NORTH ALABAMA

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL GAME NOTES — Game 1 vs. Mississippi State

NOVEMBER		
3	at Mississippi State	6:30 PM
5	at Ole Miss	TBD
9	at Jacksonville State	TBD
13	**Fisk**	**6:00 PM**
18	at Vanderbilt	TBD
23	**Jackson State**	**6:30 PM**
27	**UT Southern**	**2:00 PM**
DECEMBER		
1	at Evansville	TBD
5	at UT Martin	TBD
10	**Tennessee State**	**6:30 PM**
19	at Queens (N.C.)	TBD
21	at West Florida	TBD
31	**Bellarmine**	**1:00 PM**
JANUARY		
2	**Lipscomb**	**2:00 PM**
6	**Little Rock ***	**6:30 PM**
9	at Austin Peay *	TBD
13	at Eastern Kentucky *	TBD
16	**Tarleton State ***	**5:00 PM**
20	**Central Arkansas ***	**5:30 PM**
23	at Abilene Christian *	TBD
27	at Tarleton State *	TBD
30	at UT Arlington *	TBD
FEBRUARY		
6	**Abilene Christian ***	**3:30 PM**
10	**West Georgia ***	**6:30 PM**
13	**Austin Peay ***	**3:30 PM**
17	at Central Arkansas *	TBD
20	at Little Rock *	TBD
24	**Eastern Kentucky ***	**5:30 PM**
27	**UT Arlington ***	**5:00 PM**
MARCH		
6	at West Georgia	TBD
	UAC Tournament - Allen, Texas	
10-13	UAC Championship	TBD

* UAC game | All Times Central

MEDIA RELATIONS INFO:

NORTH ALABAMA

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Website: www.RoarLions.com

X / IG: @unawbb / @unahoops

Wednesday, November 3 • Starkville, Miss. • Humphrey Coliseum • 6:30 PM

North Alabama LIONS	- VS -	Mississippi State BULLDOGS
0-0 Overall		0-0 Overall
0-0 UAC		0-0 SEC

OPENING TIP

LAST SEASON

Last season, the Lions finished 17-14 overall with an 11-7 Atlantic Sun conference record in 2025-26. UNA made it to the ASUN Tournament Quarterfinal round where the team fell to No. 3 Central Arkansas in Jacksonville, Fla. at Vystar Veterans Memorial Arena to complete the season. North Alabama had memorable moments last season such as the 4OT thriller against West Georgia on senior night or Alexsandra Alvarado pouring on 37 points against Jacksonville in Florida for the fourth most points in a single game by a Lion. UNA finished sixth overall in conference rankings to close last season.

HEAD BALL COACH

On March 26, UNA Director of Athletics Dr. Josh Looney officially named Anna Nimz the 10th head coach of the North Alabama women's basketball program. Nimz takes the helm after a remarkable six-year turnaround at Northwestern State. Beginning in 2020, she took what once was a one-win team and turned it into a Southland Conference contender. Under her leadership, Northwestern State matched or increased its win total all six seasons. The 18 wins this past season were the program's most in 10 years, while the 14 conference wins were the most in 22 years. Entering her UNA tenure, Nimz has 192 wins as a head coach, leading the programs at Kilgore College and Labette Community College prior to Northwestern State.

ALL-UAC NOD

Transfer forward Brynn Lusby was named to the All-UAC Preseason Team — one of 11 players to receive the nod. Three players from Abilene Christian, the preseason favorites, were chosen including UAC Preseason Player of the Year in Payton Hull. Alongside the coaches poll rankings being released, the Lions were awarded their first preseason conference selection since Skyler Gill in 2022-23. Lusby was the sixth conference preseason selection since 2018 joining Gill, Olivia Noah, Brittany Panetti and Ivy Wallen on two separate occasions. Lusby, a first-year transfer from Incarnate Word, appeared in 62 total games with nine starts during her two seasons in Texas.

NORTH ALABAMA'S PROJECTED STARTERS



#14 Ella Macleod
5-10 • Jr. • G

Games	0
PPG	0
RPG	0
BLK	0
FG%	0
FT%	0
MIN/G	0



#0 Amy Kurkowski
6-2 • Jr. • F

Games	0
PPG	0
RPG	0
BLK	0
FG%	0
FT%	0
MIN/G	0



#22 Joceline Geara
5-8 • Jr. • F

Games	0
PPG	0
RPG	0
BLK	0
FG%	0
FT%	0
MIN/G	0



#4 Brynn Lusby
6-0 • Jr. • F

Games	0
PPG	0
RPG	0
BLK	0
FG%	0
FT%	0
MIN/G	0



#1 Emma D'este
6-5 • Fr. • C

Games	0
PPG	0
RPG	0
BLK	0
FG%	0
FT%	0
MIN/G	0

2026-27 North Alabama Women's Basketball Pronunciation Guide

No	*Name*	*Pos*	*Ht*	*Cl*	*Hometown/Previous School*
0	Amy Kurkowski	F	6-2	Jr.	Melbourne, Australia / Emmanuel College/Saint Mary's
1	Emma D'este	C	6-5	Fr.	Venezia, Italy / Liceo Luigi Stefanini
2	Vera Gunaydin	G	5-9	Gr.	Ankara, Turkey / Tema Anatolian HS/Gonzaga
3	Venla Ulander	C	6-1	Jr.	Espoo, Finland / Makelanrinteen HS/HBA-Marsky
4	Brynn Lusby	F	6-0	Jr.	Frisco, Texas / Memorial & Panther Creek HS/Incarnate Word
5	Phoebe Holmes	G	5-8	Jr.	Mackay, Queensland / North Mackay State HS/Xavier
8	Greta Ramon	G	5-8	So.	Gallarate, Italy / Liceo Scientifico HS/Basket Foxes Giussano
11	Olivia Tredrea	G	5-11	Fr.	Adelaide, South Australia / Henley HS
13	Kyah Smith	G	5-10	Sr.	Richmond, Va. / Lloyd C. Bird HS/William & Mary
14	Ella Macleod	G	5-10	Jr.	Eynesbury, Australia / Seda College/Collin College
15	Mária Štefancova	G	5-11	Fr.	Ružomberok, Slovakia / Gymnázium Štefana Moyzesa Ružomberok
21	Zamyra Wallace	G	5-7	Jr.	Decatur, Ala. / Bob Jones HS/Wallace State CC
22	Joceline Geara	G	5-8	Jr.	Byblos, Lebanon / SIS Adma International School/Northwestern St.
23	Brooke Hallman	G	5-8	So.	Auburn, Ala. / Auburn HS
24	Marckalia Celestine	C	6-2	So.	Houston, Texas / Klein HS/Prairie View A&M

Head Coach: Anna Nimz (1st Season)
Associate Head Coach: Leasa Ailshie (AL-shy)
Assistant Coach: Michael Brown
Assistant Coach/DOBO: Greg Waters
Assistant Coach: P'hariz Watkins (like Paris)
Athletic Trainer: David Greenhill
Sports Information Director: Chase Glover

Pronunciation Guide

0	Amy Kurkowski	Amy Kuhr-KOW-skee
1	Emma D'este	Emma Des-STAY
2	Vera Gunaydin	Ver-UH Goo-ny-din
3	Venla Ulander	Ven-luh OO-lan-DER
4	Brynn Lusby	Brynn Lus-bee
5	Phoebe Holmes	Phee-bee Holmes
8	Greta Ramon	Gre-tuh Rah-moan
11	Olivia Tredrea	Olivia Tred-dre
13	Kyah Smith	Kyah Smith
14	Ella Macleod	Ella Mah-cloud
15	Mária Štefancova	Muh-ree-uh Sh-teff-fan-cho-VUH
21	Zamyra Wallace	Zuh-my-ruh Wallace
22	Joceline Geara	Joss-lynn GEAR-uh
23	Brooke Hallman	Brooke Hall-man
24	Marckalia Celestine	MAR-kay-LUH Sell-es-teen

2026-27 University of North Alabama Quick Facts

QUICK FACTS

Location	Florence, Alabama 35632-0001
Founded	1830
Enrollment	11,200
President	Dr. Kenneth Kitts
Athletic Director	Dr. Josh Looney
Nickname	Lions
Colors	Purple, White & Gold
Facility	CB&S Bank Arena at Flowers Hall
Capacity	3,000
Conference	United Athletic
National Affiliation	NCAA Division I
Head Coach	Anna Nimz
Alma Mater	Pittsburg State (2008)
Record at UNA	0-0 (1st Year)
Office Phone	(256) 765-5034
Athletic Department Phone	(256) 765-4397
2025-26 Record	17-14
Atlantic Sun Conference Record/Finish	11-7 (6th)
Athletic Communications Coordinator (WBB Contact)	Chase Glover
Email	rglover@una.edu
Office Phone	(256) 765-4562
Assistant Athletic Director for Communications	Mike Ezekiel
Office Phone	(256) 765-5034
SID email	dezekiel@una.edu
UNA Web Site	www.roarlions.com

HISTORY

First Year of Basketball	1969
All-Time Record	730-634 (Since 1976)
NCAA Tournament Appearances	7 ('84, '85, '91, '94, '11, '13, '18)
NCAA Division II Final Fours	1 ('94)
Conference Titles	1 ('85)
Division Titles	3 ('94, '00, '11)

TEAM INFORMATION

2025-26 Record	17-14
Conference Record & Finish	11-7 (6th ASUN)
Lettermen Returning	3
Lettermen Lost	10
Starters Returning	0
Starters Lost	5
Newcomers	12

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA IS A MEMBER OF THE UNITED ATHLETIC CONFERENCE AND NCAA DIVISION I

2025-26 RESULTS

17-14
(H:10-4, A: 6-9)
Coach Candi Whitaker

UT Martin	57-54
Fisk	75-42
Jacksonville State	66-54
at No. 6 Oklahoma	61-89
at Tennessee State	76-82
West Alabama	73-44
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	48-50
at Samford	(OT) 68-66
at South Alabama	58-70
at Alabama A&M	57-72
at Missouri	57-84
at FGCU	44-51
at Stetson	59-76
EKU	78-80
Bellarmine	67-52
at North Florida	56-54
at Jacksonville	83-79
Queens	63-60
Stetson	62-66
FGCU	60-55
Austin Peay	55-50
at Queens	71-55
at Central Arkansas	48-59
at West Georgia	65-60
at EKU	56-73
at Bellarmine	87-54
Lipscomb	68-63
Central Arkansas	55-62
West Georgia	(4OT) 118-107

ASUN Tournament
Jacksonville, Fla. (First Round)

vs No. 11 Queens	57-55

Jacksonville, Fla. (Quarterfinals)

vs No. 3 Central Arkansas	56-67

INSIDE THE NUMBERS: (Last Season)

64.6	POINTS Per game	74.8
64.0	POINTS ALLOWED Per game	67.1
40.4	FG%	43.8
67.0	FT%	72.4
39.4	REBOUNDS Per game	41.8
14.3	ASSISTS Per game	14.1
6.8	STEALS Per game	8.2
3.5	BLOCKS Per game	4.7
15.9	TURNOVERS Per game	15.5

GAME COVERAGE:

VIDEO
SEC Network+

RADIO HOME
Roar Lions Productions

SOCIAL MEDIA
Twitter:
@unawbb
@UNAAthletics

Instagram:
@unahoops
@UNA_Athletics

2026-27 UAC Conference Standings

Team	UAC	Overall	Streak
Austin Peay	0-0	0-0	0
Central Arkansas	0-0	0-0	0
Abilene Christian	0-0	0-0	0
Eastern Kentucky	0-0	0-0	0
Little Rock	0-0	0-0	0
West Georgia	0-0	0-0	0
Tarleton State	0-0	0-0	0
UT Arlington	0-0	0-0	0
North Alabama	0-0	0-0	0

Upcoming ASUN Schedule

Monday, November 2

Eastern Kentucky at UT Martin	TBA
Austin Peay at Campbell	TBA
Central Arkansas vs. Hendrix College	5 PM
West Georgia at Georgia	5 PM
Abilene Christian vs. Howard Payne	6 PM
Little Rock vs. Central Baptist College	7 PM

Tuesday, November 3

UT Arlington vs. Sacramento State	6:30 PM
North Alabama at Mississippi State	6:30 PM

Wednesday, November 4

Tarleton State vs. Ark-Pine Bluff	11 AM

All times listed are Central / Standings Updated: Nov. 2, 2026

TEAM RANKINGS:

254	NET	42
272	Massey	37
9th	Conference	9th

MEET THE OPPONENT:

THE MISSISSIPPI STATE FILE

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location.....Starkville, Miss.
Enrollment.....23,150
Founded.....Feb. 28, 1878
Nickname.....Bulldogs
School Colors..... Maroon (PANTONE 4102c) and White
Conference.....Southeastern
President ..... Dr. Mark Keenum
Director of Athletics..... Zac Selmon

HISTORY

Season of Basketball (First Season)..... 53rd (1974-75)
All-Time Record..... 860-692 (53rd Season)
All-Time Conference Record..... 245-340 (44th Season)
SEC Regular-Season Titles (Last)..... 2 (2019)
SEC Tournament Titles (Last).....1 (2019)
SEC Tournament Record..... 27-46
NCAA Tournament Appearances (Last).....14 (2026)
NCAA Tournament Record..... 25-13
NCAA Final Four Appearances (Last)..... 2 (2018)

HUMPHREY COLISEUM

Year Opened (Seasons) .....1975 (52nd Season)
All-Time Record (Win %) 506-229 (68.8%)
Record under Purcell.....55-24 (69.6%)

SERIES HISTORY

North Alabama and Mississippi State have played three times dating back to 1978 under Gary Elliot. The pair of programs played twice in the 1978-79 season, the inaugural game being in Florence.

North Alabama remains winless through three games against the now SEC power in Mississippi State. Outside of the 1978-79 season, the pair met one other time in 2022. UNA was held to the lowest point total in single game (40) during the Division I era.

LAST MEETING - 11/11/2022

A slow start doomed the University of North Alabama women's basketball team in a 77-40 loss at Mississippi State in 2022. The Lions did not score for the first 6:12 of playing time as MSU opened the game on a 24-2 run and never looked back. The loss evens UNA's record at 1-1 on the season.

Turnovers and missed shots plagued the Lions throughout the game, especially in the first quarter. UNA missed its first nine shots from the floor and had eight turnovers as Mississippi State built an 18-0 lead. Two free throws by Alyssa Clutter at the 3:48 mark gave UNA its first points.

The lead reached 22 points before Skyler Gill connected in the paint for the Lions' first field goal with 1:45 remaining in the opening quarter. Mississippi State took a 27-9 lead into the second period.

The home team outscored UNA 19-8 in the second quarter to take a 46-17 lead into the half.

The Lions outscored Mississippi State 17-15 in the third quarter. A three-point basket by Hina Suzuki started the period. Another trey by Emma Kate Tittle later cut the deficit to 54-34 but UNA would get no closer. The Bulldogs closed the quarter with seven straight points, then outscored North Alabama 16-6 in the final frame.

Mississippi State University Bulldogs

#5D1725	#C1C6C8
Primary	Secondary

University of North Alabama Lions

#592B8A	#FFFFFF
Primary	Secondary

UNA Player Career-Highs

0 - Amy Kurkowski
PTS - 9 at Seattle U, 01/24/26
AST - 3, completed four times
REB - 6 at Portland, 01/30/25 (2x)
STL - 3 vs LMU (CA), 02/05/26
BLK - 2 vs Portland, 02/13/25

1 - Emma D'este (FR.)
PTS - N/A
AST - N/A
REB - N/A
STL - N/A
BLK - N/A

2 - Vera Gunaydin
PTS - 3 vs Wyoming, 11/17/24
AST - 1 at New Mexico, 11/24/24 (3x)
REB - 2 vs Rice, 11/21/24 (3x)
STL - 1 vs Florida St., 11/30/24 (2x)
BLK - 1 vs San Diego, 01/30/25

3 - Venla Ulander
PTS - 21 at Samford, 12/07/25
AST - 3 at Alabama A&M, 12/17/25
REB - 10 at Samford, 12/07/25
STL - 2 vs Fisk, 11/06/25
BLK - 1 vs Bellarmine, 01/10/26

4 - Brynn Lusby
PTS - 27 at LSU New Orleans, 12/18/25
AST - 3 vs Our Lady of the Lake, 12/29/24 (3x)
REB - 12 vs Our Lady of the Lake, 12/29/24
STL - 2, completed seven times
BLK - 2 at Southeastern La., 01/25/25 (2x)

5 - Phoebe Holmes
PTS - 3 vs New Haven, 11/04/25
AST - 1 at Marquette, 02/27/25
REB - 1 vs Villanova, 02/11/26 (2x)
STL - 1 at Marquette, 02/27/25
BLK - N/A

8 - Greta Ramon
PTS - 12 at Missouri, 12/21/25
AST - 4 at Stetson, 01/03/26 (3x)
REB - 5 at Stetson, 01/03/26
STL - 2 vs FGCU, 01/31/26
BLK - 1, completed six times

11 - Olivia Tredrea (FR.)
PTS - N/A
AST - N/A
REB - N/A
STL - N/A
BLK - N/A

13 - Kyah Smith
PTS - 26 vs Radford, 11/17/24
AST - 8 at Colgate, 03/11/24
REB - 7 at Hofstra, 01/26/26
STL - 3, completed four times
BLK - 1, completed eight times

14 - Ella Macleod (JUCO)
PTS - N/A
AST - N/A
REB - N/A
STL - N/A
BLK - N/A

15 - Mária Štefancova (FR.)
PTS - N/A
AST - N/A
REB - N/A
STL - N/A
BLK - N/A

21 - Zamyra Wallace (JUCO)
PTS - N/A
AST - N/A
REB - N/A
STL - N/A
BLK - N/A

22 - Joceline Geara
PTS - 10 vs Ark. Baptist, 11/21/25
AST - 6 10 vs Ark. Baptist, 11/21/25
REB - 3 at East Texas A&M, 02/07/26 (3x)
STL - 3 vs Ark. Baptist, 11/12/25
BLK - 1 vs Ecclesia, 11/14/25 (2x)

23 - Brooke Hallman
PTS - 6 vs Fisk, 11/06/25
AST - 2 at Bellarmine, 02/18/26
REB - 1 at Eastern Ky., 02/14/26 (3x)
STL - 1 at Eastern Ky., 02/14/26 (2x)
BLK - N/A

24 - Marckalia Celestine
PTS - 9 vs. Grambling, 02/12/26
AST - 1 vs. Huston-Tillotson, 11/25/25
REB - 11 vs. Huston-Tillotson, 11/25/25
STL - 3 at Lamar,12/17/25
BLK - 3, completed four times

NOTE: The career-highs listed are while playing at an NCAA institution. JUCO and NAIA stats are not included here.

Highlight indicates career mark was set last game.

RED and Highlighted indicates career mark was set in a past matchup against today's opponent.

UNA Player Milestone Marker

NOTE: These are current career totals for each player

0 - Amy Kurkowski
PTS - 129
AST - 39
REB - 90
STL - 24
BLK - 14

1 - Emma D'este (FR.)
PTS - N/A
AST - N/A
REB - N/A
STL - N/A
BLK - N/A

2 - Vera Gunaydin
PTS - 3
AST - 3
REB - 8
STL - 2
BLK - 1

3 - Venla Ulander
PTS - 83
AST - 19
REB - 49
STL - 5
BLK - 1

4 - Brynn Lusby
PTS - 608
AST - 39
REB - 254
STL - 40
BLK - 17

5 - Phoebe Holmes
PTS - 3
AST - 3
REB - 2
STL - 1
BLK - N/A

8 - Greta Ramon
PTS - 64
AST - 34
REB - 29
STL - 14
BLK - 6

11 - Olivia Tredrea (FR.)
PTS - N/A
AST - N/A
REB - N/A
STL - N/A
BLK - N/A

13 - Kyah Smith
PTS - 737
AST - 185
REB - 201
STL - 55
BLK - 8

14 - Ella Macleod (JUCO)
PTS - 524
AST - 99
REB - 148
STL - 47
BLK - 10

15 - Mária Štefancova (FR.)
PTS - N/A
AST - N/A
REB - N/A
STL - N/A
BLK - N/A

21 - Zamyra Wallace (JUCO)
PTS - 315
AST - 87
REB - 199
STL - 59
BLK - 5

22 - Joceline Geara
PTS - 44
AST - 21
REB - 27
STL - 6
BLK - 2

23 - Brooke Hallman
PTS - 21
AST - 3
REB - 3
STL - 2
BLK - N/A

24 - Marckalia Celestine
PTS - 72
AST - 1
REB - 110
STL - 9
BLK - 23

NOTE: The career totals listed are while playing at an NCAA institution. JUCO and NAIA stats are according to available records found on respective websites and record books.

North Alabama By the Numbers

UNA BASKETBALL RECORDS...

OVERALL RECORD:	0-0
UAC RECORD	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	0-0
AT CB&S BANK ARENA	0-0
ROAD GAMES	0-0
NEUTRAL	0-0
ON SUNDAY	0-0
ON MONDAY	0-0
ON TUESDAY	0-0
ON WEDNESDAY	0-0
ON THURSDAY	0-0
ON FRIDAY	0-0
ON SATURDAY	0-0

ACTIVE WINNING STREAKS

OVERALL	0
UAC GAMES	0
AT CB&S BANK ARENA	0
ROAD GAMES	0
NEUTRAL	0
OVERTIME	0

LIONS RECORD BY MONTH

NOVEMBER	0-0
DECEMBER	0-0
JANUARY	0-0
FEBRUARY	0-0
MARCH	0-0

WINNING AT THE HALF	0-0
TRAILING AT THE HALF	0-0
TIED AT THE HALF	0-0

UNA'S RECORD THIS YEAR WHEN...

SCORING:

100 OR MORE POINTS	0-0
90-99 POINTS	0-0
80-89 POINTS	0-0
70-79 POINTS	0-0
LESS THAN 70 POINTS	0-0

GIVING UP...

100 OR MORE POINTS	0-0
90-99 POINTS	0-0
80-89 POINTS	0-0
70-79 POINTS	0-0
60-69 POINTS	0-0
LESS THAN 60 POINTS	0-0

SHOOTING FROM THE FLOOR...

50% OR BETTER	0-0
40% - 49%	0-0
30% - 39%	0-0
29% OR LOWER	0-0

SHOOTING FROM 3-PT RANGE...

50% OR BETTER	0-0
40% - 49%	0-0
30% - 39%	0-0
29% OR LOWER	0-0

THE NUMBER OF TIMES A UNA PLAYER HAS...

SCORED 20+ POINTS	0
SCORED 10+ POINTS	0
HAD 10+ REBOUNDS	0
HAD MORE THAN ONE ASSIST	0
HAD 5+ ASSISTS	0
HAD MORE THAN ONE STEAL	0
HAD MORE THAN ONE BLOCK	0
HAD A DOUBLE-DOUBLE	0

Game-By-Game Starting Lineup

DATE	OPPONENT	1	2	3	4	5
Nov 3	Mississippi State					
Nov 5	Ole Miss					
Nov 9	Jacksonville State					
Nov 13	Fisk					
Nov 18	Vanderbilt					
Nov 23	Jackson State					
Nov 27	UT Southern					
Dec 1	Evansville					
Dec 5	UT Martin					
Dec 10	Tennessee State					
Dec 19	Queens					
Dec 21	West Florida					
Dec 31	Bellarmine					
Jan 2	Lipscomb					
Jan 6	Little Rock					
Jan 9	Austin Peay					
Jan 13	Eastern Kentucky					
Jan 16	Tarleton State					
Jan 20	Central Arkansas					
Jan 23	Abilene Christian					
Jan 27	Tarleton State					
Jan 30	UT Arlington					
Feb 6	Abilene Christian					
Feb 10	West Georgia					
Feb 13	Austin Peay					
Feb 17	Central Arkansas					
Feb 20	Little Rock					
Feb 24	Eastern Kentucky					
Feb 27	UT Arlington					
Mar 6	West Georgia					

* - x1, x2, etc. indicates the number of times a specific lineup has been used

Lineup Notes

25-26 Regular Season Team Stats

Game Records

Record	Overall	Home	Away	Neutral
ALL GAMES	17-14	10-4	6-9	1-1
CONFERENCE	11-7	6-3	5-4	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	6-7	4-1	1-5	1-1

Score by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	TOT
North Ala.	504	445	508	496	51	2004
Opponents	469	468	477	533	38	1985

Team Box Score

No.	Player				Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds											
		GP-GS	MIN	AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	DQ	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2	ALVARADO, Alexsandra	31-28	947:01	30.5	144-371	.388	57-188	.303	81-106	.764	21	95	116	3.7	96	2	104	87	9	41	426	13.7
10	CEPPELLOTTI, Sofia	27-26	913:01	33.8	114-263	.433	37-122	.303	46-60	.767	21	112	133	4.9	52	1	38	56	14	17	311	11.5
40	MCNAMARA, Cameron	7-7	132:28	18.9	27-53	.509	0-1	.000	17-20	.850	11	21	32	4.6	17	0	9	12	1	4	71	10.1
13	CRISWELL, Katie	31-29	973:25	31.4	110-318	.346	34-109	.312	7-16	.438	15	73	88	2.8	63	0	52	40	18	23	261	8.4
22	HOWARD, India	31-7	590:59	19.1	111-185	.600	1-1	1.000	28-42	.667	61	103	164	5.3	63	0	34	45	33	20	251	8.1
21	JACKSON, Gabby	31-19	839:37	27.1	90-239	.377	21-77	.273	38-62	.613	34	177	211	6.8	56	1	45	58	5	28	239	7.7
0	AKINSOLA, Bukky	13-9	292:55	22.5	33-114	.289	5-26	.192	11-18	.611	11	30	41	3.2	16	0	40	29	2	19	82	6.3
23	CLUTTER, Alyssa	11-2	221:53	20.2	16-52	.308	3-8	.375	18-31	.581	15	21	36	3.3	11	0	16	16	1	6	53	4.8
24	KLINGE, Jazzy	31-23	650:16	21.0	57-104	.548	0-4	.000	28-49	.571	75	100	175	5.6	71	2	49	47	17	32	142	4.6
3	ULANDER, Venla	29-2	299:49	10.3	30-77	.390	11-38	.289	12-18	.667	24	25	49	1.7	29	0	19	22	1	5	83	2.9
5	HALLMAN, Brooke	10-0	51:27	5.1	9-19	.474	3-10	.300	0-0	.000	0	3	3	0.3	3	0	3	6	0	2	21	2.1
8	RAMON, Greta	31-3	412:10	13.3	24-98	.245	7-48	.146	9-18	.500	7	22	29	0.9	45	0	34	56	6	14	64	2.1
Team											63	82	145					20				
Total		**31**	**6325**		**765-1893**	**.404**	**179-632**	**.283**	**295-440**	**.670**	**358**	**864**	**1222**	**39.4**	**522**	**6**	**443**	**494**	**107**	**211**	**2004**	**64.6**
Opponents		**31**	**6325**		**709-1860**	**.381**	**183-649**	**.282**	**384-549**	**.699**	**339**	**820**	**1159**	**37.4**	**493**	**6**	**308**	**465**	**86**	**247**	**1985**	**64.0**

Team Statistics

	UNA	OPP
Scoring	**2004**	**1985**
Points per game	64.6	64.0
Scoring margin	+0.6	-
Field goals-att	**765-1893**	**709-1860**
Field goal pct	.404	.381
3 point fg-att	**179-632**	**183-649**
3-point FG pct	.283	.282
3-pt FG made per game	5.8	5.9
Free throws-att	**295-440**	**384-549**
Free throw pct	.670	.699
F-Throws made per game	9.5	12.4
Rebounds	**1222**	**1159**
Rebounds per game	39.4	37.4
Rebounding margin	+2.0	-
Assists	**443**	**308**
Assists per game	14.3	9.9
Turnovers	**494**	**465**
Turnovers per game	15.9	15.0
Turnover margin	-0.9	-
Assist/turnover ratio	0.9	0.7
Steals	**211**	**247**
Steals per game	6.8	8.0
Blocks	**107**	**86**
Blocks per game	3.5	2.8
Winning streak	**0**	**-**
Home win streak	1	-
Attendance	**19796**	**17852**
Home games-Avg/Game	14-1414	15-1190
Neutral site-Avg/Game	-	2-1040

Team Results

Date	Opponent		Score	Att.
11/03/2025	UT Martin	W	57-54	1349
11/06/2025	Fisk	W	75-42	3000
11/10/2025	Jacksonville St.	W	66-54	1170
11/14/2025	at Oklahoma	L	61-89	8405
11/19/2025	at Tennessee St.	L	76-82	104
11/22/2025	West Ala.	W	73-44	1213
12/01/2025	Ark.-Pine Bluff	L	48-50	1154
12/07/2025	at Samford	Wot	68-66	373
12/14/2025	at South Alabama	L	58-70	1804
12/17/2025	at Alabama A&M	L	57-72	418
12/21/2025	at Missouri	L	57-84	2856
01/01/2026	at FGCU	L	44-51	1218
01/03/2026	at Stetson	L	59-76	217
01/08/2026	Eastern Ky.	L	78-80	1178
01/10/2026	Bellarmine	W	67-52	1187
01/15/2026	at North Florida	W	56-54	701
01/17/2026	at Jacksonville	W	83-79	204
01/22/2026	Queens (NC)	W	63-60	1216
01/29/2026	Stetson	L	62-66	1158
01/31/2026	FGCU	W	60-55	1293
02/04/2026	Austin Peay	W	55-50	1246
02/07/2026	at Queens (NC)	W	71-55	228
02/09/2026	at Central Ark.	L	48-59	0
02/11/2026	at West Ga.	W	65-60	604
02/14/2026	at Eastern Ky.	L	56-73	402
02/18/2026	at Bellarmine	W	87-54	318
02/21/2026	Lipscomb	W	68-63	1401
02/25/2026	Central Ark.	L	55-62	1670
02/27/2026	West Ga.	Wot4	118-107	1561
03/03/2026	vs Queens (NC)	W	57-55	253
03/05/2026	vs Central Ark.	L	56-67	1827

25-26 Conference Only Team Stats

Game Records

Record	Overall	Home	Away	Neutral
ALL GAMES	11-7	6-3	5-4	0-0
CONFERENCE	11-7	6-3	5-4	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0

Score by Periods

Team	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	TOT
North Ala.	307	259	299	293	37	1195
Opponents	283	279	270	298	26	1156

Team Box Score

No.	Player				Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds											
		GP-GS	MIN	AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF	DQ	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2	ALVARADO, Alexsandra	18-18	597:47	33.2	90-228	.395	31-109	.284	72-92	.783	12	62	74	4.1	57	1	71	59	7	25	283	15.7
10	CEPPELLOTTI, Sofia	18-18	635:15	35.3	78-193	.404	22-86	.256	29-36	.806	14	70	84	4.7	39	1	24	41	9	12	207	11.5
13	CRISWELL, Katie	18-17	634:08	35.2	76-196	.388	25-62	.403	7-13	.538	8	50	58	3.2	45	0	35	28	9	11	184	10.2
21	JACKSON, Gabby	18-15	577:16	32.1	66-164	.402	16-49	.327	30-47	.638	20	107	127	7.1	39	1	39	36	3	20	178	9.9
22	HOWARD, India	18-4	367:23	20.4	71-113	.628	1-1	1.000	18-25	.720	34	67	101	5.6	43	0	25	24	23	13	161	8.9
24	KLINGE, Jazzy	18-17	454:10	25.2	41-68	.603	0-1	.000	26-45	.578	52	67	119	6.6	43	2	37	33	11	21	108	6.0
23	CLUTTER, Alyssa	1-1	18:04	18.1	2-5	.400	0-0	.000	1-2	.500	1	3	4	4.0	1	0	1	2	0	2	5	5.0
0	AKINSOLA, Bukky	3-0	34:25	11.5	3-14	.214	1-6	.167	1-2	.500	2	1	3	1.0	1	0	5	6	1	3	8	2.7
5	HALLMAN, Brooke	8-0	37:25	4.7	6-13	.462	3-8	.375	0-0	.000	0	2	2	0.3	1	0	3	3	0	1	15	1.9
3	ULANDER, Venla	17-0	126:59	7.5	9-36	.250	3-20	.150	5-8	.625	5	10	15	0.9	9	0	7	9	1	2	26	1.5
8	RAMON, Greta	18-0	217:08	12.1	8-40	.200	1-17	.059	3-8	.375	5	11	16	0.9	23	0	22	26	2	7	20	1.1
Team											37	51	88					12				
Total		**18**	**3700**		**450-1070**	**.421**	**103-359**	**.287**	**192-278**	**.691**	**190**	**501**	**691**	**38.4**	**301**	**5**	**269**	**279**	**66**	**117**	**1195**	**66.4**
Opponents		**18**	**3700**		**418-1075**	**.389**	**107-377**	**.284**	**213-309**	**.689**	**187**	**457**	**644**	**35.8**	**304**	**4**	**186**	**261**	**42**	**145**	**1156**	**64.2**

Team Statistics

	UNA	OPP
Scoring	**1195**	**1156**
Points per game	66.4	64.2
Scoring margin	+2.2	-
Field goals-att	**450-1070**	**418-1075**
Field goal pct	.421	.389
3 point fg-att	**103-359**	**107-377**
3-point FG pct	.287	.284
3-pt FG made per game	5.7	5.9
Free throws-att	**192-278**	**213-309**
Free throw pct	.691	.689
F-Throws made per game	10.7	11.8
Rebounds	**691**	**644**
Rebounds per game	38.4	35.8
Rebounding margin	+2.6	-
Assists	**269**	**186**
Assists per game	14.9	10.3
Turnovers	**279**	**261**
Turnovers per game	15.5	14.5
Turnover margin	-1.0	-
Assist/turnover ratio	1.0	0.7
Steals	**117**	**145**
Steals per game	6.5	8.1
Blocks	**66**	**42**
Blocks per game	3.7	2.3
Winning streak	**1**	**-**
Home win streak	1	-
Attendance	**11910**	**3892**
Home games-Avg/Game	9-1323	9-432
Neutral site-Avg/Game	-	0-0

Team Results

Date	Opponent		Score	Att.
01/01/2026	at FGCU	L	44-51	1218
01/03/2026	at Stetson	L	59-76	217
01/08/2026	Eastern Ky.	L	78-80	1178
01/10/2026	Bellarmine	W	67-52	1187
01/15/2026	at North Florida	W	56-54	701
01/17/2026	at Jacksonville	W	83-79	204
01/22/2026	Queens (NC)	W	63-60	1216
01/29/2026	Stetson	L	62-66	1158
01/31/2026	FGCU	W	60-55	1293
02/04/2026	Austin Peay	W	55-50	1246
02/07/2026	at Queens (NC)	W	71-55	228
02/09/2026	at Central Ark.	L	48-59	0
02/11/2026	at West Ga.	W	65-60	604
02/14/2026	at Eastern Ky.	L	56-73	402
02/18/2026	at Bellarmine	W	87-54	318
02/21/2026	Lipscomb	W	68-63	1401
02/25/2026	Central Ark.	L	55-62	1670
02/27/2026	West Ga.	Wot4	118-107	1561

QUICK HITS:

THE CAPTAINS
With a slew of transfers and a new identity for this North Alabama team, head coach Anna Nimz named forwards Amy Kurkowski, Joceline Geara and guard Ella Macleod as team captains ahead of the 2026-27 season. Geara is the lone transfer familiar with Nimz as she followed her from Northwestern State.

AROUND THE WORLD
The newly constructed roster has 12 transfers with three returners in junior Venla Ulander alongside sophomores Greta Ramon and Brooke Hallman. Ten of the 15 players have international backgrounds from six different countries: Australia, Italy, Turkey, Finland, Slovakia and Lebanon. The staff brought in players such as Amy Kurkowski from Saint Mary's, Vera Gunaydin from Gonzaga, Phoebe Holmes from Xavier and Joceline Geara from Northwestern State, among others.

SEC! SEC! SEC!
North Alabama begins its season in Mississippi with SEC powers, Mississippi State and Ole Miss. Later in the month of November, the team battles Vanderbilt in Tennessee to conclude the three SEC games on the schedule. This is the first time in school history that the women's program has played three SEC schools in the same season. The Lions played two SEC schools last season and in 2023-24.

ATLANTIC SUN CROSSOVER
Getting rid of the greatest rivalries? Not so quick. Through the consortium, UAC and ASUN teams alike can easily fill out their respective schedules with teams from the partner conferences. This season, the program gets first-year Division I opponent West Florida, Queens, Bellarmine and Lipscomb for the ASUN crossover event.

THE ANNA NIMZ FLAIR
Head coach Anna Nimz welcomes community and embraces everyone -- literally. Nimz is known as a hugger to all first-time guests that meet her. In a TimesDaily article when describing the 'flair' she brings, she was quoted as saying "It's a passion, grit and toughness. I'm going to be up and down the sidelines. If you take a charge, I'm going to chest bump you. If you're not doing it right, I'm going to be as low as my body allows me to get, I'm going to be in a stance with you, and I'm going to teach you and critique you in the moment. And then when you get it, it's a hug, it's a high-five; there's this validation. But that flair, I can't really explain it, I live it."

COACH'S MOTTO
In her opening press conference in March, Nimz stated her motto to the community, "Love the girls before they win a game." A simple motto that drives her foundation of community and togetherness.

In Memoriam - Leo and Una

For decades, The University of North Alabama boasted the only live Lion mascot in the country living on a college campus.

Leo III, born on November 18, 2002 resided on the UNA campus in the 12,764 square-foot George H. Carroll Lion Habitat to carry on a tradition that has covered more than 40 years until his passing on May 3, 2024. His sister Una, passed away in 2021 after also serving as a mascot at UNA since 2002.

On July 22, 1974, former UNA president Dr. Robert M. Guillot brought a 35-pound lion cub to the campus and Leo spent the next 14 years "roaring" the school to victory. The original Leo died on Jan. 20, 1988, and a great outpouring of support from the Shoals community resulted in Leo II being brought to UNA in July of 1988. Leo II lived in the compound that once housed the original Leo and grew to a weight of more than 600 pounds at eleven years of age. In 1997, Leo II was selected as the nation's "Second Best Mascot" by Sports Illustrated. He died in February of 2000.

In 2012 Leo III and UNA were ranked No. 1 of the 25 Best Real Animal Mascots in College Football by totalprosports.com. UNA was the only non-Division I institution to make the list, joining the company of competitive NCAA teams such as the Baylor Bears, LSU Tigers and Texas Longhorns.

All funds associated with the care and feeding of Leo III, the operation of his habitat, and the conduct of a related educational program were funded exclusively by charitable contributions.

More information is available at leoanduna.com.

Pronounced: Lee-o and You-nah



UNITED ATHLETIC CONFERENCE AROUND THE ARC:

FORGE AHEAD
The newly rebranded United Athletic Conference (UAC), formerly the Western Athletic Conference, enters a new era in the 2026-27 season. Abilene Christian, Tarleton State and UT Arlington welcome Austin Peay, Central Arkansas, EKU, North Alabama and West Georgia from the Atlantic Sun Conference (ASUN) and Little Rock from the Ohio Valley Conference (OVC).

COACHES POLL
Abilene Christian was tabbed the favorite in the UAC Preseason Coaches Poll with eight first-place votes. EKU was voted second in the poll with Central Arkansas selected third, followed by Austin Peay and UT Arlington who rounded out the top five. North Alabama was picked last in the inaugural polls.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Abilene Christian's Payton Hull was chosen as the UAC Preseason Player of the Year. Hull was selected as the 2025-26 WAC Player of the Year and landed on the All-WAC First Team, All-WAC Defensive Team and WAC All-Tournament Team. Hull led the conference in scoring last year with 18.3 points per game and tallied 14 20-point games, the most across the league.

HER HOOPS STATS
Her Hoops Stats announced on Wednesday that Abilene Christian's Payton Hull and Meredith Mayes were named to the 2027 Becky Hammond Mid-Major Player of the Year Award Preseason Watch List. These Wildcats join a list of 25 student-athletes from across the nation representing the best players at the mid-major level.

SEASON STARTER
Abilene Christian, Austin Peay, Central Arkansas, EKU, Little Rock and West Georgia will open up their seasons on Monday, Nov. 2nd as North Alabama and UT Arlington will kick off the year on Tuesday, Nov. 3rd, followed by Tarleton State's season-opener on Wednesday, Nov. 4th.

TOP PLAYERS TO WATCH IN THE UAC
Abilene Christian led the way with three players on the Preseason All-UAC Team represented by Payton Hull, Meredith Mayes and Erin Woodson. Central Arkansas and EKU each received two spots with Tiani Ellison and Cheyanne Kemp representing the Bears while Liz Freihofer and Kirsten Lewis-Williams represented the Colonels. Austin Peay's Jim'Miyah Branton, Little Rock's Mya Cotto, North Alabama's Brynn Lusby and West Georgia's Sydne Tolbert were also selected to the Preseason All-UAC Team.

THE UAC TOURNAMENT HEADS TO ALLEN, TEXAS
Beginning with the 2026-27 championship season, Credit Union of Texas Event Center in Allen, Texas will serve as the host site to the UAC Basketball Tournaments for the next three years. A 7,000+ seat facility in one of the most diverse areas in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, Credit Union of Texas Event Center hosts more than 100 events annually. The first UAC Basketball Tournaments will be held March 10-14, 2027.

United Athletic Conference Preseason Coaches Poll

Place	Team
1.	Abilene Christian
2.	EKU
3.	Central Arkansas
4.	Austin Peay
5.	UT Arlington
6.	Tarleton State
7.	Little Rock
8.	West Georgia
9.	**North Alabama**

Preseason All-UAC Team

Player	School	Position
Payton Hull	*Abilene Christian*	*Guard**
Meredith Mayes	Abilene Christian	Center
Erin Woodson	Abilene Christian	Guard
Jim'Miyah Branton	Austin Peay	Guard
Tiani Ellison	Central Arkansas	Forward
Cheyanne Kemp	Central Arkansas	Guard
Liz Freihofer	Eastern Kentucky	Guard
Kirsten Lewis-Williams	Eastern Kentucky	Guard
Mya Cotto	Little Rock	Guard
Brynn Lusby	**North Alabama**	**Forward**
Sydne Tolbert	West Georgia	Guard

Italicized - Named UAC Preseason Player of the Year (Hull)*



ABOVE: The Credit Union of Texas Event Center in Allen, Texas where the UAC Basketball Tournaments will be held.

HEAD COACH - ANNA NIMZ



Year-by-Year Coaching Results

Yrs	School	Record
26-27	**North Alabama**	0-0 (0-0 UAC)
25-26	**Northwestern St.**	18-14 (14-8 SLC)
24-25	**Northwestern St.**	16-16 (12-8 SLC)
23-24	**Northwestern St.**	11-19 (7-11 SLC)
22-23	**Northwestern St.**	11-18 (7-11 SLC)
21-22	**Northwestern St.**	12-14 (5-9 SLC)
20-21	**Northwestern St.**	1-19 (1-14 SLC)
17-18	**Kilgore College**	21-11 (13-8 Region XIV)
16-17	**Kilgore College**	21-11 (11-9 Region XIV)
15-16	**Kilgore College**	16-15 (9-11 Region XIV)
14-15	**Labette CC**	15-16
13-14	**Labette CC**	16-14
12-13	**Labette CC**	12-19
11-12	**Labette CC**	12-20
10-11	**Labette CC**	10-21



University of North Alabama Director of Athletics Dr. Josh Looney officially announced the hiring of Anna Nimz as the 10th head coach of the UNA women's basketball program on March 26, 2026.

Nimz comes to UNA after leading a remarkable six-year turnaround at Division I program Northwestern State. She took over the Demons in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic and rebuilt a one-win team into a Southland Conference contender.

This past season, her team finished 18-14 overall and 14-8 in league play and appeared in the conference quarterfinal round. This was also the first time Northwestern State had consecutive winning seasons in the last decade. Her 2024-25 team finished with 16 wins and took the school to its first WNIT since 1999.

Under her leadership, Northwestern State matched or increased its win total all six seasons. The 18 wins this past season were the program's most in 10 years, while the 14 conference wins were the most in 22 years.

Beyond the court, Nimz and her program won the Northwestern State University Community Outreach Award in both 2023-24 and 2024-25.

"The UNA community is going to love Anna," said Looney at the time of hire. "Her engaging personality and authentic connections with players and fans are hallmarks of her coaching style. She brings energy, optimism and resiliency every day and is exactly the program builder we were seeking to continue the momentum of UNA women's basketball."

Prior to Northwestern State, Nimz was the Associate Head Coach at UTRGV from 2018-20 and helped the program achieve the most Western Athletic Conference wins in school history with a 10-6 record. She also helped UTRGV clinch a berth in the WBI Tournament.

Entering her UNA tenure, Nimz has 192 wins as a head coach, leading the programs at Kilgore College and Labette Community College prior to Northwestern State.

She took over at Labette in 2010 and led the team to 65 wins over five seasons.

She then moved to Texas and led Kilgore College to a 58-36 record over three seasons. Prior to her arrival, Kilgore had just seven wins. She won 16 games her first season then led consecutive 21-win seasons in 2016-17 and 2017-18. This marked the first time Kilgore had consecutive 20+ win seasons in over 20 years. She was also Kilgore College's Employee of the Year in 2016-17.

As a student-athlete, Nimz was a standout at Division II powerhouse Pittsburg State from 2005-07. She was the team captain and averaged 10.9 points per game with 3.1 assists per game. She also played one year each at Washburn University and Dodge City Community College prior to Pittsburg State.

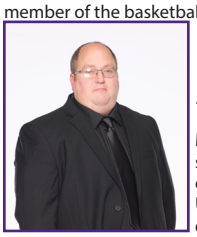
"I am incredibly excited to have the opportunity to be YOUR new head women's basketball coach at the University of North Alabama," said Nimz at the time of hire. "We are ready to continue the momentum the program has already seen and strive to elevate it to new heights. I look forward to meeting everyone, building relationships on campus and in the community, along with sharing the philosophy and standard of Lion basketball."

NORTH ALABAMA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL STAFF



Leasa Ailshie
Assistant Coach

Leasa Ailshie enters her first season on the North Alabama staff. 'Coach A' follows head coach Anna Nimz over from Northwestern State, where she spent six seasons on staff, with one as the associate head coach. This past season, Coach A team led NSU to an 18-14 overall and 14-8 in league play and appeared in the conference quarterfinal round. This was also the first time Northwestern State had consecutive winning seasons in the last decade. The Lady Demons enjoyed its first WNIT since 1999. Alongside Nimz, Coach A led Northwestern State to match or increase its win total all six seasons. She went to Natchitoches after success both as a head coach and athletic director at Jacksonville College in Jacksonville, Texas. She spent five seasons as the head coach for the Jaguars with the final two and a half years also serving as the school's athletic director. Ailshie brings a wealth of knowledge, offensive acumen and uncanny ability to recognize and maneuver through an opposing defense to create success in pivotal moments of the game. In her role as assistant coach for the Lady Demons, she worked closely with Nimz implementing all facets of the offense including individual workouts for players. She also served as the academic lead on the coaching staff working with the student-athletes to fortify their success within the classroom. Ailshie served as a department chair and on multiple academic judicial committees while at UTRGV, completing and submitting Academic Progress Rate (APR) and Graduation Success Rate (GSR) reports for the Vaqueros to the NCAA. She began her coaching career as a graduate assistant at her alma mater Sam Houston State where she played two seasons for the Bearkats after transferring from Connors State. In two seasons with the Bearkats, she started 39 games and averaged 5.8 points and 3.7 assists. Prior to her time in Huntsville, Ailshie saw success at Conners State in Oklahoma where she averaged 8.5 assists per game, led the team to its first winning mark in three seasons, and recorded 17 double-digit assist games including a school record 17. In June 2011 she joined Jacksonville College as an assistant coach, working her way to head coach in 2013 and athletic director in 2015. As the head coach, Ailshie led the Lady Jaguars to a school record 21-win season during the 2017-18 campaign, earning a finalist spot for the Women's Basketball Coaches Association Coach of the Year. She mentored four All-American players in her time, three in the NJCAA and another Parade All-American, saw 12 players earn Academic All-American honors, with her program enjoying a 100 percent graduation rate. Jacksonville also had 14 All-Region 14 performers and a Region 14 MVP under Ailshie's direction. Her comfortability in late-game, high-pressure situations and ability to put players in the best situation for their success, are what led to the Lady Jaguars' athletic success on the court -- all of which she brings to UNA. While serving as the women's basketball head coach, Ailshie was named Jacksonville College Athletic Director and served in both roles until May of 2018. In addition to leading a successful basketball program, Ailshie boosted the notoriety of the school by winning the bid to host the men's and women's Region 14 basketball tournament. She served as the tournament director for the competitions in both 2017 and 2018. The tournament has remained in Jacksonville even after Ailshie's departure. She was responsible for coordination and supervision of athletic events, fundraising for and promotion of the school, and budget, employee, and coach management. Ailshie earned a bachelor's and master's in health education from Sam Houston State as a member of the basketball team and then graduate assistant coach.



Michael Brown
Assistant Coach

Mike Brown enters his first season on the North Alabama staff. 'Brownie' follows head coach Anna Nimz over from Northwestern State, where he spent six seasons on staff, continuing his long working relationship with head coach Anna Nimz after the two coached and rebuilt the program together at Kilgore College. Brown brings over 20 years of coaching experience to UNA with three stints as a head coach beginning in 1997 at Iowa Central Community College before moving to Upper Iowa University in 2005 and William Penn in 2010. This past season, Brown helped the team finish18-14 overall and 14-8 in league play and appeared in the conference quarterfinal round. This was also the first time Northwestern State had consecutive winning seasons in the last decade. His coaching helped take the school to its first WNIT since 1999. Alongside Nimz, Brown coached Northwestern State to match or increase its win total all six seasons. In a recent stop at Missouri S&T, Brown served as lead recruiter and academic advisor on the coaching staff. During his three years with the program, he helped coach a pair of all-conference players along with a member of the conference's all-freshman team. The Miners also saw increase in academic success under Brown's direction, raising the team grade point average to 3.30 by his final year. Brown spent two seasons as an assistant coach at Kilgore Junior College in Kilgore, Texas before his time in Missouri. During his tenure at Kilgore, Brown helped guide the Lady Rangers to a 37-25 record and consecutive appearances in the Region XIV Tournament Championship game. Prior to his time at Kilgore, Brown spent five seasons coaching at William Penn College. He served as an assistant for two seasons before being promoted to head coach prior to the 2012-13 season. During his time as head coach he guided the Statesmen to a 42-47 mark. In his first season he led the team to a 19-10 record, 9-3 in the Midwest Collegiate Conference which was good for second place. It was the program's best ever finish in league play. He had eight players earn all-conference honors during his tenure and coached the MCC's Newcomer of the Year in 2013-14. Brown was the head coach at Upper Iowa from 2008-2010 where he coached the school's first-ever Division II all-conference and all-region players in addition to several academic all-region performers. Before his first jump to Division II, Brown was an assistant and eventual head coach at Iowa Central Community College. Taking over the head coaching position in the 99-00 season, Brown led the Tritons to a 115-78 record in six seasons. During his first season as head coach his squad won the Region XI Tournament title, played in the national tournament, and finished the season ranked eighth in the country. Brown was named the Region XI Coach of the Year that season. He has coached five All-Americans, dozens of all-conference performers and numerous academic all-region student-athletes. Brown also has coaching experience at the prep (head sophomore and assistant varsity coach at Des Moines Roosevelt HS from 1996-1997) and NCAA Division I level (student coach at Drake from 1992-1996).



Greg Waters
Assistant Coach/Basketball Operations

Greg Waters enters his first season on the North Alabama staff. Waters follows head coach Anna Nimz over from Northwestern State, where he spent two seasons on staff as the director of basketball operations and assistant coach for the women's basketball team. He joined NSU by way of the University of Tennessee, where he was a video analytics volunteer for the Lady Vols basketball team during the 2023-24 season. Among his duties, Waters developed film-based tracking categories, revealing connections between performance and outcomes. He expanded tracking categories throughout the season, introducing metrics not found in box scores. Prior to his tenure in Knoxville, he worked as a video coordinator intern with Jacob Begin Basketball. He performed game film analysis for clientele spanning high school, collegiate, and professional basketball levels, including first round NBA draft picks Gradey Dick and Payton Pritchard. Waters also worked as a camp coach at the Bill Self Basketball Camp in June 2024, where he conducted offensive skill development drills for campers. He earned his bachelor's in entertainment management from Missouri State in 2020.



P'hariz Watkins
Assistant Coach

University of North Alabama head coach Anna Nimz announced P'hariz Watkins to her coaching staff on May 6, 2026. Watkins brings five successful seasons of coaching experience to the Shoals, including his most recent stop as the Assistant Coach and Director of Player Development at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Okla. While there, he helped develop five all-conference players. On the international level, Watkins has worked with Team USA Basketball since 2022. He has served on staff at the youth, junior and U17 levels with Team USA with the highlight coming at the 2024 national team training camp in Las Vegas, Nev. Originally from Dayton, Ohio, Watkins played college basketball at Heidelberg University in Ohio and Adrian College in Michigan. He appeared in 86 total games with 1,401 minutes player, 573 points, 220 rebounds and 129 assists. Watkins began his coaching career in 2020 as a student assistant at Heidelburg, a perrenial contender at the NCAA Division III level. He also worked two HBCU All-Star Weekends in New Orleans and Houston, interning for the first one then serving as Assistant Director of Basketball Operations for the one in Texas. After a few seasons coaching and working in the AAU and TBT circuits, he landed a major role at the University of Tennessee as a graduate assistant for the 2023-24 season. He spent two seasons in Knoxville, including the FellowVol Post-Graduate Fellowship in 2022-23. Watkins also has a connection to Duke, as he worked as a Player Development and Camp Coach for the 2023 Jon Scheyer Duke Basketball Camp. Watkins graduated from Heidelberg in May 2021 with a double major in Communications and Sport Management while minoring in Media Technology. He went on to earn a Master's degree in Sport Management from Adrian in December 2022 before receiving his second Master's degree in Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication at Tennessee on May 2024.

0 Amy Kurkowski

6-2 | Junior | Forward
Melbourne, Australia | Emmanuel College | Saint Mary's

Pronunciation: Amy Kuhr-KOW-skee



Bio

SAINT MARY'S 2024-26: Played in 47 games and made 11 starts over two seasons as a Gael under Jeff Cammon … Averaged 14.4 minutes, 2.7 points and 1.9 rebounds per game … Shot 39.8 percent from the field, 24.3 percent from three and 78.6 percent from the free throw line … Recorded a career-high nine points in a victory against Seattle U (Jan. 24) ... Matched her career high in rebounds with six at San Francisco (Feb. 21) ... Also set a career-high in steals with three against LMU (Feb. 5).

HIGH SCHOOL/INTERNATIONAL: Prepped at Emmanuel College in Point Cook ... Two-time National Junior Championship gold medalist along with teammate Edie Clarke ... Three Victorian Championships, Member of the Australian National Team ... 3-point champion at Basketball Without Borders camp in 2021.

PERSONAL: Birthday is October 20 ... From Melbourne, Australia ... Daughter of Jodie and Richard Kurkowski ... Three siblings, Jessica, Emily and Nicholas ... Sister, Emily lettered at the University of Jamestown ... Major is Sports Management.

Career Stats

				Field Goals		3-Point		F-Throws		Rebounds									Scoring	
SEASON	TEAM	GP-GS	MIN/AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF-FO	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2024-25	SMC	16-4	241/15.1	16-43	.372	7-30	.233	5-8	.625	3	23	26	1.6	17-0	10	16	7	3	44	2.8
2025-26	SMC	31-7	437/14.1	29-70	.414	10-40	.250	17-20	.850	22	42	64	2.1	25-0	29	23	7	21	85	2.7
TOTAL FOR UNA		**0-0**	**0/0.0**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0-0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**
TOTAL		**47-11**	**678/14.4**	**45-113**	**.398**	**17-70**	**.243**	**22-28**	**.786**	**25**	**65**	**90**	**1.9**	**42-0**	**39**	**39**	**14**	**24**	**129**	**2.7**

Single Game Highs

Statistic	Value	
Points	9	at Seattle U 01/24/26
Rebounds	6	at Portland 01/30/25, vs San Francisco 02/21/26
Assists	3	4 times
Steals	3	vs LMU (CA) 02/05/26
Blocks	2	vs Portland 02/13/25
FG Made	4	vs Seattle U 02/16/26
FG Attempts	8	vs Seattle U 02/16/26
3FG Made	2	4 times
3FG Attempts	5	vs California Baptist 12/07/24, vs San Francisco 02/08/25
FT Made	4	at Seattle U 01/24/26
FT Attempts	4	vs Chico St. 11/07/25, at Seattle U 01/24/26

Quick Hits

KURKOWSKI THE CAPTAIN

With a slew of transfers and a new identity for this North Alabama team, head coach Anna Nimz named forwards Amy Kurkowski, Joceline Geara and guard Ella Macleod as team captains ahead of the 2026-27 season. Geara is the lone transfer familiar with Nimz as she followed her from Northwestern State.

AUSTRALIA MATE

Kurkowski is one of 10 rostered players that have an international background. She is one of four Australians on the team alongside Ella Macleod, Phoebe Holmes and Olivia Tredrea. Kurkowski played two seasons at St. Mary's prior to 2026.

1 Emma D'este

6-5 | Freshman | Center
Melbourne, Australia | Liceo Luigi Stefanini

Pronunciation: Em-uh Des-STAY



Bio

HIGH SCHOOL/INTERNATIONAL: Prepped at Liceo Luigi Stefanini in Venezia under Francesca Di Chiara ... Competed as a center during her career.

PERSONAL: Birthday is August 5 ... Originally from Venice ... Daughter of Martina Andreatta and Stefano D'este ... One siblings, Elena ... Major is Mass Communications.

Career Stats

Quick Hits

AMONGST THE TREES

Emma D'este is listed at six-foot-five and is every bit of it. The freshman from Italy is the tallest women's basketball player in the last decade. She matches the stature of North Alabama's Rachel Carter during the 2015-16 season when she played center standing at 6'5 as well.

ITALIAN LINEAGE

D'este is one of 10 rostered players that have an international background. She is one of two Italians on the roster, alongside the returning sophomore guard Greta Ramon. Six different countries are represented between the 10 players.

2 Vera Gunaydin

5-9 | Graduate | Guard

Ankara, Turkey | Tema Anatolian HS | Gonzaga

Pronunciation: Veh-Rah GOO-ny-DIN



Bio

GONZAGA 2025-26: Redshirted ... WCC Championship win over Oregon State 76-66 ... Lost to No. 5 Ole Miss in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

GONZAGA 2024-25: Appeared in 17 games … Contributed to Gonzaga earning a WCC Championship appearance and WBIT invite ... Scored a season-high three points against Wyoming (11/17/24) … Registered a season-high 14 minutes of play in that game … Grabbed a career-high two rebounds against Rice (11/21/24) … Recorded one block against San Diego (01/30/25) … Added one steal against Florida State (11/30/24).

SOUTH GEORGIA TECH COLLEGE 2022-24: Gunaydin started in 32 games for South Georgia Tech College and averaged over 13 points per game while shooting over 42% from the floor ... Helped lead the Lady Jets to the No. 1 seed across junior college rankings in the nation ... Lead the Lady Jets to a conference championship ... One of only three players to average in double-digits for the team ... Highest three-point shooting percentage for the Lady Jets at 33% ... Second-leading rebounder averaging 5.2 per game ... Named the Georgia Collegiate Athletic Association (GCAA) Women's Basketball Player of the Week following SGTC's wins over Snow College and St. Petersburg College.

HIGH SCHOOL/INTERNATIONAL: Prepped at Tema Anatolian High School under Hüseyin Dogan ... Team was coined the 'Gazelle's of the Rim' ... Competed in the BGL (Basketball Youth League) ... Helped lead the Gazelle's of the Rim to a 7A State Championship during the 2022-23 season ... Helped lead the Bears to a 6A State Championship during the 2024-25 season as a Team Captain ... Led the Bears to four straight district championships primarily as a center back ... Two-time regional champion ... National Honors Society and earned a 4.1 GPA with a high honor roll award.

PERSONAL: Birthday is May 10 ... Originally from Ankara, Turkey ... Daughter of Olga and Savas ... One sibling, Lara ... Known for baked goods and her cooking ... Major is MBA in Strategic Marketing & Sales Leadership.

Career Stats

				Field Goals		3-Point		F-Throws		Rebounds									Scoring	
SEASON	TEAM	GP-GS	MIN/AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF-FO	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2024-25	Gonz	17-0	70/4.1	1-20	.050	1-12	.083	0-0	.000	4	4	8	0.5	2-0	3	4	1	2	3	0.2
TOTAL FOR UNA		**0-0**	**0/0.0**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0-0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**
TOTAL		**17-0**	**70/4.1**	**1-20**	**.050**	**1-12**	**.083**	**0-0**	**.000**	**4**	**4**	**8**	**0.5**	**2-0**	**3**	**4**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**0.2**

Single Game Highs

Statistic	Value	
Points	3	vs Wyoming 11/17/24
Rebounds	2	vs Rice 11/21/24, vs Wyoming 11/17/24, vs California 11/14/24
Assists	1	at New Mexico 11/24/24, vs Florida St. 11/30/24, vs California 11/14/24
Steals	1	vs Florida St. 11/30/24, vs California 11/14/24
Blocks	1	vs San Diego 01/30/25
FG Made	1	vs Wyoming 11/17/24
FG Attempts	4	vs Wyoming 11/17/24
3FG Made	1	vs Wyoming 11/17/24
3FG Attempts	2	4 times

Quick Hits

SHARPSHOOTING SCORER

Gunaydin did not recieve much burn at Gonzaga, but prior to her time on the west coast, she was known as a sharpshooter for South Georgia Tech College. She was one of three players to average double digits while leading the Lady Jets in three-point percentage throughout the season.

FIRST OF HER KIND

Gunaydin is one of 10 rostered players that have an international background. She is the lone player from Turkey on the roster and is the first player of Turkey descent in school history. She spent two years at Gonzaga prior to North Alabama.

3 Venla Ulander

6-1 | Junior | Center
Espoo, Finland | Makelanrinteen HS

Pronunciation: VEN-luh OO-lan-der



Bio

UNA 2025-26: Returned to action with 199 minutes played across 23 games ... Averaged 2.9 points, 1.7 rebounds and 0.8 assists per game ... Recorded four steals and one block ... Shot 39.0 percent from the floor, 28.9 percent from behind the arc and 66.7 at the free throw line ... Erupted with a career-high of 21 points and 10 rebounds against Samford on Dec. 7 ... Shot 80.0 percent from the floor and a perfect 4-4 from the three-point line in an overtime thriller win over the Bulldogs.

UNA 2024-25: Missed the entire season due to injury.

HIGH SCHOOL: Prepped at Makelanrinteen High School under Coach Janne Hänninen ... Spent the 2023-2024 season for HBA-Marsky in the Korisliiga — Finland's top-tier professional basketball league ... Appeared in 13 games, totaling 48 points, 38 rebounds, nine assists and six steals in 191 minutes of action ... Shot 90.9 percent from the free-throw line with HBA-Marsky ... Also helped HBA make the Finnish Cup Final Four in 2022, along with a playoff appearance in 2022 & 2024 ... Part of Finland's national team that won gold at the U18 Baltic **S**ea Cup (2022), gold at the U18 Nordic Championship (2021) and bronze at the U16 Baltic Sea Cup (2020) ... Led her team to an U16 Finnish League Bronze Medal in 2019 ... Named European Girls Basketball League U17 Stage 1 MVP (2019) and U17 Stage 3 All Star (2020).

PERSONAL: Birthday is December 26 ... From Espoo, Finland ... Daughter of Sanni & Aki Ulander ... Two siblings, Veeti and Kasper ... Father Aki, played professional basketball in Finland, Sweden and Spain -- Played for the Finnish National Team ... Avid music enjoyer and noted bookworm ... Major is Business Management.

Career Stats

				Field Goals		3-Point		F-Throws		Rebounds								Scoring	
SEASON	TEAM	GP-GS	MIN/AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF-FO	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2025-26	UNA	29-2	300/10.3	30-77	.390	11-38	.289	12-18	.667	24	25	49	1.7	29-0	19	22	1	5	83	2.9
TOTAL		**29-2**	**300/10.3**	**30-77**	**.390**	**11-38**	**.289**	**12-18**	**.667**	**24**	**25**	**49**	**1.7**	**29-0**	**19**	**22**	**1**	**5**	**83**	**2.9**

Single Game Highs

Statistic	Value	
Points	21	at Samford 12/07/25
Rebounds	10	at Samford 12/07/25
Assists	3	at Alabama A&M 12/17/25, at Samford 12/07/25
Steals	2	vs Fisk 11/06/25
Blocks	1	vs Bellarmine 01/10/26
FG Made	8	at Samford 12/07/25
FG Attempts	10	at Samford 12/07/25
3FG Made	4	at Samford 12/07/25
3FG Attempts	5	vs West Ga. 02/27/26, at Oklahoma 11/14/25
FT Made	4	vs West Ga. 02/27/26
FT Attempts	6	vs West Ga. 02/27/26

Quick Hits

VIVACIOUS VENLA

Ulander showed bursts all season long last year, but none better than the game against Samford where the now junior exploded with 21 points and 10 rebounds. Ulander's offensive firepower willed the Lions to the 68-66 overtime win in Birmingham, avenging the prior season's loss to the Bulldogs at home.

FINLAND FINESSE

Ulander is one of 10 rostered players that have an international background.
Ulander is the lone player from Finland on the roster and in North Alabama history.
Finland is one of the six countries represented from the 10 international players.

4 Brynn Lusby

6-0 | Junior | Forward

Frisco, Texas | Memorial & Panther Creek HS | Incarnate Word

Pronunciation: brin LUS-bee



Bio

INCARNATE WORD 2024-26: Appeared in 62 games with nine starts between her two seasons in San Antonio ... Finished second on the team in scoring both seasons ... She averaged 10.9 points per game while also pulling down an average of 4.3 rebounds during her sophomore showing ... Lusby had a career-high 27 points while also pulling down nine rebounds in a Dec. 18 game against New Orleans, one of six games she scored at least 20 ... She pulled down a season-high 10 rebounds in a second matchup with New Orleans on Feb. 12, one of eight games she had at least seven rebounds ... Was selected to the Southland Conference All-Academic Team.

HIGH SCHOOL: Prepped at Memorial Panther Creek High School under Rochelle Vaughn and McKenzie Adams ... Lusby was named District Co-Sixth Man of the Year, District MVP, District Offensive Player of the Year, Second Team All-District, All-Area Team (3x), 5A State Finalist, All-State Team, and All-State MVP ... Premier Basketball ranked her No. 60 in Texas for the class of 2024 and she accepted an invitation to compete in the TABC All-Star Game ... Lusby ended her high school career with 1,728 points, 936 rebounds, 270 assists, 115 blocks, and 172 steals.

PERSONAL: Birthday is July 22 ... Originally from Frisco, Texas ... Daughter of Byron and Tenika Lusby ... One sibling, Noah ... Major is Communications.

Career Stats

				Field Goals		3-Point		F-Throws		Rebounds									Scoring	
SEASON	TEAM	GP-GS	MIN/AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF-FO	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2024-25	UIW	32-0	620/19.4	110-238	.462	1-7	.143	59-84	.702	55	70	125	3.9	87-2	19	65	8	24	280	8.8
2025-26	UIW	30-9	589/19.6	130-250	.520	5-16	.313	63-83	.759	59	70	129	4.3	72-2	20	40	9	16	328	10.9
TOTAL FOR UNA		**0-0**	**0/0.0**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0-0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**
TOTAL		**62-9**	**1208/19.5**	**240-488**	**.492**	**6-23**	**.261**	**122-167**	**.731**	**114**	**140**	**254**	**4.1**	**159-4**	**39**	**105**	**17**	**40**	**608**	**9.8**

Single Game Highs

Statistic	Value	
Points	27	at LSU New Orleans 12/18/25
Rebounds	12	vs Our Lady of the Lake 12/29/24
Assists	3	vs Our Lady of the Lake 12/29/24, vs Houston Christian 01/03/26, at Houston Christian 01/22/26
Steals	2	7 times
Blocks	2	at Southeastern La. 01/25/25, vs UTRGV 01/31/26
FG Made	12	at LSU New Orleans 12/18/25
FG Attempts	16	vs Abilene Christian 11/24/24, at SFA 01/08/26, at East Texas A&M 02/21/26
3FG Made	2	at East Texas A&M 02/21/26, vs Northwestern St. 01/17/26
3FG Attempts	4	at East Texas A&M 02/21/26
FT Made	8	vs SFA 02/22/25
FT Attempts	10	vs SFA 02/22/25

Quick Hits

PRESEASON ALL-UAC NOD

Transfer forward Brynn Lusby was named to the All-UAC Preseason Team — one of 11 players to receive the nod. The Lions were awarded their first preseason conference selection since Skyler Gill in 2022-23. Lusby was the sixth conference preseason selection since 2018 joining Gill, Olivia Noah, Brittany Panetti and Ivy Wallen on two separate occasions.

SOUTHLAND SOLIDARITY

Nimz coached Northwestern State in the Southland conference for the last six seasons. Lusby? She played at Incarnate Word for the last two, which just so happens to be in the Southland conference. Coincidence? Not so sure.

5 Phoebe Holmes

5-8 | Junior | Guard

Mackay, Queensland | North Mackay State HS | Xavier

Pronunciation: fee-bee HOLMZ



Bio

XAVIER 2024-26: Competed in 12 games through her sophomore campaign with a total of 38 minutes played ... Scored her first collegiate points against New Haven on Nov. 4 with a three-pointer ... Earned two rebounds and two assists through the remainder of the 2025-26 season ... Played in two games as a freshman in 2024-25 ... Logged 11 total minutes with one steal and one assist.

HIGH SCHOOL/INTERNATIONAL: Prepped at Mackay North State High School ... Earned the U23 Youth Player Award Mackay (NBL1) ... Played for the Mackay Meteorettes in the Australian NBL1 Division from 2015-22 where she averaged 20.5 points per game ... led her team to U16 Championship in 2020 and back-to-back runner-up finishes in 2021-22 ... Named the Defensive Player of the Year in the NBL1 Division and earned Newcomer of the Year honors ... Was the Mackay North State High School Captain ... Awarded the All Around award ... Lettered in Cricket, Tennis, Softball, Netball and Touch Football -- Won gold medals in Cricket, Softball and Tennis at the national level.

PERSONAL: Birthday is October 1 ... Originally from Mackay Queensland, Australia ... Daughter of Keryn and Russell Holmes ... One sibling, Harrison ... Played the sport Cricket (not to get confused with the insect) ... Major is Elementary Education.

Career Stats

				Field Goals		3-Point		F-Throws		Rebounds									Scoring	
SEASON	TEAM	GP-GS	MIN/AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF-FO	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2024-25	XU	2-0	11/5.5	0-2	.000	0-2	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	4-0	1	0	0	1	0	0.0
2025-26	XU	12-0	40/3.3	1-8	.125	1-7	.143	0-0	.000	0	2	2	0.2	4-0	2	0	0	0	3	0.3
TOTAL FOR UNA		**0-0**	**0/0.0**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0-0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**
TOTAL		**14-0**	**51/3.6**	**1-10**	**.100**	**1-9**	**.111**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0**	**2**	**2**	**0.1**	**8-0**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**3**	**0.2**

Single Game Highs

Statistic	Value	
Points	3	vs New Haven 11/04/25
Rebounds	1	vs Villanova 02/11/26, at UConn 01/28/26
Assists	1	at Marquette 02/27/25, vs Saint Francis 12/14/25, vs New Haven 11/04/25
Steals	1	at Marquette 02/27/25
FG Made	1	vs New Haven 11/04/25
FG Attempts	2	4 times
3FG Made	1	vs New Haven 11/04/25
3FG Attempts	2	4 times

Quick Hits

AUSTRALIA MATE

Holmes is one of 10 rostered players that have an international background. She is one of four Australians on the team alongside Ella Macleod, Amy Kurkowski and Olivia Tredrea. Holmes played two seasons at Xavier befor joining the Lions.

8 Greta Ramon

5-8 | Sophomore | Guard
Gallarate, Italy | Liceo Scientifico HS

Pronunciation: GREH-tuh RAH-mon



Bio

UNA 2025-26: Competed in 411 minutes played across 31 games ... Averaged 2.1 points, 0.9 rebounds and 1.1 assists per game ... Totaled 64 points, 29 rebounds 34 assists while adding 14 steals during her freshman season ... Shot 24.5 percent from the floor, 14.6 percent from behind the arc ... Had a career-high 12 points in 24 minutes against SEC-power Missouri on Dec. 21.

HIGH SCHOOL/INTERNATIONAL: Spent the 2024-2025 season for Basket Foxes Giussano in Serie A2 — Italy's second-tier professional basketball league ... Played in 28 games, averaging 3.8 points, 1.1 rebounds and 0.8 assists per game ... Scored a career and team high 17 points on April 12, 2025 against Benevento ... Totaled 22 steals on the season, including 18 in the final eight contests (2.25 average) ... Had a career-high five steals against Benevento, also on April 12 ... Also played on Italy's national team in the 2024 U18 FIBA Women's EuroBasket, averaging 4.3 points, 1.1 rebounds and 1.1 assists in seven games.

PERSONAL: Birthday is May 18 ... From Gallarate, Italy ... Born in Varese, Italy ... Daughter of Gioia Rusca and Manuel Ramon ... Two siblings, Pietro (twin) and Alice ... Major is Finance.

Career Stats

				Field Goals		3-Point		F-Throws		Rebounds									Scoring	
SEASON	TEAM	GP-GS	MIN/AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF-FO	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2025-26	UNA	31-3	412/13.3	24-98	.245	7-48	.146	9-18	.500	7	22	29	0.9	45-0	34	56	6	14	64	2.1
TOTAL		**31-3**	**412/13.3**	**24-98**	**.245**	**7-48**	**.146**	**9-18**	**.500**	**7**	**22**	**29**	**0.9**	**45-0**	**34**	**56**	**6**	**14**	**64**	**2.1**

Single Game Highs

Statistic	Value	
Points	12	at Missouri 12/21/25
Rebounds	5	at Stetson 01/03/26
Assists	4	at Stetson 01/03/26, vs Eastern Ky. 01/08/26, vs Lipscomb 02/21/26
Steals	2	vs FGCU 01/31/26, at Bellarmine 02/18/26, at Samford 12/07/25
Blocks	1	6 times
FG Made	5	at Missouri 12/21/25
FG Attempts	13	at Missouri 12/21/25
3FG Made	2	at Oklahoma 11/14/25, at Missouri 12/21/25
3FG Attempts	9	at Oklahoma 11/14/25
FT Made	4	at Tennessee St. 11/19/25
FT Attempts	6	at Bellarmine 02/18/26, at Tennessee St. 11/19/25

Quick Hits

RAMON RETURNS

Sophopmore point guard Greta Ramon is one of three returning Lions to the 2026-27 team. After the departure of Candi Whitaker in the offseason, Ramon, Venla Ulander and Brooke Hallman all chose to stay and compete for their new head coach in Anna Nimz.

ITALIAN LINEAGE

Ramon is one of 10 rostered players that have an international background. She is one of two Italians on the roster, alongside the returning freshman center Emma D'este. Six different countries are represented between the 10 players.

11 Olivia Tredrea

5-11 | Freshman | Guard
Adelaide, South Australia | Henley HS

Pronunciation: oh-LIV-ee-uh TRED-dre



Bio

HIGH SCHOOL/INTERNATIONAL: Prepped at Henley High School under Chad Winstanley and Greg Pascoe in Adelaide, South Australia ... Competed in the NBL1 Central ... Won Gold at the National Junior Classics for the Forestville Eagles in 2023 ... Returned a season later to win Silver at the National Junior Classics for the Forestville Eagles in 2024 ... Represented South Australia Metro and placed second at the U18 Australian National Championships in 2025 ... Represented South Australia and won the U20 Australian National Championships in 2026 ... Played in 11 NBL1 games while starting two.

PERSONAL: Birthday is February 7 ... Originally from Adelaide, South Australia ... Daughter of Brad and Lisa Tredrea ... One sibling, Jemma ... Traveler of the world as she has stamped her passport 12 different times ... Knives Out is her favorite movie ... She is left-handed ... Says blue (and purple) are her favorite colors ... Major is Pre-Health Biology.

Career Stats

Quick Hits

AUSTRALIA MATE

Tredrea is one of 10 rostered players that have an international background. She is one of four Australians on the team alongside Ella Macleod, Phoebe Holmes and Amy Kurkowski. Tredrea is the only Australian to come straight to Florence from home.

OVERSEAS SUCCESS

The freshman guard comes over with accolades to discuss. She competed in the NBL1 Central, won Gold at the NJC, returned the next season to win Silver at the same event and then represented her home country in both the U18 and U20.

13 Kyah Smith

5-10 | Senior | Guard

Richmond, Va. | Lloyd C. Bird HS | William & Mary/Navy

Pronunciation: kai-uh smith



Bio

WILLIAM & MARY 2025-26: Appeared in 23 games, making seven starts in her first season with the Tribe … Averaged 5.7 points and 1.9 rebounds in 21.3 minutes per contest … Shot 39.8% from the field and 31.6% from three-point range, the highest mark on the team …Scored a season-high 14 points at Towson Feb. 1 and vs. UNCW Feb. 1 … Knocked down a season-high four three-pointers vs. UNCW Feb. 1 … Recorded three double-digit scoring games, including 11 points at Northeastern on Jan. 23.

NAVY 2024-25: Played 21.5 minutes per game averaging 6.7 points, 2.0 rebounds and 1.5 assists in second year with the Mids making three starts in 31 games ... Found her way into double figures on 12 occasions, including a career-high 26 points against Radford with five made 3-pointers ... Nine of 12 games in double digits came in Patriot League play.

NAVY 2023-24: Suited up in all 31 games with 22 starts as a freshman point guard … Posted a statline of 12.8 points, 3.1 rebounds, 3.5 assists, 1.5 three-pointers and 0.8 steals over 32.8 minutes per game … Ranked fourth in the Patriot League in assists per game, eighth in made three-pointers and ninth in scoring … Increased her scoring average to 13.8 points per game in conference play … Selected as the Patriot League Rookie of the Week on Jan. 15 … Started the first eight games of the year; finished in double figures in seven of those games … Overall reached double figures in 24 of 31 games with a season-high of 23 versus Goucher on Dec. 19; also reached the 20-point plateau with 20 against Quinnipiac on Nov. 25 … Fourth-most points by a freshman Navy player in program history with 396 points … sank a season-high six three-pointers versus the Bobcats … Made a three-pointer in each of Navy's final 13 games, include multiple treys in seven contests … Recorded five or more assists nine times, including a season-best of eight in Navy's Patriot League Quarterfinal game at Colgate on March 11 … Played all 45 minutes in the Mids' overtime contest versus Mount St. Mary's on Nov. 15.

HIGH SCHOOL: Played interscholastically at L.C. Bird High School in ninth and 12th grades and at the Shining Star Sports Academy (S3) during her sophomore and junior years ... Concluded her career with a standout 2022-23 campaign that saw her earn First Team All-Virginia State Class 5 honors, as well as First Team All-Region, All-Metro and 2023 South All-Star accolades ... Garnered a spot on Virginia's All-Academic Team ... L.C. Bird earned a berth in the 2023 Virginia Class 5 State Championship Final for just the second time in program's history ... Played with the Cap City Ballerz AAU team for Eric and Star Wills ... Teammates with Tennessee State's Dream Muhammad ('26) and Richmond's Melissa Mwanza ('27) with Cap City.

PERSONAL: Birthday is December 2 ... Daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Smith and Amber Harris ... Two siblings, Keirah and Avery ... Earned the 2023 Chesterfield County Public Schools Citizenship Award and graduated with honors distinction ... Enjoys travelling and has visited France, China and Turkey ... Likes to lounge outdoors and at the beach ... Earns plenty of Victory Royales on Fortnite ... Major is Comp Science.

Career Stats

				Field Goals		3-Point		F-Throws		Rebounds									Scoring	
SEASON	TEAM	GP-GS	MIN/AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF-FO	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2023-24	Navy	31-22	1016/32.8	158-441	.358	47-148	.318	33-45	.733	10	85	95	3.1	47-1	109	111	4	26	396	12.8
2024-25	Navy	31-3	668/21.6	78-286	.273	32-122	.262	21-33	.636	12	51	63	2.0	33-0	47	74	4	17	209	6.7
2025-26	W&M	23-7	493/21.4	53-133	.398	18-57	.316	8-10	.800	5	38	43	1.9	27-0	29	33	0	12	132	5.7
TOTAL FOR UNA		**0-0**	**0/0.0**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0-0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**
TOTAL		**85-32**	**2177/25.6**	**289-860**	**.336**	**97-327**	**.297**	**62-88**	**.705**	**27**	**174**	**201**	**2.4**	**107-1**	**185**	**218**	**8**	**55**	**737**	**8.7**

Single Game Highs

Statistic	Value	
Points	26	vs Radford 11/17/24
Rebounds	7	at Hofstra 01/26/26
Assists	8	at Colgate 03/11/24
Steals	3	4 times
Blocks	1	8 times
FG Made	9	vs Binghamton 11/21/23, vs Goucher 12/19/23, vs Radford 11/17/24
FG Attempts	22	at Colgate 01/06/24
3FG Made	6	vs Quinnipiac 11/25/23
3FG Attempts	9	vs Quinnipiac 11/25/23, vs Toledo 11/30/24, vs Mount St. Mary's 11/15/23
FT Made	6	vs Mount St. Mary's 11/15/23
FT Attempts	6	vs Mount St. Mary's 11/15/23, vs Radford 11/17/24

Quick Hits

THE VET PRESENCE

Smith comes over with the most tenure under her belt with 85 collegiate games played over three seasons between Navy and William & Mary. From Richmond, Va., Smith has been an estabilished point guard that can man the ship and pace the offense.

14 Ella Macleod

5-10 | Junior | Guard
Eynesbury, Australia | Seda College | Collin County CC

Pronunciation: EL-uh ma-cloud



Bio

COLLIN COLLEGE 2024-26: Appeared in all 62 games with 55 starts through her two seasons as a Cougar ... Averaged 8.5 points per game with 2.4 rebounds per game and 1.6 assists with an average of 24.4 minutes played per game ... Through her sophomore campaign, Macleod started all 31 games while averaging 11.8 points per contest as she shot 44.4 percent from the field over 27.5 minutes played ... Selected as the Feb. 22 NTJCAC Women's Basketball Player of the Week ... Scored second-most points in a game (23) in a winning effort over Southwestern Christian College on Feb. 28 ... Scored her career-high 31 points on 62.5 percent from the floor in a winning effort against Weatherford College on Jan. 7.

HIGH SCHOOL/INTERNATIONAL: Prepped at Seda College under Coach Jason in Melbourne, Australia.

PERSONAL: Birthday is April 4 ... Daughter of Jennifer Macleod ... Two siblings ... Competed on the court since seven years old ... Major is Marketing.

Career Stats

Quick Hits

MACLEOD THE CAPTAIN

With a slew of transfers and a new identity for this North Alabama team, head coach Anna Nimz named forwards Amy Kurkowski, Joceline Geara and guard Ella Macleod as team captains ahead of the 2026-27 season. Geara is the lone transfer familiar with Nimz as she followed her from Northwestern State.

AUSTRALIA MATE

Macleod is one of 10 rostered players that have an international background. She is one of four Australians on the team alongside Amy Kurkowski, Phoebe Holmes and Olivia Tredrea. Kurkowski played two seasons at Collin College prior to 2026.

15 Mária Štefancova

5-11 | Freshman | Guard

Ružomberok, Slovakia | Gymnázium Štefana Moyzesa Ružomberok

Pronunciation: MAH-ria shteh-fan-choh-vah



Bio

HIGH SCHOOL/INTERNATIONAL: Prepped at Gymnázium Štefana Moyzesa Ružomberok under Juraj Suja ... Two-time junior competition champion ... Led her team to first in the Slovakian National Championship ... Two-time Tournament MVP ... Selected for the junior All-Star Team twice ... Averaged 9.2 points per game, 5.4 rebounrds and 1.6 assists during her FIBA competitions from 2022-26 ... Best season came in 2024 with 13.5 points, 6.0 rebounds and 2.3 assists for her FIBA U18 team ... Had a 19 point, three rebound game in a 70-64 win against the Czech Republic during the U20 European Championships.

PERSONAL: Birthday is September 25 ... Originally from Slovakia, Ružomberok ... Daughter of Iveta and Ludovít ... Two siblings, Lívia and Ivana ... Skilled in a variety of sports and loves competition ... Major is Psychology.

Career Stats

Quick Hits

U20 WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM

Štefancova represented her home country in the U20 European Championships this past summer. MBK Ružomberokwas dominant en route to a Slovakia championship for the 2025-26 season. Štefancova logged 9.7 ppg, 4.8 rpg and 1.7 apg to win Gold for her home country.

SLOVAKIAN SETTINGS

Štefancova is one of 10 rostered players that have an international background. She is the lone player from Slovakia and the first player to represent the country in school history. Slovakia is one of six countries represented on the roster this year.

21 Zamyra Wallace

5-7 | Junior | Guard

Decatur, Ala. | Bob Jones HS | Wallace State/Calhoun CC

Pronunciation: Zah-MY-rah WALL-s



Bio

WALLACE STATE 2025-26: Wallace played in 29 games as she made 22 starts under Coach Joseph Simmons ... Named NJCAA Third-Team All-American ... Named All-Conference First Team ... Averaged 10.9 points per game as she was 42.5 percent from the floor and 26.9 percent from the three ... Had a season-high of 18 points, twice, against Columbia State (Jan. 8) and Coastal Alabama (Feb. 26).

CALHOUN CC 2024-25: Wallace played in 28 games as she made 28 starts ... Had a career-high 29 points against Shelton State on Feb. 17 ... Holds the school record for steals in a game with 10.

HIGH SCHOOL: Prepped at Bob Jones High School under Jazmine Powers in Madison, Ala. ... Led the Lady Patriots to five area championships ... Named All-Area four times ... Selected to three Area All-Tournament Teams ... Named to the All-Regional Team ... Graduated with a 4.00 GPA.

PERSONAL: Birthday is Jan. 4 ... Originally from Decatur, Ala. ... Daughter of Jelisa and Jonathan Wallace ... Three siblings, Morgan, Marley and Sevyn ... Aunts, Tenesha and Shelia, lettered at Northwest Shoals and Calhoun CC respectively ... A goofy-goober level Spongebob fanatic ... Avid enjoyer of banana peppers and musicals ... Has seen the 15 seasons of Supernatural three times through ... Major is Entrepreneurship: Agile Management and Leadership Concentration.

Career Stats

Quick Hits

JUCO STANDOUT

Wallace is an Alabama junior college standout, spending time at both Calhoun and Wallace State community colleges from 2024-26. She made 50 starts in 57 games through the two seasons and was named a NJCAA Third-Team All-American and All-Conference First Team member this past season.

SWIPER SWIPES

Wallace is a springy guard that is known for her defensive aggression. While at Calhoun CC in 2024, she set the school record with 10 steals in a single game which still stands today.

22 Joceline Geara

5-8 | Junior | Guard

Byblos, Lebanon | SIS Adma International School | Northwestern State

Pronunciation: JOSS-leen GEAR-uh



Bio

NORTHWESTERN STATE 2024-26: Played in 44 games off the bench for NSU, logging 212 total minutes over the span of two seasons ... Has a career 29.6 percent mark from the floor with a 26.3 percent clip from three ... Totaled 28 rebounds and 21 assists with 41 total points ... Geara made nine triples, best for sixth on the team ... Elevated her play during her sophomore campaign as she shot 34.6 percent from deep -- second among players on the team with at least 20 triple attempts ... She posted season highs in points (10), assists (6) and minutes (21) in the dominant win over Arkansas Baptist ... She posted a five-point performance on 2-of-3 shooting against UTRGV ... Also scored five points at Kansas ... Named to the SLC Commissioner's Honor Roll during both seasons and to the SLC All-Academic Team in 2025-26.

HIGH SCHOOL/INTERNATIONAL: Prepped at SABIS International School under Kaissar Lahoud ... Starter on the U16 Lebanon National Team that played in the FIBA Asia Cup ... Named MVP of the SABIS Global Tournament, the first in her school's history, and chosen in the pool of 20 players for the senior national team ... Won the Arab Championship in Tunisia for her club team in Beirut, the only team from Lebanon in the competition, in 2022 ... Geara helped lead her team to the finals of the playoffs of the Lebanese Cup during the 2023-24 campaign for the Beirut U18 squad ... She averaged a double-double with 25 points and 10 rebounds during the playoff run ... Geara served as the Head of the Student Life Organization, won the President's Award in Lebanese American University's Model EU program and was twice chosen to represent her school in the SABIS Start International Public Speaking Competition in the "Our World, Our Concern" category in Oman.

PERSONAL: Birthday is November ... Originally from Byblos, Lebanon ... Born in Milford, Massachusetts ... Daughter of Joceline Chahine and Riad Geara ... Two siblings, Charbel and Yorgo ... Major is Business.

Career Stats

				Field Goals		3-Point		F-Throws		Rebounds									Scoring	
SEASON	TEAM	GP-GS	MIN/AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF-FO	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2024-25	NW	13-0	58/4.5	1-15	.067	1-11	.091	0-0	.000	2	6	8	0.6	2-0	7	10	0	4	3	0.2
2025-26	NW	31-0	150/4.8	15-38	.395	9-26	.346	2-4	.500	3	16	19	0.6	8-0	14	19	2	2	41	1.3
TOTAL FOR UNA		**0-0**	**0/0.0**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0-0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**
TOTAL		**44-0**	**209/4.7**	**16-53**	**.302**	**10-37**	**.270**	**2-4**	**.500**	**5**	**22**	**27**	**0.6**	**10-0**	**21**	**29**	**2**	**6**	**44**	**1.0**

Single Game Highs

Statistic	Value	
Points	10	vs Ark. Baptist 11/21/25
Rebounds	3	at East Texas A&M 02/07/26, at LSU New Orleans 01/31/26, vs Champion Chris. 11/05/24
Assists	6	vs Ark. Baptist 11/21/25
Steals	3	vs Ark. Baptist 11/12/24
Blocks	1	vs Ecclesia 11/14/25, vs LSU New Orleans 03/03/26
FG Made	4	vs Ark. Baptist 11/21/25
FG Attempts	8	vs Ark. Baptist 11/21/25
3FG Made	2	vs Ark. Baptist 11/21/25
3FG Attempts	4	vs Ark. Baptist 11/21/25, vs Ecclesia 11/14/25
FT Made	1	at LSU New Orleans 01/31/26, vs LSU New Orleans 03/03/26
FT Attempts	2	at LSU New Orleans 01/31/26, vs LSU New Orleans 03/03/26

Quick Hits

GEARA THE CAPTAIN

With a slew of transfers and a new identity for this North Alabama team, head coach Anna Nimz named forwards Amy Kurkowski, Joceline Geara and guard Ella Macleod as team captains ahead of the 2026-27 season. Geara is the lone transfer familiar with Nimz as she followed her from Northwestern State.

NORTHWESTERN STATE TIES

After Nimz departed for North Alabama, she sought only one of her former players to join her in Florence: Geara. After playing 44 games with the Lady Demons, the junior forward is set for a breakout campaign, all with the coach that gave her a chance.

23 Brooke Hallman

5-8 | Sophomore | Guard
Auburn, Ala. | Auburn HS

Pronunciation: brooke HALL-man



Bio

UNA 2025-26: Competed in 53 minutes played across 10 games ... Averaged 2.1 points, 0.3 rebounds and 0.3 assists per game ... Totaled 21 points, three rebounds and three assists during her freshman season ... Shot 47.4 percent from the floor, 30.0 percent from behind the arc ... Had a career-high six point sin seven minutes against Fisk on Nov. 6 with three field goals made.

HIGH SCHOOL: Prepped at Auburn High School under Head Coach Courtney Pritchett ... Was a point guard and shooting guard for the Tigers, helping lead the team to two area championships from 2023-25 ... Owns most three's made in a single game with nine ... Scored over 1,800 career points for her career, with individual accolades including AHSAA State Finals All-Tournament Team (2024), AHSAA Regional All-Tournament Team (2023-2025), Area All-Tournament Team in (2023-2025), Alabama Sports Writers Association 7A Third Team selection (2024-2025), North-South All-Star Team selection (2024) and Alabama-Mississippi All-Star team selection (2025) ... Member of the National Honors Society ... Played AAU basketball for FBC Legacy Nike, earning an NCAA College Basketball Academy Team Pathway Selection in 2024 ... Lettered in Flag Football and Track & Field.

PERSONAL: Birthday is October 12 ... Daughter of Justice and Nicole Hallman ... Two siblings, Grant and Justice ... State Champion in both Javelin and Flag Football ... Lover of cooking and baking ... Avid pickleballer ... Major is Political Science.

Career Stats

				Field Goals		3-Point		F-Throws		Rebounds									Scoring	
SEASON	TEAM	GP-GS	MIN/AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF-FO	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2025-26	UNA	10-0	51/5.1	9-19	.474	3-10	.300	0-0	.000	0	3	3	0.3	3-0	3	6	0	2	21	2.1
TOTAL		**10-0**	**51/5.1**	**9-19**	**.474**	**3-10**	**.300**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0**	**3**	**3**	**0.3**	**3-0**	**3**	**6**	**0**	**2**	**21**	**2.1**

Single Game Highs

Statistic	Value	
Points	6	vs Fisk 11/06/25
Rebounds	1	at Eastern Ky. 02/14/26, at Bellarmine 02/18/26, vs West Ala. 11/22/25
Assists	2	at Bellarmine 02/18/26
Steals	1	at Eastern Ky. 02/14/26, vs Fisk 11/06/25
FG Made	3	vs Fisk 11/06/25
FG Attempts	6	vs Fisk 11/06/25
3FG Made	1	at Stetson 01/03/26, vs Eastern Ky. 01/08/26, vs Bellarmine 01/10/26
3FG Attempts	3	vs Bellarmine 01/10/26

Quick Hits

DOUBLE DOSE

Hallman is a dual-sport athlete at the collegiate level. Recently, North Alabama Athletics added Women's Flag Football which paved way for Hallman to join the team as a quarterback just like she was at Auburn High School.

ONE OF THREE

Sophopmore guard Brooke Hallman is one of three returning Lions to the 2026-27 team. After the departure of Candi Whitaker in the offseason, Greta Ramon, Venla Ulander and Hallman all chose to stay and compete for their new head coach in Anna Nimz.

24 Marckalia Celestine

6-2 | Sophomore | Center
Houston, Texas | Klein HS | Praire View A&M

Pronunciation: MAR-kay-LUH Sell-ES-teen



Bio

PRAIRE VIEW A&M 2025-26: Played in 29 games while starting six under head coach Tai Dillard ... Totaled 72 points, 110 rebounds and 23 blocks over 450 minutes played during her freshman season ... Shot 39.7 percent from the floor and 56.5 percent from the charity stripe ... Third-most blocks on the team and second-most rebounds ... Had a career-high nine points in 21 minutes against Grambling ... Was 3-for-3 from the field and 3-for-4 from the free throw line in the loss ... Had a career-high in blocks with 3 on four seperate occassions against Miss. Valley State (2x), Grambling and Alcorn State ... Had a career-high in minutes against Lamar with 40.

HIGH SCHOOL: Prepped at Klein High School under Dan Davidson ... Averaged 10.0 points, 8.3 rebounrds, 1.2 steals, 1.2 blocks per game in 105 games played ... Broke the record for rebounds in her career (869) ... Owns the single game rebound mark (19) ... Became a 1000 point scorer ... Lettered in Volleyball ... All-Academic Honors during her senior year.

PERSONAL: Birthday is May 23 ... Originally from Houston, Texas ... Daughter of Angie Celestine and Charles Payton ... One sibling, Davenessa ... Faith filled and loves Jesus ... Major is Kinesiology.

Career Stats

				Field Goals		3-Point		F-Throws		Rebounds									Scoring	
SEASON	TEAM	GP-GS	MIN/AVG	FG-FGA	FG%	3FG-3FGA	3FG%	FT-FTA	FT%	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG	PF-FO	A	TO	BLK	STL	PTS	AVG
2025-26	PVAM	28-6	453/16.2	23-58	.397	0-1	.000	26-46	.565	41	69	110	3.9	55-2	1	33	23	9	72	2.6
TOTAL FOR UNA		**0-0**	**0/0.0**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0-0**	**.000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0-0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**
TOTAL		**28-6**	**453/16.2**	**23-58**	**.397**	**0-1**	**.000**	**26-46**	**.565**	**41**	**69**	**110**	**3.9**	**55-2**	**1**	**33**	**23**	**9**	**72**	**2.6**

Single Game Highs

Statistic	Value	
Points	9	vs Grambling 02/12/26
Rebounds	11	vs Huston-Tillotson 11/25/25
Assists	1	vs Huston-Tillotson 11/25/25
Steals	3	at Lamar University 12/17/25
Blocks	3	4 times
FG Made	3	at Bethune-Cookman 02/07/26, vs Grambling 02/12/26
FG Attempts	6	at Jackson St. 01/17/26
3FG Attempts	1	vs Jackson St. 02/26/26
FT Made	6	vs Mississippi Val. 01/10/26
FT Attempts	10	vs Mississippi Val. 01/10/26

Quick Hits

PAINT POWER

Celestine was a powerful presence at Praire View A&M and brings a surefire work ethic to the paint. She second on the team in rebounds (110) during her freshman season and was third in blocks (23). Playing only in 28 games, her 110 rebounds would have been fifth best on the Lions last season and her 23 blocks would have been second best.

Radio/TV Sheet



0 - Amy Kurkowski
6-2 • Jr. • Forward
Melbourne, Australia



1 - Emma D'este
6-5 • Fr. • Center
Venezia, Italy



2 - Vera Gunaydin
5-9 • Gr. • Guard
Ankara, Turkey



3 - Venla Ulander
6-1 • Jr. • Center
Espoo, Finland



4 - Brynn Lusby
6-0 • Jr. • Forward
Frisco, Texas



5 - Phoebe Holmes
5-8 • Jr. • Guard
Mackay, Queensland



8 - Greta Ramon
5-8 • So. • Guard
Gallarate, Italy



11 - Olivia Tredrea
5-11 • Fr. • Guard
Adelaide, South Australia



13 - Kyah Smith
5-10 • Sr. • Guard
Richmond, Va.



14 - Ella Macleod
5-10 • Jr. • Guard
Eynesbury, Australia



15 - Mária Štefancova
5-11 • Fr. • Guard
Ružomberok, Slovakia



21 - Zamyra Wallace
5-7 • Jr. • Guard
Decatur, Ala.



22 - Joceline Geara
5-8 • Jr. • Guard
Byblos, Lebanon



23 - Brooke Hallman
5-8 • So. • Guard
Auburn, Ala.



24 - Marckalia Celestine
6-2 • So. • Center
Houston, Texas



Anna Nimz
Head Coach
First Season