



# ***2003-04 Season Preview***

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## 2003-2004 WASHINGTON WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ROSTER

### NUMERICAL ROSTER

NO	NAME	POS	HT	YR	EXP	HOMETOWN (PREVIOUS SCHOOL)
1	Jill Bell <sup>^</sup>	F	6-0	Fr.*	RS	Bellevue, Wash. (Bellevue HS)
3	Breanne Watson	F	6-1	Fr.	HS	Richmond, B.C. (R.A. McMath HS)
5	Andrea Lalum <sup>**</sup>	F/C	6-4	Sr.	3V	Bozeman, Mont. (Bozeman HS)
10	Dominique Banks	G	5-8	Fr.	HS	Stockton, Calif. (St. Mary's HS)
11	Erica Schelly	G	5-11	So.	1V	Fort Collins, Colo. (Poudre HS)
13	Giuliana Mendiola	G	5-11	Sr.	3V	Lake Forest, Calif. (El Toro HS)
15	Nicole Castro	G	5-10	So.*	1V	Darwin, Australia (St. John's College HS)
21	Angie Jones <sup>^^</sup>	G	5-9	Fr.*	RS	Seattle, Wash. (Holy Names Academy)
23	Maggie O'Hara	F	6-3	Fr.	HS	Boise, Idaho (Timberline HS)
31	Gioconda Mendiola	G	5-8	Sr.	3V	Lake Forest, Calif. (El Toro HS)
33	Kristen O'Neill	G	6-1	Jr.	2V	Edmonds, Wash. (Meadowdale HS)
40	Kirsten Brockman	F	6-0	So.*	1V	Snohomish, Wash. (Snohomish HS)
55	Cameo Hicks	G	5-10	Fr.	HS	Tracy, Calif. (Merrill F. West HS)

### ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

NO	NAME	POS	HT	YR	EXP	HOMETOWN (PREVIOUS SCHOOL)
10	Dominique Banks	G	5-8	Fr.	HS	Stockton, Calif. (St. Mary's HS)
1	Jill Bell <sup>^</sup>	F	6-0	Fr.*	RS	Bellevue, Wash. (Bellevue HS)
40	Kirsten Brockman	F	6-0	So.*	1V	Snohomish, Wash. (Snohomish HS)
15	Nicole Castro	G	5-10	So.*	1V	Darwin, Australia (St. John's College HS)
55	Cameo Hicks	G	5-10	Fr.	HS	Tracy, Calif. (Merrill F. West HS)
21	Angie Jones <sup>^^</sup>	G	5-9	Fr.*	RS	Seattle, Wash. (Holy Names Academy)
5	Andrea Lalum <sup>**</sup>	F/C	6-4	Sr.	3V	Bozeman, Mont. (Bozeman HS)
31	Gioconda Mendiola	G	5-8	Sr.	3V	Lake Forest, Calif. (El Toro HS)
13	Giuliana Mendiola	G	5-11	Sr.	3V	Lake Forest, Calif. (El Toro HS)
23	Maggie O'Hara	F	6-3	Fr.	HS	Boise, Idaho (Timberline HS)
33	Kristen O'Neill	G	6-1	Jr.	2V	Edmonds, Wash. (Meadowdale HS)
11	Erica Schelly	G	5-11	So.	1V	Fort Collins, Colo. (Poudre HS)
3	Breanne Watson	F	6-1	Fr.	HS	Richmond, B.C. (R.A. McMath HS)

### Husky Basketball Staff

**Head Coach:** June Daugherty (Ohio State, 1978), eighth year

**Overall Record (14 years):** 245-160 (.605)

**Record at Washington (seven years):** 122-86 (.587)

### Assistant Coaches:

Sunny Smallwood (Boise State, 1983), 11th year at UW, eighth year with Coach Daugherty

Mike Daugherty (Ohio State, 1977), eighth year

Kellie Lewis-Jay (Boise State, 1998), first year

**Student Assistants:** Kayla Burt, Sarah Keeler

**Basketball Athletic Trainers:** Dave Burton, Jennifer Ratcliff

\* indicates that redshirt season has been utilized.

\*\* — Wore No. 3 as a junior, No. 21 as a sophomore,  
No. 40 as a freshman

<sup>^</sup> — Wore No. 25 as a true freshman

<sup>^^</sup> — Wore No. 12 as a true freshman

### PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Kirsten Brockman .....	KIR-sten Brockman
June Daugherty .....	June DOUGH-er-tee
Andrea Lalum .....	ANN-dree-uh LA-lum
Giuliana Mendiola .....	Julie-ON-uh Men-dee-OH-luh
Gioconda Mendiola .....	Gee-oh-CON-duh Men-dee-OH-luh

## ROSTER BREAKDOWN

### LETTERWINNERS RETURNING (7):

\*\*\* Andrea Lalum, C, 6-4, Sr., Bozeman, Mont., 10.8 ppg, 4.5 rpg  
 \*\*\* Gioconda Mendiola, G, 5-7, Sr., Lake Forest, Calif., 2.4 ppg, 1.8 rpg  
 \*\*\* Giuliana Mendiola, G, 5-11, Sr., Lake Forest, Calif., 17.5 ppg, 6.5 rpg  
 \*\* Kristen O'Neill, G, 6-1, Jr., Edmonds, Wash., 5.3 ppg, 4.4 rpg  
 \* Kirsten Brockman, F, 6-0, Rs-So., Snohomish, Wash., (redshirted 2002-03)  
 \* Nicole Castro, G, 5-11, Rs-So., Darwin, Australia, 0.9 ppg, 0.5 rpg  
 \* Erica Schelly, G, 5-11, So., Fort Collins, Colo., 1.0 ppg, 0.3 rpg

### LETTERWINNERS LOST (7):

\*\*\*\* Emily Autrey, F, 6-0, Sr., Kennewick, Wash., 10.1 ppg, 4.4 rpg  
 \*\* Kayla Burt, G, 5-11, So., Arlington, Wash., 8.0 ppg, 3.7 rpg  
 \*\*\*\* Kellie (O'Neill) Dalan, F, 6-1, Sr., Edmonds, Wash., 7.5 ppg, 3.0 rpg  
 \*\* Alicia Heathcote, G, 5-9, Sr., Seattle, Wash., 0.8 ppg, 0.7 rpg  
 \*\* Sarah Keeler, F, 6-4, Rs-So., Pendleton, Ore., 3.7 ppg, 3.7 rpg  
 \*\*\*\* Loree Payne, G, 6-0, Sr., Havre, Mont., 14.2 ppg, 2.8 rpg  
 \*\*\*\* Cheryl Sorenson, F, 6-0, Sr., Milwaukee, Ore., 2.1 ppg, 2.0 rpg

### STARTERS RETURNING (3):

\*\*\* Andrea Lalum, C, 6-4, Sr., Bozeman, Mont., 10.8 ppg, 4.5 rpg  
 \*\*\* Giuliana Mendiola, G, 5-11, Sr., Lake Forest, Calif., 17.5 ppg, 6.5 rpg  
 \*\* Kristen O'Neill, G, 6-1, Jr., Edmonds, Wash., 5.3 ppg, 4.4 rpg

### STARTERS LOST (2):

\*\*\*\* Loree Payne, G, 6-0, Sr., Havre, Mont., 14.2 ppg, 2.8 rpg  
 \*\*\*\* Kellie (O'Neill) Dalan, F, 6-1, Sr., Edmonds, Wash., 7.5 ppg, 3.0 rpg  
 \* Denotes number of letters won

### NON-LETTERWINNERS RETURNING (2):

Jill Bell, F, 6-0, Rs- Fr., Bellevue, Wash.  
 Angie Jones, G, 5-9, Rs- Fr., Seattle, Wash.

### NEWCOMERS (4):

Dominique Banks, G, 5-8, Fr., Stockton, Calif.  
 Cameo Hicks, G, 5-10, Fr., Tracy, Calif.  
 Maggie O'Hara, F, 6-3, Fr., Boise, Idaho  
 Breanne Watson, F, 6-1, Fr., Richmond, B.C.

### CLASS BREAKDOWN:

**Seniors** (3)– Andrea Lalum, Gioconda Mendiola, Giuliana Mendiola  
**Juniors** (1) – Kristen O'Neill  
**Sophomores** (3) – Kirsten Brockman, Nicole Castro, Erica Schelly  
**Redshirt Freshmen** (2) - Jill Bell, Angie Jones  
**Freshmen** (4) – Dominique Banks, Cameo Hicks, Maggie O'Hara, Breanne Watson

### BY STATE / COUNTRY

#### Australia (1)

Nicole Castro, Darwin

#### California (4)

Dominique Banks, Stockton  
 Cameo Hicks, Tracy  
 Gioconda Mendiola, Lake Forest  
 Giuliana Mendiola, Lake Forest

#### Canada (1)

Breanne Watson, Richmond

#### Colorado (1)

Erica Schelly, Fort Collins

#### Idaho (1)

Maggie O'Hara, Boise

#### Montana (1)

Andrea Lalum, Bozeman

#### Washington (4)

Jill Bell, Bellevue  
 Kirsten Brockman, Snohomish  
 Angie Jones, Seattle  
 Kristen O'Neill, Edmonds

### BY AGE

#### 22-Year Olds (1)

Gioconda Mendiola, January 7, 1981

#### 21- Year Olds (2)

Andrea Lalum, December 5, 1981  
 Giuliana Mendiola, January 9, 1982

#### 20-Year Olds (4)

Kirsten Brockman, December 9, 1982  
 Jill Bell, June 14, 1983  
 Kristen O'Neill, April 4, 1983  
 Erica Schelly, August 26, 1983

#### 19-Year Olds (2)

Nicole Castro, February 3, 1984  
 Angie Jones, May 8, 1984

#### 18-Year Olds (2)

Dominique Banks, September 5, 1985  
 Cameo Hicks, December 12, 1984  
 Maggie O'Hara, May 30, 1985  
 Breanne Watson, March 14, 1985

## 2003-2004 HUSKY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SEASON PREVIEW

After losing seven letterwinners from last year's squad that went 22-8, tied for second in the Pac-10 standings and made its fourth NCAA Tournament appearance in the last seven years, the Washington women's basketball team still has much to be optimistic about when it hits the floor in 2003-04.

The Huskies return veteran leadership with three returning starters, including the 2003 Pac-10 Player of the Year, senior guard Giuliana Mendiola. Joining that veteran talent and eager to contribute right away will be six newcomers, including two redshirts and four incoming freshmen.

Though many new faces will be seen on the court at Bank of America Arena this season, fans will recognize the Huskies' signature fast-break and entertaining high scoring style of play. Among Washington's strengths will again be its three-point shooting prowess, after ranking third in the nation and leading the Pac-10 in three-pointers per game (8.2) last season. UW also set a single-season school record with 246 three-pointers made, a Pac-10 high mark as well.

The Huskies wowed record-setting crowds at home last season, with a Pac-10 leading average of 75.6 points per game. Washington reached the century mark twice last year, scoring 105 points

against St. Bonaventure, Nov. 29, and 111 points versus UCLA, Feb. 1, while also scoring 92 points against a sixth-ranked Stanford team, Feb. 13.

Looking ahead to the coming year, three points of emphasis for the Husky coaching staff over the off-season have been improving the defense, rebounding and getting to the line on a more frequent basis.

"We feel that we have the type of personnel that will allow us to be more defensive-minded than in the past," head coach June Daugherty said. "So we want to definitely extend our defense and create turnovers on that end of the floor. Rebounding is something that we certainly will continue to focus on. We're making good improvements and know that we will keep improving our game. We would like to see ourselves get to the line a little bit more than what we were doing late in the season. We're a good shooting team and numbers-wise we need to get to the line a little bit more with

some more penetration. Maybe it's rebounding. Maybe it's stronger moves inside. There are a lot of different areas that we look to focus upon in the off-season to help improve those percentages and numbers which allow us to have continued success as a team."

Yet another challenge for the Huskies will be filling the void left by a graduated senior class of five players, but it's one Daugherty welcomes with open arms.

"It's certainly a big class with an enormous amount of talent and experience that is graduating from the program," Daugherty said. "You go through this every year and I think what it does is give us an opportunity for some of the other players who didn't get the amount of playing time in the past year or two, to now step forward and show their skill level and play. It's a good opportunity now for some of our young people who have had some experience but maybe weren't counted on to be key role players. We're looking forward to that."

**Giuliana Mendiola**



**Kristen O'Neill**



Not only will the Huskies be missing the likes of Loree Payne, Kellie Dalan, Emily Autrey, Cheryl Sorenson and Alicia Heathcote, UW will also be without a pair of key players whose careers came to premature ends last year. Kayla Burt, who went into cardiac arrest on New Year's Eve 2002, was diagnosed with a heart ailment called Long Q-T Syndrome. Once an automatic defibrillator was implanted in her chest to monitor her heart rhythm, Burt's career came to a close after playing just 10 games of her sophomore season.

Sarah Keeler, who contributed valuable post play for the Huskies, suffered a torn ACL just days before UW's NCAA First Round game with Wisconsin-Green Bay, and after the season announced her retirement from basketball while facing her sixth knee surgery in the last four years.

Both Burt and Keeler will remain with the team as student assistants and retain their scholarships until graduation.

But the main buzz surrounding Washington women's basketball centers around the play of senior Giuliana Mendiola, who became the first Husky ever named Pac-10 Player of the Year last season. A two-time first-team All-Pac-10 selection and an honorable mention All-America honoree



**Andrea  
Lalum**

between all three of them."

Lalum, a two-time All-Pac-10 honorable mention selection, is a three-year starter and will be the main component of the Huskies' inside game as UW's center. Lalum was the team's third-leading scorer last year with 10.8 points per game and second-leading rebounder with 4.5 boards per game. She reached double figures in scoring in 19 of 30 games last season.

Gioconda Mendiola came off the bench in every contest last season, sparking the Huskies with her aggressive play on both ends of the floor. Mendiola dished out 74 assists, second only on the team to her sister, Giuliana.

Rounding out Washington's trio of returning starters is Kristen O'Neill, the lone junior on the squad. O'Neill took over in Burt's starting role last year 10 games into the season, and flourished, tying for the team lead in steals with Giuliana Mendiola (51) and tying for third in team rebounding (4.4). She was also named the team's Most Outstanding Defensive Player for the second straight season.

"Kristen's versatility is just something that's irreplaceable," Daugherty said. "She's somebody that can pretty much guard anybody. I think she's going to help us pressure the basketball more in our extended defense. Offensively, she sees the floor so well. Her vision in a full court game is second-to-none. If she can continue to get in on the rebounding end of things and hit her open shot at a consistent level, she'll add a great deal on both ends of the court."

Also returning will be sophomore guards Nicole Castro and Erica Schelly. The pair saw action off the bench last year and this season will be asked to increase their role with one year of experience under their belt.

"Nicole and Erica received quality minutes last year on the court and gained valuable experience from that," Daugherty said. "Now their role has definitely improved and has become more enhanced because of their experience in the program. They

work very hard. Defensively they're really going to get after people and offensively, they're both becoming more assertive in their scoring role and that's something that has to improve for us to really reach the level of success that we desire."

Washington's roster features three players who redshirted last year due to injury. Forward Kirsten Brockman, a redshirt-sophomore, used last year to rehabilitate from surgery to repair a stress fracture in her left foot. As a freshman in 2002, she played in 10 games before being sidelined with injury.

"A healthy Kirsten Brockman could immediately help our inside game with her strength," Daugherty said. "She plays way bigger than 6-2. She's very physical, a very good athlete and she could certainly add a lot on the defensive end of things on the frontline. She runs the floor very well for her size and rebounding wise, she will certainly be a force for us."

Integrating a group of six newcomers into the mix will start with redshirt freshmen Jill Bell and Angie Jones. Both are local products, with Bell hailing from Bellevue High School and Jones coming from Holy Names Academy in Seattle. Both were injured in preseason practice last year, with Jones tearing the same ACL she tore in high school, and Bell tearing a ligament in her left thumb, requiring surgery.

last year, Mendiola's all-around play is the driving force behind the Huskies' success.

Mendiola led the team last year in scoring (17.5 ppg), rebounding (6.5) and assists (5.4), while setting a UW single-game scoring record with 43 points and establishing a single-season assists record with 162. She also led the Pac-10 in assists and three-point field goal percentage (.457), while finishing among the Top-10 in the conference in six other categories.

"We expect Giuliana to show her experience and continue to lead this team with poise, confidence and consistency," Daugherty said. "So if you begin there, it's a great starting point to build your team around. The other thing Giuliana gives us is she's so passionate about the game, and is consistently improving and playing at her highest level. Her expectations for herself are just as high as for her teammates and the program. That's something that is extremely positive and what that this team thrives on."

Daugherty will also rely upon the senior leadership provided from Andrea Lalum and Gioconda Mendiola.

"Gio and Andrea are the other two seniors to be counted on, obviously to provide a lot of their experience and take on that leadership role with Giuliana," Daugherty said. "Now that they're seniors, they have a lot of quality playing time



**Gioconda  
Mendiola**



## Nicole Castro



"They've had a good spring and they're getting healthy," Daugherty said. "Athletically, they are going to be able to add a lot on both ends of the court with their quickness, with their ability to penetrate with their defense. They are really going to help us extend our defense and really get us into our running game."

The Huskies welcome four standout athletes that make up the 2004 freshmen class: Dominique Banks, Cameo Hicks, Maggie O'Hara and Breanne Watson.

"It's a really exciting class," Daugherty said. "All four are just outstanding people and great student-athletes. They're excited about getting here and the challenge ahead, as well as helping us take this program to another level."

Banks, a guard from St. Mary's High School in Stockton, Calif., brings outstanding prep credentials to Seattle. Following the end of her senior season, Banks was named Cal-High Sports Ms. Basketball Player of the Year. She also led her high school team to two state championship crowns and one runner-up finish. She was the All-Area Player of the Year as a junior, after earning All-Area first-team honors as a sophomore.

Hicks, a guard from Merrill F. West High School in Tracy, Calif., ended her prep career as her school's career leader in scoring (1,897 points) and rebounding (925). She also handed out 355 assists and set single-game records for rebounds (21) and assists (10). She led West High School to an overall record of 101-24 and three section semifinal appearances.

O'Hara, a forward from Boise, Idaho, was the 2003 All-Idaho 5A Player of the Year after leading Timberline High to a 5A state championship crown. She was a two-time first-team all-state and first-team all-conference honoree during her senior and junior campaigns. O'Hara led her prep team to runner-up honors at the 5A state championships as a junior.

Watson, a forward from Richmond, B.C., averaged 27.4 points and 15 rebounds per game, while earning league MVP honors during her senior year at R.A. McMath High School. In addition to her stellar prep credentials, Watson also played for the Canadian Developmental National Team that competed in the FISU World University Games in Daegu, Korea this past August.

Once again, the Huskies will be challenged, by a highly competitive preseason and conference schedule.

"It's a very challenging, exciting preseason," Daugherty said. "We certainly have our hands full with not only the travel, but the

competition. The Pac-10 Conference will be better than it has been for the last couple years, so we certainly have to tackle a competitive preseason and use that to prepare us well for a tougher than ever Pac-10 Conference run."

On the docket for preseason action will be a season-opening tournament at the University of Hawai'i with Lipscomb and Maine. Washington will also travel to Colorado and Iowa State in December. Colorado will be a formidable foe, advancing as far as the NCAA Sweet 16 last year and finishing the season ranked 19<sup>th</sup> by the ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll. Iowa State will be gunning for the Huskies after last year's 64-63 Washington win in Seattle.

UW will welcome Gonzaga, Yale and Oklahoma State to the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Seattle Times Husky Classic for its home debut. Preseason home games also include showdowns with Notre Dame, Texas Tech and Denver. Notre Dame advanced to the NCAA Regional Semifinal last year and ranked 21<sup>st</sup> in the final ESPN/USA Today Coaches Poll. The Fighting Irish are just three years removed from their 2001 NCAA Championship. Texas Tech, who

finished 2003 ranked sixth and seventh in final polls, advanced as far as the NCAA Regional Final last year.

Like always, the Pac-10 schedule will provide formidable challenges for the Huskies, as they gear up for the third conference tournament, held for the second straight year in San Jose, Calif., in March 2004.

Bank of America Arena will also be home to the 2004 NCAA West Regional, a place the Huskies would love to be come March Madness time.

"What the regional says is that the city of Seattle supports women's basketball," Daugherty said. "And they have for a long time whether you look at the ABL or the WNBA, or the great tradition of Husky women's basketball throughout the years. Because we lead the conference in attendance now, it's just another opportunity to salute our fans to have a regional like this in their own backyard."

With their sights set on playing in front of the hometown fans at the NCAA West Regional, the Huskies will take to the court this year, ready to face another challenging and competitive schedule. A squad made up of veteran returners and talented newcomers will open 2003-04 taking aim on its ultimate goal of winning a national championship.

"We feel like we can win a national championship at the University of Washington," Daugherty said. "That's what gets us fired up each day and that's what motivates each individual in this program to work hard towards that goal."

## Erica Schelly

