



2024 Concordia Women's Basketball



cune.edu/athletics/teams/womens-basketball



Concordia Athletic Communications

800 N. Columbia Ave. • Seward, NE 68434
Website: concordiabulldogs.com
Twitter: @cunebulldogs
Facebook: facebook.com/concordiabulldogs
Instagram: @cunebulldogs
YouTube: youtube.com/concordiabulldogs

Jake Knabel, Director of Athletic Communications
office: 402-643-7392
email: jacob.knabel@cune.edu
Twitter: @Jake_Knabel



2023-24 Schedule/Results
25-6 Overall, 17-5 GPAC (2nd)

Table with columns: Date, Opponent, H/A, Score. Lists game results from Nov. 3 to March 5.

*Conference game

Coaching Staff



Head Coach
Drew Olson



Assistant Coach
Tae'lor Purdy-Korell



Grad Asst. Coach
Emmiley Hendrixson

Concordia Starting Lineup



G • 00 • Mackenzie Toomey
5-9 • Sr. • Lincoln, Neb.

PTS 6.7, REB 5.4, STL 2.3, FG% 45.0

- Three-time Honorable Mention All-GPAC.
• Enjoyed a career game on Feb. 21, totaling 21 points and 13 rebounds vs. Hastings.
• Career totals of 686 points, 473 rebounds, 214 assists and 206 steals in 116 games.
• Ranks No. 20 for steals in program history.



G • 4 • Taysha Rushton
5-5 • Sr. • Midland, Texas

PTS 15.2, RPG 3.7, FG% 44.0, 3-PT% 36.3

- Four-time First Team All-GPAC.
• Two-time NAIA Honorable Mention All-American.
• Career totals of 1,879 points, 390 rebounds, 337 assists, 282 3-pt FGs and 212 steals; No. 3 on school's all-time scoring list.



G • 23 • Abby Krieser
5-8 • Jr. • Lincoln, Neb.

PTS 9.2, REB 3.4, FG% 47.1, FT% 77.4

- Two-time Second Team All-GPAC.
• Career high of 24 points came in win at Northwestern on Nov. 18.
• Career totals of 647 points, 233 rebounds, 116 steals and 101 assists in 80 games.



F • 35 • Sadie Powell
6-0 • Sr. • Cedar Rapids, Iowa

PTS 11.7, REB 4.9, FG% 44.0, 3-PT% 37.4

- Three-time All-GPAC (HM/2nd/1st).
• Career high of 22 points came at Dordt on Feb. 17.
• Career totals of 1,036 points, 488 rebounds, 148 assists and 140 steals in 118 games.



F • 44 • Kristin Vieselmeyer
6-1 • So. • Holyoke, Colo.

PTS 5.5, REB 2.7, FG% 47.1, FT% 74.2

- Has started 29 of 31 games as a sophomore.
• Career high of 21 points came in the 2023 CIT championship game vs. CU-Chicago.
• Career totals of 350 points, 191 rebounds, 59 assists and 34 steals in 62 games.

Quick Facts

Concordia University, Nebraska
Location.....Seward
Enrollment.....2,300
Nickname.....Bulldogs
School Colors.....Navy and White
Home Arena.....Walz Arena
Capacity.....2,000
President.....Bernard Bull
Director of Athletics.....Devin Smith
Athletic Trainer.....Randy Baack
Conference.....Great Plains Athletic Conf.
Radio.....104.9 Max Country (KTMX-FM)

2023-24 Overall Record.....25-6
2023-24 GPAC Record.....17-5 (2nd)
NAIA Tournament Appearances.....23
NAIA Tournament Record.....38-20
NAIA Fab Fours.....7
2023-24 Statistical Leaders
Points.....Taysha Rushton (15.2)
Rebounds.....Mackenzie Toomey (5.4)
Assists.....Kendal Brigham (3.0)
Steals.....Mackenzie Toomey (2.3)
Blocks.....Powell/Vieselmeyer (0.4)



Pronunciation Guide

- #00 Mackenzie Toomey – TWO-me
- #14 Sammy Leu – LEW
- #23 Abby Krieser – Kreeze-er
- #34 Raelyn Kelty – RAE-lynn
- #44 Kristin Vieselmeyer – VEESE-uhl-meyer

Concordia WBB NAIA All-Americans

- 2021: Taylor Cockerill
 - 2020: Grace Barry
Philly Lammers
 - 2019: Philly Lammers
 - 2018: Philly Lammers
Quinn Wragge
 - 2017: Philly Lammers
 - 2015: Bailey Morris (Player of the Year)
Tracy Peitz
 - 2014: Bailey Morris
Tracy Peitz
 - 2013: Kristen Conahan
 - 2012: Amber Kistler
Kristen Conahan
 - 2009: Whitney Stichka
 - 2008: Whitney Stichka
 - 2005: Kari Saving
 - 2003: Elizabeth Rhoden
Sarah Harrison
 - 1998: Stephanie Schilke
 - 1997: Rachel Witzel
 - 1994: Tricia Kindle Pinneo
 - 1993: Trish Kindle
 - 1992: Lynda Beck
 - 1987: Shelly Poppe
- *Does not include honorable mentions

Olson Coaching Record

- *Reached NAIA Tournament
- 2006-07 19-13, 10-8 GPAC
- 2007-08 *26-7, 13-6 GPAC
- 2008-09 *26-9, 14-4 GPAC
- 2009-10 *21-11, 11-7 GPAC
- 2010-11 15-17, 6-12 GPAC
- 2011-12 *34-3, 18-2 GPAC
- 2012-13 *25-6, 16-4 GPAC
- 2013-14 *25-7, 16-4 GPAC
- 2014-15 *35-3, 18-2 GPAC
- 2015-16 *22-9, 14-8 GPAC
- 2016-17 *34-3, 19-1 GPAC
- 2017-18 *36-2, 19-1 GPAC
- 2018-19 *30-3, 19-3 GPAC
- 2019-20 *32-2, 21-1 GPAC
- 2020-21 *20-8, 17-5 GPAC
- 2021-22 *16-14, 13-9 GPAC
- 2022-23 *20-12, 14-8 GPAC
- 2023-24 *25-6, 17-5 GPAC
- TOTAL: 468-139 overall; 275-90 GPAC

- 2018-19 NAIA National Coach of the Year
- 2017-18 WBCA NAIA National Coach of the Year
- 2014-15 Coach of the Year (Omaha World-Herald / Lincoln Journal Star)
- Three-time GPAC Coach of the Year
- Three-time WBCA Region II Coach of the Year

2023-24 Concordia Women's Basketball Roster

| No. | Name | Pos. | Ht. | Yr. | Hometown/Previous School |
|-----|---------------------|------|------|-----|---------------------------------------|
| 00 | Mackenzie Toomey | G | 5-9 | Sr. | Lincoln, Neb./Lincoln Southeast HS |
| 2 | Reece Snodgrass | G | 5-6 | Jr. | West Point, Neb./West Point Beemer HS |
| 4 | Taysha Rushton | G | 5-5 | Sr. | Midland, Texas/Monterey HS |
| 10 | Megan Belt | G | 5-4 | So. | Papillion, Neb./Millard South HS |
| 11 | Bree Bunting | G | 5-8 | Fr. | Kersery, Colo./Platte Valley HS |
| 12 | Hanna Spearman | G | 5-8 | Sr. | Gretna, Neb./Gretna HS |
| 13 | Abby Heemstra | F | 5-11 | Jr. | Rock Valley, Iowa/Rock Valley HS |
| 14 | Sammy Leu | G | 5-9 | Fr. | Lincoln, Neb./Wahoo HS |
| 22 | Joclyn Bassett | G | 5-8 | Fr. | Parker, Colo./Lutheran HS |
| 23 | Abby Krieser | G | 5-8 | Jr. | Lincoln, Neb./Lincoln North Star HS |
| 32 | Kendal Brigham | G | 5-4 | Sr. | Wahoo, Neb./Wahoo HS |
| 33 | Juliana Jones | F | 5-9 | Fr. | Omaha, Neb./Millard South HS |
| 34 | Raelyn Kelty | F | 5-10 | Fr. | Kiowa, Colo./Lutheran HS |
| 35 | Sadie Powell | F | 6-0 | Sr. | Cedar Rapids, Iowa/John F. Kennedy HS |
| 44 | Kristin Vieselmeyer | F | 6-1 | So. | Holyoke, Colo./Holyoke HS |

HEAD COACH DREW OLSON



Coach Olson leads by example and instills in his players to keep one's priorities straight: God, Family, School, Basketball and then everything else.

Grace Barry, 2019 National Tournament MVP

When being recruited to play basketball at Concordia, Coach Olson's understanding and passion for the game was apparent. He has always been easy to talk with and he truly cares about each of his players. Not only is he an amazing coach, but he is an even better person off the floor.

Taylor Cockerill, Junior Guard

Coach also always saw his players as people to get to know. He understood that we were all different, had different abilities and roles that we could fill. I think the fact that he cares about his team like a family lets him connect and understand his players.

Philly Lammers, four-time All-American

I took a number of lessons from Olson during my time at Concordia, but here are some that still ring true in my life today! God, Family, School, Basketball. I still try to live my life according to these priorities! Olson was a coach who was constantly trying to improve and better himself.

Quinn Wragge, Three-time first team All-GPAC



2023-24 SEASON STATISTICS

CONCORDIA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

WWW.CUNE.EDU/ATHLETICS

| RECORD: | OVERALL | HOME | AWAY | NEUTRAL |
|----------------|---------|------|------|---------|
| ALL GAMES | 25-6 | 13-2 | 11-4 | 1-0 |
| CONFERENCE | 17-5 | 9-2 | 8-3 | 0-0 |
| NON-CONFERENCE | 8-1 | 4-0 | 3-1 | 1-0 |

| # | Player | gp-gs | min | avg | Total | | 3-Point | | F-Throw | | Rebounds | | | | pf | dq | a | to | blk | stl | pts | avg |
|----------------|---------------------|-------|------|------|----------|------|---------|------|---------|-------|----------|-----|------|------|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| | | | | | fg-fga | pct | 3fg-fga | pct | ft-fa | pct | off | def | tot | avg | | | | | | | | |
| 00 | Mackenzie Toomey | 29-29 | 568 | 19.6 | 81-180 | .450 | 8-28 | .286 | 25-38 | .658 | 33 | 124 | 157 | 5.4 | 92 | 3 | 59 | 53 | 9 | 66 | 195 | 6.7 |
| 02 | Reece Snodgrass | 14-0 | 83 | 5.9 | 10-32 | .313 | 8-25 | .320 | 1-2 | .500 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0.3 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 29 | 2.1 |
| 04 | Taysha Rushton | 31-31 | 848 | 27.4 | 165-375 | .440 | 65-179 | .363 | 76-95 | .800 | 30 | 85 | 115 | 3.7 | 72 | 0 | 84 | 60 | 7 | 62 | 471 | 15.2 |
| 05 | Mia Wiederin | 5-0 | 30 | 6.0 | 1-11 | .091 | 1-6 | .167 | 0-0 | .000 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 1.2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0.6 |
| 10 | Megan Belt | 29-0 | 287 | 9.9 | 45-100 | .450 | 41-90 | .456 | 4-5 | .800 | 5 | 14 | 19 | 0.7 | 11 | 0 | 15 | 4 | 0 | 13 | 135 | 4.7 |
| 11 | Bree Bunting | 27-0 | 251 | 9.3 | 23-62 | .371 | 9-30 | .300 | 10-15 | .667 | 15 | 31 | 46 | 1.7 | 24 | 0 | 19 | 13 | 10 | 18 | 65 | 2.4 |
| 12 | Hanna Spearman | 10-1 | 62 | 6.2 | 6-15 | .400 | 1-7 | .143 | 0-0 | .000 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 0.5 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 13 | 1.3 |
| 13 | Abby Heemstra | 31-1 | 428 | 13.8 | 65-130 | .500 | 2-6 | .333 | 20-24 | .833 | 38 | 60 | 98 | 3.2 | 54 | 1 | 14 | 18 | 1 | 21 | 152 | 4.9 |
| 14 | Sammy Leu | 31-0 | 475 | 15.3 | 63-176 | .358 | 38-131 | .290 | 5-8 | .625 | 6 | 42 | 48 | 1.5 | 26 | 0 | 35 | 24 | 6 | 20 | 169 | 5.5 |
| 22 | Joclyn Bassett | 6-0 | 28 | 4.7 | 0-1 | .000 | 0-0 | .000 | 2-2 | 1.000 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 1.0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0.3 |
| 23 | Abby Krieser | 31-30 | 694 | 22.4 | 106-225 | .471 | 26-86 | .302 | 48-62 | .774 | 21 | 84 | 105 | 3.4 | 46 | 0 | 50 | 46 | 8 | 46 | 286 | 9.2 |
| 32 | Kendal Brigham | 30-3 | 703 | 23.4 | 118-268 | .440 | 49-135 | .363 | 48-57 | .842 | 22 | 68 | 90 | 3.0 | 55 | 0 | 89 | 35 | 0 | 47 | 333 | 11.1 |
| 33 | Juliana Jones | 24-0 | 161 | 6.7 | 17-38 | .447 | 2-10 | .200 | 12-16 | .750 | 12 | 26 | 38 | 1.6 | 17 | 0 | 18 | 16 | 3 | 8 | 48 | 2.0 |
| 34 | Raelyn Kelty | 29-0 | 251 | 8.7 | 27-67 | .403 | 4-19 | .211 | 19-25 | .760 | 27 | 38 | 65 | 2.2 | 34 | 0 | 24 | 13 | 1 | 11 | 77 | 2.7 |
| 35 | Sadie Powell | 31-31 | 732 | 23.6 | 135-307 | .440 | 43-115 | .374 | 50-61 | .820 | 19 | 133 | 152 | 4.9 | 50 | 1 | 63 | 43 | 11 | 51 | 363 | 11.7 |
| 44 | Kristin Vieselmeyer | 31-29 | 599 | 19.3 | 65-138 | .471 | 17-56 | .304 | 23-31 | .742 | 34 | 50 | 84 | 2.7 | 93 | 4 | 32 | 31 | 11 | 18 | 170 | 5.5 |
| Total..... | | 31 | 6200 | | 927-2125 | .436 | 314-923 | .340 | 343-441 | .778 | 297 | 818 | 1115 | 36.0 | 586 | 9 | 517 | 373 | 67 | 388 | 2511 | 81.0 |
| Opponents..... | | 31 | 6209 | | 684-1753 | .390 | 204-690 | .296 | 430-595 | .723 | 305 | 915 | 1220 | 39.4 | 449 | - | 394 | 642 | 54 | 190 | 2002 | 64.6 |



RECAPPING THE 2023 NATIONAL TOURNEY TRIP



Bulldogs sent to Kentucky for second-straight year

2023 NAIA National Championships Round of 64

Final Score: Concordia 77, Columbia 50

2023 NAIA National Championships Round of 32

Final Score: (3) Thomas More 98, Concordia 69

--Crestview Hills, Kentucky

For the second year in a row, the Bulldogs were sent to Kentucky for first/second action at the NAIA Women's Basketball National Championship tournament. Concordia routed Columbia College (Mo.), 77-50, in the first round behind a 26-point, seven-rebound performance from Taysha Rushton. Kristin Vieselmeyer also added 12 points off the bench. Defensively, the Bulldogs limited Columbia to 29.0 percent shooting. Head Coach Drew Olson's squad then had the task of taking on third-ranked Thomas More on its home floor in round two. The Saints shot the lights out, making 18-of-34 tries from 3-point range in what amounted to a 98-69 final score. Three Bulldogs reached double figures in scoring: Rushton (14), Sadie Powell (11) and Mackenzie Toomey (11). The loss meant that Concordia finished the 2022-23 season at 20-12 overall.





Appearances: 23 | Record: 38-20 | Fab Fours: 7

1992, 1997, 1998, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024



2023

RD of 64: W, 77-50 vs. Columbia (Mo.)
RD of 32: L, 89-98 vs. Thomas More (Ky.)

2022

RD of 64: L, 58-62 vs. Benedictine (Kan.)

2021

OPENING RD: W, 71-54 vs. Loyola (La.)
RD of 16: W, 73-67 vs. Marian (Ind.)
QUARTERFINALS: L, 67-83 vs. Morningside (Iowa)

2020

1ST RD: W, 75-57 vs. Wilberforce (Ohio) *Remainder of tournament canceled

2019

1ST RD: W, 100-62 vs. Wilberforce (Ohio)
2ND RD: W, 82-71 vs. Cardinal Stritch (Wis.)
QUARTERFINALS: W, 73-53 vs. Indiana Tech
SEMIFINALS: W, 82-79 vs. Northwestern
CHAMPIONSHIP: W, 67-59 vs. Southeastern (Fla.)

2018

1ST RD: W, 75-52 vs. Stillman (Ala.)
2ND RD: W, 71-50 vs. Taylor (Ind.)
QUARTERFINALS: W, 79-61 vs. Jamestown (N.D.)
SEMIFINALS: W, 84-77 vs. Northwestern (Iowa)
CHAMPIONSHIP: L, 59-82 vs. Dakota Wesleyan (S.D.)

2017

1ST RD: W, 101-66 vs. Bryan (Tenn.)
2ND RD: W, 75-56 vs. Cardinal Stritch (Wis.)
QUARTERFINALS: W, 74-59 vs. Jamestown (N.D.)
SEMIFINALS: L, 83-91 vs. Saint Xavier (Ill.)

2016

1ST RD: L, 82-85 vs. Goshen (Ind.)

2015

1ST RD: W, 76-35 vs. Bryan (Tenn.)
2ND RD: W, 92-82 vs. College of Saint Mary (Neb.)
QUARTERFINALS: W, 76-59 vs. Jamestown (N.D.)
SEMIFINALS: W, 72-62 vs. Briar Cliff (Iowa)
CHAMPIONSHIP: L, 57-59 vs. Morningside (Iowa)

2014

1ST RD: L, 86-91 vs. Olivet Nazarene (Ill.)

2013

1ST RD: L, 60-66 vs. Cardinal Stritch (Wis.)

2012

1ST RD: W, 78-54 vs. Sterling (Kan.)
2ND RD: W, 69-48 vs. Cardinal Stritch (Wis.)
QUARTERFINALS: W, 80-68 vs. Grand View (Iowa)
SEMIFINALS: L, 70-74 vs. College of the Ozarks (Mo.)

2010

1ST RD: L, 42-57 vs. Indiana Wesleyan

2009

1ST RD: W, 72-53 vs. Taylor (Ind.)
2ND RD: W, 74-73 vs. Cornerstone (Mich.)
QUARTERFINALS: L, 65-69 vs. Hastings (Neb.)

2008

1ST RD: W, 84-64 vs. Union (Ky.)
2ND RD: W, 82-72 vs. Davenport (Mich.)
QUARTERFINALS: L, 53-78 vs. College of the Ozarks (Mo.)

2005

1ST RD: W, 70-28 vs. Western Baptist (Ore.)
2ND RD: W, 65-51 vs. Cardinal Stritch (Wis.)
QUARTERFINALS: W, 66-42 vs. Sterling (Kan.)
SEMIFINALS: L, 73-86 vs. Cedarville (Ohio)

2004

1ST RD: W, 70-57 vs. MidAmerica Nazarene (Kan.)
2ND RD: W, 63-53 vs. Tennessee Wesleyan
QUARTERFINALS: L, 69-77 Cedarville (Ohio)

2003

1ST RD: W, 62-59 vs. Madonna (Mich.)
2ND RD: W, 88-44 vs. William Jewell (Mo.)
QUARTERFINALS: W, 57-55 vs. Mary (N.D.)
SEMIFINALS: L, 60-66 vs. Hastings (Neb.)

2002

1ST RD: W, 71-55 vs. Southern Oregon
2ND RD: L, 65-67 vs. Briar Cliff (Iowa)

1998

1ST RD: L, 85-92 vs. Spring Arbor (Mich.)

1997

1ST RD: W, 83-78 vs. Taylor (Ind.)
2ND RD: W, 82-71 vs. Shawnee State (Ohio)
QUARTERFINALS: L, 71-76 vs. Black Hills State (S.D.)

1992

1ST RD: L, 78-94 vs. St. Joseph's (Maine)



SCORING (1,000-point scorers)

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Bailey Morris (2011-15) | 2,054 |
| 2. Philly Lammers (2016-20) | 2,033 |
| 3. Taysha Rushton (2020--) | 1,879 |
| 4. Sarah Harrison (2001-05) | 1,800 |
| 5. Quinn Wragge (2015-19) | 1,776 |
| 6. Kari Saving (2001-05) | 1,773 |
| 7. Whitney Stichka (2004-09) | 1,765 |
| 8. Stephanie Schilke (1994-98) | 1,736 |
| 9. Lynda Beck (1988-92) | 1,720 |
| 10. Kristen Conahan (2010-14) | 1,656 |
| 11. Shelly Poppe (1986-90) | 1,630 |
| 12. Andrea Janssen (1986-90) | 1,559 |
| 13. Melissa Tinkham (2005-09) | 1,452 |
| 14. Trish Kindle (1990-94) | 1,426 |
| 15. Taylor Cockerill (2017-21) | 1,374 |
| 16. Elizabeth Rhoden (2000-04) | 1,337 |
| 17. Allison Nyland (1993-97) | 1,323 |
| 18. Hayle Kobza (1997-01) | 1,302 |
| 19. Katie Rich (2009-13) | 1,293 |
| 20. Tracy Peitz (2011-15) | 1,277 |
| 21. Amy Scheil (1985-89) | 1,244 |
| 22. Teresa Noffke (1985-89) | 1,207 |
| 23. Mary Janovich (2014-18) | 1,159 |
| 24. Keyna Kobza (2001-05) | 1,110 |
| 25. Jane Dartman (1983-87) | 1,061 |
| 26. Rachel Witzel (1993-97) | 1,050 |
| 27. Becky Mueller (2013-16) | 1,048 |
| 28. Sadie Powell (2020--) | 1,036 |
| 28. Carlene Gebhard (1975-79) | 1,036 |
| 30. Tammy Blome (1991-94) | 1,032 |
| 31. Brenleigh Daum (2014-18) | 1,014 |
| 32. Amy Streuter (1999-03) | 1,013 |

*Amber Kistler: 1,392 career points with Concordia/W. Nebraska CC
 *Dani Hoppes: 1,107 career points with Concordia/Midland
 *Grace Barry: 1,081 career points with Concordia/UNK

Points, Single Game

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| 1. Bailey Morris (2/15/2014) | 45 |
| 2. Taylor Cockerill (10/26/2018) | 40 |
| 3. Amber Kistler (2/8/2012) | 37 |
| 4. Joe Bartels/Morris/Whitney Stichka | 35 |

REBOUNDS

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| 1. Lynda Beck (1988-92) | 1,250 |
| 2. Stephanie Schilke (1994-98) | 1,204 |
| 3. Philly Lammers (2016-20) | 1,026 |
| 4. Marsha Nelson (1982-86) | 956 |
| 5. Sarah Harrison (2001-05) | 945 |
| 6. Teresa Noffke (1985-89) | 912 |
| 7. Shelly Poppe (1985-88) | 911 |
| 8. Quinn Wragge (2015-19) | 833 |
| 9. Beth Lorentzen (1983-87) | 694 |
| 10. Kristin Miller (2007-11) | 684 |
| 11. Kayla Luehmann (2001-05) | 662 |
| 12. Katie Rich (2009-13) | 653 |
| 13. Jenni Lovegrove (2004-08) | 649 |
| 14. Hayle Kobza (1997-01) | 645 |
| 15. Tammy Blome (1991-94) | 640 |
| 16. Colby Duvel (2016-20) | 634 |
| 16. Michelle Metzger (1988-92) | 634 |
| 18. Kari Saving (2001-05) | 629 |
| 19. Tracy Peitz (2011-15) | 594 |
| 20. Dena Poppe (1992-96) | 592 |

ASSISTS

| | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Andrea Janssen (1986-90) | 672 |
| 2. Trish Kindle (1990-94) | 577 |
| 3. Amy Weisbrook (1995-99) | 511 |
| 4. Bailey Morris (2011-15) | 502 |
| 5. Elizabeth Rhoden (2000-04) | 492 |
| 6. Penny Jacobsen (1982-86) | 426 |
| 7. Grace Barry (2018-20) | 414 |
| 8. Kari Saving (2001-05) | 391 |
| 9. Allison Nyland (1993-97) | 365 |
| 10. Amy Scheil (1985-89) | 344 |
| 11. Shelby Quinn (2013-17) | 338 |
| 12. Taysha Rushton (2020--) | 337 |
| 12. Amy Streuter (1999-03) | 337 |
| 14. Dani Adams (1999-03) | 331 |
| 15. Whitney Stichka (2004-09) | 323 |
| 16. MacKenzie Helman (2016-20) | 311 |
| 17. Carmen Weiser (1987-91) | 311 |
| 18. Becky Mooney (1998-03) | 289 |
| 19. Kristen Conahan (2010-14) | 285 |
| 20. Mary Janovich (2014-18) / Tracy Peitz (2011-15) | 281 |

STEALS

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Penny Jacobsen (1982-86) | 409 |
| 2. Bailey Morris (2011-15) | 394 |
| 3. Andrea Janssen (1986-90) | 378 |
| 4. Philly Lammers (2016-20) | 357 |
| 5. Amy Scheil (1985-89) | 350 |
| 6. Tracy Peitz (2011-15) | 306 |
| 7. Kristen Conahan (2010-14) | 291 |
| 8. Katie Rich (2009-13) | 265 |
| 9. Quinn Wragge (2015-19) | 251 |
| 10. Kari Saving (2001-05) | 250 |
| 11. Grace Barry (2018-20) | 248 |
| 12. Mary Janovich (2014-18) | 244 |
| 12. Teresa Noffke (1985-89) | 244 |
| 14. Allison Nyland (1993-97) | 231 |
| 15. Melissa Tinkham (2005-09) | 230 |
| 15. Elizabeth Rhoden (2000-04) | 230 |
| 17. Trish Kindle (1990-94) | 214 |
| 18. Taysha Rushton (2020--) | 212 |
| 19. Amy Weisbrook (1995-99) | 211 |
| 20. Mackenzie Toomey (2020--) | 206 |





National Tournament Facts

- In its first 22 appearances at the national championships, Concordia has posted a record of 38-20 with seven journeys to at least the national semifinals (three national championship game appearances). The Bulldogs are 15-7 in first-round games. All of the program's national tournament berths have come since 1992 – the same year the NAIA split into two divisions for basketball. The 2019-20 season marked the final one featuring two divisions. The 2019-20 squad had garnered the No. 1 overall seed in a tournament that was shut down in the middle of the first round due to COVID-19.
- Nine of the 15 players on Concordia's national tournament roster have prior in-game national tournament experience. That list includes Kendal Brigham, Abby Heemstra, Abby Krieser, Sadie Powell, Taysha Rushton, Reece Snodgrass, Hanna Spearman, Mackenzie Toomey and Kristin Vieselmeyer. Rushton played an instrumental role in the 2021 run to the national quarterfinals and has appeared in six games at the national tournament in her career. She's averaged 16.2 points (97 total points) in those contests with a high of 27 in the 73-67 win over fourth-ranked Marian University (Ind.) in '21. Rushton also poured in 26 points in last season's 77-50 win over Columbia College (Mo.) in the first round of the tournament. The seniors have gone a combined 3-3 at the national tournament from 2021 through 2023.
- Head Coach Drew Olson has been at the controls for each of Concordia's past 16 national tournament appearances (including 2024). His record at the national tournament now stands at 27-13 with five trips to the final four, including three national championship game appearances (2015, 2018, 2019). The program raised its first-ever national championship banner in March 2019 when it defeated No. 2 Southeastern University (Fla.), 67-59. Olson has won more national tournament games than any coach in school history (men's or women's programs). The national championship team of 2018-19 returned to campus for the 2023-24 team's Jan. 20 win over Briar Cliff. The program celebrated the fifth-year anniversary of winning the national title.
- Olson became the program's fifth coach to lead Concordia to the national tournament when he made his first appearance in 2008. Past coaches to take the Bulldogs to nationals were Todd Voss (three), Mark Lemke (two), Micah Parker (one) and Carl Everts (one). Voss guided two squads that reached the national semifinals.
- Earlier this season, Olson surpassed his former college coach, Grant Schmidt, for the most head coaching victories in the history of Concordia Athletics. Schmidt went 445-276 while leading the Bulldog Men's Basketball program from 1989 through 2012. Olson earned win No. 446 on Nov. 15, 2023, as Concordia routed Morningside, 86-62. That result made Olson the winningest coach in the history of Concordia Athletics, regardless of sport. Schmidt also served as Director of Athletics and hired Olson as women's basketball coach prior to the start of the 2006-07 season.

GPAC Standings

| School | GPAC | % | Overall | % |
|---------------------|-------|------|---------|------|
| Dordt | 21-1 | .955 | 29-2 | .955 |
| Concordia | 17-5 | .773 | 25-6 | .806 |
| Briar Cliff | 15-7 | .682 | 21-9 | .700 |
| Dakota Wesleyan | 14-8 | .636 | 20-10 | .667 |
| Northwestern | 14-8 | .636 | 18-11 | .621 |
| Jamestown | 13-9 | .591 | 17-12 | .586 |
| Morningside | 12-10 | .545 | 15-13 | .536 |
| Doane | 11-11 | .500 | 16-13 | .552 |
| Hastings | 9-13 | .409 | 13-15 | .464 |
| Midland | 4-18 | .182 | 7-21 | .250 |
| Mount Marty | 2-20 | .091 | 6-22 | .214 |
| Coll. of Saint Mary | 0-22 | .000 | 1-26 | .037 |

GPAC All-Conference

FIRST TEAM

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| G - Kate Cordes, So. | Jamestown |
| F - Karly Gustafson, Sr. | Dordt |
| G - Mak Hatcliff, Jr. | Doane |
| F - Sadie Powell, Sr. | Concordia |
| G - Taysha Rushton, Sr. | Concordia |
| G - Macy Sievers, So. | Dordt |
| G - Alexis Spier, Sr. | Morningside |
| G - Konnor Sudmann, Sr. | Briar Cliff |
| F - Molly Schany, Sr. | Northwestern |
| F - Emma Yost, Fr. | Dakota Wesleyan |

SECOND TEAM

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| G - Hali Anderson, Jr. | Northwestern |
| G - Mariyah Avila, So. | Hastings |
| G - Kennedy Benne, Jr. | Briar Cliff |
| G - Morgan Edelman, Jr. | Dakota Wesleyan |
| G - Abby Krieser, Jr. | Concordia |
| G - Mallie McNair, So. | Briar Cliff |
| C - Audrey Rodakowski, Sr. | Jamestown |
| F - Gracie Schoonhoven, r. | Dordt |
| F - Janie Schoonhoven, Jr. | Dordt |
| G - Kia Tower, Sr. | Jamestown |

Player of the Year: Mak Hatcliff, Doane
 Defensive Player of the Year: Kennedy Benne, Briar Cliff
 Freshman of the Year: Emma Yost, Dakota Wesleyan
 Coach of the Year: Bill Harmsen, Dordt

GPAC Tournament Results

Quarterfinals - Wednesday, Feb. 28

- (1) Dordt def. (8) Doane, 85-75
- (5) Dakota Wesleyan def. (4) Northwestern, 80-68
- (3) Briar Cliff def. (6) Jamestown, 85-73
- (2) Concordia def. (7) Morningside, 86-65

Semifinals - Saturday, March 2

- (1) Dordt def. (5) Dakota Wesleyan, 69-59
- (2) Concordia def. (3) Briar Cliff, 87-74

Championship - Tuesday, March 5

- (1) Dordt def. (2) Concordia, 79-71

Coach Olson Accomplishments

- 2019 NAIA Division II National Champions
- 12 GPAC Championships (six regular season; six postseason)
- 16 national tournament appearances (27 national tournament wins)
- Five national semifinal appearances (two national runner-up claims)
- Has coached players to 20 All-America awards and one National Player of the Year honor
- 2019 NAIA Phyllis Holmes National Coach of the Year
- 2018 United States Marine Corps/WBCA NAIA National Coach of the Year
- Three-time GPAC Coach of the Year; four-time WBCA regional Coach of the Year





#00 MACKENZIE TOOMEY



5-8 • Senior • Guard
Lincoln, Neb.
Lincoln Southeast HS

#2 REECE SNOGRASS



5-6 • Junior • Guard
West Point, Neb.
West Point Beemer HS



#4 | TAYSHA RUSHTON



5-5 • Senior • Guard
Midland, Texas
Monterey HS

#10 | MEGAN BELT



5-4 • Sophomore • Guard
Papillion, Neb.
Millard South HS





PLAYER PROFILES

#11 | BREE BUNTING



5-8 • Freshman • Guard
Kersey, Colo.
Platte Valley HS

#12 | HANNA SPEARMAN



5-8 • Senior • Guard
Gretna, Neb.
Gretna HS



#13 | ABBY HEEMSTRA



5-11 • Junior • Forward
Rock Valley, Iowa
Rock Valley Community

#14 | SAMMY LEU



5-9 • Freshman • Guard
Lincoln, Neb.
Wahoo HS





#22 | JOCLYN BASSETT



5-8 • Freshman • Guard
Parker, Colo.
Lutheran HS

#23 | ABBY KRIESER



5-8 • Junior • Guard
Lincoln, Neb.
Lincoln North Star HS



#32 | KENDAL BRIGHAM



5-4 • Senior • Guard
Wahoo, Neb.
Wahoo HS

#33 | JULIANA JONES



5-9 • Freshman • Forward
Omaha, Neb.
Millard South HS





#34 | RAEALYN KELTY



5-10 • Freshman • Forward
Kiowa, Colo.
Lutheran HS

#35 | SADIE POWELL



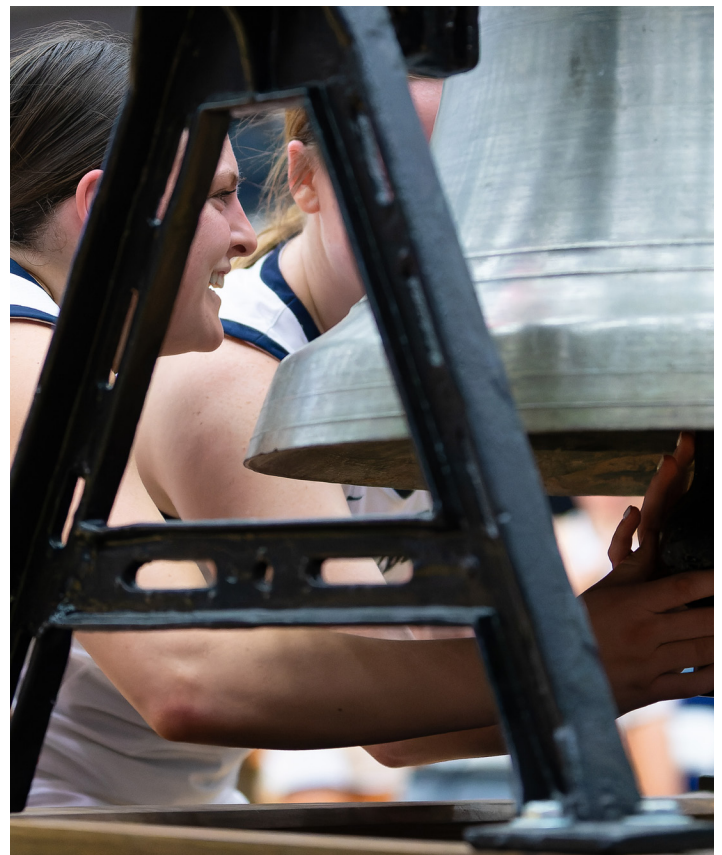
6-0 • Senior • Forward
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
John F. Kennedy HS



#44 | KRISTIN VIESELMAYER



6-1 • Sophomore • Forward
Holyoke, Colo.
Holyoke HS





SENIOR STORIES: A CLASS THAT PERSEVERED



Kendal Brigham knows something about the importance of community. It was the community of Wahoo that helped uplift Kendal and the Brigham family in June of 2018 and in the years since. Having then just completed her sophomore year of high school, Kendal helped lay her mother Kim to rest while releasing the beloved wife, mother and high school art teacher and track coach to the Lord. The wave of empathy and support that Kendal felt made such an impact on her that she never wanted to lose hold of that type of environment.

In the midst of losing her mother as a teenager, Kendal looked around and saw beyond the tragic circumstances. She was blessed by the time she had with her mother and blessed by the family and community that made her feel loved.

“When she did pass away, I got so many letters and text messages and had a lot of people coming to the house to tell me they were thinking about me,” Brigham said. “The amount of people that showed up at the church for the funeral was unreal. It couldn’t fit any more people in there. It was packed upstairs and downstairs. That’s when I saw how valuable community is. That’s something that got me to Concordia. I see the same sense of community at this university as I did in Wahoo.”

Nearly six years since Kim’s passing (following a three-and-a-half-year battle with brain cancer), Kendal beams when

talking about the traits that she inherited from her mother. Kendal proudly dons the No. 32 that her mother wore during her time as a prep basketball player at the same Wahoo High School that Kendal graduated from. Kendal’s high school coach, Linda Walker, had to fight back tears while watching Kendal at a game this season. Quite simply, Kendal looked like her mom – the way she played the game, her mannerisms, her competitiveness, her toughness, all of it.

Those traits made Brigham a perfect fit for Head Coach Drew Olson’s Concordia Women’s Basketball program. In the fall of 2020, Brigham began her college career during an awkward period of intense COVID-19 restrictions. In the time since, Brigham and her fellow classmates have experienced ups and downs on the road to shaping the Bulldogs into an NAIA top 10 team this 2023-24 season. Individually, Kendal has enjoyed her best season yet. She was named the MVP of CIT and has shown she can go off for 20-plus points in any given game.

Kendal found her way here to Seward because she wanted to play up-tempo, high-level basketball, and because this simply felt like an extension of her hometown Wahoo.

Recalls Brigham, “I remember talking to Coach Olson for the first time and he had heard about my story, and he was telling me about his mom (who battled ALS) and his



journey through that. I felt right away that we started off on a great note. I could really connect with him. I went on my visit here thinking I wanted to go farther since Seward is only like 45 minutes away from Wahoo. After I came on my visit, me and my dad (Rob) looked at each other and we were like, 'This is where I'm going. I'm definitely going to end up here.' People in the Seward community show up every single game, and that's really special to me and to our whole team."

Said Olson of Kendal's recruitment, "I just remember her club team coming to play against us in the summer. We really liked her and what she brought. She's super tough and really fast. You could tell she was a great person and going to be a great fit for our program."

The quickness and the speed of Kendal has always stood out to those who have watched her play basketball. She becomes a blur with the basketball, reminiscent to the Road Runner character from Looney Tunes. Beep! Beep! Her ability to dribble the ball at full speed is a skill that has led to many transition baskets for the Bulldogs over the past four seasons. As Kendal says, "I was told at a young age that I'm really fast. At club basketball when you're little, they come trap you and you have to figure it out. I would just go."

As a youngster, Kendal dreamed of hoops glory at the college level. She also competed in track and volleyball at Wahoo High School. While her mother typically coached hurdles at track practice, Kendal focused on mid-distance races and was part of a state-gold 3,200-meter relay team. At the meets, Kim Brigham would stand in a corner and holler at Kendal to run faster.

As an impressionable child, Kendal looked up to a star basketball player in the community. One day, Kendal wanted to be just like her.

"I think that was always the goal (to play college basketball)," Kendal said. "When I was growing up, Sadie Murren was a player at Wahoo and she went on to play at Nebraska before ending her career at Wayne State. She was so good. I heard she was going to go play college basketball. I was in like fourth or fifth grade and I was like, 'Oh my gosh, I have to go do this too.'"

Kendal came to realize her dreams on Nov. 5, 2020, when she started her very first collegiate game. She also started the next two games before her minutes declined and she was added to the junior varsity roster. That wasn't exactly the path Kendal expected for her freshman year, but she wasn't going to be deterred.

"It was definitely tough, especially when you come in as a

freshman after you're kind of on top of the world your senior year in high school," Kendal said. "You get there as a freshman and you're still trying to figure it out. Your confidence really fluctuates and mine definitely did. I'm just so glad that I stuck with it because I can't imagine being anywhere else or not playing these past few years. Especially these past two seasons – they've been the best basketball seasons of my life. They've been so fun. I can't imagine doing it with anyone else either."

This Saturday, Kendal will experience another senior day without the physical presence of her mother. Four years ago, the Lincoln Journal Star detailed her journey to that point. The accompanying photographs from Wahoo's senior day show Kendal being kissed on the forehead by her father Rob as well as the No. 32 jersey set out on the bleachers where her mother used to cheer her on. Kendal referred to her mother as her "No. 1 fan."

In honor of her mother, Kendal was inked with a small tattoo on her wrist. The tattoo displays the signature that Kim scrawled on every piece of artwork she crafted. As Kendal explains, "It's a reminder that I was one of her creations."

No doubt Kim would be proud of Kendal (and Kendal's four siblings) and this senior class that has grown up together. It's uncertain whether any of the seniors will use the 'COVID year' of eligibility, so Kendal and her fellow classmates plan on soaking up the last moments of a special 2023-24 season. There just might be a few tears on Saturday afternoon.

Said Kendal, "It's definitely a very emotional thing. It's sad to think that these last few games could be the last ones I play with all of these girls. With this senior class, the biggest emotion I feel is just love and gratitude towards them. We've kind of been through it all. College athletics is not an easy thing to navigate. Having that support system by your side makes it a lot easier and more enjoyable."

Read the rest of the article here: <https://www.cune.edu/athletics/teams/womens-basketball/news/senior-stories-brigham-and-class-persevered>.





