaska Anchorage

Seawolves Add Another International Player (8/6/08)

Alaska Anchorage has added more top international talent with the signing of Hanna Johansson to a National Letter of Intent. The Lindome, Sweden , native will be a freshman when she begins her Seawolf career this fall.

Johansson, a 6-2 forward, has played for Swedish National Team age-group squads since 2003 and recently completed her prep career at the National Basketball Academy in Jonkoping. She played for the Swedish squads that captured the silver medal at the 2007 FIBA Under-19 World Championships and the bronze medal at the 2006 FIBA Under-18 European Championships.

“Hanna should be an impact player right away in our league,” said UAA coach Tim Moser, whose Seawolves are coming off a 30-5 campaign and an NCAA Division II Semifinals appearance.

“She can spot up and shoot, but her strength is really her explosiveness and a superior court awareness that allows her to attack the basket. Her coaches in Sweden rave about her intensity and leadership abilities, so obviously we're always glad to add someone with those attributes.”

Johansson joins fellow international players Dasha Basova (Russia), Viki Wohlers (Germany), Danielle Dekel (Israel) and Limor Pelleg (Israel) on the Seawolf roster.

She becomes the second Swedish player to suit up for Moser, following recent graduate Maria Nilsson. Nilsson, who is currently playing professionally in Spain , spent two seasons with UAA and was an All-Great Northwest Athletic Conference second team selection as a senior.

UAA Adds Three Including Oregon State Transfer (5/27/08)

Three new players – center Viki Wohlers and guards Jenna Endisch and Tamar Gruwell – will play basketball next season for the University of Alaska Anchorage. Endisch and Gruwell both signed National Letters of Intent, while Wohlers will come to UAA as a transfer from Division I Oregon State.

The six-foot, four-inch Wohlers, who played one season at OSU, will be a sophomore in eligibility. Prior to her stint in Corvallis, she starred at Conserve School in Land O' Lakes, Wis. , earning first-team all-state honors at the Division 4 (small schools) level. As a senior she was the second-leading scorer in the state, averaging 26.6 points, 16.6 rebounds and 4.8 blocks.

The Wolfenbüttel, Germany, native came to the United States in 2005-06 as an exchange student at Lake Mary High School in Lake Mary, Fla. At LMHS, she played on the school's Class 6A (large schools) state championship squad.

Wohlers comes from a strong basketball background as her father, Jurgen, captained the 1972 German Olympic Team and went on to a long pro career in Germany. Her brother Moritz played collegiately at Montana State Billings and is currently playing professionally in Great Britain.

Gruwell (5-8, Jr.) will also join the Seawolves as a transfer student, coming from the junior college ranks at Sierra (Calif.) College. As a sophomore last season, she earned second-team All-State and first-team All-Big 8 Conference honors, averaging 17.9 points, 3.7 rebounds and 1.3 steals per game. She shot 44.9 percent from the field, 42.8 percent on three-pointers and 95.8 percent (69-72) from the free throw line for the Wolverines, who went 27-7 overall and finished second in the Big 8.

Last December the Fairfield, Calif., native was featured in Sports Illustrated's 'Faces In the Crowd' column for making 12 of 15 three-pointers in Sierra's victory over Modesto. Her 12 treys and 45 points in that contest were both school records.

An honors student, Gruwell was a multi-sport star at Vacaville High School where she was an all-conference cross country runner, won the league title in the 800 meters in track, and caught and hit clean-up for the softball team.

Endisch (5-9, Fr.) will head north after an impressive career at Muskego High in Muskego, Wis. As a senior last season she averaged 14.6 points, 3.1 rebounds, 3.0 steals, 2.0 assists and shot 42 percent from three-point range, including a 7-for-7 showing against Pius XI on Feb. 11.

A three-year starter for the Warriors, she led her squad to a 17-6 record (with all losses coming by six points or fewer) and a spot in the 2008 WIAA Division I Sectional title game. Endisch was also selected to the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association All-Star Game and earned selection to the Community Newspapers All-Suburban Team.

“Viki's addition will make will make us even stronger in the post, providing a great complement to (returning All-American) Rebecca Kielpinski,” said Moser, whose Seawolves are coming off a 30-5 campaign and an NCAA Div. II Semifinals appearance. “She has a great hook shot and will provide an intimidating presence on the defensive end.

“Both guards are lights-out shooters and tough, all-around athletes. Tamar has proven herself as one of the top JC players in California for the past two seasons, putting up some very impressive stats. She should step in right away and be a big contributor.

“Jenna has not been tested at the college level yet, but she showed the ability to carry her team through some big games in high school. I think we're lucky to get her as a freshman, and I think she'll surprise some people next year. She will play a huge role in continuing to keep our program at a high level.”

Point Guard Signs With Seawolves (5/13/08)

Point guard Kiki Taylor has signed a National Letter of Intent to play for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Taylor, 5-5, of Colorado Springs, Colo., was a starter for national powerhouse Western Nebraska Community College from 2005-07, playing on squads that went a combined 58-6. As a sophomore in 2006-07, she averaged 10.0 points, 3.1 assists and 2.4 rebounds per game, shooting 47.8 percent from the floor.

Taylor ranked third in Region IX with 2.4 steals per game, helping the Cougars advance to the regional championship contest. As a freshman, she averaged 6.0 ppg on a squad that qualified for the NJCAA national tournament.

"Kiki is a dynamic talent and the true point guard that we've been missing," said Moser, whose squad is coming off a 30-5 record and an NCAA Div. II semifinal appearance. "She is strong, athletic, and helped lead one of the most efficient offenses in the JC ranks. She's also a proven defensive stopper and huge reason that Western Nebraska led its region in scoring defense both of her seasons."

Although she originally signed with the Seawolves before last season, Taylor spent the 2007-08 campaign away from the court. She will be a junior in eligibility when she comes to Anchorage this fall.

As a prep at Harrison High School, Taylor was the 2004-05 Colorado Springs Coaches' Class 4A Player of the Year, a first team All-Area pick by the Colorado Springs Gazette, and a second team all-state choice by the Rocky Mountain News. She was also one of 20 girls statewide chosen to participate in "The Show," Colorado's annual high school basketball all-star game at Denver's Pepsi Center.

Seawolves Sign Local Product From East High School (11/16/07)

East High standout Jazzie Gaddy has signed a National Letter of Intent to play her college basketball at Alaska Anchorage.

Gaddy, a 5-10 senior post, helped the T-birds to a 22-8 record and a 3rd-place finish at the 2007 4A Alaska State Tournament. She averaged 16.4 points on 55 percent shooting, 10.8 rebounds and 1.6 steals per game as a junior, earning Cook Inlet Conference MVP and First Team All-State honors.

As a sophomore, Gaddy was an All-CIC and Second Team All-State pick. Gaddy is a McDonald's High School All-America nominee in 2007-08.

Montana State Billings

MSUB Adds Two Players To Squad (9/27/08)

Montana State University Billings has added depth and talent to its roster with the addition of Laura Jo Kipp and Melissa Porter.

Kipp is a 6-0 freshman from Browning High School in Browning, Mont. As a senior in 2002, she averaged 17 points, 11 rebounds and six assists per game. Porter is a 6-3 freshman from North Sevier High School in Redmond, Utah. She earned all-state honors three times and helped her team win the state championship as a sophomore. Porter currently plays for the volleyball team at MSUB.

"Laura Jo and Melissa will provide us with much needed depth and talent at the post position," MSUB coach Kevin Woodin said.

MSUB Adds Recruit From Great Falls (6/5/08)

Mary Anderson of Great Falls will play basketball at Montana State University Billings beginning this fall. Anderson is the third player to sign with the Yellowjackets this spring.

"I am very excited to have Mary join our Yellowjacket basketball program," MSUB coach Kevin Woodin said. "She is a tremendous player and person and I believe she will be effective for us on both ends of the floor. I look for her to contribute to our team right away."

Anderson had an outstanding high school career at Great Falls CMR where she earned 11 varsity letters in three different sports (basketball, volleyball and tennis). The 6-2 post player was a four-year letterwinner in basketball and was named first team Eastern AA all-conference and was tabbed first team AA all-state as a junior and senior.

She helped lead CMR to the state tournament all four years and averaged 14.7 points as a senior. She also led the state AA in rebounding in her final season at 9.7 rebounds per game. In addition, she shot 48 percent from the field and 80 percent from the charity stripe.

Yellowjackets Sign Player from Idaho (5/21/08)

Callie Kautzmann, a 5-10 wing from Boise, Idaho, has signed a letter of intent to play basketball at Montana State University Billings.

Kautzmann played at Vallivue High School in Caldwell, Idaho, where she helped lead her team to the 5A district championship and a state runner-up finish this past season.

She averaged 12 points, eight rebounds and six assists as a senior, as well as shooting 48 percent from the field, 31 percent from beyond the arc and 70 percent from the line. Kautzmann was a four-year starter and a honorable mention all-conference selection this past season and was second team all-conference and honorable mention all-Idaho as a junior.

As a sophomore, Kautzmann played at Centennial High School in Boise, where she helped lead that school to the state championship and a fourth-place finish at state as a freshman.

In addition, Kautzmann was very active off the court in high school as well. She was in National Honor Society, on the leadership team for her school, named Kiwanis Student of the

Month, a leader for Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) and earned the team academic award.

Her parents, Dewey and Cassie, are graduates of Billings Senior High School and her father played college basketball at Montana State Bozeman. In addition, Callie was born in Sohren, Germany.

Northwest Nazarene

Bazzi To Play For Crusaders in 2008-09 (11/20/07)

Julianne Bazzi has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend NNU and play basketball for the Crusaders next season.

Bazzi, a 5-foot-6 point guard from Silverton, Ore., is a senior at Silverton High School where she was a third-team all-Mid-Willamette Conference (5A) pick as a junior, averaging 6.8 points, 5.3 assists and 2.2 steals per game as a junior.

"Juli is an outstanding passer, but more than that, she attacks the basket really well and knows how to make her teammates look good," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said.

Also a standout soccer player at Silverton High, Juli was a first-team all-Mid-Willamette Conference selection in both her junior and senior seasons and shared the conference goal scoring title this season.

Oregon Player Signs With Northwest Nazarene (11/20/07)

Briaunna King has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene and play basketball for the Crusaders next season.

King, a 6-foot post from Redmond, Ore., is a senior at Redmond High School and was a first-team all-Central Valley Conference (6A) selection last season as a junior, averaging 15.0 points and 5.6 rebounds.

"We couldn't be happier with the addition of Brianna to our team," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "She will be a great addition to our inside game with her strong post moves inside and her ability to hit the three on the outside. She is a very instinctive player with good fundamental skills...she definitely will be able to contribute right away."

Western Oregon

Wolves Add Five Players to 2008-09 Roster (7/23/08)

Two high school standouts and three top transfers have been added to Western Oregon's 2008-09 women's basketball pre-season roster.

Joining the Wolves this year will be transfers Kelly Hughes (Sacramento State), Alissa Brasel (Edmonds CC) and A.J. Hawk (Walla Walla CC), along with freshmen Colby Patton (Joseph, Ore.) and Erika Wilson (Kirkland, Wash.).

Hawk is a 6-1 transfer post from Walla Walla CC by way of Ontario, Ore. She was a first-team Greater Oregon League selection while leading Ontario High School to the state tournament in each of her prep seasons. She averaged eight points and six rebounds a contest and competed in the 3A All-Star series upon her graduation in 2006.

At Walla Walla CC, Hawk was a two-year starter averaging just over eight points per game last winter. She led her team in rebounding (6.2) and free throw attempts, getting to the line over four times a game. Hawk was also a four-time Greater Oregon League Scholar-Athlete and was twice named to the Dean's List at WWCC with a 3.57 GPA. She will be majoring in Business at WOU.

"AJ brings a lot of experience and some much-needed size to our program," WOU coach Greg Bruce said. "She has a solid work ethic, a very unselfish team-oriented attitude, and is a good athlete. She is a very accomplished rebounder and can shoot effectively out to the three-point line."

Patton is a 5-8 shooting guard from Joseph, Ore. She led her team in scoring in the 1A state championship victory over St. Paul as Joseph finished the season undefeated at 29-0. She was a two-time all-state tournament selection along with being named all-state twice and she was a three-time All-Greater Oregon League pick.

This summer she led the Greater Oregon League to the championship of the 1A All-Star series, and she won four medals at the 1A state track meet last spring. She averaged 11.7 points, 5.2 rebounds, 4.3 assists and 3.6 steals while shooting over 35 percent from the three-point line.

Hughes is a 5-8 Division I point guard from Sacramento State by way of Columbia River High School in Vancouver, Wash. As a senior (2004) she led the state of Washington in scoring, averaging 23.8 points, 4.5 rebounds, 4.5 assists and 4.0 steals.

She was first-team all-state and all-region selection and was named the Greater St. Helen's League MVP. She ended her career at Columbia River as the school's all-time leading scorer and established a league scoring record in the process. She spent one season at Texas-El Paso before transferring to Sacramento State where she played in a reserve role at both guard positions the past two seasons.

"Kelly is very enthusiastic about having the opportunity to finish her career close to her family and friends at WOU," Bruce said. "We are extremely fortunate to have her in our program. She has the ability to help us in so many different ways. Kelly played in a very up-tempo offensive system in high school, which fits perfectly with what we are doing in our transition game. She is a gym rat and a student of the game who is going to have a major impact on our program the minute she steps on campus."

Brasel is a 6-1 transfer post from Edmonds CC by way of Kamiakin High School in Kennewick, Wash. After a very successful prep career, she went on to average a double-double both years at Edmonds CC – 16.1 points and 11.2 rebounds in 2003-04 and 18.6 pts and 12.1 rebs. in 2004-05.

She was a second-team All-NWAACC Northern Division pick in 2003-04 and was first-team in 2004-05. Brasel was also the MVP of the NWAACC Sophomore all-star game, scoring 21 points and pulling down 10 rebounds.

“Alissa gives us another option in the low post who has had some obvious success as a scorer at the JC level,” Bruce summarized. “She can run the floor, has an assortment of low post moves and knows how to get to the FT line. Her experience will be a big boost to our program.”

Wilson is a 5-7 combo guard who played her high school ball at Lake Washington in Kirkland, Wash. She has served the last two seasons as team captain, and she led her team in scoring (12.7), assists (4.2), steals (5.3) and set a school record with an 83.5 free throw percentage.

As a senior, she averaged 11.8 points, 4.5 rebounds, 4.4 steals and 3.8 assists. She was a two-time all-league selection. Wilson was also a four-year soccer starter, ran track and was a freestyle swimmer during her high school career.

“Erika is an outstanding all-around athlete who can play both guard positions,” Bruce assessed. “She has a very high basketball IQ, really understands the game and knows when to shoot and when to pass. She definitely makes the players around her better. She can play at different speeds and can score from anywhere on the court.”

Western Washington

Vikings Sign Transfer from UBC (2/8/08)

Megan Pinske, a point guard from Coquitlam, B.C, has accepted an athletic scholarship to play for the Western Washington, Pinske did not compete this season after playing in all 26 games during the 2006-07 campaign as a freshman at University of British Columbia , helping the Thunderbirds to a 24-2 record.

"What impresses me the most about Megan is her work ethic and her desire to be the best basketball player she can be," said Western coach Carmen Dolfo . “We are very excited about her coming to Western and I believe that she will make an immediate impact on our team.”

The 5-foot-9 Pinske was a member of the Canadian U21 National Team that placed sixth last summer at the 2007 FIBA World Championships held at Moscow , Russia .

She also competed on the Canadian Junior Women's National Team that finished second at the 2006 FIBA Americas Qualifying Tournament at Colorado Springs , Colo. , and was on the Canadian Young Women's National Team that placed third at the 2006 FIBA Americas Qualifying Tournament at Mexico City .

Pinske, who played on a Canadian U18 junior National Team that competed at the 2005 USA Basketball Youth Development Festival in Colorado Springs , was one of Canada 's most sought-after recruits following her senior year at Port Moody Senior Secondary.

She averaged 21.0 points, 10.0 assists and 5.0 rebounds for the Blues, who were ranked as high as second in the province before finishing fifth at the provincials. Pinske was a first-team Fraser Valley all-Star and Triple A tournament all-star that season.

Vikings Add Division I Transfer From Idaho (1/9/08)

Former Blaine High School standout Jessica Summers has enrolled winter quarter at Western Washington University and will play on the women's basketball team next season.

Summers, a 6-foot-1 forward, started and lettered three seasons at NCAA Division I University of Idaho. As a sophomore for the Vandals in 2005-06, she saw action in all 29 games, starting 28. Summers was Idaho 's third-leading scorer that season with a 9.0 average and led the team in rebounds with a 7.5 average that ranked fourth among Western Athletic Conference leaders.

As a junior, she played in seven games, starting five, before leaving the team. She averaged 8.7 points and 7.7 rebounds that season, posting career highs with 19 points and 14 rebounds in a 73-60 win over Eastern Washington on Nov. 29, 2006.

Summers started 17 of 27 games played as a true freshman, leading Idaho in rebounding and blocked shots with respective averages of 7.5 and 1.0, while scoring at a 5.9 clip.

An elementary education major, Summers was a first-team Class 2A all-state selection and Most Valuable Player of the Whatcom County League for the third straight year as a senior at Blaine . She averaged a league-leading 20.0 points and 12.0 rebounds in helping the 25-1 Borderites place fifth at state and win WCL and district tournament titles.

Summers, who played in the Washington-Oregon senior all-star games, was the state tournament MVP, setting a tourney career record with 235 points and being second in rebounds with 144. In her final prep game, a 59-50 win at state over Woodland , Summers scored a career-best 31 points, hitting 14-of-17 field goals.

Summers also was a first-team all-state pick as a junior, pacing the league in points (15.6 avg.) and rebounds (11.5), as Blaine finished third at state. She was a second-team all-state choice as a sophomore.

A four-year starter in basketball for the Borderites, Summers also lettered four years in track and field and volleyball. She placed fifth at state in the discus as a senior and eighth as a junior, and earned second-team all-state honors in volleyball.

2007-08

Alaska Anchorage

Alaska Anchorage Adds Two To 2007-08 Recruiting Class

Lillie Parks and Nikki Aden will join the Alaska Anchorage women's basketball team for the 2007-08 campaign.

Parks, a 5-11 junior forward, was a two-time team MVP at Chaffey College in Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. Last season she helped the Panthers go 23-10 and qualify for the state playoffs, averaging 12.5 points, 7.5 rebounds and 2.2 steals, while shooting 54 percent from the field. The Railto, Calif. (Eisenhower HS) native led Chaffey in scoring and rebounding both seasons.

"Lillie is extremely athletic and brings a lot of skills – both offense and defense – to the court at the forward position," said UAA coach Tim Moser, the 2007 Great Northwest Athletic Conference Coach of the Year. "We expect her to fight for a key role on this year's team."

Aden, a 5-8 guard/forward, averaged 13.7 points per game last year at West Linn (Ore.) High School, leading Portland's Three Rivers League in scoring as a senior and earning first-team all-conference honors. The only true freshman on this year's team, she helped West Linn to a second-round berth in the Oregon large-schools division and was a McDonald's All-American nominee in 2006-07.

"I'm extremely impressed with Nikki's skill and toughness, especially considering that she's the youngest member of our team," Moser said. "She is a special player who should make a lasting impact at UAA for years to come."

Seawolves Get Guard From Eastern Utah (5/2/07)

Guard Elisha Harris, a junior college all-star at Eastern Utah, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play for the University of Alaska Anchorage,

Harris, a 5-7 guard from West Jordan, Utah, was a first-team All-Region 18 pick at Eastern Utah as a sophomore in 2006-07. The Golden Eagles' co-MVP averaged a team-best 14.6 points, 4.3 rebounds, 2.3 assists, and 1.9 steals per game.

After missing the season's first six games with an injury, Harris returned to rank second in the Scenic West Athletic Conference scoring race. She was also third in free throw percentage (.775) and fourth in steals.

"Elisha is a gifted athlete who can play either guard spot," UAA coach Tim Moser said. "In junior college she showed a tremendous knack for getting points on the board, but her tenacity really shows in her rebounding and all-around game. We know she'll be a valuable addition to the Seawolf program for the next two years."

JC All-American Signs With Seawolf Women (5/11/07) One of the nation's top junior college post players, Dasha Basova, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Basova, 6-3, of Moscow, Russia, was a National Junior College Athletic Association third team All-American in 2006-07 at Northeastern (Colo.) Junior College, where she also earned the NJCAA Region IX Player of the Year award. As a sophomore, she averaged 17.5 points and 10.5 rebounds per game for the Plainswomen, who went 25-7 and won the South Sub-Region regular-season title.

"Dasha is a tremendously skilled basketball player who has all the necessary qualities to succeed in the college game," UAA coach Tim Moser said. "Her addition gives us more options offensively and takes a lot of pressure off (GNAC Player of the Year) Rebecca Kielpinski. Dasha's basketball accolades speak for themselves, but she is also a straight-A student in the classroom and model teammate. We couldn't be happier to have her become a Seawolf."

As a freshman in 2005-06, Basova averaged 9.8 points and 4.2 rebounds after moving into the starting lineup at midseason. She picked the Seawolves over several Division I schools, including UC Irvine and Denver.

Seawolves Sign Colorado Guard (5/3/07)

Kiki Taylor, a 5-5 guard, has signed a national letter-of-intent with the University of Alaska Anchorage. Taylor, of Colorado Springs, Colo., was a starter the past two seasons for national powerhouse Western Nebraska Community College, playing on squads that went a combined 58-6.

As a sophomore in 2006-07, she averaged 10.0 points, 3.1 assists and 2.4 rebounds per game, shooting 47.8 percent from the floor. Taylor ranked third in Region IX with 2.4 steals per game, helping the Cougars advance to the regional championship contest. As a freshman, she averaged 6.0 ppg on a squad that qualified for the NJCAA national tournament.

"Kiki is an extremely strong, athletic point guard who helped lead one of the most efficient offenses in the JC ranks," Moser said. "She's also a proven defensive stopper and one of the big reasons that Western Nebraska led its region in scoring defense the last two years. Our staff couldn't be happier that she chose to be a Seawolf."

As a prep at Harrison High School, Taylor was the 2004-05 Colorado Springs Coaches' Class 4A Player of the Year, a First Team All-Area pick by the Colorado Springs Gazette, and a Second Team All-State choice by the Rocky Mountain News. She was also one of 20 girls statewide chosen to participate in "The Show," Colorado's annual high school basketball all-star game at Denver's Pepsi Center.

UAA Bolsters Frontcourt With Southern Idaho Transfer (5/2/07) Ashley Thompson, a 5-10 forward from McCammon, Idaho, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play for Alaska Anchorage. She will join the Seawolves for her junior season in 2007-08.

Thompson was a two-time honorable mention All-Scenic West Athletic Conference selection at College of Southern Idaho, averaging 6.5 points, 6.3 rebounds and 1.5 steals per game. She started 55 career games for the Golden Eagles, who went 50-14 overall with a pair of SWAC runner-up finishes in her two seasons.

“Ashley is a tenacious rebounder who can play either forward position,” said UAA coach Tim Moser, whose Seawolves are coming off a 23-6 campaign. “She will bring a lot of the energy to the court that we lost with the graduation of our senior class. Additionally, she’s an outstanding student, which really shows in her work ethic. We’re proud to have Ashley join the Seawolf program.”

Thompson led Marsh Valley High School to two Class 3A state titles and a runner-up finish, receiving Idaho 3A player-of-the-year honors from the Idaho Statesman as a junior and the Idaho State Journal as a senior. She averaged 15 points, 10.4 rebounds and 3 steals per game her senior season, while earning MVHS’s valedictorian honor.

Seawolf Women Sign Former Division I Guard (4/20/07)

Guard Kalhie Quinones, who played at Utah State in 2004-05, will join Alaska Anchorage in 2007-08 for her senior season.

Quinones, 5-7, of Loveland, Colo., started 21 of 28 games, averaging 6.0 points, 4.0 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.5 steals per game, at the Division I school.

Prior to that, Quinones was an All-Region IX selection at Otero (Colo.) Junior College, where she played for UAA head coach Tim Moser from 2002-04. As a sophomore, she averaged 14 points and six rebounds per game, leading the Rattlers to the Region IX Tournament title game. She finished her OJC career as the ninth-leading scorer in school history with 629 points.

“Kalhie is a proven veteran who brings talent, athleticism and toughness to our team,” said Moser, the 2006-07 Great Northwest Athletic Conference Coach of the Year. “Her height is deceptive because her strength allows her to be effective at any position on the floor. I’m confident she’ll be one of the top players in the GNAC next season.”

Quinones was a decorated prep player in Colorado, where she earned multiple all-conference and all-region awards at Loveland and Thompson Valley high schools. As a senior at Thompson Valley, she averaged 13 points per game and led her team in assists and steals.

Quinones is the first member of UAA’s 2007-08 recruiting class. The Seawolves are coming off a 23-6 season in which they finished GNAC runner-up and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Div. II Tournament.

Alaska Fairbanks

Nanooks Add Final Player For 2007-08 Season (10/7/07)

Fairbanks native Jessie Craig, a transfer from Purdue University, has enrolled at the University of Alaska Fairbank and will play basketball this winter for the Nanooks.

“Jessie actually came to us and asked for an opportunity to try out,” said UAF coach Lynne Andrew. “It was a chance for me to watch her with my team. She was very confident, very competitive, worked hard and really fit in well with the rest of the team. That’s what we are looking for, and I felt like she was someone that could really help us this year.”

Though she may be new to the team, Craig already has a number of connections to the Blue and Gold. She has been regular teammates with Joscelyn Shumate, Kari Reabold and Sheena Brown since as far back as seventh grade, including a stint together on Team Pasta with current West Valley coach Steve Caciari. Her sister, Rachel, also spent one season as a walk-on for Andrew, joining the Nanooks for the 2004-05 campaign.

Craig will be familiar with the GNAC opposition this season as well: her sister Heather is a freshman for the Northwest Nazarene women’s team.

“They are definitely a basketball family,” said Andrew. “They are very competitive, and when they want an opportunity, they go and seek it out.”

Prior to her return to Fairbanks, Craig spent two years studying at Purdue University, though she did not play any basketball for the Boilermakers. Despite a brief absence from organized play, however, Andrew expects Craig to contribute for the Nanooks this season.

“She is a 5-11 post-type player, someone who is strong inside and aggressive around the basket,” she said. “I think she is going to fit right into how we are trying to mold these young post players, and will grow over the next few years in our program.”

Craig received her high school education through the IDEA home school program. She was awarded an IDEA scholarship in 2005, and was a member of the National Honor Society as well as Who’s Who Among American High School students for her work in the classroom.

Craig becomes the Nanooks’ seventh and final signing this close season, bringing the roster total to 15 players. She joins guards Nada Erhardt (Surrey, British Columbia), Caitlin Hamsley (North Pole, AK), Anna Simmons (Simi Valley, CA) and Nicole DeRosier (Puyallup, WA) as well as center Nicole Bozek (Mukilteo, WA) and forward Amonda Francis (Coquitlam, British Columbia) as the new additions for the 2007-08 Alaska squad.

Nanooks Add Transfer from Henderson State (8/29/07)

Nada Erhardt, a transfer from Henderson State University in Arkansas, will enroll at the University of Alaska Fairbanks to play basketball for the Nanooks. She is from Surrey, B.C.

"I've been impressed with Nada's ability as far back as high school: we initially recruited her to come here, even though she eventually chose to go to Henderson," said UAF coach Lynne Andrew. "She is a good, solid fundamental player, and we expect that she will give us valuable minutes on the floor. She has the potential to play at a number of different positions, so it will be up to her to come in here and find her spot."

Erhardt appeared in 26 games in her two years at Henderson. She recorded a career-high six points against Harris-Stowe State University on Dec. 17, 2005. Erhardt was a member of the 2005-06 Lady Reddies team that made it to the Elite Eight in the NCAA tournament, and rose to the top of the NCAA Division II rankings

Before joining Henderson State, Erhardt was a standout performer for Semiahmoo Secondary School. A five time letterwinner for the Totums, Erhardt averaged 20 points, four assists, five steals, and seven rebounds in her senior season, earning her a spot on both the British Columbia Provincial High School All-Star team as well as a Surrey Firefighters Goodwill All-Star selection. She was named Semiahmoo Secondary MVP four times, and, in 2002, received the school's Best Defensive Player award.

North Pole Grad to Play For Nanooks (8/8/07)

Caitlin Hamsley of North Pole, Alaska will enroll at the University of Alaska Fairbanks this fall and will play basketball for the Nanooks.

"Caitlin is a local player that I've watched play at North Pole, so I have been able to see her grow and her skills progress," said UAF coach Lynne Andrew.

"She has good fundamentals, a good three-point shot, and works hard on defense. She has a great work ethic: any chance she gets, she is in the gym or in a basketball game. She has the attitude and the characteristics I am looking for in my program. We look forward to seeing her grow in the next four years and achieving all the goals that she sets for herself."

Hamsley, a 5-3 point guard, was a standout performer for North Pole High School for four seasons (2003-2007). In her senior season, she averaged 11.4 points and seven assists per game, including a career-best 23-point effort against Delta High School.

In both her junior and senior seasons, Hamsley was selected to the Mid-Alaska Conference all-tournament team, and was named the Team MVP for the 2006-2007 season.

"On the court, she is the complete package: great handles, great shooter, good vision of the court. She's a leader," said

North Pole basketball coach Rob McIntosh. "She is like a second daughter to me, and I am looking forward to watching her play [at UAF]."

When not leading the Patriots' frontcourt, Hamsley also played four seasons as a setter for the school volleyball team. For her achievements, Hamsley was named the North Pole High School's Student-Athlete of the Year for 2007.

A lifelong native of Alaska, Hamsley hopes to pursue a degree in business or psychology, with an eye towards owning her own business one day.

"[Joining the Nanooks] is pretty exciting: I am nervous but excited," said Hamsley. "I have been dreaming of playing college basketball and it's great to be able to play in my hometown, where my family will get to see me play. I am looking forward to the whole experience. I love basketball, and I am excited to get to know another team: meshing with the team, traveling, playing, and building chemistry."

Hamsley becomes the fifth signing for the Nanooks for the 2007-2008 season, joining fellow guards Anna Simmons (Simi Valley, CA) and Nicole DeRosier (Puyallup, WA) as well as center Nicole Bozek (Mukilteo, WA) and forward Amonda Francis (Coquitlam, B.C.).

Californian Signs With Nanooks (6/1/07)

Anna Simmons of Simi Valley, California has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Simmons, a 5-foot-4 point guard, was a standout player at Chaminade College Preparatory High School. A four-year member of the varsity squad and a starter for two of those years, she amassed numerous awards playing for the Eagles.

She was recognized by her team as the Most Defensive player in 2006 and the Most Valuable Player in 2007 in addition to being lauded as a first team all-league selection in the Mission League her junior and senior seasons.

"Signing Anna helps fill a need we have at the point guard position," said UAF coach Lynne Andrew. "We were looking for someone with speed, who could distribute the ball and we found that in her."

Some of her best individual performances include being named to the Moorpark High School Tip-off All-Tournament team as a junior and leading the Mission league in overall three-point field goals made (54) and assists (142) this past season. She is second amongst Chaminade's career leaders in assists.

Her high school career was highlighted on January 20, 2007 while playing against Alemany in a conference contest. Simmons scored half the Eagles points to set her career-high 26 points in a 52-40 victory. She also led the game with five assists.

Nanooks Add Shooting Guard from Puyallup (11/30/06)

Shooting guard Nicole DeRosier has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. DeRosier, from Puyallup, Wash., is a polished player who loves to spend time in the gym.

"She's a basketball junkie. She can't get enough of it," UAF coach Lynne Andrew said. "That was a big thing that stuck out with me when I was watching her. She's very fundamentally sound. I attribute that to the great programs she's been involved with both in high school and AAU but also the extra work she's done with her dad and on her own. That will make it a much easier transition for her from the high school to the college."

DeRosier visited Fairbanks and the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus Nov. 2. She watched the Nanook women defeat the Alumni team, hung out with the team, watched practice and toured the already snowy campus.

"I really liked the coaches a lot. That was the biggest thing. I got time to hang out with the girls and really liked them a lot, too. I'd never been to Alaska before and I loved it. It was really beautiful," said DeRosier. "I've always wanted to play beyond high school. I've been playing basketball my whole life and I don't want to stop."

DeRosier attends Rogers High School, where she plays for head coach Danny Carlson. The 5-9 DeRosier has played all four years for the Rams but enjoyed a particularly successful junior season last year with 15.3 points, 8.7 rebounds and 2.4 assists a game. Her play earned her second-team South Puget Sound League honors and helped lead the Rams two games into the league playoffs.

But DeRosier's basketball seasons don't end with the conclusion of Rogers' season. On the AAU level, she has spent the past two summers playing for coach Terry Graham and the Puget Sound Flight program, which also produced fellow Nanook recruit Nicole Bozek of Kamiak, Wash.

Andrew and assistant coach Benjamin Smith noticed Bozek while watching film of DeRosier. They were two players from the same program that were also friends who can make an impact in our program," Andrew said.

DeRosier, who plans to major in education, said that knowing Bozek would be in Fairbanks with her made an easy decision even easier.

Nanooks Add Size With Canadian Recruit (11/14/06)

With a solid group of young perimeter players already in the fold, Alaska Nanook basketball coach Lynne Andrew had one primary goal this recruiting season: Size.

On Tuesday, Andrew and the Nanooks added another post player to the puzzle with the signing of 6-1 Canadian prep star Amonda Francis of Coquitlam, BC to a National Letter of Intent.

"Amonda is the type of player that brings a dimension that we don't currently have in our program," Andrew said. "She's a strong post player but is deceptively versatile."

"She came up here and fit right into the camaraderie of the team. That's huge," Andrew continued. "She came and said, 'This is where I want to be.'"

Despite being a high schooler, Harris brings a wealth of experience to the table. Francis stars for Gleneagle Secondary School during the winter and plays for the British Columbia Provincial Team in the summer.

The high school senior has had great success on both teams. "She's seen a lot of success at some high levels and is very experienced," Andrew said. "She has a love for the game. All she wants to do is school and basketball."

Francis, who has won numerous tournament MVP and All-Tournament awards, led the Under 15 B.C. Provincial Team to a national title in 2004 and again this summer with the U17 team.

Her coach on the Provincial teams, Shaun McGuinness, said she was a key cog in each run. McGuinness describes Francis as a "hard worker" and a "two-way player."

"She's got strong offensive moves, especially with her back to the hoop. For a post player she runs the court really well, so she can be quite effective in the transition game," McGuinness, an assistant coach at the University of British Columbia, said. "Defensively she's a tenacious rebounder. She's got a pretty good package in regards to being able to play both ends of the court."

Francis posted impressive stats for Gleneagle last season leading the team in most statistical categories. She also had a monster effort at the 2005-06 AAA Senior Girls Provincial Championships last spring.

Over seven games, the then-junior put up a tournament-high 25 points a game plus 7.9 rebounds, 2.3 steals and nearly a block a game for the Talons. Francis also excels at shot put and netball, a team sport similar to basketball that is popular outside of the US. She earned an invite to play on the U21 Canadian National netball team in 2005.

Off the court, Francis is a solid student involved in leadership activities who volunteers as a coach and referee for youth sports in her hometown. She plans to enroll in the justice program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Francis joins 6-2 Nicole Bozek of Mukilteo, Wash., in Alaska's Class of 2007.

Nanooks Expect Immediate Impact from 6-2 Kamiak Star (11/9/06)

Six-two Nicole Bozek of Mukilteo, Wash., has signed a National Letter of Intent in the NCAA early signing period to play basketball for the Alaska Nanooks next season.

"Nicole's one of those players a Division II coach dreams about signing," UAF coach Lynne Andrew said. "She has the potential to be successful at a higher level like Division I. She can be an immediate impact player at this level and definitely for our program."

Bozek felt that Alaska, especially her future teammates, were a good fit for her plus she is excited by the Nanooks new motion-oriented offense and the chance to play right away.

"I really felt comfortable up there. I had so much fun with the girls on my trip," she said. "As a player, I bring movement and good post skills. I got to see them practice and I liked how their offense incorporated a lot of movement."

As a prep, Bozek has been a standout basketball and volleyball player for the Kamiak High School Knights since her freshman season. Bozek is a four-year letter winner in basketball at Kamiak. As a junior for the Knights last year, the center put up averages of 12.9 points and 11.4 rebounds a game to earn All-WesCo South Basketball honorable mention honors for the second straight season.

She is also a member of the Puget Sound Flight AAU team, where she played for coach Terry Graham. Graham describes Bozek as a "tenacious, athletic and great rebounder" for the Flight, who have produced multiple DI players including two of Bozek's current AAU teammates.

"She's one our stronger players who just gets the job done and doesn't care who gets the credit for it," Graham said of Bozek. "This is a kid that is clearly DI caliber but she wanted a smaller, more family-like environment. She fell in love with Lynne and the team up there and she is very excited about it."

Andrew describes Bozek as a 6-2 post who is very mobile and active, something she and new assistant coach Benjamin Smith are emphasizing this season.

"With the trend changing in the post area for women's basketball, posts aren't just posts anymore," Andrew said. "She can face the basket, shoot from the high post and put it on the floor for a couple dribbles. We see her fitting into that well."

Bozek should also fit in well as a student-athlete at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. An honor student who carries a 3.9 grade point average, she has won multiple awards for academics.

"She's a first-generation American; both of her parents are Polish. She's moved around all over the country but she's always done a good job of making a new home for herself," Graham said. "She's just a solid, solid kid."

She is also a key member of the Knights volleyball team as a middle blocker. Last season she led the team in blocks and was recognized for her efforts with an All-WesCo South Volleyball first team nod. This season she led Kamiak to this weekend's state tournament but after that it will be all basketball for Bozek.

"After this weekend, she's fully devoted to basketball," Andrew said.

Central Washington

Wildcats Add Five Including Two Transfers (8/10/07)

A total of five student-athletes, including two transfers and three freshmen, will join the Central Washington University women's basketball team for the 2007-08 season.

Included among the Wildcats' recruiting class for the upcoming season are transfers Sara Bergner (Bellingham, Wash./Whatcom CC) and LeeAna Busch (Bellingham, Wash./Sehome HS/Northwest Nazarene) and high school standouts Lexi Belcher (Mossyrock, Wash.), Andrea Fine (Mount Vernon, Wash.) and C'Era WalkingChild (Seattle, Wash./John F. Kennedy HS).

Bergner prepped at Bellingham High School and initially signed a letter of intent to play at archrival Western Washington out of high school before electing to play at Whatcom Community College .

For the Orcas, she was a first team all-NWAACC Northern Region selection as a sophomore, later earning second team all-NWAACC tournament accolades. She averaged a region-leading 22.0 points per game this past season, adding nine rebounds per contact as Whatcom finished in a three-way tie for the Northern Division title.

"Sara is an extremely efficient scorer with a solid mid-range game," CWU coach Jeff Whitney said. "She also has excellent court vision, and her athleticism will help bolster our back court."

The 5-foot-9 Bergner will be a junior for the Wildcats in 2007-08 and she is expected to play a wing position.

Busch, meanwhile, transferred to Central from fellow Great Northwest Athletic Conference member Northwest Nazarene. The 6-foot-2 post played for the Crusaders in 2005-06, appearing in all 28 games and averaging 3.4 points and 2.0 rebounds per game. Busch, who attended CWU but did not play in 2006-07, will have three years of eligibility remaining.

"LeeAna's work ethic is second-to-none," Whitney exclaimed. "She has very solid post moves down low, is very mobile, and runs the floor well in transition. She also rebounds very strong and can play both inside and out, and we feel very fortunate that she chose to transfer and become a part of our family. We look forward to seeing her make an immediate impact on the front line."

WalkingChild, a 6-foot forward, had been an early National Letter of Intent signee at the University of San Francisco before deciding to stay closer to home and attend Central Washington . The John F. Kennedy High School graduate was a three-time first team all-Seamount King selection, earning league Most Valuable Player honors as a junior in 2005-06. She averaged 12.7 points and 8.0 rebounds per game as a senior for the Lancers.

"We were very fortunate to get C'Era in the late signing period," Whitney said. "She has very good size and is a very physical player, with the ability to post up or play on the perimeter. She also has a very solid work ethic, which is something that will fit in nicely with our program."

Belcher is the reigning Associated Press Class 2B Player of the Year from Mossyrock High School. A 5-foot-9 wing who can play either the 2 or 3 positions, she finished her career with the Vikings as the school's all-time leading scorer and netted the game-winning free throws with 1.9 seconds remaining as Mossyrock defeated La Salle for the 2007 WIAA state championship.

In addition, she had set a state tournament record with nine three-pointers in a game during the 2005 tournament.

"We feel that Lexi is an excellent three-point shooter," Whitney said, "who knows how to score and has an excellent work ethic. We are very pleased that she signed to join our program, and the combination of all of her talents will be a great addition to our program for many years to come."

Fine was a three-year letter winner at Mount Vernon, where she averaged 13.7 points, 4.3 rebounds, and 3.1 assists per game as a senior. Also a member of the National Honor Society, the 5-foot-7 Fine once made seven three-pointers in a game against Arlington and had a top prep scoring performance of 27 points against Stanwood.

"Andrea is a very smooth player," Whitney said. "She has the ability to shoot on the move, drive, and pass the basketball. She has a ton of potential that we look forward to helping develop at the collegiate level."

Central Washington lost five seniors to graduation this past season, including the school's all-time leading rebounder and number two all-time leading scorer in Laura Wright. The Wildcats finished with a 17-10 overall record, posting the program's eighth straight winning season.

Montana State - Billings

Yellowjackets Sign Two Local Players To National Letters

Two area players have signed national letters-of-intent to play basketball at Montana State-Billings. Quinn Halverson of Shepherd High school and Kayla Ryan of Sweet Grass County High School will join the Yellowjackets for their inaugural season in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference.

"I am very excited that Quinn and Kayla are coming to MSUB," said MSUB coach Kevin Woodin. "Both of them are outstanding student-athletes from very successful Montana high school programs. They are fundamentally sound, and I believe they will positively impact our program."

"Kayla's size, physical strength, and ability to use both hands will benefit our team, while Quinn's penetration ability, decision making, and 3-point shooting skills will be valuable."

Halverson is a 5-foot-4 guard who was a three-time all-state selection for the Fillies. As a senior she averaged 15 points per game and recorded 114 steals.

For her career at Shepherd High School Halverson scored 1,403 points. She led the Fillies to three district and one divisional title as well as two top three finishes at the state tournament. She was also the student body president and class valedictorian this year.

Ryan is a 6-1 forward who was a four-time all-state player for the Shepherders. She set the school career records for points, rebounds, and blocked shots. As a senior Ryan averaged 16.9 points and 9.6 rebounds a game.

In her career for the Shepherders, she scored 1,643 points, grabbed 940 rebounds, and blocked 152 shots. A Wendy's High School Heisman Award Finalist, Ryan was also an all-state volleyball player and golfer, and qualified for the state track meet.

The Yellowjackets were 22-10 last season, winning the Heartland Conference regular season title as well as the conference tournament championship. MSUB went to its eleventh NCAA Tournament this year and its tenth in the last 14 seasons.

Northwest Nazarene

Kentwood Post Signs With Crusaders (4/24/07)

Beth Johnson, a 6-2 senior post at Kentwood High School in Kent, Wash., has signed a National Letter-of-Intent to attend NNU and play basketball for the Crusaders.

She averaged 8.1 points, 8.2 rebounds and 1.3 blocks per game as her Kentwood High team finished third in the 2007 Washington 4A state tournament. A first-team all-South Puget Sound League selection, Beth was also the co-captain of her Kentwood team.

"We are thrilled that Beth has chosen to be a part of the tradition of NNU women's basketball," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "She has a very bright future ahead of her both on and off the court. She will be a great fit in our system with her long, lean athletic build. She has the potential to make some huge improvements over the next four years and significantly impact our program."

Also a standout athlete on the high school soccer field, Johnson was a first-team All-SPSL defender and a first-team All-Area defender as a senior.

Baker City Guard To Play for Crusaders (11/16/06)

Katlin Sullivan, a senior at Baker City High School in Oregon, has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend NNU and play basketball for the Crusaders next season.

Sullivan is a 5-8 guard who was a first-team Oregon 3A all-state tournament selection, as well as an honorable mention all-state pick last year as a junior.

"Katy is going to be a great addition to our program and university," NNU coach Kelli Lindley commented. "She is an excellent student, has been involved in leadership positions throughout high school, and has excelled in three sports. We are thrilled that we were able to keep her close to home."

Voted to the Greater Oregon League first-team, Sullivan is a shooting guard who carries a 3.80 high school GPA. "Katy is a pure shooter, and will definitely impact our perimeter game," Lindley added. "But more than just a shooter, Katy has a good feel for the game and makes savvy decisions. It is going to be exciting to see her growth on the court during the next four years and she certainly has the potential to make an instant contribution."

Beaverton Guard To Join NNU Next Season (11/16/06)

Falissa Smith has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene and play basketball and also compete in track-and-field for the Crusaders next fall.

Smith, a senior at Southridge High School in Beaverton, Ore., is a 5-7 combo guard on a Southridge High School team that has been ranked in the USA Today Top 25 listing the last two seasons and has captured the last two Oregon 4A state championships.

"We are thrilled to have signed someone with Falissa's experience, athleticism, and character," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "Falissa comes from an outstanding high school basketball program where she has learned what it means to work hard and compete daily. She has impressed us with her desire to continue to get better and because of her speed and athleticism, her potential is unlimited."

Smith competes in the sprints in track. "The track and field program at NNU is very glad to know that Falissa Smith will be a part of the team here next year," Crusader coach John Spatz said. "We are especially excited about Falissa's ability to have an immediate impact in our sprint program."

"Falissa is an outstanding student-athlete that should be very successful at the GNAC level as well as at the NCAA II national level," Spatz continued.

"We couldn't be happier to have Falissa joining our program," Lindley added. "Not only is she a talented basketball player, but she has the type of character and personality that will only make this team better on and off the court."

Saint Martin's

Saints Add Three Prep Standouts, JC All-Star (5/14/07)

Four players, including three high school seniors and one junior college transfer, have signed National Letters of Intent to play basketball for Saint Martin's University.

Joining the Saints' squad next year will be freshmen Roni Jo Mielke, Katie Hawkins, Dara Zack and transfer Michelle Short.

"We are very excited about this recruiting class," said SMU coach Tim Healy. "We feel like we did everything we could to improve the program and add depth for the future."

Mielke, a 5-6 guard from Harrington, WA, was named Washington State "B" Player of the Year in 2007 as well as earning state tournament MVP honors. She was a first-team all-league selection the past three years and a first-team all-state selection in 2006. Mielke averaged 18.4 points and 7.5 rebounds per game leading to an impressive 1336 points in her high school career. She also posted an average of 5.5 assists and five steals per game.

"We are very excited to have signed a player with the resume of Roni Jo. Not only is she a skilled player, but she is a fierce competitor with a history of success in all that she has done. We believe that she will come to our program and contribute right from the start," said Healy. "She is a great kid and a great student and we are thrilled to have her at SMU."

Hawkins, a 6-0 forward out of West Valley High School in Yakima, was first-team all-league in 2007 and received 3A all-state honorable mention the same year. She averaged 11.4 points per game as well as 8.7 rebounds.

"Katie has the potential to be a fine player here at SMU," said Healy. "What I like most about her is the versatility factor. She can play with her back to the basket and knock down the open three. As she gets physically stronger we believe she will be a significant contributor."

Zack is a 5-9 guard from University High School in Spokane. She was selected first-team all-league in 2007 and also earned second team all-state honors. Zack averaged 15 points and 10 rebounds per game.

"Dara is going to surprise some people. She is a very smart player, with outstanding fundamentals, who has been an all-league performer in a very successful high school program. To top it off she is an outstanding student and will fit in well here at SMU," said Healy.

The Saints' only junior college recruit, Short is a 5-9 guard from Wenatchee Valley Community College. She was named first-team East region all-NWAACC. Short posted an average of 17.6 points per game along with 5.7 rebounds.

"We are ecstatic about this signing," said Healy. "Michelle is a hard working, versatile, aggressive player who is coming from a successful junior college program. She should be an immediate impact player on both sides of the ball. Her basketball IQ is very high and we are very excited about her potential."

Seattle University

Redhawks Add Denmark Native (8/15/07)

Anne Deleuran Kristensen has signed an athletic aid agreement to come to Seattle University and play basketball for the Redhawks beginning this fall.

Kristensen, a native of Aarhus, Denmark, has played for the Aabyholj Greens club team for the past four years. Two years ago, when the team moved back into Denmark's top division, she averaged 12.5 points per game. Last season she averaged 11.7 points per game while appearing in every game during the year.

The daughter of two high-level Danish basketball players, Kristensen made her debut on the youth national team at the age of 15. She is a four-time all-star selection at the Scania Cup in Stockholm, including a selection as Nordic Player of the Year in 2001 in leading her team to a second place finish.

In 2004 she played with the senior national team and earned the Fighter of the Tournament award for her performance against the older players.

"I am very excited to see how quickly Anne makes the transition to college basketball in the U.S.," SU coach Dan Kriley said. "As a point guard she has exceptional speed and vision in the open court. To sign a freshman with her ability and experience at this stage is fantastic for our program."

Kristensen joins fellow newcomers Alysse Carlson, Tatiana Heck, Chelsie Morrison, Emily Mothershed, and Leah Stepovich on next season's Seattle University women's basketball squad. Eight players from the 2006-07 roster are expected to return after helping the Redhawks post an 18-9 overall record, the program's best record in 14 years.

Redhawks Add JC Guard (7/5/07)

Leah Stepovich, a starting guard for Casper College over the past two years, has enrolled at Seattle University and will be a member of the Redhawk women's basketball program beginning in the 2007-08 season.

During the 2006-07 season, Stepovich started 32 games for the Casper College Lady Thunderbirds, averaging 8.9 points per game. She led the team with 58 made three-pointers, a .343 three-point field goal percentage, and a .921 free throw shooting percentage. She helped the team finish with a 26-9 record, including a span in which the squad won 20 of 23 games.

Stepovich was the 2005 Alaska Player of the Year while leading Monroe Catholic High School of Fairbanks to its second consecutive state championship. She averaged 17 points and six rebounds per game during her senior year. She was an all-state performer not only in basketball, but also in volleyball during her high school career.

"We are very excited to have Leah in our program at Seattle University," said Dan Kriley, Seattle University head

women's basketball coach. "She is an exceptional long range shooter and has a tremendous feel for the game. Leah will make an immediate impact on the GNAC."

Mountlake Captain Signs With Redhawks (5/18/07)

Tatiana Heck of Mountlake Terrace, Wash., has signed a National Letter of Intent to join Seattle University's basketball program beginning in the 2007-08 academic year.

Heck, a two-year captain and four-year starter for Mountlake Terrace High School, averaged 13.3 points per game during her high school career. She led the Hawks to three appearances in the 4A district playoffs and earned first team All-WESCO honors three times as well as second team All-Area recognition twice.

The 6-1 forward averaged a double-double (double figures in points and rebounds) in each of the last two seasons, posting 15 points and 12 rebounds per game as a junior and 14.6 points and 11.8 rebounds per contest during her senior year. She scored a career-high 27 points during her junior season and earned 20 or more rebounds in three games during her career, including 23 boards in one game during the 2005-06 campaign.

"I am very excited to have a player of Tatiana's strength and ability in our program at SU," SU coach Dan Kriley said. "She will bring a major inside presence to our roster. There is no doubt that Tatiana will have an immediate impact on the GNAC."

Two JC Stars, Division I Player To Play For Redhawks (4/23/07)

Alysse Carlson, Chelsie Morrison and Emily Mothershed have signed National Letters of Intent with Seattle University to compete for the Redhawks beginning in the 2007-08 academic year.

"Alysse, Chelsie and Emily have the ability to be as good as any group that has ever come to Seattle University," SU women's basketball coach Dan Kriley said. "These three players immediately take our program to a higher level."

Transferring from Chemekata Community College, Carlson was a second team NWAACC performer two years ago before earning Southern Region MVP honors last year. The 5-8 guard from Ashland, Ore., led the Storm to a 21-11 record last season, leading her team in scoring by averaging close to 20 points per contest.

"Alysse is a proven perimeter scorer who can come in and play both the point and wing position immediately in our program," said Kriley.

Morrison, a graduate of Central Catholic High School in Portland, Ore., comes to Seattle University after two stellar seasons at Yakima Valley Community College. Last season the 5-11 guard averaged 16 points, eight rebounds, four assists, and three steals in leading her squad to a 29-4 record and a third place finish in the NWAACC Tournament.

Over her two years with Cody Butler's squad, the Yaks compiled a 22-0 record at home, a 57-9 overall record, and two NWAACC Eastern Region championships.

"Chelsie is easily the most versatile player I've had at Seattle University," Kriley said. "She can score from anywhere on the floor and can effectively defend every position."

Carlson and Morrison will become teammates after facing each other as opponents in the first round of the 2007 NWAACC Tournament in Kennewick. Both players scored 22 points, with Carlson hitting six three-pointers, but Morrison also notched 12 rebounds and four steals to help the Yaks defeat the Storm 67-66.

The two players faced off again in the NWAACC South vs. East Sophomore All-Star Game, and again each player put up the same number of points (15), but this time Carlson came out on the winning end as the South defeated the East in overtime 94-91.

A native of Hockinson, Wash., Mothershed has spent the past two years at Division I Southern Utah after graduating from Jesuit High School in Portland, Ore.

A 6-1 forward, she played in all 57 games for the Thunderbirds over the past two seasons, averaging 3.3 points and 2.5 rebounds per contest. In her freshman season, she scored a career-high 15 points against Idaho State. She also led the her team with 14 points in last season's 56-52 victory over UNLV.

"Emily gives us the experienced toughness in the post that's been missing in our program. She brings us relentless energy, intensity, and desire to win," said Kriley.

These three signees will join eight returning players from the 2006-07 squad, which finished with an 18-9 record, SU's best season in 14 years.

Seattle Pacific

Rohrbach to Transfer from UAF (7/16/07)

Caitlyn Rohrbach, a former all-Wesco forward at Lynnwood's Meadowdale High School, has transferred to Seattle Pacific University.

The 6-foot Rohrbach, an Edmonds resident, played her freshman season at Alaska Fairbanks, averaging 10.6 points and 6.0 rebounds while starting 22 of 27 games.

Because Alaska is a fellow Great Northwest Athletic Conference member, Rohrbach must sit out one season before playing at Seattle Pacific. She will have three years of eligibility remaining.

Rohrbach becomes the Falcons' second transfer during the offseason. Earlier, Kelsey Burns transferred from Arizona.

Falcons Sign Transfer From Arizona (5/14/07)

Kelsey Burns, a former three-sport star and Seamount League basketball MVP at Kennedy High School, is transferring to Seattle Pacific University.

The 5-foot-11 Burns played the past two seasons at Arizona. She averaged 4.1 points as a freshman, when she started three times and played all 27 games. Burns was named the Wildcats' freshman of the year. As a sophomore, she averaged 1.8 points in 15 appearances off the bench.

At Kennedy, Burns also lettered in swimming and track. She was a three-time all-Seamount selection basketball. She scored 13.1 points per game as a senior, when the Lancers were league and district champions, and advanced to the state 3A tournament.

Burns was named the 2005 Seattle Times prep female athlete of the year. Her final accomplishment was winning the state long jump crown after taking third in the high jump.

She won three league swimming titles in the 50 freestyle, and placed fourth in the state in her final two years. Burns set the Kennedy record in that event as well as the long- and triple jump in track.

Western Oregon

State Player-of-the-Year, Transfer to Play for Wolves (6/13.07)

Second-year Western Oregon women's basketball coach Greg Bruce has added two more top flight players to an already outstanding recruiting class.

Transfer Shayla Corder (The Master's College - Roseburg HS) and Danielle Bellando of Willamette High School in Eugene will join a recruiting class of six that had previously signed including Sheena Cole (Illinois Valley HS), Danielle Wells (Southridge HS), Katie Torlund (Burns HS/Nebraska-Kearney), Whitney Chase (Oregon City HS) and Sara Zahler (Newberg).

Also making a major impact for WOU next year will be senior transfer Vanessa Wyffels, who played at NCAA Division I Wagner and at Willamette, and was a redshirt at WOU this past winter.

Bellando was named the 5A Oregon Player of the Year last winter, after helping to lead her Willamette Wolverine squad to its first-ever state title. She was a first team all-state tournament selection and a first team all-state pick.

She scored 25 points and had seven rebounds in a semi-final win over No. 1 ranked Jefferson. She averaged 14.8 points on the season, 6.3 rebounds and 3.1 assists. A two-time All-Midwestern League selection, she led the league in scoring as a junior and senior. Bellando is a 5-8 forward.

"Danielle is another player that brings a wealth of scoring ability to our program," Bruce commented. "She is terrific

around the hoop and put on a clinic against Jefferson at the state tournament. She will have to make the adjustment of playing more on the perimeter at the Division II level. She has shown in the past that she relishes a challenge and performs better when told that she can't contribute. Danielle has impressed me with her can-do attitude and her ability to rise to the occasion."

Corder played her freshman season at The Master's College (Newhall, Calif.), a team that went to the NAIA Division I national tournament last winter. The 5-10 guard-forward averaged 2.4 points and 1.9 rebounds a game for the Mustangs and played in 25 contests.

Prior to that, she helped lead Roseburg High School to a share of the Southern Oregon Conference title in 2006 with a 21-5 overall record. She averaged a league-best 17.0 points a game and broke her own school record with 428 points on the year. She hit for 38 points against Crook County (also a school record), and was a third team all-state (4A) selection for the Indians.

Corder is Roseburg's all-time leading scorer with 1,077 points, and also averaged 7.2 rebounds and 3.3 assists as a senior. A two-time All-SOC pick, she was voted the Les Schwab Classic Most Valuable Player and was nominated as a McDonald's All-American.

"Shayla is a pure scorer who can fill it up from all over," Bruce said. "She shoots the three well, but also has a solid mid-range game, featuring a strong pull-up jumper. She is very versatile and can play a number of positions. She is an excellent passer and a very smart player. We are very fortunate to be able to add a player of Shayla's caliber so late in the recruiting season. She will make a huge impact on the program in many ways."

Top Prep Scorer In Oregon To Play For Wolves (5/2/07)

Illinois Valley High School standout Sheena Cole has signed a national letter of intent with Western Oregon.

Cole, who led the state of Oregon (all classes) in scoring last winter at 24 points a game, joins a standout class of three other high school all-stars and two top transfers to add to the Wolves roster for the 2007-08 season.

Cole scored over 1,700 career points for the Illinois Valley Cougars. She also pulled down 6.8 rebounds a game this past season, handed out 2.5 assists and averaged nearly three steals a game.

The 5-9 guard was a three-time first team all-conference selection, and was the Skyline Conference Player of the Year in 2006-07. She was also a second team all-state (4A) pick.

"We are thrilled that Sheena Cole has decided to be a part of the Western Oregon basketball program," WOU coach Greg Bruce said. "She is a very unselfish player who has the ability to make those around her better, and she values the importance of winning. She is a quality student-athlete who is very excited to be a part of our emerging program."

The Cougars won back-to-back league titles under Cole's leadership, and advanced to the state tournament three straight seasons. Cole is also a track and field standout for the Cougars, placing eighth in last spring's state meet in the long jump.

"Sheena can score from inside or out, and is very hard to guard off the dribble," Bruce continued. "She averaged nearly nine free throw attempts a game. Her ability to get to the basket will really enhance our up-tempo style of play."

Wolves Sign Five Players Including Two Transfers (4/20/07)

Three high school standouts and two top transfers have been added to Western Oregon's women's basketball roster for the 2007-08 season.

Wearing Wolves uniforms next winter will be Danielle Wells (Southridge HS), Katie Torlund (Burns HS/Nebraska-Kearney), Whitney Chase (Oregon City HS) and Sara Zahler (Newberg). Also making a major impact for WOU next year will be senior transfer Vanessa Wyffels, who played at NCAA Division I Wagner and at Willamette, and was a redshirt at WOU this past winter.

Wells, a 5-9 forward, was the team captain this year for three-time state champion Southridge High School. She averaged nearly eight points a game and four rebounds a contest for the Skyhawks, who won the 6A title this year after winning the 4A crown the two years previous. Wells was an honorable mention All-Metro League pick, shooting 53 percent from the field.

"Danielle is the ultimate team player who was a big contributor for Southridge in winning their third consecutive state championship," said WOU coach Greg Bruce. "She enjoys competition, relishes playing defense, and has just the kind of attitude that will help turn our program around. She is a very accomplished passer from the high post who also has the ability to score inside against taller defenders. Any coach would enjoy working with Danielle; we are thrilled she chose to come to WOU."

Torlund played this year at NCAA Division II Nebraska-Kearney, averaging nearly five points a game for the nationally ranked Lopers. The 5-10 forward shot 48 percent from the field and 73 percent from the free throw line.

At Burns High School, she helped lead her team to the 3A state title in 2006, when the Highlanders went undefeated (30-0). Torlund was named to the state all-tournament team. As a senior, the 5-10 guard/forward averaged 16 points and nine rebounds a game and shot 40 percent from three-point range. She was a two-time first team all-state selection, and a three-time all-league pick.

"We are extremely excited to add a player of Katie's caliber to our program," Bruce commented. "She is very versatile, having the ability to play almost any position. She can score from anywhere on the court. Beyond that, she's an excellent passer and a tough rebounder. Her experience as a freshman

at UNK, who lost to North Dakota in the regional championship, will really help us as we become more competitive in the GNAC. Katie has the ability to have a major impact on our program the minute she steps on campus."

Chase, a 5-11 guard/forward, was a co-captain for perennial power Oregon City this past year. She averaged 11.3 points and 5.3 rebounds a game, shooting 56 percent from the field. Chase was a first team All-Three Rivers League selection this year and was a second team state all-tournament pick. She helped lead the Pioneers to three consecutive league titles during her career, while Oregon City placed third, second and sixth place at the state tournament.

"Whitney brings a wealth of big-time competitive experience to our program, having played in many high-level games against nationally ranked programs during her years at Oregon City," Bruce said. "She is a competitive force around the basket and can score from both inside and out. Whitney understands the game extremely well and will be an important ingredient in the success of program."

Zahler, a 5-9 guard/forward from Newberg, was the co-captain of her Tigers team last winter. She averaged 17.3 points a game, sixth best in the state, and also pulled down 9.5 rebounds and dished three assists a contest. She scored 1,156 points during her career at Newberg and was selected to play in the Oregon/Washington Northwest Shootout. She was a first team All-Pacific Conference selection this year, and a two-time Tigers Most Valuable Player.

"Sara is the epitome of a complete player," Bruce stated. "She has the ability to do whatever is needed to help her team win. She's efficient at getting to the basket, which will enhance our up-tempo style of play. Defensively she plays bigger than she is because of her uncanny ability to get her hands on a lot of passes. Most of all, Sara will bring a hard-nosed mind set which will no doubt help our team be more competitive."

Vanessa Wyffels redshirted this past season at WOU after spending one season at Willamette and two at Division I Wagner in New York. She spent her prep years at Central Catholic High School in Portland.

At Willamette, she was a second team D-III All-American and broke the NCAA record for highest field goal percentage in a season (.742). She averaged 19.1 points and 9.7 rebounds a game for the Bearcats. She was a two-year starter at Wagner, and at Central Catholic was a first team all-state selection. She also was a first team state all-tournament pick, and set a tourney record by hitting all 11 of her field goal attempts in a game.

"Vanessa will give us a big-time low post threat which will compliment our outstanding guard play very well," Bruce continued. "She is an extremely hard worker and absolutely does not like to finish any place but first. She is a born leader and will be a great role model for our younger players. Vanessa is very enthusiastic about having the opportunity to finish her career at WOU. We are extremely fortunate to have

her in our program. She has the ability to help us in so many different ways."

Western Washington

Vikings Get 6-4 Transfer From Eastern Washington (6/22/07)

Tara Holgate, a 6-foot-4 center who played last year as a redshirt freshman at Eastern Washington University, has enrolled at Western Washington University and will play for the Vikings this coming season.

Holgate, a sophomore from Everett, played in all 29 games for the NCAA Division I Eagles during the 2006-07 campaign, making 17 starts and averaging 15.4 minutes per game. She averaged 3.4 points, 3.6 rebounds and 1.1 blocks per game, shooting 47.4 percent from the field (45-of-95).

Holgate, who was a redshirt the previous year, averaged 24.7 points and had three triple-doubles (points, rebounds and blocks) as a senior at Snohomish County Christian High School. She led the Lions to the Seattle Lutheran tournament championship, having 17 points, 20 rebounds and 14 blocks in the title game.

As a junior, Holgate was the most valuable player of the Washington All-State Game, having 14 points, 20 rebounds and five blocks. She also was a member of the Class B state all-tournament team, and was named MVP at the Mid-May Run and Battle in Seattle while playing for the Northwest Heat.

All-State Center Signs With Vikings (5/8/07)

Lauren Hefflin, who twice earned all-state honors at Ridgefield High School, has signed a national letter of intent to play women's basketball at Western Washington University.

The 6-foot-2 Hefflin was an honorable mention Associated Press Class 2A all-State selection and co-MVP of the Greater St. Helens League as a senior. She averaged 18.6 points, 11.0 rebounds and 4.0 blocks, helping the Spudders to the quarterfinals at the state tournament.

Hefflin was a first-team all-state pick as a junior on a squad that also reached the state quarterfinals. In all, she made four straight state appearances.

As a senior, Hefflin was named MVP of the Southwest Washington Roundball Shootout Senior All-Star Game with 18 points and 21 rebounds. She scored a career-high 29 points that season against Washougal.

Vikings Get 1,000 Point Prep Scorer (5/2/07)

Marelle Moehrle (pronounced MAR-ell MORE-lee), one of just four players at Meadowdale High School to score 1,000 career points, has signed a national letter of intent to play women's basketball at Western Washington University.

The 5-foot-9 Moehrle started all four years for the Mavericks, helping them to a 97-10 record.

A first-team Everett Herald all-Area and Western Conference South Division all-star as a senior, she averaged 17.4 points, 6.1 rebounds and 2.5 steals on a 26-2 squad that was ranked No.1 in the state during the regular season, winning its first 26 games. The Mavericks took a fourth straight league championship, won the Northwest District title and placed sixth at the Class 3A state tournament.

A standout three-point shooter, Moehrle scored a career-high 28 points five times during the season.

Moehrle was a second-team all-league choice as a junior on a 23-4 team that finished eighth at state, and received all-league honorable mention as a sophomore on a 22-3 squad that got to the state tourney. She started as a freshman on a 26-1 team that won the state championship.

2006-07

Alaska Anchorage

Seawolf women add D-I transfer Stone (6/6/06)

Forward Jayci Stone will join Alaska Anchorage's women's basketball team for the upcoming 2006-07 season.

Stone, of Goodland, Kan., comes to UAA as a transfer from Division I New Mexico State, where she averaged 2.9 points in 17 games in 2005-06. She will have just one year of eligibility with the Seawolves.

Prior to NMSU, Stone played two seasons for Colby Community College's powerhouse program, going 54-11 overall. She earned All-Region VI and All-Jayhawk Conference honors her sophomore season after averaging 14.7 points, 5.0 rebounds and 3.0 assists. She was also named an NJCCA Academic All-American her sophomore season with a 3.8 GPA.

"Jayci is an incredible competitor who simply knows how to win and does everything well," said first-year UAA head coach Tim Moser. "She adds versatility at the forward position, including the ability to step out for the three-pointer. Most importantly, she is the kind of player who is a leader and makes everyone around her even better."

Seawolves Add Interior Strength With Early Signees (12/23/05)

Lindsey Bordeaux and Kathleen Harley have signed national letter-of-intents to play basketball with the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Bordeaux, a 5-11 forward from Mountlake Terrace, Wash., is a standout in both basketball and volleyball at Edmonds-Woodway High School. Currently in her third season with the EWHS varsity, she has led her team in rebounding the past two years, and averaged 8.4 points per game last season to help the Warriors win eight of their final 10 games. She has earned multiple All-Wesco league honors in both basketball and volleyball.

Harley is a 6-2 center from Calgary, Alberta. As a junior at Bishop O'Byrne High School in 2004-05, she averaged 16 points, 18 rebounds, 3 assists and three steals per game, and was named an all-star at the Division I Bishop Carroll Tournament.

"Both of these young ladies come from amazing families and are outstanding people as well as players," said UAA coach Jodi Hensen, who is in her third year as the Seawolves' head coach.

"Lindsey is an extremely versatile player which is integral to our Seawolf system. She has tremendous instincts, combined with athleticism, making her a dominant inside-outside threat.

Her skills, smarts, and outstanding work ethic will enable her to impact us immediately.

"Kathleen is a strong, true back-to-the-basket post. She has the mentality so important to success in the low post – wanting to dominate her opponent. She loves to compete, and she loves to rebound. Kathleen has barely scratched the surface in terms of her potential."

Alaska Fairbanks

Nanooks Add Player from Coupeville (4/21/06)

Brittany Black, younger sister of current Nanook Lexie Black, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

The 5-11 forward, is a senior at Coupeville High School, and has been a member of the varsity basketball team for four years and the varsity volleyball team for two. Black has participated in the state basketball tournament in three of the last four seasons.

This year, Black was voted team captain in basketball and she led the team in scoring and averaged 10 points, 6 rebounds, and four assists per game. She was a Northwest A/B first team all-league selection after receiving honorable mention in 2005.

In 2005 Black was also recognized for her accomplishments in volleyball, being named the team's Most Inspirational Player, and receiving honorable mention for the Northwest A/B League.

An active member of the community, Black has had four years of coaching experience with kids in grades three through six for the Central Whidbey Youth Athletic Association. She is also participates in a tutoring program for younger kids as a Learning Partner at her high school.

Black, who is a member of the National Honors Society at CHS, plans to pursue a degree in Biology at UAF.

Rohrbach Signs With Nanooks (4/17/06)

Caitlin Rohrbach (ROAR-bach), a 6-0 forward from Edmonds, Wash., has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball for the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Rohrbach is a senior at Meadowdale High School where she has played varsity basketball and volleyball for four years. She led her high school basketball team in scoring and rebounds the past two seasons, and was a member of the Wesco First-Team All-Conference and First-Team All-Area for the Everett Herald in basketball this season and was a Second-Team All-Conference selection in volleyball as a middle hitter, for which she was also the team MVP.

"Caitlin's experience and skill at the post position will make her a versatile threat," said head coach Lynne Andrew. "She is a very well-rounded player and she has the potential to come in and make an immediate impact in our lineup."

Other accolades Rohrbach garnered during the 2005-06 season, included being named a Seattle P-I All Area Honorable Mention, Most Inspirational, and True Blue award winner for basketball.

Rohrbach is also an excellent student; having taken several honors classes over the course of high school, and boasting an almost perfect cumulative grade point average. She was named the MHS and Rotary Student of the Month in January, and the Athlete of the Month at MHS in February of 2006.

"She's a very personable and outgoing young lady, who's also an extremely dedicated student," added Andrew. "She has natural leadership qualities and is dedicated to her athletics and education. These intangibles make her a strong addition to our program."

Rohrbach plans to pursue a degree in elementary education or communication.

Central Washington

Wildcats Sign Jacobs To National Letter (5/23/06)

Jennifer Jacobs, a standout guard from Bremerton High School, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball with Central Washington.

Jacobs, who has starred at Bremerton each of the past four seasons and has been ranked among the top prep players in the state of Washington, led the Narrows League in scoring each of the past three years. A 5-foot-9 guard who can play either the point or shooting guard position, Jacobs averaged 20.5 points per game in 21 contests as a senior for the Knights.

"What Jenn brings to the program is her ability to play both the point and wing positions," CWU coach Whitney said. "We've needed to increase our three-point shooting to be able to help our inside play, and hopefully with Jenn's talents, plus our other signings, we'll be able to improve upon our perimeter scoring."

Three-point shooting is an area that Whitney and the Wildcats coaching staff aimed to address during the off-season, as Central Washington shot just 32.9 percent from three-point range this past year after a near-record-low 28.8 percent efficiency in 2004-05.

Jacobs made 52.7 percent of her three-point shots (29 for 55) as a senior at Bremerton this past winter after connecting on an astounding 56.3 percent of her treys (27 for 48) as a junior. She also averaged 5.9 assists per game during the 2004-05 season with the Knights.

"Jenn's ability to create shots off the dribble, and her ability to penetrate and get others open are qualities that attracted us to her," Whitney added.

"She is a big signing, especially considering the other schools she was considering within our conference," Whitney said, eluding to Jacobs' consideration of Western Washington and

Seattle University among her college choices. "She chose to come to CWU, which should benefit not only the basketball program, but the education program as well."

Wildcats Add Two Players for 2006-07 (4/13/06)

Shaina Afoa, a prep standout at A.J. Dimond High School in Anchorage, Alaska, and Brandie Bounds of nearby Zillah, Wash., have both signed letter-of-intents to play basketball at Central Washington University.

Afoa, who signed a National Letter of Intent during the early signing period last November, was recently named to the Daily News/Alaska Media All-State Basketball Class 4A first team. A 6-foot-1 post, she averaged better than a double-double as a senior for the Lady Lynx and helped lead Dimond to its second Class 4A state championship in the past three seasons.

"Shaina's athletic ability is something that immediately attracted us," CWU coach Jeff Whitney said. "She is a player who can go inside and out, which is a quality we are looking for from our players in the 4 (power forward) and 5 (post) positions."

"Rebounding is an area we've needed to address, and her accolades and numbers prove her ability to rebound the basketball. Her ability to rebound at both the offensive and defensive ends of the floor will pay immediate dividends."

In addition to her all-state and Class 4A all-state tournament team accolades, Afoa added first team all-Cook Inlet Conference honors and was a three-time all-region and all-state selection. She also earned Most Valuable Player honors at the Lady Lynx Tournament each of her final three seasons.

Bounds, meanwhile, will join the Wildcats for her senior season in 2006-07. The former Zillah High Leopard and transfer from Division I Eastern Washington University has already enrolled in classes this quarter at CWU and, at 5-foot-10, will provide Central with some additional size and experience at the collegiate level.

"As a coaching staff, we can appreciate Brandie's experience (at the Division I level) at the forward position," Whitney said. "Some of the many strengths she has already shown in workouts include her perimeter scoring and her ability to defend bigger guards - both of which are qualities we were needing."

Bounds sat out the 2005-06 season after playing for three years at EWU. She started 26 of 28 games during her junior campaign in 2004-05, averaging 4.8 points and 3.3 rebounds. Over the course of her three seasons with the Eagles, she appeared in 80 games and started 45, scoring 4.1 points and grabbing 2.9 rebounds per game.

"The combination of Brandie's experience, scoring, and defensive abilities," Whitney continued, "is something that will help her become a great addition to a team that already returns several key veterans."

Northwest Nazarene

Oregon City Wing To Play For Crusaders (6/12/06)

Krista Oliver, a 5-9 wing from Oregon City High School, has signed a scholarship agreement to attend Northwest Nazarene and play basketball for the Crusaders this fall. Oliver averaged 5.2 points and 2.9 rebounds as a senior last season.

"Krista comes from a tremendous high school program where she knows what it takes to win," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said.

"It's always exciting to bring in student-athletes who have grown up in a high school program where they have been expected to work hard and also play in an up-tempo system."

One of the premiere high school girl's programs in the country, Oregon City lost in the Oregon 4A state finals in 2005-06.

"We are thrilled to have Krista joining our program and are really looking forward to watching her progress over the next four years," Lindley said.

Bishop Kelly's Lindsay Brady Signs With Crusaders (6/2/06)

Lindsay Brady, a 5-8 point guard, has signed a national letter-of-intent to attend NNU and play basketball for the Crusaders.

Brady, from Boise's Bishop Kelly High School, was an Idaho 4A All-State first-team selection and a member of the Southern Idaho Conference first-team squad as she averaged 12.0 points, 6.1 rebounds, and 4.2 assists per game as a senior.

"We are thrilled to be able to keep Lindsay here in the Treasure Valley after her exceptional high school athletic career," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "Lindsay is a great athlete who will excel in our up-tempo style."

"She is an excellent rebounding guard with a great feel for the game. Her size and strength at the point guard position is going to make her transition to the Division II level a relatively easy one. We couldn't be happier to have someone of Lindsay's character and basketball skill joining our program."

Three Sign With Crusaders (5/26/06)

Kristin Hein, Paige Knudson and Micaela Williams have signed National Letters of Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene University and play basketball for the Crusaders next season.

Hein, a senior at Tualatin High School in Oregon, joins junior college transfers Knudson (Sheridan CC) and Williams (Umpqua CC).

A 5-11 forward who averaged 10.0 points and 10.4 rebounds per game as a senior, Hein was an Oregon 4A All-State

selection as she led Tualatin High to a third place finish at the Oregon 4A State Tournament.

"Kristin comes from an outstanding high school program and has proven herself against some of the best high school players in the Pacific Northwest," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "With her ability to run the floor, hit the outside shot, and exceptional rebounding skills, she will be an outstanding addition to our program."

"Not only will Kristin be an asset to our program athletically, she also is the type of quality person we love having in our program."

Knudson was a Region IX All-Region First Team selection at Sheridan Community College where she averaged 13.1 points and 5.2 rebounds per contest as a sophomore.

"Paige is an excellent outside shooter (38% 3-pts) and at 5-11 will be a force coming off screens and in our transition offense," Lindley continued. "In addition, Paige is exactly the type of student-athlete we want coming in as a junior because of her outstanding work ethic and character. She will be a leader for us both on and off the court."

A 5-8 wing, Williams averaged 15.4 points, 7.4 rebounds, and 3.5 assists last season at Umpqua Community College and was named to the NWAACC Tournament first-team All-Tournament squad.

"We are really looking forward to having Micaela in an NNU uniform next season," Lindley commented. "She comes from an exceptional junior college program and has learned what it takes to be successful. She is a strong, aggressive wing player that will be able to impact our program immediately. We are very excited to have an opportunity to coach Micaela over the next two years."

Washington Player Signs Early with Crusaders (11/17/05)

Brittney Roggenkamp has signed a national letter of intent to attend Northwest Nazarene and play basketball for the Crusaders.

Roggenkamp, a senior at La Center High School in La Center, Washington, is a 5-11 wing player who was named to the Washington 2A first-team all-state team in 2005. Averaging 20.5 points, 9.0 rebounds, and 3.9 assists per game as a junior, Roggenkamp led her team to a 20-5 record in 2004-05.

"Brittney will be great addition to our program both on and off the court," commented Lindley. "Athletically, she is very quick and has a good feel for the game. We needed to add some size at the wing position, and at 5-11, she will be very versatile for us and has the ability to make an instant impact."

"Brittney is also an excellent student who wants an all-around top-notch college experience. We are really looking forward to spending time with her and her family over the next four years." Roggenkamp excels in the classroom at La Center High, carrying a 3.95 GPA.

Saint Martin's

Saints Add Nine Players to 2006-07 Roster (6/16/06)

Freshman Krissy Bassett, Jamey Gelhar and Sarah Painter along with transfers Kassie Ludeman, Amber Harmon, Necia Jerome, Breanne Lindquist, Sade Smith and Jessi Reome will play basketball this coming season for Saint Martin's. With the early signing of Megan Busch and Destiny Schang the Saints will have 11 new faces.

"I am very happy with this recruiting class," SMU coach Tim Healy said. "Not only did we address every need we had, but we are bringing in some quality young people."

With a balance of incoming freshmen (5) and transfers (6), Healy feels that he has created a competitive environment which he hopes will breed a quality team.

Bassett, a 6-0 forward from Washougal, averaged 21 points and nine rebounds and was a McDonald's All-American nominee and league MVP.

Gelhar, a 5-6 guard from Prairie High School in Brush Prairie, averaged 12 points per game and helped lead her team to first, third, fourth, and second place finishes at the state tournament during her four-year career. She earned all-state honors in her senior season.

Painter, a 5-8 guard from Eatonville, averaged 15 points, eight rebounds, and four assists in earning Nisqually League Most Valuable Player honors.

Two sets of junior college teammates will also join the club next year. Ludeman and Harmon led Wenatchee Valley to a third-place finish in the NWAACC tournament. Jerome and Lindquist both played at Whatcom CC. Smith played at Centralia Community College, while Reome is a transfer from Montana - Northern.

Ludeman, a 6-2 center from Waterville, was a first-team All-NWAACC East region selection as well as second-team All-NWAACC tournament selection. Kassie averaged 15.8 points and 7.8 rebounds per game.

"Kassie is the true 'back to the basket' kind of post player which we have wanted for several years," Healy said. "She is very strong and can score both inside and out."

Harmon (5-9, Wenatchee) averaged 15.9 points and made 52 three-pointers and was a first-team All-Eastern Region selection and a member of the NWAACC all-star team in 2006. She also earned team MVP honors.

"Amber fills a couple of critical needs," stated Healy. "First, she is a taller wing player than we have had; but more importantly she can really shoot the three. I watched Amber play a lot this past season and she has improved leaps and bounds. She has outstanding offensive skills and will certainly be in a battle for playing time at the 3 spot."

Jerome (5-5, Olympia, WA) averaged 9.2 points per game at Whatcom. In high school she was a second-team All-Narrow League selection.

Lindquist (5-8, Lynden, WA), who teamed up with Jerome in the backcourt at Whatcom, averaged 10 points and six rebounds per game.

Smith (5-11, Pullman, WA) averaged 12.9 points per game as well as 8.7 rebounds. Sade also had a .515 field goal percentage in earning first-team All-NWAACC West region honors.

Reome (5-10, Jr.) averaged 10.4 points per game and shot 43.3 percent on three-pointers in earning honorable mention All-Frontier Conference both her freshman and sophomore years.

"Jessi is a transfer with some solid collegiate experience," commented Healy. "She led the Frontier Conference in three-point shooting two years ago. She had to take some time off last year to let some foot injuries heal, but I feel that she is really motivated to play here and that her shooting ability will make her a threat right from the start."

Saints Sign Two Prep Stars To National Letters (12/6/05)

Two high school seniors - Megan Busch of Bellingham and Destiny Schang of Woodland - have signed National Letters of Intent to play basketball at Saint Martin's University.

Busch, a 5-8 senior point guard at Sehome High School, is a three year starter and two-time first-team Northwest League all-star. As a junior, she averaged 16 points and six rebounds a game. As a sophomore, she averaged 10 points and four rebounds a game in helping lead the Mariners to an eighth place finish in the Class 3A state tournament.

"We are extremely excited about Megan joining the Saint program," SMU coach Tim Healy said. "She is an outstanding player with tons of potential. She is a tireless worker and really seems to be a student of the game. Not only can she handle the ball but she is a very good shooter. To top it off, she is a first-rate person and student. She will become a good player and leader here."

Schang, a 5-3 senior point guard at Woodland High School, has already garnered several individual accolades with her senior season still left to play including honorable mention all-Trico as a freshman; second-team all-Trico and honorable mention all-area as a sophomore and first-team all-Trico and all-area as a junior. She led the Beavers to the Trico League and District Championship last season, averaging 12.6 points a game.

Schang was a "Best in the West all-star and "End of the Oregon Trail" all-tournament team selection, and was second among all Class 2A players in the state in assists and steals last season.

"What I like best about Destiny is that she is feisty. At her size, she has had to overcome lots of obstacles in her time as a

player and doesn't appear to be afraid of the work needed to become a good player. She can defend on the ball and knock down the three," comments Healy. "She is a really good kid off the court and we are pleased that she has chosen SMU."

Schang is also a standout golfer at Woodland, earning first team all-Trico honors for the league and district champion Beavers this fall. She will be a dual sport athlete at Saint Martin's as she plans to participate on the Saints women's golf team as well.

Seattle University

Redhawks Sign Standout From Yakima's West Valley (11/9/05)

Guard Cassidy Murillo, from West Valley High School in Yakima, has signed a national letter-of-intent to play basketball at Seattle University.

Murillo captained her West Valley High School team to a third-place finish in the 2004-05 3A State tournament. She was also named Most Valuable Player of the Mid-Valley League and the state tournament.

"Cassidy is one of the premier basketball players in the state of Washington and the Northwest Region overall," SU coach Dan Kriley said. "I can't begin to express how significant her signing and commitment will impact our program. She's a tremendous leader, relentless competitor and a proven winner."

Murillo's achievements run much deeper. She was also a second-team all-state selection by The Seattle Times as well as a first-team selection by The Associated Press and the women's basketball Player of the Year by the Yakima Valley Sports Awards.

The 5-foot-7 guard scored 17 points with six assists and three steals in West Valley's 3A state third-place game last season against Clover Park and finished the state tournament with 81 points in her four games. She also scored 26 points in the Rams' 61-50 win over Rainier Beach in the postseason and set a 3A tournament record by going 16-of-17 from the free-throw line.

Prior to her junior year, Murillo was a team captain for West Valley as a sophomore and was a Mid-Valley League first-team selection. "Cassidy has the ability to do some very special things at Seattle University," Kriley said. "She possesses the complete package: A great athlete, a tremendous student, and an even better person."

Seattle Pacific

Bradley Guard Transfers to Seattle Pacific (6/1/06)

Libby Magnuson, a Bradley University guard the past two seasons, has transferred to Seattle Pacific University and will play basketball next season.

The 5-foot-10 Magnuson, a native of White Bear Lake, Minn., started 21 games for the Division I Braves as a sophomore, averaging 5.3 points and 2.3 assists. She was one of five players to see action in all 28 games for the Peoria, Ill., school.

Falcons Sign Wing from Lewiston (4/21/06)

Lisa Cannon of Idaho's Lewiston High School has signed anational letter of intent to play basketball for Seattle Pacific University.

Cannon, a 5-11 wing, was chosen to play in the state all-star game despite missing her senior season due to a knee injury. She averaged 15 points and converted 40 percent of her three-point attempts as a junior when she was an All-Inland Empire League selection for the Bengals.

Snohomish, Bellevue Christian Seniors Sign With Falcons (11/14/05)

Daesha Henderson of Snohomish High School and BellevueChristian center Melissa Reich have signed national letters of intent toplay basketball at Seattle Pacific University next season.

Henderson, a 5-foot-9 point guard, averaged 11.6 points as a junior, when the Panthers advanced to the Washington 4A championship game and went 25-2. She was the team MVP and second team all-Wesco North when Snohomish finished sixth in the 2004 state tournament.

Reich, a 6-1 senior, averaged 15.1 points and 14 rebounds last season in leading the Vikings to a 20-5 record and a state 1A tournament berth. She is the daughter of Mark Reich, a Seattle Pacific center from 1977-79.

Falcons Ink Hoisington To National Letter (11/10/05)

Megan Hoisington of Central Kitsap High School has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball at Seattle Pacific University next season.

Hoisington, the Cougars' leader in scoring (14.5), rebounding (8.8) and blocked shots (1.1) as a junior, is the daughter of Greg Hoisington, who played at SPU from 1977-82. Megan was voted first team all-Narrows League last season when Central Kitsap was 20-6 and qualified for the state 4A tournament.

Western Washington

Vikings Get Six-Foot Center From Gonzaga (4/26/06)

Sarah Schramm, a 6-foot center who played at NCAA Division I Gonzaga University last season, is transferring to Western Washington University this fall and will be a member of the women's basketball team.

Schramm played in 13 games at Gonzaga during the 2005-06 campaign, averaging 0.8 points and 2.0 rebounds. She was a

medical redshirt the previous year after suffering a broken wrist.

Schramm was a Basketball Congress International All-American as a senior at Chelan High School, receiving Associated Press Class 2A all-State honors all four years.

As a senior, she averaged 12.0 points, 10.0 rebounds and 3.0 blocks in helping the Mountain Goats to a perfect 27-0 record and a state championship. Schramm also was a volleyball standout, helping Chelan to four state tournament appearances.

Vikings Add Two Standout Point Guards (4/6/06)

Two standout point guards, one a high school senior and the other a NCAA Division I transfer, have committed to play women's basketball at Western Washington University beginning this fall.

The backcourt leaders are 5-foot-9 Amanda Dunbar from Marysville-Pilchuck High School; and 5-6 India Soo, who last played at Idaho State University.

Dunbar, who signed a national letter of intent in November, was a first-team Everett Herald all-Area and Western Conference North Division all-star as a senior, averaging 17.6 points, 5.8 rebounds and 3.5 assists. She scored 15 points and was named MVP at the East-West All-Star Game, helping the West to a 77-57 victory.

Dunbar had school records of 34 points and eight 3-pointers in a 67-54 win over Monroe. She also sank 6-of-10 3-pointers and scored 23 points in a 51-49 district playoff win over Snohomish.

Soo, a sophomore from Kamuela, Hawaii, attended Idaho State two years ago. She played in all 29 games as a freshman for the Bengals, making 21 starts and averaging 5.2 points, 3.3 rebounds and 3.3 assists.

Soo was a first-team all-state and all-Interscholastic League of Honolulu selection as a senior at Kamehameha High School, helping the Warriors to three state tournament appearances. She also was a standout prep soccer player, receiving ILH Offensive Player of the Year honors as a senior.

2005-06

Alaska Anchorage

Local standout, Californian join Seawolf women (10/14/05)

A pair of walk-on players – Erin Cunningham and Sarah Jones – have been added to the 2005-06 Alaska Anchorage women's basketball roster.

Cunningham, a 5-6 guard from Yuba City, Calif., comes to UAA after earning team MVP and all-conference honors at Yuba College, where she played from 2001-03. As a sophomore, she averaged 12 points, four assists, three rebounds and three steals per game.

Jones, a 5-10 forward from Anchorage, earned All-Cook Inlet Conference honors as a junior and senior at Service High, helping the Cougars to the 2005 CIC title and a state runner-up finish. She was a three-time team MVP for the Cougars.

Seawolf Women Add Freshman Backcourt Duo (9/7/05)

A pair of standout freshman guards – Kim Brady and Limor Pelleg – have been added to the 2005-06 Alaska Anchorage women's basketball roster.

Brady, 5-9, from Odessa, Texas, comes to Anchorage after twice earning first-team all-district honors at Odessa High School. As a senior, she averaged 15 points in a slow-down offense, helping lead OHS to the Region 3-5A title with an 11-1 record (30-5 overall).

Brady – who won the basketball team's top defensive player award as well -- also excelled in track & field her senior year, finishing runner-up in the triple jump at the district meet.

"Kim is an incredibly athletic, strong guard who can rebound, score and defend against anyone," said Hensen, who begins her third season at the helm this year. "We are very excited about the level of athleticism and competitiveness Kim will bring to our program."

Pelleg, a 5-5 point guard from Rishon LeZion, Israel, was the starting point guard for the Israeli Under-21 National Team last season, averaging 15 points, 6 assists, 3 rebounds and 2 steals per game. A veteran of international competition, she also recently played for the Maccabi Ashdod club team in Israel.

"Limor is going to make an immediate impact on our team from the point guard position," Hensen said. "She brings versatility – she can pass, score, rebound and defend. Her on-court leadership and international experience, combined with her versatility, will make Limor a very exciting player to watch over the next four years."

Seawolves Add Post Player (5/27/05)

Junior college transfer April Olson will join the University of Alaska Anchorage women's basketball team this winter.

Olson, a 5-11 center, was a starter last season for junior-college national power Western Nebraska Community College.

The Gering, Neb., native averaged 6.6 points on 54.6 percent shooting, and 4.4 rebounds per game for a Lady Cougars squad that went 33-3, won its third consecutive Region IX title, and finished seventh at the NJCAA Division I Tournament. She saw action in 31 games as a freshman on WNCC's sixth-place NJCAA team.

Olson was an all-conference performer at Gering High School, where she lettered three years, played in two state tournaments, and helped the Bulldogs to a 25-1 record and Class B state runner-up finish in 2003.

UAA Signs Former D-I Player, Oregon City Prep Standout (5/19/05)

A pair of post players from the same junior college league and a versatile guard from one of the nation's elite prep programs will join the University of Alaska Anchorage women's basketball team this fall.

Krystal White, Rachel Brown and Tristan Burnett have all signed National Letters of Intent with the Seawolves.

White, a 5-11 forward-center, was an all-region selection as a sophomore at Johnson County (Kan.) Community College last season. The Kansas City, Mo., native ranked among the Jayhawk Conference East Division leaders in scoring (11.8 ppg), rebounding (8.5), assists (3.5), steals (3.0) and field goal percentage (.500). Her 10 steals in the Cavaliers' Jan. 12 win over Allen County were a Jayhawk Conference season-high as well.

White played her freshman season at Division I Missouri-Kansas City, seeing action in all 27 games and averaging 2.1 points and 2.6 rebounds.

White earned numerous honors at Hickman Mills High School, where she set her school's career scoring (1,536 points), rebounds (946) and steals (237) records. She was first-team Missouri Class 5A all-state as a senior, averaging 17.5 points and 10 rebounds per game and helping the Lady Cougars to a 25-4 record and the No. 6 ranking in the final state poll.

Brown, a 5-10 forward from Bristow, Okla., comes to the Seawolves with three years of eligibility after taking a redshirt season in 2004-05. As a freshman in 2003-04, she averaged 3.1 points and 2.3 rebounds per game, playing in a reserve role for an Independence Community College team that went 22-9 and finished runner-up in the Jayhawk Conference's East Division.

Burnett, a 5-8 combo guard from Oregon City, Ore., recently helped OCHS to third place at the 2005 Class 4A state championships, earning all-region honors in the process. She started for a Pioneers squad that came within a few points of playing for its fifth straight state title. In OCHS's 55-53 semifinal loss to Central Catholic, Burnett was her team's Player of the Game with 15 points (4-5 3FG), five steals and four assists.

Burnett becomes the second player in Seawolf history to hail from Oregon City, which has won 10 of the last 14 Oregon state titles. Former Pioneer Heidi Alderman helped OCHS to its first championship in 1992 and went on to become the No. 3 scorer and rebounder in UAA history (1992-96).

Seawolves Sign Recruit From Wyomih JC (4/21/05)

Former junior college standout Mari Riser, a 5-8 guard from Roosevelt, Utah, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Riser comes to UAA from Western Wyoming Community College, where she was a two-time all-conference selection. As a sophomore in 2004-05, she earned NJCAA All-Region IX honors after averaging 11.1 points, 3.0 rebounds and 2.3 steals per game. She shot 46 percent from the floor, 44 percent from three-point range and 79 percent on free throws as the Spartans went 22-11 to post their best record in a decade. As a freshman, Riser averaged 12.0 points and 5.0 rebounds, and led her team in blocks and steals.

Riser's older brother, Tai, was a two-year starter and honorable mention all-conference guard for the Seawolf men from 1993-95.

Riser is the second Seawolf commitment for the 2005-06 season, joining Rebecca Kielpinski (6-2, C, Mandan, N.D.), who signed in the early period in November. Kielpinski was recently named North Dakota's Miss Basketball after leading Mandan High to its second straight state title.

Seawolves Sign North Dakota Prep Star Kielpinski (11/17/04)

North Dakota high school star Rebecca Kielpinski has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Kielpinski, a 6-2 center from Mandan, N.D., was a first team all-state selection for Mandan High as a junior in 2003-04. She averaged 15 points and 10 rebounds on the season, helping lead the Braves to their second consecutive North Dakota Class A (large schools) state title. In the state tournament, she averaged 16.3 points, shooting 75 percent from the field and 7-for-7 from the free throw line.

This summer Kielpinski was the leading scorer for her Prairie Shooters select team in the prestigious Dakota Showcase tournament. She averaged 20.0 points over six Showcase games, leading the Shooters to a runner-up finish in the 16-team event with squads from seven Midwestern states.

"Rebecca Kielpinski is a difference-maker," UAA coach Jody Hensen said. "We are absolutely ecstatic to have a student-athlete of her talent, character and work ethic join the Seawolf family. She is an extremely skilled and dominant post player who is equally as good on the defensive end as she is on offense. Becca is very passionate about competing and is a tremendous student of the game. She is a perfect fit in our program."

Kielpinski, who is the first signing for UAA's 2005-06 recruiting class, chose the Seawolves over 5-time NCAA Division II champion North Dakota State as well as Nebraska-Omaha and Augustanta (S.D.) College.

Alaska Fairbanks

Nanooks Add Three More Hoop Players (5/19/05)

Mia Seagraves, a 5-3 guard from Cypress College, Lakewood and Artesia high schools and Artesia, Calif; Alice Stein, a 6-0 forward from Reedley College, Fresno Central High School and Fresno, Calif., and Alissa Brasel, a 6-1 forward from Edmonds Community College, Kamiakin High School and Pasco, Wash., have signed letters of intent to join the Nanooks for the 2005-06 season.

Seagraves averaged 12.6 points, four assists, two steals and five rebounds per game as a sophomore at Cypress College, making 74 per cent of her free throws and shooting 35 per cent from three-point range.

She started all 32 games for the Chargers. As a freshman, she ranked fourth on the team in scoring with 8.6 points per game and was second with three assists and 1.9 steals per contest. As a senior, she helped lead Artesia to the California Interscholastic Federation Division Class 3AA championship.

She averaged 10 points and five assists per game and was an academic team award winner. She played her first high school seasons at Lakewood, where she was co-Most Valuable Player as a sophomore and a coaches' award winner as a sophomore and again as a junior.

Stein averaged 18.2 points per game as a sophomore at Reedley, ranking among the top 15 players in the state and third in her league. She made 54.8 per cent of her shots from the field, ranking third in the league and in the top 10 in the state. Her 10.4 rebounds per game ranked her among the state's top 20 players, and her high mark was 31 points.

She helped lead her team to a second place finish in her league, a 19-9 overall record, and the Elite Eight at the state championships. Stein was named all-tournament at the San Mateo Tournament as her team won the title.

At Central High, Stein became the all-time leading scorer with 1,200 points, and was named her team's Most Valuable Player, first team all-league, was chosen a second team all-star by the Fresno Bee, and was selected for the Fresno City/County All-Star Game. She led her team in scoring and rebounding, and also played volleyball and was chosen first team All-League in softball.

Brasel averaged 20 points, 13 rebounds and two blocked shots per game as a sophomore at Edmonds CC, earning first team all-conference honors. She was named second team all-tournament at the Northwest Athletic Association of Community College tournament, and was chosen Most Valuable Player at the NWAAC all-star game after scoring 21 points and grabbing 15 rebounds. Her team was 17-15 during her sophomore year, placing third in the NWAACC's Northern Division and eighth in the post-season NWAACC tournament.

At Kamiakin, Brasel led the Big Nine with 10 rebounds per game, and ranked in the top 10 by averaging 13 points per game. Named Most Valuable Player at the Media Classic All-Star Game, she also played volleyball.

Brown, Black Sign Letters With Nanooks (4/13/05)

Sheena Brown, a 5-8 guard from Fairbanks' Lathrop High School, and Lexie Black, a 6-1 forward from Coupeville High School in Coupeville, Washington, have signed letters of intent to play basketball at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Brown averaged 18 points, seven assists and four rebounds per game as a senior at Lathrop. She earned all-tournament honors at the Nikiski and Bartlett High School tournaments, was named All-Mid Alaska Conference, was a four-year varsity letter winner, and received the Sixth Man Award.

Brown played for the U.S. junior champions for PASTA basketball. A fine student, she is a member of the National Honor Society. She also played soccer for the Renegades, who won the state championship, and was a member of both the Lathrop Jazz Band and the Symphonic Band.

"Sheena is a tremendous athlete who has a ton of natural ability and basketball skills," said UAF head coach Lynne Andrew. "She has the potential to be one of the top point guards in our conference in the future. Sheena works hard on and off the court and is a great student, and I'm excited that we're able to keep a local player like her here at UAF."

Black averaged 11.3 points, 9.1 rebounds and five blocked shots per game for Coupeville, which finish 16-10 and placed eighth among class 1A teams in Washington. Black was named all-state by the Washington State Coaches' Association, was named to the Class 1A all-tournament team and was the Most Valuable Player in the Northwest A-B League.

She earned her team's Legacy Award, was all-league and all-area as a junior, and earned four varsity letters while starting in each of her last two seasons.

"Lexie has a lot of potential to grow in our program," said Andrew. "She is good defensively, is a great shot blocker, and has a great touch around the basket, and I look for her to come in, rebound, and compete in the post area. She will be an intimidator on defense."

Nanooks Sign First Hoop Recruit (11/16/04)

Cristina Bruketta, a 5-8 guard from Ellensburg, WA and Kittitas High School, has signed a letter of intent to join the Nanooks for the 2005-06 season. She will enter UAF next fall, and will have four years of eligibility.

Bruketta earned all-state honors twice and was named all-league three times at Kittitas, and was also chosen three times to play in the Media Classic. During the first three years of her high school career, Bruketta averaged 18.4 points, 7.4 rebounds and 2.3 assists per game while shooting 48 per cent from the field.

She also lettered as a volleyball player in each of her first three seasons at KHS, and was the district champion and qualified for the state meet in the discus while competing in track and field her freshman year.

A good student, Bruketta was a member of the Honor Society in both 2002 and 2003. She has been a member of the Future Farmers of America in each of her high school years.

"Cristina will be a perfect fit for our program," said UAF Head Coach Lynne Andrew. "She brings with her a great perimeter shooting game, and she is also an aggressive defender. She is a great three-point shooter, she can handle the ball, and she is a very hard worker. Cristina will do whatever she has to do to stop her opponent. I'm glad to have her join our program, and if her team does well and makes state, I look for her to receive further honors."

Bruketta was pleased to be coming to Alaska Fairbanks. "I'm very excited," Bruketta said. "I wanted to go somewhere where I could have a good time, not only on the court, but also as part of the team. The people on the team were very friendly and the campus was very nice. Coach Andrew came to my house for dinner, and her coaching style really appealed to me, and that was a big help in my decision."

Central Washington

Fenimore Enrolls at Central Washington (9/27/05)

Ashley Fenimore, a former point guard at Meadowdale High School in Lynnwood, Wash., has enrolled at Central Washington and will play basketball for the Wildcats beginning this winter.

Fenimore, who initially signed a National Letter of Intent with Seattle Pacific University during the early signing period, was granted her release from her NLI by the Seattle school following the resignation of former Falcons coach Gordy Presnell.

A 5-foot-8 point guard, Fenimore averaged 8.9 points and 6.9 assists per game last year for Meadowdale. Her 577 career assists set Meadowdale and WesCo League records, and the Mavericks posted a combined 97-8 record during her four seasons as a starter. Fenimore was selected to the Seattle Times' "Star Times" all-area team as a senior.

"Ashley is a very aggressive player, and is very tough from the point guard position," Whitney said. "She is also an excellent on-ball defender, which will enable her to fit nicely into the defensive system which we employ.

"As a coaching staff, we felt that we needed to improve our point guard play," Whitney added, "and we feel we have addressed that need with the addition of Ashley to our program. Adding to depth at point guard was a major piece to our puzzle that we were looking to complete."

Fenimore, a three-team all-WesCo League and two-time all-state selection, will join fellow freshman Kristin Moore (Snohomish, Wash.) and point guard incumbent Lauren Short (Vancouver, Wash./Prairie HS) in competition for the starting position running the Wildcat offense in 2005-06.

Wildcats Add Balance of Size, Floor Leadership, and Versatility (6/1/05)

Four student-athletes, ranging from a point guard to a 6-foot-4 post, have signed letters of intent to play basketball at Central Washington University.

Signing to join the Wildcats for the 2005-06 season are forward Hilary Tanneberg, post Bryna Trescott, guard Kristin Moore, and wing/forward Rylee Denbo.

Tanneberg comes to Central Washington from the University of Montana, where she redshirted for the Division I Grizzlies during the 2004-05 season. At 6-foot-2, she will likely see time at both the 4 and 5 positions.

Originally from Issaquah, Tanneberg prepped at Liberty High School and averaged a double-double for the Patriots her senior season. She earned all-KingCo 4A honors as well as all-state accolades during her final prep campaign.

"Hilary is very athletic, and runs the floor well in transition," CWU head Jeff Whitney said. "She is very active inside on both the offensive and defensive ends of the floor, is good around the basket, and has good perimeter skills as well."

Adding to the inside presence is incoming freshman Bryna Trescott from Yakima's Eisenhower High School. A 6-foot-4 post, Trescott helped the Cadets to a Class 4A state tournament appearance and Big Nine League championship this past year. Trescott's height and potential are two of several qualities that drew interest from Whitney and the Wildcats.

"Bryna has excellent size, which is much-needed in the post to help provide us with an inside presence," he said of Trescott. "She is a solid shot blocker, a good low-post scorer, and has a tremendous upside to her game. With solid work, she has a bright future in a Wildcat uniform."

Joining that duo is Moore, who starred as a guard at Snohomish High School for the past four years and helped the Panthers post an 89-16 record over the course of her prep career. That success culminated with a first-ever appearance in the WIAA Class 4A state championship game in March.

"Kristin provides a great amount of athleticism which, along with her quickness, will make her a valuable asset," Whitney said. "She can play both guard positions, and she does a great job creating her own shot off the dribble. Her ability to penetrate and finish are impeccable."

In addition to her career at Snohomish, Moore also played summer AAU basketball for the Puget Sound Flight, a team coached by former CWU football player Dennis Edwards.

Denbo starred at Auburn Riverside High School where she earned first team all-South Puget Sound League honors for the Ravens during her senior season. She also helped Auburn Riverside to its first-ever state tournament appearance, where they lost to eventual state champion Garfield High in the quarterfinals.

Individually, Denbo averaged nearly a double-double in her final prep season, scoring 15.1 points and grabbing 9.4 rebounds per contest.

"Rylee is another very athletic player," Whitney said. "Her inside-out game will add to our corps of frontcourt players, as she can play both the 3 and 4 positions for us. She too has a very strong upside - her best basketball is still ahead of her in her CWU career."

This quartet of players joins two others - guards Stephanie McKinney and Jessi Reome - as part of the Wildcats' six-player recruiting class for the 2005-06 season.

"All of the players we have signed are solid athletes," Whitney summarized. "They are all capable of accomplishing some very good things in the Wildcat uniform, and overall, it's a very high-quality recruiting class for being in the late signing period."

Central Washington Adds Pair of Four-Year Transfers (5/10/05)

Two four-year college transfers have signed institutional letters-of-intent to continue their collegiate basketball careers at Central Washington University.

Stephanie McKinney and Jessi Reome, who will both be junior guards in 2005-06, come to the Wildcat program from Eastern Washington University and Montana State University-Northern, respectively.

McKinney, a 5-foot-8 "combination" guard from Centralia, Wash., last played collegiately at Eastern Washington during the 2002-03 season. McKinney, a 2001 graduate of Centralia High School, was a two-year letterwinner for the NCAA Division I Eagles. She played in 57 games over two seasons at Eastern, averaging 4.2 points and 2.2 rebounds per game during her time in Cheney.

"Stephanie is a very athletic guard and a very tenacious defender," Whitney said. "She has the ability to play the one, two, or three (guard) positions, and her ability to penetrate to the basket is a true asset."

Reome, who prepped at Lakeside High School in Nine Mile Falls, Wash., spent the last two seasons at perennial Frontier Conference power Montana State-Northern. She garnered honorable mention all-conference honors both seasons, and in 2004-05, she led the Northern Lights in scoring with 14.7 points per game.

Reome was also among the most proficient three-point shooters in the nation at the NAIA Division I level, ranking seventh nationally with 95 treys during her sophomore season this past winter. Her older sister, Kate, just completed her career as Central Washington's all-region volleyball setter.

"First and foremost, Jessi is a scorer," CWU coach Jeff Whitney said. "She is an outstanding three-point shooter, has great size for the guard position, and is a fierce competitor. She brings so many intangibles to our team, especially her ability to score both inside and out.

"Overall, we feel we got the athleticism and scoring threats we needed to maintain our high level of play in the Great Northwest Athletic Conference," Whitney added. "We feel that both players, having spent time in highly competitive four-year programs, will bring experience to our back court and they should be key contributors right away for us."

Humboldt State

Coquilla signs with Humboldt State for 2005-06 (5/5/05)

Monique Coquilla, a point guard out of San Jose City College, has signed a national letter-of-intent to continue her basketball career at Humboldt State University.

"We are very excited to find a point guard of Monique's caliber," said HSU head coach Jackie Gleason. "She is a proven winner and brings the leadership and experience necessary to make an impact in our program right away."

Coquilla earned all-conference honors during her two years at San Jose City College. This past season she averaged 14 points and 5.3 assists per game while leading the Jaguars to a 24-4 overall mark.

During the 2004-05 season, Coquilla was named Coast Conference Most Valuable Player and named to the All-State first team.

Prior to attending SJCC, Coquilla played four years at Archbishop Mitty High School where she was a first team all-conference and third team all-region selection.

"Monique has great court vision, as well as the ability to recognize the best scoring option in that possession," Gleason said. "She can shoot the three or break down the defense to set her teammates up for a shot. I know that she is well coached and prepared to succeed at this level after coming from two winning programs at both San Jose City College and Archbishop Mitty High School."

Lumberjacks Sign Point Guard, Forward (4/25/05)

Jennifer Enos, a point guard out of Elk Grove High School, and Melissa Felbab, a forward out of Esperanza High School, have both committed to Humboldt State's women's basketball program.

Enos was a four-year varsity player and three-time team MVP for the Elk Grove Thundering Herd. She was a three-time all-Delta League first team selection, as well as an all-city second team selection her senior year.

Enos averaged 13.1 points, 4.3 rebounds and three assists per game her senior year and holds the school's second all-time leading point total of 1,228.

"Jennifer is a talented point guard who has the ability to shoot from the perimeter as well as create for her teammates," HSU head coach Joddie Gleason said. "More importantly, she brings all of the intangible elements necessary for success at this important position. She's intense, vocal, smart and has the confidence of a person in charge on the floor. We are excited to have Jennifer join our basketball family at Humboldt."

Felbab was a two-time all-Sunset League first team selection at Esperanza High School in Anaheim. The team captain, who led the Aztecs to back-to-back league championships, averaged 8.2 points and 6.7 rebounds per game her senior year.

"I am excited to have Melissa commit to Humboldt State and look forward to having her in the program for four years," said Gleason. "She is a strong and aggressive post player who loves to crash the boards and who works tirelessly on her game. Melissa will bring depth to our team at the post position."

Lumberjacks Sign Southern California Standout (11/23/04)

Southern California standout Kristina O'Keefe has signed a national letter-of-intent to play basketball for Humboldt State beginning in the 2005-06 school year.

O'Keefe, a 5-11 forward, is a four-year varsity starter at Villa Park High School in Villa Park, Calif. She earned second team all-Century League honors as a sophomore and first team all-league honors as a junior. She was also named to the all-CIF second team as a junior after averaging 16.3 points, 7.2 rebounds and three assists per game.

O'Keefe has proven to be a standout off the court as well, accumulating a 3.8 grade point average going into her senior year.

"We're excited that Kristina has early-signed and will be joining our program next year," said HSU coach Joddie Gleason. "She brings athleticism for our transition game and rebounding and quickness in the post. She is an all-around good athlete and she is a perfect fit for our style of play."

Northwest Nazarene

Boise Product Signs With Crusaders (5/25/05)

Jennifer Williams, from Centennial High School in Boise, has signed a National Letter-of-Intent to play basketball for Northwest Nazarene University.

"We are thrilled that Jennifer chose to stay in the Treasure Valley and join our women's basketball program," NNU head coach Kelli Lindley said. "Jen is a very impressive athlete."

Williams is a 6-2 post player who was named the 2005 Idaho State Gatorade Player-of-the-Year.

"At 6-2, Jen is going to create match-up problems due to her quickness, ability to run the floor, and natural athleticism," Lindley continued. "She comes from an outstanding high school program and knows what it takes to win. She has a lot of potential and we look forward to seeing her make an impact at the collegiate level."

Averaging 12.7 points, 8.1 rebounds, 3.2 assists, and 1.4 blocks per game, Williams led her team to the 5A State Championship in 2004 and a fourth-place finish in 2005. She was also a first-team selection to the 2005 Idaho 5A all-star team.

Janee Olds chooses Northwest Nazarene (4/29/05)

Janee Olds has signed a National Letter-of-Intent to attend Northwest Nazarene University and play basketball for the Crusaders next fall.

Olds, a 5-7 senior from North Bend High School in Oregon, was named the Oregon 3A State Player-of-the-Year and guided the North Bend Bulldogs to the 2005 Oregon 3A State Championship.

"I think she is going to be a huge asset to our program," NNU coach Kelli Lindley commented. "I think we got a steal getting her."

Olds averaged 18.6 points, 8.1 rebounds, 3.9 assists, and 5.4 steals for the Bulldogs last season on her way to being named the Far West Conference Most Valuable Player in 2004-05. "It is always exciting to sign players that love the game as much as Janee does. She has experienced a lot of success at the high school level and plays with a lot of confidence."

Following the state tournament, Olds was also named to the Oregon 3A first-team All-State team for 2005.

Crusaders Sign Point Guard To Letter (12/13/04)

Shaunte Nance has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball and attend Northwest Nazarene University in 2005-06.

Nance, a 5'5" point guard from Tacoma, Wash., is a senior at Henry Foss High School in Tacoma. Named the MVP of the Narrows League in 2003-04, she was also an All-Area

Tacoma News Tribune team member during her junior year as she averaged 14.6 points, 3.9 rebounds, 3.4 assists, and 2.6 steals per game.

"Shaunte was heavily recruited by schools in our conference, but wanted the college experience that NNU has to offer and the up-tempo style of play where she can flourish as a point guard," NNU coach Kelli Lindley commented. "She is probably the quickest point guard that I have had at NNU to this point, and that is saying a lot considering the outstanding point guards that have gone before her."

"She has the ability to be an excellent defender, set the tone for our defense, and develop into a formidable point due to her outstanding athleticism and competitive nature. We are all really looking forward to see her progress over the next four years."

LeeAna Busch signs at Northwest Nazarene (11/16/04)

LeeAna Busch has signed a national letter of intent and will play basketball next winter for Northwest Nazarene University.

Busch, a 6-2 senior center from Bellingham, Washington, averaged a league-leading 18.2 points and 10.7 rebounds per game in 2003-04, her junior season at Sehome High School. She was named the Northwest League Player-of-the-Year, in addition to being named to the Washington 3A all-state first team.

"We are thrilled with the addition of LeeAna to next year's squad. LeeAna was heavily recruited by Montana State, Western Washington, and Seattle University, but chose NNU because of the small school environment and her desire to play in our program," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "We are honored to have the opportunity to coach a player of her talent and athleticism for four years."

In addition to her athletic exploits, LeeAna carries a 3.83 GPA in the classroom.

"She will bring an outstanding work ethic, along with an instant presence for us on the inside. At 6-2, she has excellent back-to-the-basket moves, is very good at running the floor, and has a lot of confidence. She is the type of player that will instantly make this team better," Lindley said.

Saint Martin's

Four Prep Players Sign With Saints (5/5/05)

Four high school prospects including two-time all-state guard Tanya Baker of LaCenter and Ashley Kitzman, an all-state selection at center from Ilwaco, have signed national letters of intent to attend Saint Martin's and play basketball for the Lady Saints in 2005.

The Saints, who advanced to the second round of the NCAA Division II tournament and posted a 22-7 record last season, will also welcome Ashley Oakley (Sandpoint, ID) and Sunshine Nilson (Morton) to their lineup.

“We are very pleased with the new recruits for next season.” Saints coach Tim Healy commented, “We have added depth at every position, which was our major goal. These young players bring skills, enthusiasm and hunger to excel to our program.”

Healy believes the Baker (Guard, 5-8), a two-time league MVP averaging 20 points per game, is destined to be an outstanding player. “We are excited about Tanya joining the Saints program,” Healy said. “She is an outstanding player on both sides of the ball. She is a tireless worker, who likes to defend, but can clearly score. Not only can she shoot the three, but she is a great finisher off the dribble.”

The six-foot Kitzman averaged 22.7 points and 12 rebounds per contest on way to earning the Evergreen League Most Valuable Player award in her senior season. She earned three first-team all-league selections overall for the Fishermen.

“Ashley is one of those players that have a knack for putting the ball in the basket. She is a very versatile player. We are excited about her potential. She has great work ethic and we fell will just get better and better over time. Her personality and attitude fit our program well,” said Healy.

Supplying additional depth in the middle will be 6-1 Oakley, A record holder in rebounds and blocked shots and all-tourney selection at the End of the Oregon Trail Tournament. “She is a very good rebounder and runs the floor well for her position,” Healy noted, “As she improves offensively we feel she could become a good player. She is such a great kid; we know she will work hard every day.”

The Saints will have a new sister-act as Nilson (Forward, 6-0) will join her older sibling Holly on the squad. Despite missing her entire senior season due to knee injury, Healy believes the former All-Central League forward and league volleyball MVP will recover fully and contribute.

“Sunny has tremendous potential. What I like best about her is the versatility she brings. She can handle the ball, run the floor and play with her back to the basket. Combine those skills with her diligent work ethic and you have a very good player.”

Seattle Pacific

Falcons Get Transfer from University of Pacific (10/19/05)

Jessie Menkens, a native of Battle Ground and former women's basketball standout for Prairie High School, has transferred to Seattle Pacific from Pacific University in Stockton, Calif.

Menkens, a 5-foot-9 guard, averaged 6.3 points in two seasons for the Tigers. She played in all 56 games, starting 39. Menkens was named to the All-Big West Freshman Team in 2005.

Previously, Menkens led Prairie to the state 4A championship, earning tournament MVP honors as a senior. She was an all-state selection and the MVP of the Great St. Helens League.

Falcons Add Transfer From UW (7/11/05)

Jackie Hollands, a former all-state player from Oregon City, will play women's basketball for Seattle Pacific University next season after transferring from the University of Washington.

Hollands, a 5-foot-9 guard, was an honorable mention prep All-American at Oregon City, which on its fourth straight Oregon 4A title and was ranked No. 4 in the nation during her senior season.

At Washington this past season, Hollands played in nine games, averaging 1.4 points.

Hollands will be joining an SPU squad which reached the NCAA Division II championship game for the first time after winning a third straight Great Northwest Athletic Conference crown and second straight regional title.

Portland Christian Stars Signs with SPU (11/16/04)

Kelsey Hill, a 6-foot-3 center who led Portland Christian High School to the Oregon 2A championship as a junior, has signed a national letter of intent to play women's basketball at Seattle Pacific University next season.

Hill, a senior this season, led the team in scoring (15.2) and rebounding (10.1) and blocked shots (2.7) last year as the Royals went 28-1. She was voted the most valuable player in the Northwest League and was chosen to the state all-tournament team.

Hill joins a Seattle Pacific program which was 30-1 and finished No. 3 among NCAA Division II teams in 2003-04. The Falcons, who open their season by hosting Warner Pacific Friday, signed Meadowdale (Wa.) guard Ashley Fenimore last week.

Western Washington

Vikings Ink Bellingham High Product (6/9/05)

Guard/forward Sara Bergner, a senior at Bellingham High School, will enroll at Western Washington University this fall and play women's basketball for the Vikings.

The 5-foot-10 Bergner, who is a WWU Presidential Scholarship recipient, was the Northwest League Most Valuable Player as a senior, averaging 16.5 points and 7.0 rebounds per game. She also played in the East-West Class 3A-2A All-Star game.

A first-team NWL all-star as a junior and senior, Bergner received all-league honorable mention as a freshman and sophomore.

Team captain as a senior and twice team MVP, Bergner was a four-year letter winner in basketball, softball and volleyball.

As a shortstop in softball for the Red Raiders, Bergner hit .356 as a senior, .524 as a junior and .458 as a sophomore. A

three-time, first-team all-league pick and second-team as a freshman, she was a three-time team MVP.

Bergner, who played in the state's Senior All-Star Challenge game, competed on a Triple B's club team that won three state titles, one tri-state crown and one national championship.

As a middle blocker in volleyball, Bergner was a two-time, first-team all-league choice and second-team as a sophomore. She also was a three-time team MVP.

Vikings Get Transfer From Franklin Pierce (6/1/05)

Guard Mollie Stelmack, who was a second-team Northeast-10 Conference all-star last season as a sophomore at Franklin Pierce College NH, will transfer to Western Washington University this fall and play women's basketball for the Vikings.

The 5-foot-10 Stelmack helped Franklin Pierce to a 14-14 record, its first .500 season since 1998-99, and the first round of the league tournament. She started all 28 games, averaging a conference-leading 36.7 minutes per contest, and led the team with a 13.6 scoring average, shooting 37.1 percent (76-of-205) from 3-point range and 74.7 percent (65-of-87) at the free throw line.

Stelmack set a school season record with 76 3-point makes, also averaging 3.3 assists, 3.6 rebounds and 1.6 steals. She scored double figures in 22 games and netted 20 or more points in five contests, matching her career high with 23 points versus Saint Michael's College, hitting 6-of-12 3-pointers.

As a freshman, Stelmack played in all 27 games and started 16. She averaged 6.9 points, 2.6 rebounds, 1.8 assists and 1.5 steals.

Stelmack was a two-time British Columbia provincial all-star at New Westminster Secondary School, being team captain as a senior. She averaged 25.0 points that season, scoring a career-high 36 points against Argyle High School in the provincial tournament.

She was a second-team all-tournament pick at the U-17 Canadian National Championships and was a member of a squad that took the title at the 2000 British Columbia Summer Games.

Colard Returning To Team After Year's Absence (4/18/05)

Guard Kelly (Colard) Dykstra, who led the Western Washington women's basketball team in steals and assists as a junior during the 2003-04 season, is returning to the Vikings after a year's absence.

Dykstra, who is married to former Western football player Greg Dykstra, has been out of school this year while pregnant with the couple's first child, daughter Demi, who was born on Dec. 19, 2004.

The 5-foot-10 Dykstra, who played as Kelly Colard in 2003-04, averaged 11.4 points, 4.1 rebounds, 4.3 assists and 2.4 steals in 16 games before suffering a season-ending knee injury. She had redshirted the previous season after playing two years at Whatcom CC.

"We're very excited about getting Kelly back," said Western coach Carmen Dolfo. "It's great that she can finish both her education and her basketball career."

"She fits in perfectly with what we need right now. She's a great shooter and a really good passer, who is a competitor and wants to win."

Dykstra, who is majoring in education, is on track to graduate after one more year of classes. The 23-year-old Dykstra was a first-team Class 2A all-State choice as a senior at Elma High School.

The Vikings return four starters from last year's 24-5 team that reached the regional semifinals of the NCAA Division II National Tournament. Coincidentally, the only starter lost to graduation was guard Jodi Gerald, who moved into the starting lineup as a junior after Dykstra's injury.

Cabe Signs Early Acceptance Letter With Vikings (11/19/04)

Willow Cabe, a 6-foot-1 senior post-player at Elma High School, has signed a national letter of intent to enroll at Western Washington University and play basketball for the Vikings.

Cabe was a first-team Associated Press Class 2A all-State and Daily Olympian all-Area pick as a junior, receiving Evergreen League Player of the Year honors.

"We are so excited that Willow has decided to come to Western," said WWU coach Carmen Dolfo. "She is a perfect fit for both our campus community as well as our basketball program. Willow not only has the ability to be a good player for us, but a great player. Her potential is really unlimited."

Cabe averaged 18.1 points, 11.9 rebounds and 1.7 blocks in 2003-04, helping the Eagles to the league championship and a state tournament berth. The team captain and MVP in each of the last three seasons, Cabe also was a league academic all-star for the third time.

Already the school career record holder in rebounds (705) and blocked shots (105), Cabe scored a career-high 35 points in one game, three short of the school standard. She was a first-team all-league pick as a sophomore, and received honorable mention as a freshman.

2004-05

Alaska Anchorage

Seawolf women bring in four more for 2004-05 (4/21/04)

Four new players will join the University of Alaska for the 2004-05 women's basketball season. The Seawolves have signed three – Stephanie Beason, Aubrey Gibbs and Christa Wilson – to National Letters of Intent, while Anchorage native Taylor Long will also join the team.

Beason, a 5-7 guard from Norwood, Mo., was named to the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II All-America first team after averaging 21.6 points and 5.7 rebounds for North Central Missouri College in 2003-04.

NCMC's all-time leading scorer with 1,105 points, Beason ranked in the top 10 in the NJCAA in scoring and three-point percentage (.454), making 96 treys as a sophomore. She also earned All-Region 16 honors after helping the Lady Pirates to a region runner-up finish as a sophomore and a 42-22 record over her two seasons.

"Stephanie will have an immediate impact with our program," UAA head coach Jody Hensen said. "With her outstanding junior college background, she brings a level of maturity to her game. She is focused, driven and willing to do whatever it takes to not only compete, but excel."

Former East Anchorage High standout Wilson will also join the Seawolf backcourt after playing at Barton County (Kan.) Community College in 2002-03 and Yakima Valley (Wash.) Community College last season.

Wilson, 5-8, averaged 4.3 assists in 2003-04 for a YVCC team that finished 23-8 and advanced to the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges playoffs. At East, Wilson played with future Seawolf teammate Tenecia Macon on Thunderbird teams that won three straight Alaska 4A state titles from 2000-02.

"Christa has an air of confidence about her that is contagious," Hensen said. "She is a proven winner and fierce competitor who absolutely despises losing. She understands the hours of hard work that it takes to be successful both on the court and in the classroom."

Another local player, former Grace Christian High star Long will join the team for her senior season. The 6-2 center played two seasons, from 2000-02, for Division I Mount St. Mary's, averaging 7.5 points and 5.6 rebounds in 28 games as sophomore. At Grace, she was the 2000 Region 3 MVP and a first team all-state pick after averaging 24 points and 8.5 rebounds.

"Taylor brings low-post Division I experience," Hensen said. "She is focused and extremely mature. She has size, good hands and the ability to score on the low block. We are expecting Taylor to be a major contributor."

A 6-4 center from Bellingham, Wash., Gibbs comes to UAA after playing on Squalicum High School's Class 3A State seventh-place team in 2003-04. Hensen feels the incoming freshman has unlimited potential.

"Aubrey gives us much-needed size and depth in the low post. She is very mobile for her size, has good hands, and is willing to put forth the effort to reach her full potential. Aubrey's best basketball is ahead of her."

Macon To Play for Seawolves Next Season (2/18/04)

Tenecia Macon, a two-time all-state selection at East High School in Anchorage, has been added to the Seawolf roster and will practice with the team for the remainder of this season. She will begin playing in 2004-05 with sophomore eligibility.

Macon helped the Thunderbirds to three straight Class 4A state titles from 2000-02. She was the 2002 Alaska Gatorade Player of the Year and earned honorable mention All-American honors from USA Today.

The 6-1 forward is transferring back to her hometown from Division I San Jose State, where she played as a freshman in 2002-03, averaging 1.4 points and 1.9 rebounds in 17 games.

"Tenecia is a tremendous fit in our program both academically and athletically," UAA coach Jody Hensen said. "She is a talented, explosive athlete and a great competitor. We are extremely excited to have a former Alaska player of the year and three-time state champion join the Seawolf basketball family."

Macon brings UAA's total number of commitments for next season to four. She joins junior center Danielle Gary, of Tucson, Ariz.; freshman point guard Laura Gyllenberg, of Baker City, Ore.; and former UAA volleyball player O'Lita McWilliams, who will use her fifth year of eligibility to play basketball. Hensen said she expects to bring in at least three more players.

Alaska Fairbanks

Reibold To Play College Hoops at UAF (11/26/03)

By Bob Eley, Sports Editor (Fairbanks Daily News-Miner)

Kari Reibold will be staying home for her college basketball career. The Lathrop High School senior, regarded as one of the top high school prospects in Alaska this year, signed her national letter of intent to play for the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

"All of the schools I talked to showed a lot of interest, but by staying here it gives me the opportunity to play in front of my family and friends," Reibold said Thursday evening. "I'm comfortable with the players, the coach and the gym."

"I really like the coach," Reibold said of first-year coach Lynne Andrew. "She seems more at my level. I like her style and I like the way she interacts with the players off the court."

Andrew said she was ecstatic that Reabold made the decision to stay in Fairbanks. She had attracted interest from numerous colleges throughout the country including Oregon, Valparaiso, Colorado State, Northern Colorado, Southern Colorado and Alaska Anchorage.

"This is a huge signing for us," Andrew said. "Not only is she a great local talent, but I think it came down to between us and Anchorage and to win that battle says a lot for our program.

"We're making changes that are going to put us on the map and Kari is going to be a big part of that," Andrew said. "She's not only a great athlete, but she has great academics and is a great person."

As a Lathrop junior, Reabold, a 5-11 guard, averaged 16.3 points per game to go along with about six rebounds and four steals per game.

"Kari is going to be a good player for UAF," said Lathrop coach Tim Hagedorn. "She had the possibility of going D1, so I think she's going to fit right in and do very well for them."

Reabold plays under coach Steve Caciari for Fairbanks' Team PASTA in the summer. She averaged 18 points, six rebounds, seven assists and three steals per game to lead Team PASTA to a consolation championship in the Oregon City/All-Star Basketball Tournament last summer and then helped the team win the U.S. Junior National High School Basketball Tournament title during competition in Las Vegas.

She earned all-tournament honors in both events.

"It will be great for the community to be able to watch Kari play as a Nanook," Caciari said in a statement to the News-Miner. "I really believe that the University of Alaska Fairbanks is getting a wonderful person.

"Kari can shoot the three, create her own shot off the dribble, make great passing decisions, has strong anticipation skills on defense and has a burning desire to help her team win," Caciari added.

Reabold was the second recruit to sign with UAF during the early-signing period, which ended on Wednesday. Andrew also announced the signing of 5-11 guard Nikki Jordan from Bothell, Wash.

"They made their official visits to UAF at the same time and I think they like the direction the program is going," Andrew said. "It's going to be exciting to see them play. They will give us a great combination at the guard position.

By signing with UAF, Reabold said that her senior year at Lathrop will be much more enjoyable.

"By making a decision, it takes a lot of pressure off for the upcoming season," she said. "Now all I have to worry about is high school and concentrating on winning a state championship."

UAF Women Sign Washington Prep Standout (11/13/03)

When Lynne Andrew took over the women's basketball program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks this past summer, she knew the best way to make her team better was to recruit the best players from around the country.

Well, she took a big step toward doing that today when she announced the signing of Nikki Jordan.

Jordan, a 5-11 guard from Bothell, Wash., is Andrew's first signee of the year. "Nikki is a very gifted athlete and has excellent jumping ability combined with speed and quickness. She will be a big asset to our program," said Andrew. "She is known to be a tough, physical player and is a real threat around the basket. Nikki has good skills with the ball and can penetrate the lane or shoot the 3-pointer."

Jordan, who is currently a senior at Marysville-Pilchuck High School in Marysville, will bring impressive credentials with her next season to the Nanooks. As a junior, Jordan averaged 13.9 points, 7.6 rebounds, 2.1 steals and 2.5 assists per game, while helping MPHS contend for regional and state championships.

Her best performance of the season was 31 points, 16 rebounds, three assists, three steals and one blocked against Casacade High School. She also had a 23-point, 11-rebound outing against Oak Harbor. Jordan averaged 10.9 points and 6.4 rebounds per game as a sophomore. She earned all-conference honors in each of the last two seasons, being tagged for a spot on the All-Wesco second team each year.

Jordan has also shined on the AAU scene in Washington. She led the Seattle Magic in each of the last three seasons in scoring, rebounding, free throw percentage and blocked shots. Jordan has also gotten a lot of attention from her performances at national camps. She was named Most Valuable Player at the prestigious NBC Camp in 2001 after winning the camp's Franchise Player Award the previous year.

"Nikki's versatility opens up a lot of options for us. She can play all five positions on the floor and that helps us on matchups," said Andrew. "I really like her work ethic and, most of all, I like her winning attitude. Nikki has been a winner everywhere she been and that's the type of attitude we want to build here."

Central Washington

Wildcats Get Division I Transfer (9/9/04)

Jamie Corwin, the 2001-02 Seattle Times Athlete of the Year as a prep at Renton's Liberty High School, has enrolled at Central Washington University and will play basketball for the Wildcat women's team this winter.

Corwin, a 5-foot-11 forward, played the past two seasons at the University of San Diego, a NCAA Division I member of the West Coast Conference. As a sophomore last winter,

Corwin started all 29 games and was the Toreros' third-leading scorer at 7.0 points per game.

"Jamie is a major piece to our puzzle for success for the next two years," CWU coach Jeff Whitney said. "To get a Division I transfer at this late date truly gives our program a boost as we prepare for the upcoming year. Her personality and abilities as a basketball player will enhance the chemistry of our Wildcat program."

During her freshman season at USD in 2002-03, Corwin appeared in all 30 games and made 12 starts. She averaged 5.0 points and 3.5 rebounds per game for the Toreros, who finished 13-17 overall during her rookie campaign.

"Jamie's versatility and experience are her greatest assets," Whitney said of Corwin. "Her versatility - her ability to play multiple positions - and the fact that she has played and started at the Division I level - will make her an impact player for our program right away."

As a high school star at Liberty High School, Corwin scored 18 points and grabbed nine rebounds per game as a senior to earn the KingCo Most Valuable Player honors as well as the Seattle Times' Athlete of the Year for 2001-02.

She was twice named first team all-KingCo while playing for the Patriots. In addition to her exploits on the basketball floor, Corwin starred in soccer, softball, and track and field. She claimed the WIAA Class 3A state championship in the javelin as a senior, and was an all-league choice in both soccer and softball as well.

YVCC's Hilliard Rounds out CWU Women's Recruits (5/28/04)

Brianna Hilliard, a junior college transfer from Yakima Valley Community College, has signed an institutional letter of intent and will play basketball at Central Washington University beginning in the 2004-05 season. The addition of Hilliard rounds out the Wildcats' recruiting class for the upcoming year.

Hilliard, a 5-foot-10 forward and former standout at East Valley High School in Yakima, played the 2000-01 and 2003-04 seasons at YVCC. She competed in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges (NWAACC) all-star game during her sophomore campaign for the Yaks this past winter, and helped YVCC finish second in the NWAACC's Eastern Region standings.

"Brianna has numerous strengths," Whitney said. "She is a very athletic player who can move up and down the floor extremely well, and she has the ability to play either the 3 (small forward) or 4 (power forward) position. She also brings a great winning tradition with her, having played at East Valley and YVCC."

Hilliard, 22, graduated from East Valley in 2000. After playing in three Class 2A state tournaments in four years and earning numerous accolades for the Red Devils, including all-

state and all-Central Washington Athletic Conference (CWAC) honors, she began her career at Yakima Valley as a freshman in 2000-01. However, after turning in a superb rookie campaign for the Yaks, she sat out the next two seasons due to injury.

Hilliard is one of four student-athletes whom the Wildcats have added to their program over the course of this past recruiting year. She joins a fellow NWAACC transfer - Kaci Pipkin from Wenatchee Valley College - as well as two prep stars - Hanna Hull from Pateros High and Kristina Klapperich of Colony High School in Wasilla, Alaska.

Alaskan Prep Star Signs With Wildcats (5/18/04)

Kristina Klapperich, a prep basketball standout at Colony High School in Wasilla, Alaska, has signed a National Letter of Intent to play women's basketball at Central Washington University.

Klapperich, a 6-foot-1 forward, was a first team all-state Class 4A selection for the Knights this past winter. She averaged 16 points per game and helped Colony place sixth in the state of Alaska in 2003-04.

"The Wildcat family is very fortunate to get a player of Kristina's caliber during the late signing period," CWU head coach Jeff Whitney said. "Her versatility as an outside and post-up player will create potential mismatches for opponents in the coming years, and her up-tempo style fits our system nicely as well. She is a very good perimeter shooter with three-point range."

Klapperich played basketball at Colony for four seasons, including two as a teammate of current Wildcat guard Kelly Quinn. She has also starred in soccer and volleyball, earning three and two letters, respectively, in those sports.

Off the court, Klapperich has been a standout in the classroom as well, carrying a 3.77 grade-point average and being named to her school's honor roll all four years. She plans to major in business at Central Washington.

"Kristina's demonstrated success in the classroom will enable us to remain at the top of our conference academically," Whitney added.

Klapperich joins two others - Pateros High's Hanna Hull and Wenatchee Valley College transfer Kaci Pipkin - among those to whom the Wildcats had signed National Letters of Intent so far.

Wildcats Sign Hull, Pipkin to Letters (12/1/03)

Two student-athletes have signed National Letters of Intent to play women's basketball at Central Washington beginning in the 2004-05 season.

Current high school standout Hanna Hull, from Pateros High School in north central Washington, is the top prep recruit signed by the Wildcats, while junior college transfer Kaci Pipkin is also expected to join CWU next season.

"We are very ecstatic and excited that Hanna has chosen to come to Central and will be a Wildcat," CWU coach Jeff Whitney said. "Her ability to score inside and out will make her a very successful player in our program."

Hull, a 5-foot-9 guard, has been a superstar at Pateros High from the very beginning of her prep career. The reigning Class B State Player of the Year averaged better than 28 points per game a year ago and has helped lead the Nannies to the state tournament during each of her first three seasons. Pateros has a combined 66-16 record during the last three seasons, and its best finish during that span was a second-place result during Hull's sophomore season of 2001-02.

"Hanna also brings both mental toughness and a winning tradition with her," Whitney added. "Those qualities are going to be intangibles that will be beneficial for both Hanna and for our program in the coming years."

Pipkin, meanwhile, is currently attending Central Washington but is not playing basketball. A former high school standout at Cashmere High School and a two-time all-NWAACC choice at Wenatchee Valley College, the 5-foot-4 Pipkin can play both the point guard and shooting guard positions. She will have two years of eligibility remaining when she turns out for CWU in 2004-05.

"Kaci is a solid combo guard," Whitney said of Pipkin. "Her perimeter shooting ability and defensive intensity are assets that will complement our program nicely."

Whitney expects to add one or two more players to his recruiting class between now and the end of the 2003-04 season.

Humboldt State

Mendez Signs With Lumberjacks (6/14/04)

Mandy Mendez, a 6-2 center out of Lodi High School has signed a national letter of intent to attend Humboldt State University.

As a pivotal part of her team at Lodi High School, Mendez averaged 12 points, nine rebounds and four blocks per game during her senior season. Her play earned her second-team all-league honors as well as earning a spot on the San Joaquin Athletic Association all-defensive first-team.

Mendez helped lead her squad to a 20-6 overall record this past season, including a second round appearance in the San Joaquin section playoffs.

"Mandy can run the floor well and score in transition," said first-year coach Jodie Gleason. "We anticipate that she will be a pivotal player for the program in the years to come."

Mendez already has a connection to Humboldt State as her coach at Lodi High School, Erin Bishop Aiken, was a player for the women's basketball team from 1995-98.

Lumberjacks Sign Two To Letters Of Intent (12/3/03)

Rose Smith from Luther Burbank High School in Sacramento and Serena Hubbard from Tokay High School in Lodi, Calif., have signed national letters-of-intent to play basketball at Humboldt State.

"We knew that we needed to add a replacement for Peni (Vaefaga, the Jacks lone senior this season) and improve our outside shooting and rebounding for next year," said HSU coach Carol Harrison. "Both Serena and Rose board the ball well, and Serena can shoot while Rosa can defend any position. Three goals have been accomplished."

Smith is a 5-9 power forward who averaged 12 points and eight rebounds per game her junior year. She was also a CAL League first-team selection and Sacramento's All-City second-team pick. Smith has scored more than 600 points in her first three high school years.

"Rose is an extremely physical player who flies around the court on defense, boards like a maniac and makes up for lack of offensive polish by sheer competitive drive," Harrison said. "She will be a physical presence not only in our lineup, but in the conference as well."

As a junior, Hubbard, a 5-9 power forward, averaged 12.3 points, 9.2 rebounds, four assists and one charge per game.

"Serena is a complete forward with great footwork and range out to the three-point line," said Harrison. "She plays scrappy, hard-nosed basketball and has shown that she's able to carry a team."

Northwest Nazarene

NNU Signs Metz, Eggebraten to National Letters (5/7/04)

Jessi Metz and Nicole Eggebraten have signed National Letters-of-Intent to attend NNU and play basketball for the Crusaders next season.

Metz (Coeur D'Alene, ID), a 5-10 wing player, has played the last two seasons at Big Bend Community College in Moses Lake where she averaged 20.8 points per game and was named to the first team NWAACC East Region all-star team in 2003-04.

Metz also pulled down 7.9 rebounds and handed out 3.5 assists per contest. As a freshman she led the NWAACC conference in three-point shooting, making 52 percent of her attempts.

"I am really excited about what Jessi will bring to this team. She is a strong, athletic guard that can consistently hit the three or go down low and post up a smaller defender," stated NNU coach Kelli Lindley. "She has the potential to score a lot of points because of her size and versatility."

In addition to her on-court skills, Metz was also named to the NWAACC Academic team with a GPA of 3.80.

Eggebraten (Port Orchard, WA), a 5-6 point guard who has played the last two seasons at Tacoma Community College, averaged 14.9 points, 5.7 rebounds, and 5.0 assists in 2003-04 on her way to being named to the first team NWAACC West Region all-star team. Eggebraten was also named to the NWAAC Academic team in 2004 with a GPA of 3.80.

"Nicole is going to be a fantastic point guard for us. She is a fierce competitor and an outstanding rebounder for her size," Lindley commented. "She is capable of consistently scoring on offense, but more than anything, she is a great passer who will make her teammates look good. She is a perfect fit to run our offense in our up-tempo transition game."

Kotter and Shively sign with Crusaders (11/2/03)

Katie Kotter and Erin Shively have each signed National Letter-of-Intent to play basketball at Northwest Nazarene..

Kotter, from Carson City, NV, is a 5-foot-8 guard from Carson High School where she averaged 14 points and 6 rebounds per game in 2002-03. She is a three-time All-Carson County First-Team basketball selection and was a 2002-03 All Sierra League First-Team pick as well.

"Katie will provide an instant impact on defense for us because of her strength and quickness," NNU coach Kelli Lindley said. "She is a fierce competitor who loves the physical game and will be able to contribute immediately." Kotter, also a standout prep soccer player, was named to the Las Vegas Sun All-State Soccer First Team as well as being named to the McDonald's All-American Soccer Team in 2003.

Shively, from Yakima, WA, is a 6-foot-1 post from Riverside Christian School where she averaged 15 points and 7 rebounds per game on her way to being named an All-Greater Columbia B League selection as a junior.

"Erin is the perfect fit to our running game. She is a lean, athletic post who can get up and down the floor," according to Lindley. "Erin loves to rebound and can hit the outside shot, so as she gets stronger she will provide an impact for us."

In addition to her basketball accolades, Erin was named the 2003 Greater Columbia B League Volleyball Player-of-the-Year on her way to winning the Washington State B Volleyball Championship this year with Riverside Christian.

Saint Martin's

Four To Join Saints for 2004-05 Season (5/24/04)

Three players have signed letters-of-intent and a fourth has committed to play basketball for Saint Martin's during the 2004-05 season. "All of the players we have signed have a chance to be very productive," Saint Martin's coach Tim Healy said. "We met all of our needs for the upcoming season."

The upcoming recruiting class is comprised of three high school seniors with outstanding credentials and a first team all NWAACC post player.

Hilary Wick (Langley, WA - South Whidbey) comes to the Saints following an outstanding junior college career. The 6-1 center played at Everett Community College this past season where she ranked second in the NWAACC in scoring and 10th in rebounding, while leading her team to the NWAACC playoffs.

"Hilary will make an immediate impact on our program," says Healy. "Not only can she score with her back to the basket, but she shoots the ball well from the perimeter."

But it is intangibles that Healy seems to like best. "What really impresses me about Hilary is her passion and intensity on the floor. She is competitive and has the heart to be an important contributor."

Joining Wick are three freshman, led by first team All-State point guard Zee Zee Young (Dimond HS) from Anchorage, Alaska. Jessie Smith (Lacey, WA - River Ridge HS), the Pac-9 Player-of-the-Year and Alida Bower (Onalaska, WA), a 1A first team All-State selection round out the class.

The 5-4 Young led her team to the state 4A championship this past season. She averaged 14.8 points per game, while dishing out almost five assists per game. "Zee Zee is a very good athlete who can defend on the ball, shoot the three and pass," indicates Healy. "We expect her to contribute right away."

The 5-10 Smith comes to the Saints after leading her team to its first ever state tournament appearance. Healy thinks her best basketball is ahead of her. "Jessie is just beginning to scratch the surface of her potential. She had some very good high school coaching under Bill Wirtzberger and I look for her to just grow in leaps and bounds over the next four years."

Bower, a 5-10 shooting guard brings great range and a thorough understanding of the game to SMC. Following an outstanding high school athletic career (volleyball, basketball, and softball), Bower will focus just on basketball for the next four years. "There is a tremendous upside to a player like Alida," feels Healy. "She can really shoot the ball, but her best asset may be her ability to play within a team concept."

Seattle University

Curtis Standout Signs With Redhawks (5/14/04)

Laina Sobczak , a 5-foot-11 forward out of Curtis High School, has signed a national letter of intent with the Seattle University women's basketball team.

A four-year letter winner at Curtis, Sobczak was named the South Puget Sound League MVP after leading the Vikings to their first ever state tournament appearance. She averaged 15.3 points and 12.2 rebounds and was named to the class 4A West Central District All-Tournament Team. The Tacoma News Tribune named her one of the top five players in the Tacoma, Olympia, Kent and Auburn region.

A three-time all-league selection (first team as a junior and senior), Sobczak has served as team captain the past two years and has been named team MVP the past three. Sobczak was also an all-area selection in her junior and senior seasons. She averaged double digits in both points and rebounds in her junior season as well.

Sobczak also lettered four years in tennis and one in track. An accomplished student-athlete, she received an Outstanding Scholastic Award from the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association. She was a member of the National Honors Society all four years at Curtis.

Seattle Pacific

Former University of Idaho Starter Transfers to SPU (6/8/04)

Autumn Fielding, a 5-foot-9 wing who started for Idaho as a freshman in 2002-03, will transfer and play basketball at Seattle Pacific University next season.

Fielding, who will be a sophomore, started all 28 games for the Vandals, and led the team in points (339/12.1), minutes (1048/37.4), steals (50/1.8) and was the co-leader in assists (89/3.2). She received honorable mention all-Big West honors.

The Kennewick High School graduate did not play this past season, and left Idaho following fall term.

Falcons Sign Brewé, Schaar (11/12/03)

Quinn Brewé of Lynnwood's Meadowdale High School and Lexi Schaar of North Dakota's Crookston High School have signed national letters of intent to play women's basketball at Seattle Pacific beginning in 2004.

Brewé averaged 15.9 points and 10.3 rebounds and helped lead Meadowdale to a fourth-place finish at the Class 3A state tournament. She was second team all-Wesco despite missing 12 midseason games with a knee injury. The Mavericks were fifth in her sophomore season and fourth in 2001. The 6-foot-1 power forward holds the school single game rebound record of 20.

Schaar is a 6-4 center who earned all section honors as a junior while averaging 15 points, eight rebounds and 2.8 blocked shots per game. She holds all of Crookston's records for blocks and is No. 8 in career scoring going into her senior season.

Western Oregon

Wolves Sign Three Players (5/24/04)

Oregon 2A Player of the Year Leada Berkey (Amity), Clackamas Community College transfer Somer Erickson and former Pendleton standout Chelsea Pahl have signed letters-of-intent to play basketball at Western Oregon.

That trio joins Springfield High School star Lindsey Kirschenmann, who signed in April.

Berkey proved to be the top player in the state at her level in three different sports. The Amity superstar was the 2A Player of the Year in basketball and volleyball, and also won the state 400 meter title for the third year in a row. She also anchored the Warrior's gold medal winning relay teams in the 4 x 100 and 4 x 400 relays.

The 5-8 guard scored 1,641 points in her four years at Amity and holds the 2A record for most points scored in the state tournament (101). She was the 2004 state tournament Most Valuable Player as the Warriors claimed fourth place.

"Leada is a tremendous all-around athlete," WOU coach Paula Pietrok said. "She has an extremely quick first step. She has a great perimeter game and has the ability to score a lot of points. I also really admire her competitive spirit."

Somer Erickson is a two-time second team All-NWAACC all-star at Clackamas CC. She was a first team all-tournament selection this year for the NWAACC champion Cougars. She played in the conference all-star game, and had a two-year career average of 12.5 points a game and 6.8 rebounds a contest. She also nailed 41 percent of her three-point attempts and shot 78 percent from the free throw line.

Erickson, a 6-0 forward, was an all-state selection at Estacada High School in 2002.

"Somer has really developed over the last two seasons," Pietrok added. "She can have an immediate impact here. She can score inside and out. She is an all-around player that also brings a leadership element with her."

Chelsea Pahl played in seven games this past season as a true freshman at the University of Idaho on a Vandal team that finished 22-7. Idaho went 13-5 in the Big West Conference (second place). Prior to that, Pahl was an honorable mention all-state selection (4A) in 2003 at Pendleton High School.

The 5-6 guard was also an Intermountain Conference all-star in three sports (volleyball, basketball and softball), and was a second team all-state pick on the diamond.

"I recruited her hard a year ago, so I am very pleased to get her back now," Pietrok said. "She is very hungry to play and will be a great addition for us."

Springfield High School Standout Joins Wolves (4/20/04)

Springfield High School star Lindsey Kirschenmann has signed a letter-of-intent to play basketball for Western Oregon University.

The 5-9 guard, who scored over 1,000 points in her prep career, was a four-year starter for the Millers. Springfield finished third at the OSAA state tournament (4A) in 2001 and also reached the Final 16 in Kirschenmann's sophomore season (2002).

“Lindsay has the ability to contribute right away for us,” WOU coach Paula Pietrok said. “She kinda flew under the radar screen because of her knee injury (between junior and senior seasons). She is a great competitor, which is valued at this level.”

Western Washington

Vikings Sign JC Post Player (4/19/04)

Post-player Courtney Clapp (Kirkland/Juanita), a unanimous first-team all-state pick as a sophomore at Santa Rosa Junior College (Calif.), has signed a National Letter of Intent to play women's basketball at Western Washington University.

The 5-foot-11 Clapp also was a first-team all-Bay Valley Conference choice as she averaged 20.0 points and 7.5 rebounds in helping the Bear Cubs to the “Elite Eight” of the California Community College Championships. She shot 56.0 percent from the field and 75.0 percent at the free throw line on a 24-6 team that tied for the league title.

Clapp, who finished second among the school's career scoring leaders with two-year total of 607 points, scored a school-record 41 points and grabbed 15 rebounds in a victory over College of Marin.

As a freshman at Santa Rosa, Clapp was a first-team all-North Region and all-league selection on a 20-10 team that reached the first round of the state playoffs.

Clapp averaged 11.0 points and 9.0 rebounds as a senior at Juanita High School, where she was a three-year starter for the Rebels.

Western graduated its top two post players - forward Tessa DeBoer (15.5 ppg, 7.1 rpg) and center Jenn McGillivray (13.1 ppg, 5.4 rpg) - from a 21-8 team that reached the semifinals of the NCAA Division II West Regional.

DeBoer and McGillivray combined for 2,540 points and 1,242 rebounds during their four years as Vikings, who are working on school-record strings of seven national tournament appearances and 20-win seasons.

Four Ink Letters to Play for Vikings (11/19/03)

The Western Washington University women's basketball team has signed four high school seniors to National Letters of Intent.

Two of the players are from Whatcom County – 5-11 forward Liz McCarrell from Ferndale and 5-7 guard Angela Burt from Bellingham. The other two are from out-of-state – 6-2 center Gretchen Gottfried from Southridge High School in Beaverton, Ore., and 5-8 guard Elyse Hartman from Chugiak High School in Eagle River, Alaska.

“They're all great athletes and great kids,” said WWU head coach Carmen Dolfo, who is taking a sabbatical from day-to-day coaching duties this season. “They fit into our style of play very well.”

McCarrell was a first-team Associated Press Class 3A all-State pick last season, averaging 18.0 points and 6.5 rebounds while also earning Northwest League Most Valuable Player honors. She was first-team all-league pick as a sophomore, averaging a school record 22.3 points a game, and an honorable mention all-leaguer as a freshman. McCarrell, who has also lettered in track and volleyball, winning the state shot put championship as a sophomore, holds school single-game records for points (40) and steals (9).

Burt was also a first-team Class 3A all-state pick last year, as she averaged 12.1 points, 7.0 rebounds, 5.0 assists and 3.5 steals. She was a first-team all-NWL pick the last two years, and a second-team selection as a freshman. She has also lettered in cross country and track, running in four state finals on relay teams.

Gottfried averaged 10.0 points and 8.0 rebounds last season, helping Southridge place sixth at the Oregon Class 4A state tournament. She also started as a sophomore.

“We only have 10 players and two redshirts, and we lose two of our top post players, so we wanted to sign this class early,” Dolfo said. “We feel real secure in the decisions we've made.”

On McCarrell: We feel real fortunate to have Liz. She has a ton of potential and can be a great player at Western. Liz can do a lot of different things, can score inside and outside, but I think her biggest strength is her athleticism.”

On Burt: She's a great athlete, a player with a lot of untapped potential. She's just so fast – she has a quick first step and great endurance.”

2003-04

Alaska Anchorage

UAA Signs Alaska Player-of-the-Year (5/27/03)

Ninilchik High School star Whitney Leman has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

A 5-7 point guard, Leman comes to UAA after capturing an unprecedented three straight Alaska Small Schools Player of the Year awards and leading the Wolverines to their fourth consecutive Class 2A state title.

She averaged 20.1 points, 7.0 assists, 5.0 rebounds and 6.0 steals per game in her senior season as NHS ran its overall winning streak to 73 games. In the 2003 state tournament, she averaged 22.3 points per game, including 28 on 9-of-13 shooting in the championship win over Unalakleet. In her four years at NHS, the Wolverines went 106-4, with Leman missing two of the losses with an ankle sprain her sophomore season.

"Whitney is a tremendous competitor who knows what it takes to be successful on the court and in the classroom," new UAA coach Jody Hensen said of Leman, who was named MVP of every tournament she played in her sophomore through senior seasons. "Our coaching staff is extremely excited about her and the future that awaits her here at the University of Alaska Anchorage."

The top-ranked student in her class, Leman was also recently featured in Sports Illustrated's "Faces in the Crowd" segment.

Leman becomes the first player this recruiting season to sign with the Seawolves, who return all 11 letter winners from last year's 11-15 squad.

Central Washington

Wildcats Sign AP Class 3A Player-of-the-Year (5/19/03)

Ashley Blake, the 2003 Associated Press Washington Class 3A Player-of-the-Year, will join the Central Washington women's basketball program for the 2003-04 season.

Blake, a 5-foot-9 guard from Lakewood, Wash., was also the Tacoma News-Tribune's top player for 2002-03. She finished her four-year career at Lakes High School with 1,378 points, ranking second in school history behind former Stanford University and WNBA star Kate Starbird. As a senior, Blake averaged 20.9 points, 6.8 rebounds, 3.8 steals and 3.1 assists per game for the Lancers, and she was chosen to compete in the Oregon/Washington All-Star Game.

"The first thing that we noticed about her was her athleticism," CWU coach Jeff Whitney said. "Ashley brings to our team an element of athleticism that will complement our core players. She has an upside to her game - she is a

great athlete who is only going to get better, and we look forward to her doing so at Central."

Blake's basketball accolades also included four first team selections to the all-Seamount League squad and the league's co-Most Valuable Player this past winter. She was also named to the Seattle Post-Intelligencer all-star team as well as being a two-time all-area choice by the Tacoma News-Tribune.

She also lettered four times in softball, earning All-Seamount honors each season. In the classroom, Blake carries a 3.7 grade point average at Lakes and intends to major in business or marketing at Central Washington.

NWAACC Western Division MVP Signs With Wildcats (5/7/03)

Rachel Ross, the 2002-03 Most Valuable Player in the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges while playing at Grays Harbor College, will join the Central Washington women's basketball program for the 2003-04 season.

Ross, a 6-foot-1 post from Aberdeen, Wash., led the NWAACC with 22.3 points per game and ranked second with 10.9 rebounds per contest this past winter for Grays Harbor. In her two years with the Chokers, she was named the Western Division MVP twice.

"Our needs were definitely to go out and get some post help," Whitney said. "I feel that Rachel will help bring much-needed experience to our front court. She has the ability to score inside and she her rebounding skills will help us atone for one of our weaker areas this past season."

Ross, who will major in English education at CWU, carried a 3.5 grade-point average during her days at Aberdeen High School. A 2001 graduate, she lettered three times in both basketball and track and field. She also played two years of varsity volleyball for the Bobcats, who compete in the Class 3A Pac-9 League. She was a first team all-league choice in basketball as a senior at Aberdeen.

CWU Announces First Signee (11/21/02)

With the season opener for the Central Washington University women's basketball team set for tomorrow, coach Jeff Whitney has announced his first signee for the 2003-04 season.

Laura Wright, a 6-2 post from Mark Morris High School in Longview, Wash., has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball for the Wildcats beginning in the 2003-04 season. Wright is currently a senior at Mark Morris, where she is entering her senior basketball season with the Monarchs.

"We are elated to have Laura as part of the Wildcat family," Whitney said. "She brings size and an added dimension to our post play. Her ability to score and rebound should help us match up better with the elite teams in the GNAC."

Wright was the Greater St. Helens League Most Valuable Player as a junior in 2001-02. She also earned Associated Press All-State honors last season at the Class 3A school. Wright, who also completed a four-year prep volleyball career this fall, carries a 3.93 grade-point average and is a member of the National Honor Society.

Prairie High Point Guard Signs to Play for Wildcats (12/2/02)

Lauren Short, a 5-6 point guard from Prairie High School in Vancouver, Wash., has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball for Central Washington beginning next year. Short is currently beginning her fourth and final season of basketball for the Falcons, who compete in the Class 4A Greater St. Helens League.

"One of our goals for this year's recruiting class was to find a young point guard with experience," CWU head coach Jeff Whitney said. "We feel that, because of her athleticism and experience, Lauren is definitely a solid fit to both CWU and the Division II level."

Short, who has been an honorable mention all-GSHL selection each of her first three years playing for Prairie, averaged eight points, six assists and four steals per game as a junior last season. She owns the PHS school record for assists in one game (13), and has also been a member of the Falcons' soccer, softball and track and field teams during her prep career. Short is the school record-holder for soccer goals scored in one season with 15.

In addition to Short's accolades on the court and playing field, she has a 3.70 grade-point average at Prairie. She has been the recipient of a Scholar-Athlete Award and she plans to major in education at CWU. Short joins Mark Morris High post Laura Wright as the Wildcats' two early women's basketball signees.

Wildcats Sign Transfer From Montana State (1/21/03)

Elyse Mengarelli, the 2002 Class 2A State Player of the Year for the state of Washington, has transferred to Central Washington University.

Mengarelli, a 5-8 point guard/wing, was released from her letter of intent by Montana State University. She played in eight games for the Division I Bobcats this season, averaging 2.4 points and 1.3 assists per game. Mengarelli, who is currently enrolled in winter quarter classes at CWU, will be eligible to compete as a sophomore for the Wildcats in 2003-04.

"With the addition of Elyse, it strengthens our core of returning players on the perimeter," Whitney said. "Her ability to handle the ball and run the floor in transition will help make us a better team next season."

Mengarelli was the WIAA Player of the Year after leading East Valley to the Class 2A state championship as a senior. She scored 1,445 points in her four-year career for the Red

Devils, and was named to the All-Central Washington Athletic Conference team all four years.

Saint Martin's

Saint Martin's College Adds Six New Players (5/12/03)

Three new players and two Division I transfers will join Saint Martin's women's basketball team for the 2003-04 season.

These recruits, combined with the early signing of two-time Narrows League MVP Whitney Golob (6-0, Olympia, WA) give the Saints a combination of maturity and depth, according to head coach Tim Healy.

"We needed some immediate help in the post and at the point guard position and are elated with the results," Healy said.

The Saints added Division I transfers Beth Layton (5-6, So., Toledo, WA) from the University of Texas San Antonio and Stephanie McKinney (5-8, Jr., Centralia, WA) from Eastern Washington.

"These two players not only bring us some athleticism and ability, but experience at the Division I level," Healy said. "We feel very fortunate to have these players in our program."

Also adding experience to the Saints roster are two All-league junior college post players. Heather Kennedy (Mountain Home, ID - Big Bend), a 6-1 agile post player, and 5-11 Michelle King (Tacoma, WA - Tacoma CC) will both compete for immediate playing time.

"Both of these players are athletic, can rebound and can finish on the inside," notes Healy. "Heather can shoot the three and play with her back to the basket, while Michelle is outstanding off the dribble."

The final Saint signee is second team All-State guard Whitney Evander (Tenino, WA). The 5-9 guard comes to the Saints following a stellar high school career, in which she was all-conference for three straight years.

"Whitney is a really great kid and has the potential to development into a solid player during her career," indicates Healy.

Seattle University

Redhawks Sign JC Player From Kansas (6/19/03)

Thresia Busch (Jr., Milan, Kansas/Conway Springs HS, Lamar, Seward County CC) has signed a scholarship agreement to played basketball at Seattle University.

"Thresia is a very skilled and powerful player that will have an immediate impact on our team," SU head coach Dave Cox said. "She has outstanding ball handling skills, a great pull up game and posts up well. She is also a very strong rebounder."

This past season, Busch helped 2001-02 junior college national champion Seward County Community College (Liberal, Kansas) to a 28-5 record and the final four of the Region Six tournament. She averaged eight points and seven rebounds per game while shooting 52 percent from the field and 69 percent from the free throw line. In the playoffs, she averaged 14.2 points and 6.6 rebounds per game.

As a freshman, Busch lettered for NCAA Division I Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas. A native of Milan, Kan., Busch was a two-time first team all-league selection for Conway Springs High School. As a senior, she was selected to the all-state team after leading Conway Springs to the state championship with averages of 14 points, 7.5 rebounds and four assists per game. A gifted athlete, Busch also lettered in volleyball, softball, tennis and track as a prep.

Busch is the seventh member of Cox's 2003-04 recruiting class that includes four college transfers and three freshman and will add tremendous size, talent and athleticism to the Seattle University roster.

"Theresa caps off an outstanding recruiting class that could very well be the best in the last 20 years for our program," said Cox, who has been with the women's basketball program since its inception in 1977 and has served as head coach since 1980.

Everett Twin Towers Sign With Redhawks (5/28/03)

Chelsey Holloway (Jr., Lake Stevens, WA) and Nikki Pewitt (So., Monroe, WA), a pair of 6-3 forwards from Everett Community College have signed national letters of intent to play for the Seattle University women's basketball team.

"Nikki and Chelsey give us the scoring and rebounding in the paint that we have been missing," SU Coach Dave Cox said. "These two will give us a lot of options offensively."

As a freshman this past season, Pewitt was named the North Division MVP after finishing third in the NWAACC in scoring with 19.6 points per game and finishing as the league leader in rebounding with 11.6 per game.

She also shot 51 percent from the field and 69 percent from the free throw line. In the final game of the regular season, Pewitt scored 42 points and also recorded 17 rebounds and three blocks against Bellevue Community College.

Together, Holloway and Pewitt led Everett to a second-place finish in the NWAACC North Division at 13-3 in league play and 21-9 overall.

Holloway, who was also a first team All-North Division selection, finished 20th in the league in scoring (14.3 points per game) and sixth in rebounding (9.9). She shot 54 percent from the field and 67 percent from the free throw line.

"Nikki is a versatile player who can be physical inside and step out to shoot the three. Chelsey is very mobile, fast and an outstanding shot blocker," Cox said. "They will both make an impact on this team next season."

Redhawks Sign Four To Hoop Letters (5/8/03)

Four players have signed letters-of-intent to play basketball for Seattle University. Signing letters were wings Danica Dougherty (Skyline HS) and Ashley Payne (Port Angeles HS), along with guards Jenny Iverson (Jr., Garfield-Palouse HS, Big Bend CC) and Lindsay Sather (Port Angeles HS).

"These are four outstanding players that will have great careers at Seattle University," SU coach Dave Cox said. "They will provide the cornerstone for the perimeter that we can count on for many years to come and will give our fans an exciting style of play that will be very fun to watch."

This past season, Iverson was named the Most Valuable Player of the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges East Region after averaging 15.2 points and 6.7 assists per game, the latter of which ranked second in the NWAACC.

She shot 52 percent from the floor, 44 percent from three-point range and a league-best 88 percent from the free-throw line. She also was named the MVP of the NWAACC East/West All-Star Game and was honored as the Most Inspirational Player of the NWAACC tournament.

Payne was a two-time first team all-league selection for Port Angeles High School. She led the team in scoring the past two seasons, averaging 15.8 points per game as a junior and 17.3 this past season. She shot 48 percent from the field and 42 percent from three-point range.

Sather, also a graduate of Port Angeles, will transfer from Washington State University, although she did not play with the Cougars women's basketball team.

She was a two-time Most Valuable Player and first team all-Narrows League selection after averaging 10 points, 5.3 assists and 2.6 steals per game in her career. She shot 51 percent from the field, 35 percent from three-point range and 78 percent from the free-throw line. Sather also served two seasons as a team captain.

Dougherty was a second team all-KingCo 4A selection after leading Skyline High School to its first state tournament appearance with a team-high 13 points per game. A four-year letter winner for the Spartans, Dougherty served the last two seasons as a team captain.

Western Oregon

Wolves Sign JC Transfer, Two Freshmen (5/22/03)

Walla Walla Community College transfer Shannon Talbott, Oregon City High School's Kagny Kohne and St. Mary's Academy standout Libby Stephens have signed national letter-of-intents to play women's basketball at Western Oregon University.

Talbott, a 5-10 forward originally from Enterprise (Oregon) High School, was a two-time first team NWAACC East Division all-star. As a freshman, she set school records for

points in a season (662) and rebounds in a campaign (339). This past winter, she averaged 16.8 points and 9.4 rebounds a contest. She was also an All-NWAACC tournament selection two years in a row.

Kagney was a member of three state title winning teams (4A) at Oregon City. The Pioneers went 26-1 in 2002-03. Kagney is a 6-0 forward.

Stephens was a first team All-Mount Hood Conference pick this year while at St. Mary's Academy. A 5-8 guard, Stephens averaged 13.4 points a game and hit for a career-high 32 points in one contest this year.

Western Washington

Vikings Sign Kentridge Standout (5/16/03)

Krystal Robinson, who holds nearly every record at Kentridge High School, has signed a national letter of intent to play women's basketball at Western Washington University.

The 6-foot-1 Robinson, who has been selected to play in the Washington State senior all-star game, was a first-team King County Journal all-Area and all-South Puget Sound League North Division choice.

She averaged 17.0 points and 9.0 rebounds, setting season records for rebounds (225) and blocked shots (111), on a Chargers' team that finished 15-9 and reached the district playoffs.

Robinson had a triple-double in a district playoff win over Emerald Ridge with 14 points, 12 rebounds and school-record 10 blocks. She set school career records for points (906), rebounds (634), and blocks (278).

As a junior, Robinson was a first-team all-league pick, scoring a school record 309 points and setting game marks for rebounds (21) and field goals (14).

Nooksack's Dykstra To Play For WWU (5/15/03)

Devin Dykstra, a first-team Associated Press Class 2A all-State selection at Nooksack Valley High School, has signed a national letter of intent to play women's basketball at Western Washington University.

The 5-foot-6 Dykstra led the Pioneers to an 18-8 record and seventh place at state, receiving first-team state all-tournament honors and being named the sportsmanship award winner for the second straight year.

Dykstra averaged 15.1 points, 8.2 rebounds, 3.9 assists and 3.2 steals as a senior. She finished her four-year career with 1,150 points, 607 rebounds, 337 assists and 312 steals.

Twice a first-team all-North Cascades League and all-district choice, Dykstra was a first-team state all-tourney pick as a sophomore on a 26-1 team that won league and district titles and placed third at state.

A three-time first-team all-league pick as a shortstop in softball and as a midfielder in soccer, Dykstra hit .579 as a sophomore on a NVHS softball team that placed fourth at state.

2002-03

Alaska Anchorage

Bean joins Seawolf women for senior campaign (8/28/02)

Nicky Bean, a 5-3 point guard from Wasilla, has joined the University of Alaska Anchorage women's basketball team.

Bean will have one year of eligibility with the Seawolves after transferring from Spring Hill (Ala.) College, where she played her junior season.

Before Spring Hill, Bean starred two seasons at Marshalltown (Iowa) Community College, where she was an All-Region XI selection. She averaged 10 points and 9 assists per game as a sophomore, breaking the Region XI assist record and helping MCC to second place in the NJCAA Region XI Tournament.

As a prep at Colony High School, Bean earned All-Region III First Team and honorable mention all-state honors, averaging 14 points, 5 assists and 3 rebounds her senior campaign. She was a part of the Knights' three-time Region III championship teams, which included back-to-back 4A state titles in 1997 and 1998 and a runner-up finish in 1999.

"Nicky is quick on the dribble, and she's got a great shot," UAA head coach Brandi Dunigan said. "She's also brings a positive attitude that I know will fit in well with our team concept. We're thrilled she decided to be a Seawolf, if only for one season."

Bean becomes the sixth new player on the Seawolf roster, joining freshman Kelsey Larsen (6-0, F, Mukilteo, Wash.) and junior college transfers Mary Aschoff (6-2, C, Osmond, Neb./NE Nebraska CC), Sarah Kemper (6-1, C, Isanti, Minn./North Dakota State College of Science), Kamie Jo Massey (5-9, G/F, Payson, Utah/Snow College) and Mindy Mendenhall (6-0, F, Springville, Utah/Snow College).

JC star Massey signs with UAA women (5/16/02)

Kamie Jo Massey, a 5-9 guard/forward from Payson, Utah, has signed a national letter-of-intent to play basketball for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Massey starred the past two seasons at Snow (Utah) College, where she helped the Badgers to a pair of postseason appearances. As a sophomore last year, she led the Scenic West Athletic Conference in rebounding (8.4 rpg) and ranked fourth in scoring (12.9 ppg).

She also rated among the league's leaders in assists (12th, 3.1 apg), steals (8th, 2.2 spg) and blocks (8th, 0.6 bpg). The versatile player made the SWAC all-tournament team and was named second team All-Region 18.

Prior to junior college, Massey started three years at Payson High School, where she was a two-time all-region selection.

"Kamie Jo does a lot of things, and she does them well," said UAA head coach Brandi Dunigan, who also coached Massey's sister Tiffany at UAA from 1999-2001. "We're counting on her to step in and provide leadership as well as the statistical contributions."

Seawolves Sign Nebraska Player (5/10/02)

Mary Aschoff, a 6-2 center from Osmond, Neb., has signed a National Letter of Intent for play basketball for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Aschoff started two seasons at Northeast (Neb.) Community College in Norfolk, averaging 8.0 points and 3.9 rebounds and 56.4 percent shooting. As a sophomore, she helped lead the Hawks to a 25-6 record and the National Junior College Athletic Association Region IX quarterfinals.

"She had a good season for being one year out from a knee injury," UAA coach Brandi Dunigan said of Aschoff, who suffered ACL damage midway through her freshman year. "We know she's continuing to improve, and her size compares favorably to other post players around our league."

Aschoff, who will have two years of eligibility with the Seawolves, is the second member of UAA's 2002-03 recruiting class, joining fellow transfer Sarah Kemper (6-1, C, Isanti, Minn./North Dakota State College of Science).

Seawolf Women Christen Recruiting Class (4/30/02)

Sarah Kemper, a 6-1 center from Isanti, Minn., has signed a National Letter of Intent for play basketball for the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Kemper will be a junior at UAA after transferring from North Dakota State College of Science, where she played the past two seasons. As a sophomore, Kemper averaged 7.2 points and led her team with 5.6 rebounds per game as the Wildcats went 21-9 and placed second in the NJCAA Region XIII Tournament.

She was named honorable mention all-league in the MonDak Conference. As a senior at Cambridge-Isanti High School, she averaged 15 points and 7 rebounds per game to go with 103 blocks. She twice earned all-conference honors in high school.

"Sarah's addition is a great start for us as we begin to build for the future," Dunigan said. "She's a true physical post player."

Alaska Fairbanks

Idaho Guard Signs With Nanooks (4/11/02)

Michelle Hipwell, a 5-10 guard from Rimrock High School in Oreana, Idaho, has signed a national letter-of-intent with the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Hipwell, a four-time all-state honoree, averaged 18 points, 8.8 rebounds and 6.4 assists this past winter, in earning first team

all-state honors. She was also selected her league's Conference Player-of-the-Year.

"Michelle has point guard experience, but we see her more as a replacement for Dee Age or Amy Woodruff, not (point guard) Mel Wagoner," UAF coach Jenny Benson said. "She has good skills and a lot of potential.

"She is a great shooter and sees the floor well, which makes her a great passer," Benson said. "We see her as an immediate impact player who will only get better."

Central Washington

Wildcats Add Point Guard (5/15/02)

A point guard who helped lead the Community Colleges of Spokane to a fourth-place finish in the 2002 NWAACC women's basketball tournament has signed a letter of intent to attend Central Washington University.

Yvette Avila, who played at the University of Idaho in 2000-01, participated in the NWAACC sophomore all-star game in March after a successful sophomore campaign.

Avila won four varsity letters at Meadowdale High School where she was named an All-Wesco League honorable mention each of her four seasons and capped her career as part of a State 3A championship team two seasons ago.

"One of our recruiting goals this spring was to find another solid point guard and we have done that," CWU head coach Jeff Whitney said.

Others who have committed to the Wildcat program include wing Cindy Alldrin (So., Vancouver-Mountain View/Whatcom); guard Kelly Quinn (5-7, Fr., Palmer, AK-Colony); and, front liners Whitney Graham (6-1, Fr., Shelton) and Linnet Rain (6-0, Jr., Lopez Island-Edmonds).

Wildcats Welcome Wing (5/14/02)

A first-team Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges Northern Region selection out of Whatcom Community College has signed a national letter of intent to continue her collegiate career at Central Washington University.

Five-foot, 10-inch wing Cindy Alldrin averaged 16 points per game and helped lead Whatcom to a fifth-place finish in the 2002 NWAACC tournament. She was a four-year letter winner at 4A powerhouse Mountain View High School, where she was named all state and Greater St. Helen's League Player of the Year after collecting 19 points per contest her senior season.

"Cindy is a versatile athlete that can score inside and is capable of connecting outside the arc," CWU head coach Jeff Whitney said. "She has a tremendous upside to her game that will only get better."

Wildcats Sign Post Player From Shelton (5/6/02)

A two-time, Pac 9 Conference first-team selection and National Honor Society member from Shelton High School has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball next season at Central Washington University.

Six-one forward/post Whitney Graham, who has 10 varsity letters to her credit, averaged 19 points and 10 rebounds per game while shooting 53 percent from the field in 2001-02. She was named to the All-South Sound Area team, has twice been honored as a Pac 9 scholar-athlete and was recognized as a state 4A basketball academic champion two years ago.

"Graham has a tremendous amount of potential," CWU coach Jeff Whitney said. "She is athletic, can run the floor and will add to our front-court depth. We're very pleased to welcome her into the Wildcat family."

Alaska Guard To Play for Wildcats (4/23/02)

A 5-7 point guard/wing that helped lead Colony High School of Alaska to three consecutive state tournament appearances has signed a national letter of intent to join the Central Washington University women's basketball program.

Palmer native Kelly Quinn, Colony's team captain the past three years, was a three-time all-state tournament selection, two-time all-state pick and has a Region III MVP award to her credit. She shot 46 percent from the field and averaged 13.7 points, 6.2 rebounds, three steals and 2.5 assists per game this past season.

Among Quinn's other accomplishments are a Region III MVP honor on the soccer pitch, a runner-up performance in the region cross country meet and a seventh-place showing at state. Academically, she has appeared consistently on the Colony honor roll.

"The coaching staff is elated that Kelly has chosen to become a Wildcat," CWU head coach Jeff Whitney said. "She is good fit for our program and will contribute to our program right away."

Rain To Play Volleyball, Basketball For Wildcats (11/26/01)

Multi-sport star Linnet Rain, who has enjoyed her share of success at the high school and junior college level, has signed a letter of intent to play both volleyball and basketball next year at Central Washington University.

Rain won 11 varsity letters while competing in volleyball (middle blocker), basketball (center) and track (shot put, discus, javelin and high jump) at Lopez Island High School, where she received her diploma in 1998. Her list of accomplishments included state recognition in volleyball and track, and three first-team all-league basketball awards.

Currently in her second year at Edmonds Community College, Rain was named to the NWAACC Northern Region

volleyball first team and served as the Tritons' captain this past fall.

"Linnet is the presence we were looking for in the middle," CWU volleyball coach Mario Andaya said. "She is a prototype to dominate on the block. She's been well drilled at the University of Washington (as a redshirt) and will come in with good experience in the middle."

Rain was honored as a second-team Northern Region selection on the hardwood last winter while averaging 20.2 points and 12 rebounds per contest. "We're very excited to get an athlete of Linnet's caliber at Central," basketball coach Jeff Whitney said. "We were looking for a post and we feel she'll fill that role nicely."

Whitney said he and his coaching staff believe Rain has the potential to develop into a solid player. "She possesses the ability to score from the low block area," he said, "and has the strength to be dominant on the glass."

Humboldt State

HSU signs Local Women's Basketball Star (5/7/02)

Ashley Johnson, a 5-foot-4 guard from Arcata High School, has signed a letter-of-intent to play basketball for Humboldt State during the 2002-03 season.

"Ashley Johnson will have an immediate impact on this program," HSU head coach Carol Harrison said of the McDonald's All-American nominee.

Johnson finished her senior year at Arcata averaging 16 points a game for a team that went 24-4 on the season and lost in the first round of North Coast Section play.

As a tri-captain, Johnson earned many accolades during the 2001-02 season. She was named the MVP of the Analy Tournament and was an all-tournament selection at the Panther Classic, the Headsburg Tournament and the West Coast Jamboree.

"I'm excited for her to go on to Humboldt where we can watch and follow her," Arcata High School head coach Tahnia Campbell said. "She has the athletic ability and skill to compete at the collegiate level."

Johnson, who began starting for the Tigers midway through her sophomore season, averaged 11 points, three rebounds, two steals and two assists as a junior. Johnson also shot 72 percent from the free throw line during her junior season.

Johnson will add a local flair to a Lumberjack team that went 7-19 last season and finished 5-13 in conference play.

"(She does) much of what you want in a point guard: (she has an) even-keeled temperament, does anything you ask, wants and hits big shots and makes free throws. In addition, she has a long background in soccer and can run forever," Harrison said. "She can push the tempo, penetrate, guard her position

and she takes care of the ball. She's competitive and she likes pressure situations."

HSU Inks Guard Ashley Williams (11/27/01)

Humboldt State's women's basketball program signed point guard Ashley Williams as announced Tuesday by interim head coach Carol Harrison.

Williams, a 5-foot-3 guard from Gunderson High School, has been recruited by the HSU coaching staff since last year. The San Jose, Calif., native, averages 10 points, three assists and 3.5 steals at Gunderson and is a dominant player on the AAU Laser squad.

"Ashley is a lightening quick guard that can handle the ball with either hand and already has a three-point jumper," Harrison said. "She can break down defenses and she fits in the mold of some of our past great point guards, Trina Dukes who led us to our only NCAA tournament appearance and Kathy Oliver, a jitterbug on the court who's in the Hall of Fame."

Northwest Nazarene

Codiga Signs With Crusaders (8/1/02)

Jackie Codiga of Seattle will join the women's basketball team at Northwest Nazarene University.

The 6-0 freshman graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in 2001, averaging 15 points and 10 rebounds as a senior. Codiga, who spent last season rehabilitating after knee surgery, earned first team all-league honors three times and was twice named to the South District Journal all-area team.

The three-time team captain participated in two state tournaments and played on four league championship teams. She was voted most athletic in the senior class and was one of three finalists for the Journal Female Athlete of the Year.

"Jackie will have an immediate impact," said NNU coach Kelli Kronberger. "She is the prototype post player for our program. She can step out and shoot the three and runs the court very well. I am very excited to sign a player of Jackie's ability."

Codiga was also a volleyball standout, holding the Kennedy record for career kills (1,087). Volleyball honors include two-time league MVP, All-State selection, Journal Player of the Year, two-time member of Journal All-Area Team, two-time team captain, two state tournament appearances (6th as senior), and three league titles.

Crusaders Sign Three JC Players, Two Others (5/22/02)

Three junior college transfers are among five signing letters of intent to join the women's basketball team at Northwest Nazarene University.

The transfers signing are Heidi Buehler and Julia Barker, both of Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Ore., and Shalynn Leonard from Highline CC in Des Moines, Wash.

Also signing was Kara Gonzalez of Grandview High School (Wash.). Jenny Binford, whose signing was previously announced, is transferring from Boise State University. Returning is 6-3 sophomore Shelli Bunn of Dayton, Ore., who redshirted two seasons ago.

The 5-7 point-guard Buehler (Tigard, Ore.) averaged 25 points at Umpqua. Barker (Eugene, Ore./South Eugene HS), a 5-10 forward, averaged 16 points and six rebounds. Both were named to the NWAACC South Region First Team and NWAACC All-Star Team.

Leonard (Seattle/Rainier HS), a 6-0 post who was also a member of the NWAACC all-star team, averaged 13 points and nine rebounds in earning a spot on the NWAACC West Region first team.

Gonzalez is a 5-7 point guard who missed her senior season because of a knee injury.

Kronberger loses six players from the 2001-02 team. Amber Hellberg, Anna Allen-McGarrah, and Alison Graham graduated. Karianne Oysted, Chanda Rodriguez, and Jessica White are not returning.

Oysted returned to Norway. Rodriguez (Caldwell) is transferring to Boise State and White will attend College of Southern Idaho.

Seattle University

Othello Player Signs With Seattle (5/14/02)

Othello High School all-time leading scorer Jennifer McCourtie has signed a national letter of intent to play women's basketball at Seattle University.

A four-year letter winner, McCourtie was a three-time first team all-CWAC selection and led the league in scoring the past two seasons. She was also a three-time all-area selection and a three-time member of the Tri Cities All-Star Team.

One of just two Othello players to amass over 1,000 career points, McCourtie averaged 25 points and nine rebounds per game this past season. She averaged 23.5 points per game as a junior, and 17.8 points and 14.2 rebounds per game in her sophomore campaign. She was a three-time team captain and a three-time MVP for the Huskies.

A great all-around athlete, McCourtie also lettered three years on Othello's softball team. She was a two-time all-league selection and helped the Huskies to three straight league and district titles and a class 2A state championship in 1999. McCourtie also lettered three years in volleyball and was a two-time all-CWAC selection.

Seattle Signs Kentucky, Edmonds CC Transfers

Seattle natives Kristin Connolly (Jr., Mercer Island, WA - University of Kentucky) and Jade White (Jr., Seattle - Roosevelt & Edmonds CC), who both have NCAA Division I experience, have signed letters-of-intent with the Seattle University women's basketball program.

Connolly is coming off two seasons at the University of Kentucky. She played in every single game during those two seasons, averaging just over three points in 10.9 minutes per game this past season. She scored in double figures in four separate games this season, including 13 against 19th-ranked Auburn.

She also scored 10 points and dished out a career-high four assists in a victory over Sam Houston State, and sparked the Wildcats with seven points on three-for-three shooting in just nine minutes off the bench in a loss to Tennessee.

Connolly made three starts as a freshman and also scored in double figures four times that season, recording a career-high 17 points against Miami. She was named to the Dean's List and the Athletic Director's Honor Roll that year.

She was a four-year starter at Mercer Island High School and finished her career fourth on the school's all-time scoring list with over 1,000 points. She averaged 19.4 points, 3.6 assists and 3.2 steals per game as a senior.

Connolly scored 20 points or more in 12 games that season to set a new single-season scoring record with 447. She was a two-time MVP and captain for the Islanders, and was selected to the all-KingCo 3A first team twice, earning honors as the league MVP her senior year.

White played in 15 games, averaging 4.1 minutes per game her freshman year at Portland State during the 1999-00 season. She sat out the following season due to back surgery then moved on to Edmonds Community College, where she led the team in scoring with 15.6 points per game this past season.

She also averaged 5.9 rebounds per contests and was a second team all-NWAACC North Division selection, helping Edmonds to a record of 13-16 overall and 9-7 in league play.

Dann Signs With Redhawks (12/1/01)

Courtney Dann (Burlington, Wash./Burlington-Edison HS) has signed a national letter of intent with Seattle University.

Dann has been a three-time all-Northwest League selection in her first three seasons at Burlington-Edison High School. In her sophomore season, Dann was named the league MVP after leading the Tigers to their first conference title in 23 years.

In three seasons at Burlington-Edison, Dann has averaged 12.9 points, nine rebounds, four assists and three steals per game. She also holds the school record for three pointers. Dann has shot 46 percent from three-point range and 41

percent overall from the field, along with 78 percent from the foul line in her first three seasons with the Tigers.

Dann has also lettered four years in volleyball and three years in golf. She was a two-time all-conference selection in volleyball and helped the Tigers to two class 3A state tournaments, including one trip to the quarterfinals. She was also an all-league selection in golf.

An avid water skier, Dann has won five national championships in a total of three different events—trick, jump and slalom. She also holds the girl's 13-and-under national record with a jump of 104 feet.

Head coach Dave Cox will look for Dann to add some athleticism to his backcourt. She is an extremely versatile guard that will likely see time at both the point and shooting guard. Dann accepted a scholarship to Seattle University, despite being recruited by Gonzaga, Oregon, Southern California and Washington State.

"I really like the coach and the basketball program at Seattle University," Dann said. "I want to give the team all that I've got."

Seattle Pacific

Port Angeles Player Signs With SPU (4/12/02)

Mandy Wood, a three-time all-Olympic League selection at Port Angeles High School, has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball at Seattle Pacific University.

Wood, a 5-foot-7 guard, was a three-year starter who led the Roughriders to fifth place in the state tournament as a junior and a 22-6 record as a senior, averaging 16.0 points and four assists. She finished with 1295 career points, averaging 12.7 per game.

Smith Signs With Falcons (11/20/01)

Carli Smith, the state B level player of the year from Spokane's Valley Christian High School, has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball for Seattle Pacific University next season.

Smith, a 5-foot-11 senior, averaged 20.4 points and 12.4 rebounds for the Panthers as a junior, leading them to a record of 26-2 and third place in the state tournament.

Smith is the only recruit signed by SPU Coach Gordy Presnell during the early signing period. The Falcons, currently ranked 20th in NCAA Division II, are defending Great Northwest Athletic Conference champions and have earned NCAA playoff berths each of the last five seasons.

Western Oregon

Three From Clark College Sign With Wolves (5/29/02)

Three players that last played at Clark College in Vancouver - Amanda Johnson, Angela Beveridge and Buffy Hummel - have signed letters-of-intent to play basketball at Western Oregon University.

Johnson is a 5-10 junior post player who prepped at Evergreen High School in Vancouver. She was a three-time all-league selection (first-team in 1999-00) and was the Plainsmen's leading rebounder and team captain as a senior.

At Clark College, she was a second-team NWAACC selection as a freshman and was then a first-team pick last winter. She was also the MVP of Clark's tournament. She averaged 16.1 points a game, 11.3 rebounds and 5.1 assists.

Beveridge helped lead Prairie High School to two state titles during her tenure at the Vancouver school. A 5-9 forward, Beveridge was also a Greater St. Helen's League all-conference pick, as well as a NWAACC selection at Clark.

Buffy Hummel came to Clark College via Oregon City High School and Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. At Oregon City, Hummel played on 4A state title teams in 1997 and 1998. The Pioneers also were crowned USA Today's national champion those two years.

Hummel's teams placed third and fourth in the state in 1999 and 2000. She was a first-team Three Rivers League pick as a senior and was honorable mention all-state.

In 1999, she was named to the second-team all-state tournament squad. At Clark, Hummel was a second-team NWAACC pick, averaging 14 points, 8.5 rebounds and six assists a game. The 5-8 wing shot 49 percent from three-point range.

Western Washington

Vikings Sign Standout Guard (5/13/02)

Dachelle Davis, a second-team Washington State Sportswriters Association all-State selection at West Valley High School in Yakima, has signed a national letter of intent to play women's basketball at Western Washington University.

A 5-foot-6 point guard, Davis also was a first-team Yakima Herald-Republic all-Area and all-Mid Valley League selection as a senior at West Valley. She will play in the East-West all-star series in June.

Davis averaged 17.1 points and 4.0 assists during the 2001-02 season, helping the Rams to a 22-5 record and a trip to the Class 3A state tournament where she earned all-tourney honors.

"She's very athletic and very quick," said Western coach Carmen Dolfo. "She comes from a very good program and knows how to win."

Davis went to state all four years at West Valley, being a second-team all-league pick on a 23-2 team that won a state title as a junior. She started as a sophomore on a 24-3 squad that placed fourth at state and lettered on a team that finished third as a freshman.

Davis was a two-time all-league defender in soccer, playing on a state championship team as senior.

Vikings Sign Hubbard To National Letter (11/19/01)

Samantha Hubbard, a 5-6 guard from Carbonado (White River High School), has signed a national letter of intent to play women's basketball at Western Washington University, coach Carmen Dolfo announced Nov. 19.

Hubbard, who is in her senior year at White River, has been a starter the past three seasons, during which time the Hornets have never lost a league game. As a junior, she averaged 12.0 points, 7.0 assists and 3.0 steals in earning first-team all-Pierce County League honors for a team that went 20-5 and placed seventh at the Class 3A state tournament.

As a sophomore, Hubbard earned second-team all-league recognition, averaging 6.0 points and 7.0 assists on a 23-2 Hornet squad that finished third in the state. She was an honorable mention all-league pick as a freshman.

"Her biggest asset is her speed," Dolfo said of Hubbard. "She's a good defender and penetrator who works very hard and will fit in well with our team."

Hubbard was also a four-year letter winner in soccer, playing in the midfield on three league championship teams, and a three-year letter winner in fastpitch, earning second-team all-league honors as an outfielder the last two seasons.