

PhotoFile



Number 7, April 2016

A SEASON TO REMEMBER

A Tribute to the 2015-16 UAA Women's Basketball Team

In This Issue...

A Season to Remember



Mayhem! Mayhem characterizes the smothering defense played by the UAA (University of Alaska Anchorage) women's basketball team this past 2015-16 season. It was a beautiful thing to watch and it carried the team to a final record of 38-3, including the first opportunity in program history to play for a NCAA Div. 2 National Championship. The Seawolves battled the taller, undefeated Lubbock Christian team but came up short 78-73 in the final game held in Indianapolis, IN..

The Seawolves were ranked all season in the top 5 or 6 spots including #1 for several weeks during the regular season. After seeing the first few games, I had a feeling that this team, with seven seniors and so much talent, was something special. I was not wrong, and this issue of PhotoFile is a tribute to this team and their amazing season. It was indeed, a season to remember!

Community support for this team has been great and fans have been treated to high level, exciting basketball in the new Alaska Airlines Center, a beautiful facility located on the UAA campus. Attendance this season for women's basketball totaled over 17,000, an impressive 1,024 fans per game. This may not sound like a huge number but, average attendance at UAA away games have averaged just over 300 per game. Way to go Anchorage!

Although the Seawolves had the best record in the NCAA West region, the first three rounds of the NCAA Tournament were held in Azusa, California instead of Anchorage. Not to be deterred by losing their potential home court advantage, the team played before a mostly empty arena in Azusa and won all three games at the West Regionals, moving on to the Elite 8 games in Sioux Falls, South Dakota on March 22-23 where they rolled over Francis Marion 79-55 and Grand Valley State 67-47, gaining a berth in the national championship game with Lubbock Christian.

Congratulations to Coach McCarthy and Assistant Coaches Alysa Horn and Shaina Afoa for their success and great leadership. Coach McCarthy was selected as NCAA's West Region Coach of the Year Div. 2 Women's Basketball for the second year in a row and Alysa Horn was honored as member of Women's Basketball Coaches Association's Under 30 list. Thank you Coaches, it was a privilege to watch your team perform this year!

The Team That Made It Happen

No.	Name	Year	No.	Name	Year
2	Adriana Dent	Sr.	20	Hannah Wandersee	Fr.
3	Tara Thompson	Fr.	21	Keiahanna Engel	Sr.
5	Christina Davis	Sr.	23	Kiki Robertson	Jr.
11	Megan Mullings	Sr.	24	Sierra Afoa	So.
12	Jenna Buchanan	Sr.	25	Jessica Madison	Sr.
15	Alysha Devine	Jr.	41	Dominique Brooks	Sr.

FRONT COVER: Megan Mullings goes up for two of her game high 18 points against the Cedarville Yellow Jackets from Elkins, W. Va.

BACK COVER: Jessica Madison cuts down the net at the Alaska Airlines center following the game which decided the championship of the GNAC (Great Northwest Athletic Conference) for the UAA Seawolves.

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FEATURING PHOTOGRAPHY AND ARTICLES
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PhotoFile is published and printed on an irregular basis. Printed copies and/or digital PDF copies may be obtained from the printer at www.magcloud.com or from the editor at the above address.

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Other publications by John R. DeLapp that are available for preview or download from www.magcloud.com include:

PhotoFile #1: *Chinitna Bay Bear Camp*
October, 2012.

PhotoFile #2: *Redpoll Rally*, March 2013.

PhotoFile #3: *Denali*, July 2013

PhotoFile #4: *Road Trip*, July 2014

PhotoFile #5: *Havana!*, May 2015

PhotoFile #6: *Bear Boat*, September 2015

The Seawolf Seniors



Jessica Madison

Jessica has been one of the most reliable and consistent players throughout her four year career at UAA (starting in 90 games), and playing in all 41 games this year. This season she was UAA's leading scorer in nine games and was honored for her play at the NCAA West Region tournament, being chosen for the All-Tournament team. In post-season, she put in stellar performances in all games and scored the go ahead points in the overtime game with Cal Baptist in the West Regionals.



Jenna Buchanan

Jenna, an Alaskan from Galena, has been a four-year player for UAA, also playing in all 41 games this year. She set an NCAA record by scoring at least one three-pointer in 35 consecutive games and made 8 out of 10 three-pointers in one game this season. She earned first team All-GNAC honors this season.



Adriana ("Shorty") Dent

Adriana was a Junior College All-American prior to playing her last two years at UAA. She has contributed in all aspects of the game at UAA and has been especially effective defensively. With her outstanding quickness, she has averaged 2.3 steals per game and created much mayhem for UAA's opponents.



Megan Mullings

Megan has played in 69 games for UAA over the last two years following her transfer from South Mountain Community College (AZ). She lead UAA in scoring and rebounding this season with averages of 15.9 pts/gm and 6.1 rb/gm. Her athleticism has been joy to watch and she has surprised many opponents with her shot blocking ability. She was voted first team All-GNAC, All-West Region, and 3rd Team All-American.



Christina Davis

Christina, a transfer from Gillette College (WY), returned to the Seawolf lineup this year after red-shirting last year. She has been a solid player this season and contributed a career high 15 points in a non-conference game against UC San Diego in the Seawolf Hoops Classic where she received the Most Valuable Player award.



Keiahnna Engel

Keiahnna played high school ball at Anchorage's Dimond high and had a career at Boise State before graduating and returning to UAA for her last year of eligibility. She has been a huge help to UAA this season, scoring 22 points in one league game. She received the GNAC Newcomer of the Year award for her play this season.



Dominique Brooks

Dominique had experience at the Division 1 and community college level prior to coming to UAA for her final year of eligibility. She has served as an important backup to Megan Mullings throughout the season and at 6'3", provided an intimidation factor to any player she was guarding.



The coaching staff and bench of the Cedarville team get a close up view of the mayhem created by UAA's smothering defense as Christina Davis, Adriana Dent, and Jessica Madison trap the Cedarville player. UAA went on to win the game 75-45.

More defensive zone mayhem is created by Kiki Robertson and Adriana Dent as coach Ryan McCarthy provides encouragement. >





Keiahnna Engel gets past two defenders for an easy bucket against Seattle Pacific.



Jenna Buchanan brings the ball up the right wing against Seattle Pacific. UAA won 82-47.



Megan Mullings drives the lane at a game against Cedarville in the Alaska Airlines Center. Mullings netted a game high 18 points in the game.



Wow! Kiki Robertson executes a behind-the-back pass to a teammate with her left hand in a game against Seattle Pacific.



Kiki gets "hammered" by a Western Washington defender while driving the lane for a lay-up. UAA beat Western 79-52 winning the GNAC title with a record of 18-1 and an overall record of 31-1 at the time. The Seawolves were then ranked #1 or #2 in NCAA Div. 2.



Christina Davis uses a screen set by Alysha Devine to drive for the basket.



Jessica Madison goes up for two in the Seattle Pacific game.

Jessica Madison controls the ball during the Western Washington game.



Dominique Brooks goes up for a shot over two Cedarville defenders.



Christina Davis pushes the ball up the court against Western Washington.





Alysha Devine is grabbed on the arm by a Western Washington defender.



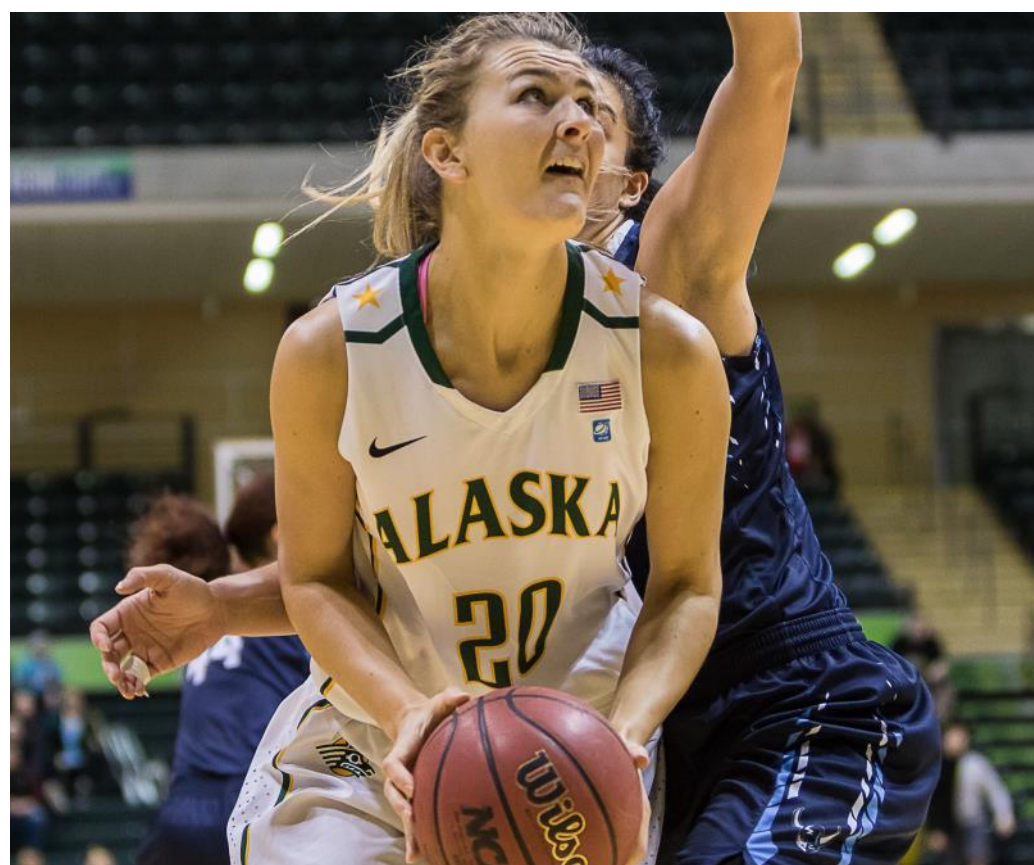
In a game with Seattle Pacific, Alysha tries to avoid the defender's arm-block as she drives to the basket. She went on to score 12 points in that contest.



Adriana Dent controls the ball while looking for a scoring play.



Freshman Tara Thompson, from Anchorage's Dimond High School, played in 39 games, gaining valuable experience and putting up a total of 136 points on the season.



Hannah Wandersee, freshman from Kodiak, Alaska, played in 40 games, averaged 4.9 points per game and made 85% of her free throws.



Sierra Afoa, also from Anchorage's Dimond High School has been one of the best Seawolves at taking care of the basketball, averaging less than one turnover per game.



UAA often substitutes four or five players at one time to keep up the mayhem and high tempo game.



Players and fans celebrate following UAA's win over Western Washington to claim the championship of the GNAC at the Alaska Airlines Center in Anchorage on February 25, 2016.



