

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2007

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

2007-2008 OUTLOOK



Vika
Sholokhova

Head Coach Joe Logan and his first two Loyola College women's basketball teams have set a high bar that this year, and future teams, will be measured by. The 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 teams won 20 and 18 games, respectively, and advanced to the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Championship Game and Semifinals.

Although four seniors graduated from last year's team and are no longer on the roster, the 2007-2008 Greyhounds are excited to begin their campaign and make a mark of their own.

Of the seven returning players on the squad, five have started games in the past, and two of them were regular starters last season – senior Meghan Wood and sophomore Kaitlin Grant.

Add to that group four newcomers to the program and another that sat out last season with an injury, and the Greyhounds have an exciting mix of talent, potential and experience.

Seniors

Three seniors dot the Greyhounds roster, and each will be a key contributor at their position. Together, they have played in 216 collegiate games and will be relied on for their experience and knowledge of the Loyola system.

Forward Meghan Wood returned to the lineup in 2006-2007 after sitting out the previous campaign with a back injury and provided a solid, steady presence in the post for Logan and the coaching staff.



Meghan
Wood

COACH'S CORNER

It's hard to believe that the 2007-2008 basketball season is upon us, but we are looking forward to kicking off our year in a few short days. This off-season has been both very busy and productive, and we are excited to start a new campaign on November 9 in Reitz Arena against Drexel.

Our eight returning players and four newcomers have worked extremely hard in practice leading up to the season opener. After graduating nine players over the last two years, we have a young, but very talented, crop of student-athletes that will take on a challenging schedule. In addition to our first game against Drexel, we will play Villanova at home on Sunday, November 11.

We will also take on La Salle, Columbia, Penn and Bucknell, as well as local rivals UMBC, Towson and Mount St. Mary's. Our non-conference slate is highlighted by a November 20 trip to the Comcast Center to face 2006 NCAA Champion Maryland at 7 p.m. We then open our conference schedule against Niagara at home on December 7.

One of the key components to our success over the last two seasons has been the support of our alumnae, friends and supporters. There are a few events that I would like to bring to your attention. The team will host its annual alumni day on Saturday, January 5, when we play Manhattan at 2 p.m. Please keep your eye on our website, loyolagreyhounds.com, for more information as the date draws closer.

We are also pleased to tell you that we are continuing one of our most successful and enjoyable days of the year, Women in Sports Day, on Sunday, February 10, at 12 p.m. against Saint Peter's. The event is a celebration of contributions that women have made in the sports industry, and we bring hundreds of girls from the area to the game and spark their enthusiasm toward continuing their participation in athletics.

The game on February 10 will also be televised on the Mid-Atlantic Sports Network (MASN). Our game at Mount St. Mary's on December 1 will also be seen on MASN, while our contest at Marist on January 27 will be broadcast on the MAAC TV package.

We are thrilled to tell you that each of our games this year will be broadcast on the internet. You can find the latest information on our team at loyolagreyhounds.com, and now you will be able to follow the team when you can't make a came through live play-by-play broadcast.

Thank you again for your faithful support of Loyola women's basketball. We hope that you are as excited about the upcoming season as we are, and we look forward to seeing you at our games.

Go 'Hounds!



Tynisha Davis

Wood played in, and started, 29 games as a redshirt junior, and she returns as a fifth-year senior with the responsibility that comes with experience.

Wood, who earned her bachelor's degree in business administration and is now pursuing a master's in education, averaged 8.8 points and 6.6 rebounds per game last season. She had 16-point efforts against Manhattan and Niagara at Reitz Arena, as well as at Columbia in the season opener.

She led, or tied for the team-lead, in rebounding 12 times during the season, pulling down a career-high 16 at Villanova. Wood made 47.9-percent of her shots from the field and was highly effective on both the offensive and defensive boards.

Center Vika Sholokhova completed her NCAA-required year of residency in December 2007 after transferring to Loyola from Pittsburgh. The St. Petersburg, Russia, native made her debut in Green and Grey on December 28 at Villanova, making an immediate impact by scoring nine points and pulling down six rebounds off the bench in only 15 minutes.

The game against the Wildcats was a good barometer of the success Sholokhova would experience during the season. She finished second on the team with an 11.3 points per game average and led the Greyhounds with 7.5 rebounds a contest. Although she did not meet MAAC requirements of playing in 75-percent of the team's games, she would have finished 10th in the league in scoring, third in rebounding.

While her 6-foot-3 size gives her an advantage in the paint, Sholokhova is also a very good ballhandler and perimeter shooter. She led the team with 18 3-pointers a year ago. She made three from behind the arc in her two games with the highest point-totals, a 22-point output against Iona and a 21-point game versus Marist. She also registered five double-doubles during the season.

Sholokhova earned All-MAAC Third Team honors despite playing in 19 games and was named the conference's Sixth Player of the Year, the third-consecutive season a Greyhounds player earned that award.

Guard Tynisha Davis gives the Greyhounds a multi-dimensional look from the guard spot with her ability to shoot from the outside or create for herself and others off the dribble. As a junior, Davis played in 27 games and made six starts for Logan. She averaged 5.2 points and shot 43.3-percent from the field.

Davis showed her explosive nature in the season's first two games, at Columbia and Drexel, scoring 12 points against the Lions and 15 versus the Dragons. Davis, a product of one of the most storied high school programs in the nation, Christ the King in Brooklyn, N.Y., matched her season- and career-high of 15 at Siena and set a career-high with four steals against the Saints.

Davis had another solid outing at Saint Peter's, making all three of her field goal attempts and scoring 11 points in 22 minutes of action. She averaged over nine points per game in her six starts in 2006-2007.

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Juniors

Loyola's Class of 2009 will be counted on to log considerable minutes this year and lend their experience from two previous seasons at the College.

Ashley Alexander's versatility and ability to play on the perimeter and in the post give the coaching staff the ability to create match-up problems with opposing teams. The 5-foot-10 Silver Spring, Md., native logged valuable minutes as a sophomore, appearing in 17 games and averaging more than 12 minutes a contest.

Alexander exhibited her range in a December 2006 contest at St. Francis (Pa.) when she hit 3-of-4 3-point attempts against the Red Flash. She made 6-of-7 field goals and finished with a career-high 15 points in just 20 minutes of action.

Her classmate, guard Siobhan Prior, has also exhibited a penchant for the outside shot, a feature that allows her to stretch defenses past the 3-point line. Prior saw time in 21 games off the bench in the backcourt and was frequently called upon to take 3-point shots.

Eight of her 11 field goals during her sophomore season were of the 3-point variety, and she also has the ability to create shots for others. She played a career-high 18 minutes against Rider and dished out four assists and finished without committing a turnover.

Sophomores

After losing five seniors to graduation in 2005-2006, it was important for Loyola's Class of 2010 to make an immediate impact. Mission accomplished after sophomores Erica DiClemente and Kaitlin Grant were both mainstays in the Greyhounds rotation a year ago.

DiClemente earned MAAC All-Rookie Team honors after playing in all 30 games and starting six. She averaged 5.9 points per game and shot 81.3-percent from the free-throw line. Her point total was fifth-highest on the team, despite playing an average of only 14.9 minutes per game, but her importance was shown with increased contributions at the end of the season.



Ashley Alexander



Siobhan Prior



Kaitlin Grant

DiClemente, who hails from Blue Bell, Pa., played 15 or more minutes in seven of the last 10 games of the season, a stretch in which she made six starts. She scored a season-high 16 points, aided by an 8-of-8 finish at the free-throw line, at Iona when she played 31 minutes.

Even when she was not scoring like she did against the Gaels, DiClemente found other ways to contribute. She pulled down five rebounds, three on the offensive glass and had a steal when the Greyhounds defeated Marist at home, and DiClemente also distributed a season-high four assists against Rider when she matched her season-high with 31 minutes.

Grant was a steady performer for the Greyhounds from the start of her freshman campaign. She was one of two team members to play in all 30 games and made 15 starts for Logan and the coaching staff.

She finished the year with a 4.9 points and 4.3 rebounds per game mark, logging over 18 minutes of action per contest. Grant's strength and toughness helps her gain position in the paint, and she pulled down four or more rebounds in 18 of the Greyhounds' 30 games last season.

Grant, a product of Elmont, N.Y., notched her first career double-figures scoring game against Hartford when she scored 11 points off the bench. She reached double-figures in the Greyhounds' next game, as well, scoring 10 to go with 11 rebounds in 29 minutes of play against Towson for her first double-double.

Grant made her first career start against then-No. 1 ranked Maryland, playing 27 minutes and scoring six points against the Terapins, the start of the first of 12 in a row for Grant.



Erica DiClemente

able amount of success in recent years. They will all compete for playing time and have a wealth of talent that will add to the existing level on the squad.

The Greyhounds' Class of 2011 has caught the eye of others in the nation, as the four freshmen were ranked as the No. 2 recruiting class in the MAAC by *Basketball Today*.

Candice Walker brings four years of varsity basketball experience from one of the top prep programs in the Baltimore area, Towson Catholic High School. Walker was a 1,000-point scorer and point guard for the Owls, who were ranked in *USA Today's* National Top 25 during her senior season.

Walker averaged 15.0 points and 8.0 assists for the Owls, as she earned All-Baltimore County First Team honors from *The Baltimore Sun*.

Another State of Maryland standout joins the Greyhounds this season, Meredith Tolley, who played for Urbana High School in Ijamsville. The 6-foot Tolley was a McDonald's All-America Honorable Mention selection after scoring 1,564 points and pulling down 892 rebounds during her four years for the Hawks.

Tolley led all Frederick County high school players with an 18.2 points per game average as a senior and picked up *Washington Post* All-Met honors, as well.

Melissa Bangay joins Vika Sholokhova and Siobhan Prior as the third international player on the Greyhounds roster. Hailing from Mt. Albert, Ontario, Canada, Bangay was an exceptional player at Huron Heights Secondary School and will be counted on for depth in the post.

Bangay was her team's most valuable player for three seasons and earned All-Canada laurels as a senior.

Alex Berlin heads to Loyola from just up the road in Bethlehem, Pa. She was a prolific scorer at Freedom High School, averaging 19.9 points per game over four years, scoring a total of 1,537 points and graduating as the second-leading scorer in school history. Her outside shooting ability – she made 46 3-pointers as a senior – will be a key for the Greyhounds this season.

As a senior, Berlin was named the Player of the Year by the *Lehigh Valley Express-Times* and the *Bethlehem News'* winter athlete of the year.

Redshirt Freshman

One member of last season's freshman class that was unable to contribute in games for the Greyhounds was Devon Carey who suffered a season-ending knee injury during the preseason.

Carey was an Honorable Mention All-American as a prep standout at The Peddie School in Highstown, N.J., and will see her first collegiate action this season. She is expected to contribute in the backcourt. Carey has the advantage of a year's knowledge of the system after learning at practice and on the bench while rehabilitating her injury.

Freshmen

Loyola's four first-year players enter a program that has experienced a consider-



2007-2008 Loyola Greyhounds

No.	Name	Cl.-Exp.	Pos.	Ht.	Hometown/High School/Previous School
2	Devon Carey	Fr.-RS	G	5-8	Chalfont, Pa./The Peddie School
3	Tynisha Davis	Sr.-2L	G	5-5	Brooklyn, N.Y./Christ the King
4	Sibohan Prior	Jr.-2L	G	5-10	Nottingham, England/The Becket R.C. School
11	Meredith Tolley	Fr.-HS	F	6-0	Monrovia, Md./Urbana
12	Kaitlin Grant	So.-1L	F	6-0	Elmont, N.Y./Elmont
14	Vika Sholokhova	Sr.-1L	C	6-3	St. Petersburg, Russia/Sacred Heart (N.J.)/Pitt
20	Alexandra Berlin	Fr.-HS	G	5-9	Bethlehem, Pa./Freedom
21	Meghan Wood	Sr.-3L	F	5-11	Stormville, N.Y./Carmel
23	Candice Walker	Fr.-HS	G	5-5	Baltimore, Md./Towson Catholic
24	Melissa Bangay	Fr.-HS	F	6-1	Mt. Albert, Ontario/Huron Heights Secondary
25	Erica DiClemente	So.-1L	G/F	5-11	Blue Bell, Pa./Wissahickon
32	Ashley Alexander	Jr.-2L	G/F	5-10	Silver Spring, Md./Paint Branch

Head Coach: Joe Logan (Loyola '96), third season

Assistant Coaches: Marti Whitmore (St. Bonaventure '85), third season; Alisha Mosley (Wake Forest '00), sixth season; Erin Brady (St. Joseph's '03), third season

2007-2008 Greyhounds Schedule

November

9	Drexel
11	Villanova
14	@ La Salle
20	@ Maryland
25	@ Penn

January (cont'd)

20	@ Fairfield *	1 p.m.
25	@ Iona *	7:30 p.m.
27	@ Marist *	12 p.m.
	(MAACTV)	
31	Iona *	7 p.m.

December

1	Mount St. Mary's	5 p.m.
	(MASN)	
3	UMBC	7 p.m.
7	Niagara *	7 p.m.
9	Canisius *	2:30 p.m.
22	Columbia	1 p.m.
28	@ Towson	7 p.m.
31	@ Bucknell	2 p.m.

February

3	@ Saint Peter's *	1 p.m.
8	@ Manhattan *	4:30 p.m.
10	Saint Peter's *	12 p.m.
	Women in Sports Day/(MASN)	
15	Rider *	7 p.m.
18	@ Siena *	7 p.m.
22	@ Niagara *	7 p.m.
24	@ Canisius *	2 p.m.

January

5	Manhattan *	2 p.m.
11	Marist *	7 p.m.
13	@ Rider *	1 p.m.
18	Siena *	7 p.m.

March

1	Fairfield *	2 p.m.
6-9	MAAC Championships ^	TBD

* - Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference game

^ - Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Championships (Albany, N.Y.)