

Saints Game day

THURSDAY,
FEBRUARY 22, 2018



YOUTH MOVEMENT

*Underclassmen develop into key
players for Carroll College women*

Independent Record | helenatv.com





BMGPHOTOS.COM PHOTOS

Taylor Salonen creates depth for the Carroll College women's basketball team.

Underclassmen raise the level



Bailey Pasta has been having stellar all-around season.

Saints relying on younger players this season to win games

ERIK C. ANDERSON
406mtsports.com

The Carroll College women's basketball team's calculus this season is confounding at first look.

The Saints subtracted an all-American center off a 18-13 team a season ago. An early season injury minused one of the best shooters this season.

They added underclassmen. And the team asked its veterans to multiply their roles.

You won't find much, if any, division among the Saints. Carroll's as united as any team, pouring confidence.

The result of this dizzying order of operations is an improved team primed to make the NAIA National Tournament. And the math checks out.

"I have to say it's multiple threats," senior guard Bailey Pasta said of differences between the this season's Saints and last's. "Last year we had to rely on Cassie to have a big night and now there's no pressure. You have freshmen coming in and scoring close to 20 points. We have a bench that we thrive off. We always say our bench is our greatest asset to our team."

In a conference loaded with talented scoring guards last season, the Saints guards felt a constant pressure to be productive. Scoring became more of a chore and something of a forced existence. The Saints had a proven post player in Hashley, but off-shooting nights from any of the other starters meant the Saints were in for low scoring affair

"We struggled scoring 50 points-plus a game," Pasta said.

Please see **UNDERCLASSMEN**, Page 7



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MEN’S SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME/RESULT
10/21/2017	Yellowstone Christian College	Helena, Mont.	W 103-53
10/22/2017	Salish Kootenai College	Pablo, Mont.	W 125-53
11/1/2017	Purdue (Exhib.)	West Lafayette, Ind.	L 71-98
11/4/2017	Saint Francis (Ill.)	Joliet, IL	W 67-57
11/17/2017	Our Lady of the Lake University (Texas)	Helena, Mont.	W 78-71
11/18/2017	Southwestern Christian University	Helena, Mont.	W 85-63
11/26/2017	Montana (Exhib.)	Missoula, Mont.	L 75-86
12/2/2017	Montana State University-Northern	Havre, Mont.	W 99-90 OT
12/3/2017	University of Providence (Mont.)	Great Falls, Mont.	W 86-76
12/8/2017	Salish Kootenai College	Helena, Mont.	W 116-57
12/19/2017	Bethesda College	Costa Mesa, Calif.	W 85-55
12/20/2017	Vanguard University (Calif.)	Costa Mesa, Calif.	W 82-73
12/21/2017	Westcliff Universty	Irvine, Calif.	W 96-53
12/28/2017	University of Calgary	Helena, Mont.	W 91-82
12/29/2017	University of Calgary	Helena, Mont.	W 79-78
1/4/2018	University of Montana Western	Helena, Mont.	W 77-63
1/6/2018	Lewis-Clark State College (Idaho)	Helena, Mont.	L 72-70
1/9/2018	Rocky Mountain College (Mont.)	Helena, Mont.	L 59-54
1/11/2018	Montana Tech Butte, Mont.	7:30 p.m.	W 56-41
1/18/2018	University of Montana Western	Dillon, Mont.	L 88-77
1/20/2018	Lewis-Clark State College (Idaho)	Lewiston, Idaho	W 65-55
1/25/2018	Montana Tech	Butte, Mont.	L 73-70
1/27/2018	Rocky Mountain College (Mont.)	Helena, Mont.	W 90-63
2/1/2018	University of Providence (Mont.)	Helena, Mont.	W 72-63
2/3/2018	Montana State University-Northern	Helena, Mont.	W 78-43
2/7/2018	Montana Tech	Helena, Mont.	W 65-60
2/9/2018	Rocky Mountain College (Mont.)	Billings, Mont.	W 91-84
2/16/2018	Montana State University-Northern	Havre, Mont.	W 64-57
2/17/2018	University of Providence (Mont.)	Great Falls, Mont.	L 59-58
2/22/2018	Lewis-Clark State College (Idaho)	Helena, Mont.	7:30 p.m.
2/24/2018	University of Montana Western	Helena, Mont.	7:30 p.m.

MEN’S ROSTER

No.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	YR.	HOMETOWN / HIGH SCHOOL
2	Dane Warp	G	6-4	190	So.	Havre, MT / Havre HS
3	Emilio Mancol	PG	5-9	160	Fr.	Renton, WA / John F. Kennedy Catholic
10	Chase Burnham	G	6-3	200	Fr.	Spangle, WA / Liberty HS
12	Match Burnham	F	6-8	210	Jr.	Spangle, WA / Liberty HS
13	Kyle Nickol	G	6-0	165	Jr.	Helena, Mont. / Capital HS
20	Patrick Colberg	F	6-8	215	Sr.	Missoula, Mont. / Hellgate HS
21	Brad King	F	6-8	210	Fr.	Dromana, Australia / Padua
22	Lorel Johnson	G	6-1	165	Sr.	Downey, Calif. / Cathedral HS
23	Ryan Imhoff	G	6-6	220	Sr.	Napa, Calif. / Napa HS
24	Matt Wyman	G	6-7	180	Jr.	Great Falls, Mont. / Great Falls HS
31	Ife Kalejaiye	G	6-2	168	Jr.	Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. / Cathedral HS
32	Alejandro Santos Piqueras	F	6-8	195	R-Jr.	Madrid, Spain / Club: Estudiantes
43	Oliver Carr	F	6-6	205	Sr.	Bozeman, Mont. / Bozeman HS

Coaching Staff
Dr. Carson Cunningham: Head Coach
Jesse Repay: Lead Assistant Coach
Scott Menzies: Assistant Coach
Hasani Simmons: Assistant Coach

Getting to know...

Patrick Colberg

- Height:** 6-foot-8
- Weight:** 215 pounds
- Hometown:** Missoula (Hellgate)
- Major:** Finance
- Favorite Music:** Hip Hop/Rap
- Favorite show:** PTI
- Favorite sport that’s not basketball:** Golf
- Favorite game:** Blokus
- Favorite place in Helena:** The Parrot
- Favorite outdoor activity:** Being at the lake
- One thing a lot people don’t know about you:** I think I can sing (a little bit)
- If you weren’t playing basketball how would you spend your time:** Working
- Random talents:** Sports Trivia



Frontier Conference men’s basketball power rankings

- 1. Montana Western Bulldogs**

The No. 10-ranked Bulldogs put themselves in the driver’s seat for a chance to win the Frontier Conference regular season championship with a 2-0 week ahead of the final week of the regular season. The Bulldogs are deep, athletic and willing to experiment in the biggest, most important games of the season. Western will likely have to win on the road this week to capture the conference crown, but with a four-game winning currently under their belt, they’re more than game.

2. Carroll College

The No. 6 Saints took a road lump, but still have a chance to win the conference, and with the added benefit of finishing the season in the PE Center. When the Saints shoot their average and find ways to get to the free-throw line, they’re very tough to beat. But when opponents can muck up the game, the hectic style can wear on Carroll. Two wins assures Carroll of at least a split of the Frontier Conference crown.
- 3. Lewis-Clark State College**

The Warriors own a 2-1 advantage over Montana Western, but need some pieces to fall just right in order for them to win the Frontier Conference regular season title. The Warriors bring a strong defense and good offense each night out, and the combination will make them a pain to deal with in the postseason. It will also make them a likely NAIA team with an at-large bid.

4. Providence

Providence scored the biggest win of the week, knocking down Carroll College in Great Falls. The win broke a five-game losing streak for the Argonauts, and could exactly what they need to find some rhythm late in the season and make a late run. The rap on Providence had been a propensity to fall apart late in games. Now, with a signature win, perhaps the Argonauts can replicate it and move forward.

5. Montana State-Northern

The Lights’ three-and-D style will need a bump in the final week if the
- Lights are hoping to string together some wins. Northern has talent and can defend the best teams in the Frontier, but playing at an elite level on both ends continues to elude the Lights.

6. Rocky Mountain College

If the Rocky Mountain College Battlin’ Bears want to take a step forward, they’ll have to find a way to shoot the deep ball better. Rocky has intriguing pieces all over the court, and sometimes those pieces mesh together and give the Frontier fits. But, sitting in dead last in the Frontier in 3-point shooting at 35 percent means teams can dare the Bears to shoot and live with a few makes.

7. Montana Tech

The Orediggers have played close against most of the conference during the back nine of conference play. They’ll be a tough out the rest of the way, capable of scoring an upset every night.

-Erik C. Anderson, 406mtsports.com

Getting to know...

Taylor Salonen

Height: 6-foot-1

Year: Sophomore

Hometown: Kalispell (Glacier)

Major: Elementary education, minor in special education

Favorite music: Country

Favorite show: Grey's Anatomy

Favorite sport to play besides basketball: Volleyball

Favorite game: Uno

Favorite place in Helena: The lake

Favorite outdoor activity: Boating

Something people don't know about you: I'm really shy



ally shy

What do you do with your free time: Hang out with friends

Random talent: Baking

Frontier Conference women's basketball power rankings

1. Carroll College

Ranked No. 11 in the nation, the Saints are on a six-game winning streak. And in control of their own destiny. Everything is going their way. The Saints have an inside track to an outright Frontier Conference title, needing to win out to secure it. Carroll already locked up at least a share of the regular season crown when it defeated Providence last weekend. With a powerful defense, and a balanced offense, the Saints' resurgence this season has been nothing short of remarkable.
2. Rocky Mountain College

Rocky Mountain College holds the No. 2 spot this week, while still in contention for a share of the Frontier Conference championship. Rocky's defense and poise against the top teams in the conference gives the Battlin' Bears a chance each night out. Sure, they had an automatic bid to the NAIA tournament already after playing in the host city. But this team has proven it absolutely belongs with the nation's elites.
3. Montana Western

The No. 15-ranked Bulldogs were looking like the No. 1 team in the power rankings. And then a slip-up against Montana Tech happened. The Bulldogs still won 10 of their past 11 games, and they're the only team in the conference that can boast about their player earning an NAIA national weekly award. But, for now, the ever-dangerous Bulldogs have to settle for a No. 3 slot in the power rankings. Their final week of play gives them ample opportunities to claim the top spot, though. Western closes against Carroll and Rocky Mountain College.
4. Providence

The Argonauts make a strong case for the No. 3 spot after defeating Rocky Mountain College in Great Falls, but a double-digit loss to Carroll College the following night keeps Providence in the middle of the road. It's hard to know which Providence team will show up at the end of the season: the one that rattled off five conference wins in January or the won that lost six seven of its last nine games. Consistency is the key for the Argos, and if they find it heading into the conference tournament, they're as capable as anybody of upsetting top seeds.
5. Lewis-Clark State College

The Warriors will need some late-season magic to make some noise. Lewis-Clark State has been mixing wins and losses, and hasn't put consecutive wins together since nonconference ac-
6. Montana Tech

Though the Orediggers got one of the best wins this week, traveling into Dillon and defeating Western 70-65, Tech showed the next night why its season has unfolded the way it has. The Orediggers fell by 16 to Lewis-Clark State, and that type of inconsistency leads to losses. Tech has shown it can compete with some of the top teams, but will need some more breakthroughs and a remarkable postseason to undo a season 4-12 season to this point.
7. Montana State-Northern

The Skylights found their second conference win on Feb. 10, but slipped back into a losing streak despite playing tough against Carroll and Rocky. Credit Northern. They never quit during a season that presented many challenges. But in order to climb in the standings and these rankings, the team that's so used to making NAIA tournaments has to win in the Frontier Conference.
- Erik C. Anderson, 406mtsports.com

WOMEN'S SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME/RESULT
10/30/2017	University of Montana (Exhib.)	Missoula, Mont.	L 48-55
11/2/2017	University of Utah (Exhib.)	Salt Lake City, Utah	L 46-70
11/4/2017	The College of Idaho	Caldwell, Idaho	W 48-37
11/5/2017	Boise State (Exhib.)	Boise, Idaho	W 62-61
11/8/2017	Saint Thomas University	Helena, Mont.	W 67-53
11/9/2017	Northwest University	Helena, Mont.	W 74-33
11/18/2017	Westmont College (Calif.)	Santa Barbara, Calif.	W 39-34
11/20/2017	The Master's College (Calif.)	Santa Clarita, Calif.	L 64-74
12/2/2017	Montana State University-Northern	Havre, Mont.	L 42-53
12/3/2017	University of Providence (Mont.)	Great Falls, Mont.	W 78-65
12/8/2017	Whitman College	Spokane, Wash.	L 55-59
12/9/2017	Whitworth University	Spokane, Wash.	W 78-56
12/19/2017	Menlo College	Waikiki, Hawaii	W 75-65
12/20/2017	Saint Xavier University (Ill.)	Waikiki, Hawaii	L 55-52
12/29/2017	University of Calgary	Helena, Mont.	W 59-54
12/30/2017	University of Lethbridge	Helena, Mont.	W 82-16
1/4/2018	University of Montana Western	Helena, Mont.	W 82-45
1/6/2018	Lewis-Clark State College (Idaho)	Helena, Mont.	W 73-67
1/9/2018	Rocky Mountain College (Mont.)	Helena, Mont.	W 58-56
1/11/2018	Montana Tech	Butte, Mont.	W 64-55
1/18/2018	University of Montana Western	Dillon, Mont.	L 59-43
1/20/2018	Lewis-Clark State College (Idaho)	Lewiston, Idaho	W 57-51
1/25/2018	Montana Tech	Butte, Mont.	W 65-49
1/27/2018	Rocky Mountain College (Mont.)	Helena, Mont.	L 58-50
2/1/2018	University of Providence (Mont.)	Helena, Mont.	W 59-47
2/3/2018	Montana State University-Northern	Helena, Mont.	W 67-46
2/7/2018	Montana Tech	Helena, Mont.	W 66-50
2/9/2018	Rocky Mountain College (Mont.)	Billings, Mont.	W 57-54
2/16/2018	Montana State University-Northern	Havre, Mont.	W 47-40
2/17/2018	University of Providence (Mont.)	Great Falls, Mont.	W 67-54
2/22/2018	Lewis-Clark State College (Idaho)	Helena, Mont.	5:30 p.m.
2/24/2018	Montana Western	Helena, Mont.	5:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S ROSTER

No.	NAME	POS.	HT.	YR.	HOMETOWN / HIGH SCHOOL
1	Bailey Pasta	PG	5-6	Sr.	Nampa, Idaho / Skyview HS
3	Jaidyn Lyman	PG	5-3	Fr.	Spokane, Wash. / Mount Spokane HS
4	Danielle Wagner	G	5-9	R-Fr.	Havre, Mont. / Havre HS
5	Michaela Dowdy	C	6-1	Sr.	Helena, Mont. / Capital HS
10	Christine Denny	PG	5-9	Fr.	Fairfield, Wash. / Liberty HS
11	Sara Chulich	G	5-6	Jr.	Coeur d'Alene, Idaho / Coeur d'Alene HS
12	Taylor Salonen	F	6-1	So.	Kalispell, Mont. / Glacier HS
20	Mikaela Olson	G	5-8	Jr.	Lewistown, Mont. / Fergus HS
21	Cassidy Hashley	F	6-2	Sr.	Kalispell, Mont. / Glacier HS
24	Hannah Dean	C	6-1	Jr.	Gardiner, Mont. / Gardiner HS
25	Brittney Johnson	SG	5-7	Jr.	Spokane, Wash. / Ferris HS
30	Nikki Krueger	C	6-1	Fr.	Kalispell, Mont. / Glacier HS
33	Oona Harrington	F	5-11	So.	Spokane, Wash. / Gonzaga Prep HS
35	Molly McDermott	SG/F	6-2	Fr.	Spokane, Wash. / Gonzaga Prep HS
42	Mikaela Robinson	SG	5-9	Jr.	Billings, Mont. / Billings West HS

Coaching Staff
Rachelle Sayers: Head Coach
Gary Turcott: Assistant Coach
J.D. Solomon: Assistant Coach
Joey O'Neill: Assistant Coach

Around the Frontier Conference

Men's Basketball

Montana Tech

This week: The Orediggers look to build off their revitalized late season with two home contests against Montana State-Northern and Providence. The Orediggers earned their first win of the conference season with a win over Providence, but fell to the very same Argonauts team the next night. If the Orediggers can secure a second win over Providence, it will be the only season series victory for them. Tech gets Montana State-Northern before that, though, and look to earn their first win of the season against the Lights. Northern won the first two meetings, 71-63 and 75-55.

Providence

This week: The Argonauts close the season with two road contests. First, the Argos head to Havre to face Montana State-Northern. Providence is 1-1 against the Lights so far this season, losing the first contest 74-63 before winning the second 75-64. Then, Providence heads down to Butte to face the Orediggers. Providence also owns a 1-1 record against Tech. The Argos dropped their first contest against the Orediggers 70-62 before rebounding for a 70-62 win the very next night. As the conference postseason rolls near, the Argonauts will be looking for some positive momentum as they strive to upset some of the top seeds.

Carroll College

This week: The Saints end the season in the friendly confines of the PE Center, though the competition will be fierce. The Saints host No. 17 Lewis-Clark State College and No. 10 Montana Western. These last few games will likely determine the winner of the regular season title. Carroll owns a 1-1 record against each team. The Saints dropped their first loss of the season to LCSC, falling 72-70. When the teams rematched in Lewiston, Carroll came away with a 65-55 win. Against Western, Carroll won 77-63 in the first matchup, but fell 88-77 in Dillon.

Western

This week: Western is on the road in hopes of chasing a conference title. The Bulldogs visit Rocky Mountain College before a regular season finale in Helena

against the No. 6 Carroll College Saints. Western is 1-1 against both teams. The Bulldogs defeated the Battlin' Bears 103-84 in Billings, but then dropped an 85-75 game to RMC in Dillon. Then, two nights after the season series wraps against Rocky, the Bulldogs take on Carroll. Western dropped its first game against Carroll, 77-63, but rebounded for a 88-77 win in Dillon.

Lewis-Clark State College

This week: The Warriors travel to Carroll and Rocky Mountain College to conclude the Frontier Conference regular season. LCSC came into Helena and earned a win earlier this season, dealing the Saints their first loss, 72-70. However, LCSC dropped the rematch in Lewiston. If the Warriors can win again in the Queen City, they'll be in strong shape heading into the postseason. LCSC has split with Rocky this season, losing the first matchup in Billings 86-80 before rebounding for a 69-55 win in Lewiston.

Montana State-Northern

This week: The Lights split their week, beginning with a game at home against Providence, and then finishing out with a road trip to Butte. Northern split its prior two engagements with the Argonauts. The Lights bested the Argonauts in the first meeting, 74-63, but the second meeting went the way of the Argos, 75-64. The good news is the Lights own a 2-0 record against a pesky Montana Tech team. Northern won in Havre against the Orediggers and down in Butte.

Rocky Mountain College

This week: The Battlin' Bears wrap up their regular season at home, though the challenge will be great. Rocky hosts No. 10 Montana Western and No. 17 Lewis-Clark State College. Rocky split against both teams in the first four contests. Rocky lost to Montana Western 103-84 in Billings, but then earned a 85-75 win in Dillon. Against the Warriors, Rocky won in Billings, 86-80, but fell 69-55 in Lewiston.

— Erik C. Anderson, 406Mtsports.com

Women's Basketball

Carroll College

This week: The Saints finish their regular season schedule with two games in the PE Center. First, the Saints host Lewis-Clark State College, a team the Saints posted a 2-0 record against earlier this season. Then, Carroll concludes with a rubber match against Montana Western. Each team blew the other out in the first meetings with the home team winning each contest. Carroll will likely need both wins this week for a chance at the Frontier Conference title.

Lewis-Clark State College

This week: The Warriors go on the road to close out their regular season. LCSC travels to No. 11 Carroll College and then takes

a trip to Billings to face the No. 12 Rocky Mountain College Battlin' Bears. The Warriors lost both of their previous meetings with Carroll, falling 73-67 in Helena and then 57-51 in Lewiston. The Battlin' Bears won't make matters any easier either. LCSC is also 0-2 against Rocky, having lost 62-54 in Billings and then falling 66-57 in Lewiston. As the Warriors look to close out the regular season on a high note, it will be tough sailing this week.

Montana Tech

This week: The Orediggers enjoy the luxury of two home contests to close out the Frontier regular season. Tech receives visits from Montana State-Northern and Providence as the Orediggers look to generate some late-season momentum. The Orediggers have a 2-0 against Northern this season, winning in Butte 71-55 and notching a 71-59 victory in Havre. Their series against Providence is a different story though. The

Argonauts claimed a 71-61 win in Great Falls before the Orediggers evened the series at home, winning 90-62.

Montana State-Northern

This week: Northern hosts Providence before ending the regular season on the road at Montana Tech. Northern is 0-2 against Providence and 0-2 against Montana Tech. The Skylights showed some fight late in the season and could have chances to pick up some wins ahead of the Frontier Conference postseason.

Rocky Mountain College

This week: Rocky stays in Billings to conclude the regular season. The Battlin' Bears host No. 15 Montana Western and Lewis-Clark State College as they search for a regular season title. Rocky is 2-0 Lewis-Clark State, but 1-1 against Western. The Battlin' Bears defeated Western in Billings 54-47 before falling 64-57 in Dillon.

Montana Western

This week: How's this for a finale? The Bulldogs close out the season on the road against No. 12 Rocky Mountain College and No. 11 Carroll College. Western has split against each of these top two teams, but in order make a late push in the standings, Western will have to come up big on the road.

Providence

This week: Providence closes the regular season on the road with games at Montana State-Northern and Montana Tech. Providence owns a 2-0 record against Montana State-Northern this season, but is 1-1 against Montana Tech, including a blowout loss in the teams' most recent matchup. If Providence wants to late-season return to form, the Argonauts will have to come up big on the road.

— Erik C. Anderson, 406Mtsports.com





Jaidyn Lyman contributes as a point guard.



Carroll College's Danielle Wagner has found ways to contribute to help the women's basketball team win.



Christine Denny has been an important point guard.

BMGPHOTOS.COM PHOTOS

Underclassmen

From Page 2

In the summertime, the Saints knew changes were coming. Saints coach Rachelle Sayers — still a point guard at heart — sat down her veteran floor general and explained how the upcoming season would be different. Sayers forecasted how two incoming freshmen point guards — Christine Denny and Jaidyn Lyman — would vie for minutes and prompt Sayers to move Pasta over to the two-guard at different times.

"I said absolutely," Pasta said. "I've been so impressed with Jaidyn and Christine. They've been so productive. It's different every single night."

Those underclassmen are making life easier on Pasta and the upperclassmen, too. Pasta shot 25 percent from the 3-point line a season ago. This year, she's shooting 36 percent while launching a slightly increased volume.

Nobody knew what to expect out of the Saints this season. Carroll was picked to finish fourth in the coaches preseason poll, mostly because coaches didn't know what the Saints underclassmen could do. Now,

coaches around the conference remark about the maturity of the Saints.

It's given Carroll's proven commodities a boost.

While junior center Hannah Dean's scoring and rebounding numbers haven't skyrocketed, she's produced in more meaningful ways — leading the Saints in points, rebounds, assists, steals and blocked shots. With Lyman, Denny, Danielle Wagner and Taylor Salonen, among many Saints, all contributing in major ways, it allows Dean to be the stat-stuffer across the board rather than just a scorer or defender.

The Saints knew early on this would be the case.

When open gyms and practice started to roll around, there were no fear in the underclassmen eyes.

"We make the joke that they don't play like freshmen," Pasta said. "They got after everybody. They weren't afraid of playing the freshmen role and came and sparked us from the beginning."

Even if others saw it early, Denny didn't know what to expect in her freshman year.

She knew the college game moved faster and more intensely. She knew the Saints had many talented playmakers. Coming

out of Liberty High in Fairfield, Washington, Denny played a variety of spots on the court. She knew she could handle what came her way, she just didn't know how much would be put on her plate to begin with.

"I think it's really developed the team culture," Denny said. "Everybody here has their role and everybody is important to our team. I think that's really developed from the older girls' leadership."

Now, each Carroll practice closes with a question: Why not us?

What happens prior to that closing is a competition that sometimes trumps game days.

"The pressure in the games is nothing compared to practice," Pasta said.

The senior said each drill has a competitive element to it, fostering such a fiery nature, at times, Sayers yells at her players to not foul each other at risk of injury.

Keeping that competitive nature is a key to finding success in the third-round of conference play. Carroll looks at the Frontier Conference season as a three-round bout. Now, late in the third round, the Saints established a focus and energy that positioned them to land a knockout.

Wagner, the redshirt freshman from

Havre, believes it's the spirited practices that are paying off. Watching from the sidelines last season, Wagner learned how the Saints want to play and what's expected out of her. She was recruited to Carroll to score and rebound. She's another underclassman the Saints trust in big situations and start when the matchup calls for it.

"Every week is different," Wagner said. "When I'm out there, understanding offensively and defensively what we're doing has been hard and good. My team just trusts me."

At various points this season, Sayers has sang the praises of an underclassmen after a gutsy performance. Sure, she's shown the love to her vets, too, but it's been teamwide production that's pushing the Saints toward nationals.

With the rate they're going, the Saints will have more chances to be praised.

What more could a youngster ask for?

"I would just say the most fun part about being on this team... not only yes it helps that we're winning, but our culture, going to practice, team dinners, road trips, everything has been the best freshman experience I can ask for," Denny said. "That's due to the coaches and my teammates. For that, I'm very thankful."



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3267 N. Montana Ave.
(406) 495-9996
2955 Prospect Ave.
(406) 449-7111



1900 Prospect Ave.
(406) 443-0040



939 Getchell St.
(406) 457-9390



2080 Cromwell Dixon Ln
(406) 442-2255



3190 N. Sanders St.
(406) 495-9464