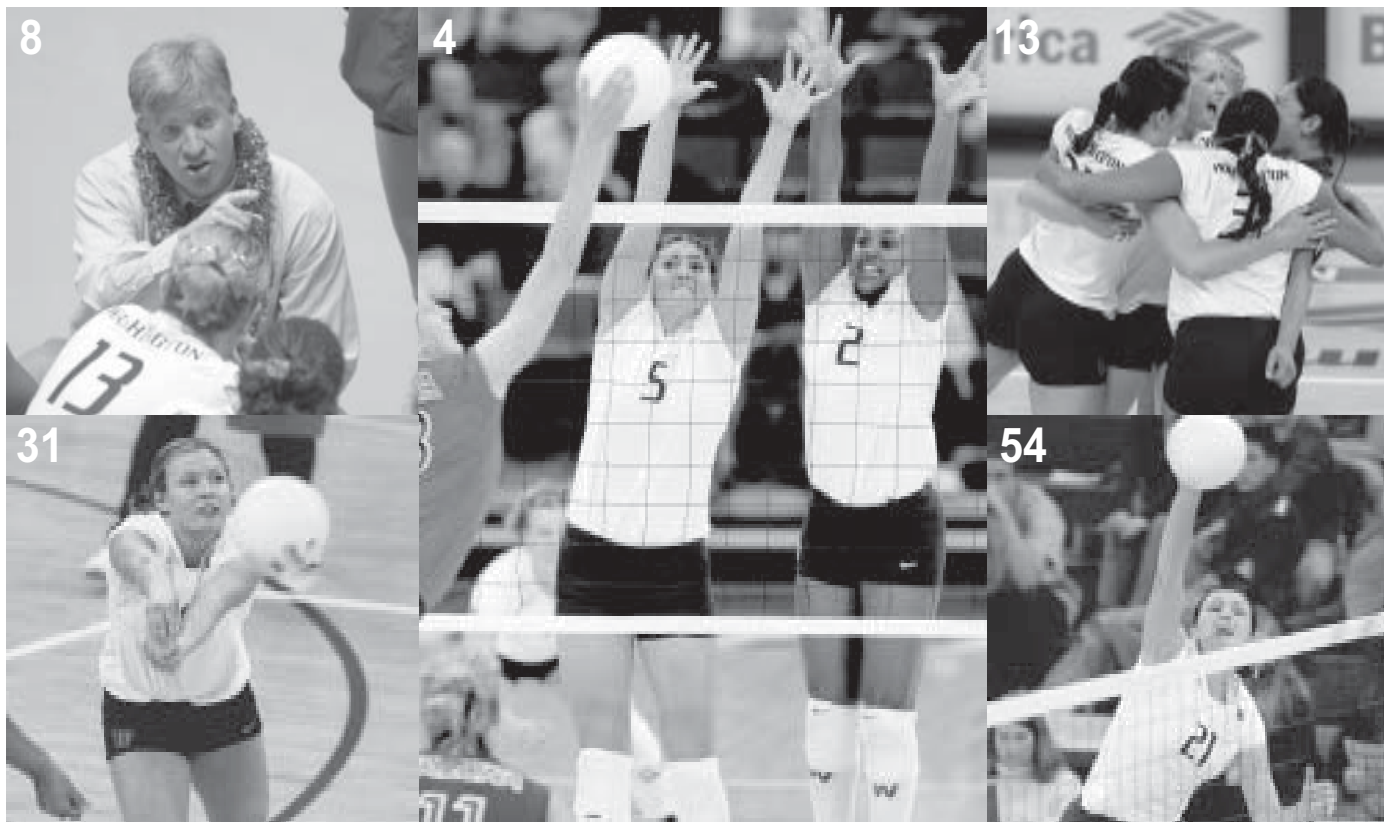


TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 GENERAL INFORMATION Quick Facts-1, Media Outlets- 2	31 2002 SEASON REVIEW Results, Pac-10 Standings- 32, Statistics, Awards, Attendance- 33, Pac-10 Leaders, Husky Bests- 34, All-Time Conference Standings- 35	54 2003 OPPONENTS UMKC, Wisconsin, Middle Tenn. St.- 55, Ohio, IPFW, Idaho St.- 56, NAU, Idaho, ASU- 57, Arizona, California, Stanford- 58, UCLA, USC, Oregon- 59, OSU, WSU, Utah Valley State- 60
3 2003 SEASON PREVIEW Roster-4, Schedule-5, Preview- 6-7	36 HISTORY Match Records- 37, Season Records- 38-39, Career Records- 40, Season Leaders- 41-42, Year-By-Year Results- 43-49, All-Americans- 50, Honor Roll- 51, All-Time Series- 52, Letterwinners- 53	61 HUSKY EXPERIENCE Athletic Administration- 61, UW- 62, Landmarks- 63, Alumni- 64, Total Student-Athlete- 66-67, Facilities- 68-69, Strength & Conditioning/ Sports Medicine- 70, Coaches- 71, Seattle- 72.
8 COACHING STAFF Jim McLaughlin-9, Pat Stangle-11, Leslie Tuiasosopo, Support Staff-12		
13 PLAYER PROFILES Seniors- 14-17, Juniors- 18-24, Sophomores- 25-29, Freshman- 29-30		



1

GENERAL INFORMATION W

HUSKIES AT A GLANCE

School: University of Washington
Location: Seattle, Wash.
Address: 229 Graves Bldg., Box 354070, Seattle, WA 98195-4070
Founded: November 4, 1861
Enrollment: 37,000 (26,800 undergraduate)
Nickname: Huskies
Colors: Purple and Gold
Conference: Pacific-10
Home Facility: Bank of America Arena (10,000)
Press Row Phone: (206) 616-8845
Interim President: Lee H. Huntsman
Athletic Director: Barbara Hedges
Sr. Assoc. AD for Sports Programs/Student Services: . Marie Tuite
Asst. Athletic Director for Media Relations: Jim Daves
Asst. Media Relations Director/Volleyball Contact: Misty Cole
Work / Cell: (206) 685-3119 / (206) 349-3119
Fax: (206) 543-5000
e-mail: mistyrc@u.washington.edu

Head Coach: Jim McLaughlin (UC Santa Barbara, 1985)
Record at Washington: 31-27 (.534)/two years
Overall Record: 255-145 (.638)/13 years
McLaughlin's Phone: (206) 543-0432
McLaughlin's e-mail: jimmc@u.washington.edu
Assistant Coach: Pat Stangle, 2nd year (Hardin-Simmons, 1988)
Assistant Coach: Leslie Tuiasosopo, 3rd year (Washington, 2000)
Certified Athletic Trainer: Chrissy Price
Equipment Manager: Karen Gunderman
2002 Overall Record: 20-11
2002 Conference Record/Place: 9-9/5th
2002 Postseason/Final AVCA Ranking: 1-1/ N/A
Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 12/6
Starters Returning/Lost: 4/2
Newcomers: 3
NCAA Tournament Appearances: 7 – 1986, 88, 89, 94, 96, 97, 2002

MEDIA INFORMATION

NEWSPAPERS

Seattle Times

(AM weekdays, AM Sunday)
1120 John Street, Box 70,
Seattle, WA 98111
Phone: (206) 464-2276 or
(800) 3436319
FAX: (206) 464-3255
Website: www.seattletimes.com

Seattle Post-Intelligencer

(AM weekdays, Saturday)
101 Elliot Ave. W.,
Seattle, WA 98119-4220
Phone: (206) 448-8370
FAX: (206) 448-8164 or 8224
Website: www.seattle-pi.com

Tacoma News-Tribune

(AM Monday-Sunday)
1950 S. State St., Box 11000,
Tacoma, WA 98411
Phone: (253) 597-8680
FAX: (253) 597-8360
Website: www.tribnet.com

Everett Herald

(AM Monday-Sunday)
1213 California St.,
Box 930,
Everett, WA 98206
Phone: (425) 339-3470
FAX: (425) 339-3464
Website: www.heraldnnet.com

Eastside Journal

(AM Monday-Sunday)
1705 132nd Ave. NE., Box 90130,
Bellevue, WA 98009-5590
Phone: (425) 453-4255 or 4256
FAX: (425) 635-0603
Website: www.eastsidejournal.com

Daily Olympian

(AM Monday-Sunday)
111 Bethel St., NE.,
Olympia, WA 98507
Phone: (360) 754-5432
FAX: (360) 357-0202
Website: www.theolympian.com

The Daily

(AM Monday-Friday)
University of Washington,
144 Communications Bldg.,
Box 353720
Seattle, WA 98195
Phone: (206) 543-2703
FAX: (206) 543-2345
Website: www.thedaily.washington.edu

Associated Press

3131 Elliot Ave., Suite 750,
Seattle, WA 98121-1095
Phone: (206) 682-1812
FAX: (206) 621-1948

TELEVISION

KOMO-TV

(ABC, Channel 4)
140 4th Ave. North,
Seattle, WA 98109
Phone: (206) 404-4006 or 4167
FAX: (206) 404-3438

KIRO-TV

(CBS, Channel 7)
2807 3rd Avenue,
Seattle, WA 98121
Phone: (206) 728-7803 or 8901
FAX: (206) 441-4840

KING-TV

(NBC, Channel 5)
333 Dexter Ave. N.,
Seattle, WA 98109
Phone: (206) 448-3959
FAX: (206) 448-3953

KCPQ-TV

(FOX, Channel 13)
1813 Westlake Ave., N.,
Seattle, WA 98109
Phone: (206) 674-1305
FAX: (206) 674-1713

Fox Sports Net

3626 156th Ave SE,
Bellevue, WA 98006
Phone: (425) 641-0104
FAX: (425) 641-9811

RADIO

KJR (AM 950)

190 Queen Anne Avenue,
N., Seattle, WA 98109
Phone: (206) 494-2000
FAX: (206) 494-2102

KIRO (AM 710)

1820 Eastlake Ave E.,
Seattle, WA 98102
Phone: (206) 726-5440
FAX: (206) 726-7001

KOMO (AM 1000)

200 Tower Bldg.,
Seattle, WA 98101
Phone: (206) 516-3101
FAX: (206) 516-3110

MEDIA SERVICES

The 2003 edition of the Washington Volleyball Media Guide is a source of information for the media covering the Huskies during the season. Additional information is available upon request – news releases, photographs and news clips. Contact the Washington Media Relations Office at (206) 543-2230 for various needs, including interviews.

INTERVIEWS

Interviews with players and coaches should be arranged at least 24 hours in advance by contacting the Washington Media Relations Office at (206) 543-2230. The best time for short interviews is before practice, while extended interviews, depending on players' class schedules and team obligations will take place at the Media Relations Office. Telephone interviews are available to the media on a "call-back" basis only. The Washington Media Relations Office will arrange for telephone interviews at a time that is convenient for the student-athlete.

INTERNET

Fans and media can stay updated on all Husky teams on the Washington Athletic website at <http://www.gohuskies.com>.

CREDENTIALS

Members of the working media are asked to contact the Washington Media Relations Office for press row, photography and media passes at least 24 hours before the match. If passes cannot be mailed, they will be left at "Will Call", which is located at the main entrance of the Bank of America Arena. Any credentials left at "Will Call" will require proper identification.

CREDITS:

The 2003 Washington volleyball media guide was compiled, written and edited by Assistant Media Relations Director Misty Cole. Design and layout was done in-house by Cole. Cover design by Jeff Bechthold. Additional contributions/proofing by Terra Romar, Erin Rowley, Jordan Roy-Byrne and Brian Tom. Printing by UW Publication Services (Judy Robertson).

Photography by Scott Bisch, Cole, Joanie Komura and Jay Metzger (and UW archives).

The UW Media Relations Office thanks all members of past UW staffs that assisted in compiling information for this guide. Any corrections or additions are welcome and should be directed in writing to the sports information office.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT (206 AREA CODE)

Athletic Department	543-2210
Director of Athletics—Barbara Hedges	543-2212
Sr. Assoc. AD for Sports Programs and Student Services—Marie Tuite	543-2279
Sr. Assoc. AD for External Affairs—Gary Barta	616-9280
Assoc. AD for Fund Development—Ken Winstead	543-2234
Assoc. AD for Business & Finance—Paul King	685-7554
Asst. AD for Compliance —Dana Richardson	685-7853
Asst. AD for Facilities & Events—Chip Lydum	543-7373
Asst. AD for Media Relations—Jim Daves	543-2230
Assoc. Media Relations Director—Dan Lepse	543-2230
Asst. Media Relations Directors—Jeff Bechthold, Misty Cole, Erin Rowley	543-2230
Media Relations Asst.—Brian Beaky	543-2230
Media Relations Program Coordinator—Brian Tom	543-2230
Asst. Director of Olympic Sports—Karen Flor	685-7853
Marketing & Promotions Director—Leslie Wurzberger	543-3086
Asst. Marketing & Promotions Dir.—Carol Parrish (Vball) ...	616-8654
Facilities Manager—Larry White	616-5932
Event Manager—Scott Baebler	543-2246
Volleyball Athletic Trainer—Chrissy Price	543-9972
Student-Athlete Services Director—Stan Chernicoff	616-6723
Ticket Manager—Wendy Brown	543-2200
Travel Coordinator—Mary Ryles	685-0100



SEASON PREVIEW





2003 WASHINGTON ROSTER

NUMERICAL ROSTER

NO	NAME	POS	HT	YR	EXP	HOMETOWN/HIGH SCHOOL	CLUB
2	Alexis McDonald	MB	5-11	RS-Jr.	2V	Long Beach, Calif./Long Beach Poly HS	Asics Nova VBC
3	Courtney Thompson	S	5-8	Fr.	HS	Kent, Wash./Kentlake HS	KJVBC
4	Carolyn Farny	OH	6-1	RS-Fr.	HS	Fort Wayne, Ind./Concordia Lutheran HS	Fort Wayne VBC
5	Kaitlin Leck	OH	6-1	Jr.	2V	Carson City, Nev./Carson HS	Sierra Nevada VBC
8	Libba Lawrence	L	5-7	Sr.	3V	West Linn, Ore./West Linn HS	Portland VBC
10	Brie Hagerty	OH	6-1	So.	TR	Defiance, Ohio/Defiance HS/Ohio State	Ft. Wayne VBC
11	Darla Myhre	MB	6-2	So.	1V	Victoria, B.C./Belmont Secondary HS	Victoria KOA/Victoria
12	Liandren Buck	OH	5-10	Fr.	HS	Kenmore, Wash./Inglemoor HS	KJVBC
13	Kara Bjorklund	MB	5-11	Sr.	3V	Olympia, Wash./Capital HS	Puget Sound VBC
14	Candace Lee	L	5-7	So.	1V	Eugene, Ore./Churchill HS	Webfoot Juniors VBC
15	Danka Danicic	DS	5-10	So.	1V	Ljig, Yugoslavia/Valjevska Gimnazija HS	Obilic VBC
18	Diane Halvarson	L	6-0	RS-Jr.	2V	Kirkland, Wash./Lake Washington HS	Washington Volleyball Academy
19	Jessica Veris	OH	6-1	So.	1V	Manhattan Beach, Calif./Mira Costa HS	Asics VBC
20	Egan Metcalf	MB	6-2	Jr.	2V	Kenmore, Wash./Inglemoor HS	Washington Volleyball Academy
21	Sanja Tomasevic	OH	6-1	Jr.	1V	Uzice, Yugoslavia/Medical Secondary HS	Radnicki VBC

PRONOUNCIATIONS

Kara Bjorklund	bee-YORK-lund
Danka Danicic	dawn-KUH dan-i-CHICH
Brie Hagerty	BREE
Darla Myhre	my-REE
Sanja Tomasevic	saun-YUH toe-MOSS-i-vich
Leslie Tuiasosopo	TOO-ee-ah-so-SO-po
Jessica Veris	VARE-iss

CLASS BREAKDOWN

Seniors (2):	Kara Bjorklund, Libba Lawrence
Juniors (5):	Diana Halvarson, Kaitlin Leck, Egan Metcalf, Alexis McDonald, Sanja Tomasevic
Sophomores (5):	Danka Danicic, Brie Hagerty, Candace Lee, Darla Myhre, Jessica Veris,
Freshman (3):	Liandren Buck, Carolyn Farny, Courtney Thompson

2003 WASHINGTON VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

AUGUST

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
					vs. UMKC 5 p.m.	at UNH/Wisconsin 10 a.m./7 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

Aug 31	1	2	3	4	5	6
					vs. MTSU 4:30 p.m.	vs. Ohio/IPFW 11 a.m./7 p.m.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			at Idaho State 7 p.m.		at Idaho 7 p.m.	vs. Northern Ariz. 5 p.m.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
				Arizona St. 7 p.m.	Arizona 7 p.m.	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
					at California 7 p.m.	at Stanford 7 p.m.
28	29	30				

OCTOBER

			1	2	3	4
					UCLA 7 p.m.	USC 7 p.m.
5	6	7	8	9	TV 10	11
					at Oregon 7 p.m.	at Oregon St. 7 p.m.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
					at Washington St. 7 p.m.	
19	20	21	22	23	TV 24	25
				Stanford 7 p.m.	California 7 p.m.	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
					at USC 7 p.m.	

NOVEMBER

						1
						at UCLA 7 p.m.
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
					Oregon St. 7 p.m.	Oregon 7 p.m.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
					Washington St. 7 p.m.	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
					at Arizona 7 p.m.	at Arizona St. 7 p.m.
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			UVSC 3 p.m.			

DECEMBER

Nov. 30	1	2	3	4	5	6
				NCAA 1st/2nd Rnds. TBA	NCAA 1st/2nd Rnds. TBA	NCAA 1st/2nd Rnds. TBA
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
NCAA 1st/2nd Rnds. TBA				NCAA Regionals TBA	NCAA Regionals TBA	NCAA Regionals TBA
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
NCAA Regionals TBA				NCAA Semifinals TBA		NCAA Championship TBA
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Home games shaded.

All times local to site.

Matches on Aug. 29-30 are at the Wisconsin Tournament, Madison, Wis.

Matches on Sept. 5-6 are at the IPFW Tournament, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Matches on Sept. 12-13 are at the Idaho Tournament, Moscow, Idaho.



Will be televised on Fox Sports Net. Matches will be shown on a delayed basis by FSN on Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. or 10 a.m. local time/ check local listings.



2003 OUTLOOK

As head coach Jim McLaughlin looks ahead to the 2003 season, his focus remains fixed on two goals; to challenge for the Pacific-10 Conference title and to position the team to make a strong run at the national crown. In just his third season at the helm of the Husky squad, McLaughlin has already proven his ability to cultivate and teach young talent.

When McLaughlin arrived in Seattle in 2001, he took over a team which won just eight matches all season and tied for last place in the Pac-10. In one year, he guided the Huskies to their best record in five years and doubled the team's conference win mark. He built on that success last year, leading Washington to the second round of the NCAA Tournament after a fifth-place finish in the Pac-10 and a 20-win season.

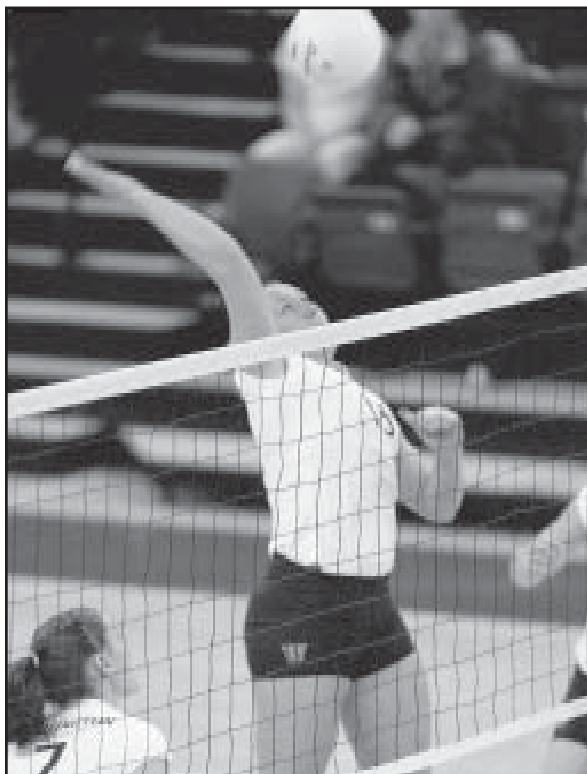
"We've accomplished a lot in the last two years and have made a lot of progress," said McLaughlin. "But we had a lot of progress to make. Making the NCAA Tournament was big for us, however, our goal is to make a solid run in the tournament each year and for postseason play to be part of the norm."

Washington's volleyball program has made huge strides in just two years and is well on its way to becoming a Pac-10 powerhouse. As the Huskies continue to narrow the gap and establish themselves as a top-20 program, McLaughlin says the team's development won't be as glaring but smaller improvements will be essential to becoming a national title contender.

"I've said it many times, our objective will be to continue to improve and make progress," said McLaughlin. "The goal for this season is to improve each day. We may not make as big of an improvement this season but the important thing is to continue to get better and that's how we will approach each year."

Despite the loss of first team All-American Paige Benjamin and first team All-Pacific-10 selection Gretchen Maurer to graduation, the Huskies return a solid corps of players for the 2003 campaign. McLaughlin will look to middle blocker Kara Bjorklund and outside hitter Sanja Tomasevic to fill the gap left by Benjamin while the starting setting position is wide open.

"Replacing Paige and Gretchen will have to be a collective effort," said McLaughlin. "Our



Kara Bjorklund led the 2001 team with a .397 hitting percentage, which ranks second on the UW all-time single-season list.

players made steady progress this spring, so I am excited about the level of play we will bring to the court this fall."

The following is a position-by-position breakdown of the 2003 Washington volleyball team.

OUTSIDE HITTERS

Once again, Washington's deepest position will be its outside hitters. Headlining this list is junior Sanja Tomasevic who was an all-conference honorable mention selection last season.

Tomasevic appeared on the Pac-10 top-10 list in kills, digs and points. In her first year as a Husky, she ranked second on the team with 3.82 kills per game and 3.27 digs per game.

"Sanja has made a lot of progress in just one season at Washington and is perhaps our most complete player," said McLaughlin. "She has solid skills across the board and we're challenging her to continue to improve in all areas of her game. Sanja is attacking the ball higher and harder and I look for her to be one of the best outside hitters in the Pac-10."

Two other returners – Kaitlin Leck and Jessica Veris – also saw playing time in the outside hitter position. Leck, a junior, played in 83 games for the Huskies and averaged 1.96 kpg. She also ranked second on the team with 35 service aces and tied the school record with eight aces against San Francisco last season.

"Kate has all the physical ability in the world," said McLaughlin. "She's fast, has a good arm swing and she jumps well. She may very

well be the quickest player on our team. As a lefty, we can use her more on the right side."

Veris, a sophomore, had an increased role towards the end of the season and came up big in Washington's first round victory over Colorado State with five digs and five blocks. Veris played in 33 games and averaged 1.30 kpg and 0.73 dpg.

"Jess is also a very complete player," said McLaughlin. "She is quiet but competitive and has a powerful arm swing. She provides a lot of stability on the floor and as she improves her jumping ability, she will bring her game up to a new level."

Adding to Washington's arsenal is redshirt freshman Carolyn Farny and a pair of newcomers in Brie Hagerty and Liandren Buck.

Farny, who was a medical redshirt last season, will train as a hitter and a setter for the Huskies. A versatile player, Farny has impressed the UW coaching staff with her ability to do a little bit of everything, including pass, hit, block and set.

"Carolyn works extremely hard, almost to the point where I have to pull her back a little," said McLaughlin. "She is a very complete player and does many things well. We are currently working with her to develop an identity so she can narrow her focus to one area. Carolyn has

made progress in every part of her game and wants to play this season. When you coach players that work like she does, they tend to find a way to get into the line-up."

Hagerty is a sophomore transfer from Ohio State. Last season, she played in 42 games for the Buckeyes, averaging 1.36 kills, 0.62 digs and 0.40 blocks per game.

"We are excited to have Brie come into the program," said McLaughlin. "She is a physical presence who has the ability to become a very good player within the Pac-10. I believe in time Brie will become a very skilled player both at and off the net."

Buck joins the Husky squad after a successful career at Inglemoor High School. At 5-foot 10-inches, she brings a natural ability to block.

"Everyday I get a little more excited about Liandren," said McLaughlin. "She's a player with a lot of God-given talents and has a great ability to block. Physically there is no question. Liandren will be thrown into the mix immediately and we look forward to watching her elevate her game."

MIDDLE BLOCKERS

Last season, Washington posted nearly 100 more blocks than its opponents, while making 31 fewer blocking errors. This season, the Huskies return a trio of solid middle blockers in senior Kara Bjorklund, junior Alexis McDonald and sophomore Darla Myhre.

Bjorklund, one of two seniors on the Husky

squad, will bring experience to the court. Last season, she led the team with a .397 hitting percentage, while contributing 2.19 kpg and 1.21 bpg.

"Kara is ready for a really good senior year — maybe a great one," said McLaughlin. "She's made so much progress. Kara is a physical player and at this point is the best attacker on the team from the middle. She has improved mechanically, which has allowed her to hit with more heat and more accuracy."

McDonald showed her ability to dominate at the net last season, averaging 1.22 bpg and 2.08 kpg. She had six matches with eight or more blocks, including an eight-block performance against Hawaii in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

"Lex has all the talent in the world," said McLaughlin. "Physically, she is our most athletic player on the team. I've asked Alexis to approach attacking the way she approaches blocking and she's shown some real improvements. If we can channel her talents, she could be one of the best middle blockers around."

Myhre was an honorable mention Pac-10 All-Freshman team pick. She led the team with 1.24 bpg, while also chipping in 1.50 kpg.

"Darla is one of the best blockers in the Pac-10 and in the country," said McLaughlin. "She is a great kid who is very mature for her age. She works extremely hard, is quick as a cat and has made progress every day. I've asked her to change mechanically, which is often difficult, but she has accepted the challenge and is improving. She will play a more pivotal role for us as she gets better at attacking the ball."

Also vying for time in the middle is redshirt junior Egan Metcalf. Metcalf appeared in just eight games last season but made the most of her opportunities with six kills and seven blocks.

"Egan has improved significantly," said McLaughlin. "She is maturing. Based on what she does in August, she could be in the hunt to see some playing time this fall."

LIBERO

The Huskies return two athletes that carried the majority of the libero duties last season in sophomore Candace Lee and senior Libba Lawrence. Lee and Lawrence are expected to battle it out for the starting bill after strong showings last year.

Lee was a first team Pac-10 All-Freshman selection after ranking fourth in the league with 3.57 dpg. She notched four 20-plus dig performances, including a 22-dig showing against Hawaii in the NCAA second round.

"Candace had a very, very good freshman year," said McLaughlin. "She is the kind of player every coach wants on their roster. She's the whole pack-

age. She's competitive, has good character, has a tremendous work ethic and has a real ability to focus. I'm pushing her each day to improve and she has even higher expectations for herself. I believe that Candace can play at the highest level if she continues to refine her game."

Lawrence appeared in 103 of Washington's 108 games last season and averaged 1.29 digs per game. She was a consistent force in the Husky backcourt, making only eight reception errors all season.

"Libba has a competitive attitude and takes pride in what we do here at Washington," said McLaughlin. "There is going to be a battle for the libero position and she is right in the mix. She has made some adjustments to her mechanics and has made a lot of progress. I am expecting Libba to have a great senior year."

Also competing for some playing time as a defensive specialist is sophomore Danka Danicic and redshirt junior Diane Halvarson.

Danicic appeared in 74 games for the Huskies, collecting 55 digs (0.74 dpg) and 21 aces (0.16).

"Danka is becoming a sound defensive player and has a good feel for the game," said McLaughlin.

Halvarson did not see playing time last season but played in five matches in 2001 and is known to be a workhorse in practice.

"Diane has one of the biggest hearts of any player I've coached and it's her work ethic that separates her," said McLaughlin. "She has a lot of drive. Di has been key to the progress this

team has made and will continue to contribute this season."

SETTER

With the graduation of Gretchen Maurer, the starting setting position is up for grabs. Joining Fanny in the hunt is newcomer Courtney Thompson. Thompson, a freshman out of Kentlake High School, led her team to two consecutive state titles in 2000 and 2001, earning South Puget Sound League MVP honors. She set four school records at KHS, including match assists (65), season assists (996), season attack percentage (.441) and season assist average (10.34).

"Courtney is a special player," said McLaughlin. "She's quick and competitive and will out work almost any player in the country almost to the point of over-doing it. Courtney is maturing and August will be a very important month for her. We want her to run a specific system, set accurately with the appropriate tempo and have the ability to work quick. Then we will ask her to serve and block."

SCHEDULE

Washington opens its 2003 slate with nine pre-conference matches. The Huskies begin with a tournament in Madison, Wis., hosted by top-10 opponent Wisconsin. UW then travels to Fort Wayne, Ind., to play in a tournament hosted by IPFW, before heading to Pocatello, Idaho to play Idaho State in a non-conference match-up. Washington concludes its pre-conference schedule with a tournament hosted by Idaho in Moscow.

"We will be tested early against a top-10 team in Wisconsin," said McLaughlin. "We intend to train at a higher level each day in August and make progress through the pre-conference matches to make any necessary adjustments before the Pac-10 season."

After three weeks on the road, the Huskies return home to kick-off the Pac-10 season against the Arizona schools, September 18-19. The Pac-10 schedule is expected to be as tough as ever as eight of its members competed in the NCAA Tournament last season.

"From top to bottom the Pac-10 is tough," said McLaughlin. "We've got to come into each night prepared to battle. We also have to be prepared to face a conference team in the NCAA Tournament. With eight of the Pac-10's teams making the tournament and four of those advancing to the final eight, the proof is in the pudding. The Pac-10 season will be a challenge."



Libba Lawrence will be a cornerstone of the Husky defense after averaging 1.29 dpg in 2002.