



2024-25

SOUTH CAROLINA

NCAA TOURNAMENT NOTES SUPPLEMENT

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



SOUTH CAROLINA NCAA TOURNAMENT HISTORY & RECORDS

**3 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS • 7 NCAA FINAL FOURS • 9 NCAA ELITE EIGHTS • 15 NCAA SWEET 16s
9 SEC REGULAR-SEASON CHAMPIONSHIPS • 9 SEC TOURNAMENT TITLES
2 NATIONAL PLAYERS OF THE YEAR • NATIONAL FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR • 26 ALL-AMERICANS
9 SEC PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARDS • 59 ALL-SEC SELECTIONS**

SOUTH CAROLINA NCAA TOURNAMENT HISTORY YEAR-BY-YEAR

1982 • No. 3 Seed in Midwest Region • Sweet 16

Head Coach: Terry Kelly • **Final record:** 23-8 overall

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/14	No. 6 East Carolina	W	79-54	Columbia, S.C.	30-Southers	19-Southers, Foster	14-Denkler	9-Chaney
3/18	vs. No. 2 Kentucky	L	69-73	Ruston, La.	23-Foster	19-Foster	29-Still	13-Still

1986 • No. 7 Seed in Mideast Region • First Round

Head Coach: Nancy Wilson • **Final record:** 19-11 overall; 9-1 Metro

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/12	No. 10 Middle Tenn. St.	L	77-78 (OT)	Columbia, S.C.	24-Southers	18-Gilmore	20-Willbanks	11-Willbanks

1988 • No. 3 Seed in Midwest Region • Second Round

Head Coach: Nancy Wilson • **Final record:** 23-11 overall; 10-2 Metro

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/16	No. 9 Alabama	W	77-63	Columbia, S.C.	21-Middleton	11-Parker	22-Vaughn	12-Heard
3/20	at No. 1 Texas	L	58-77	Austin, Texas	15-Parker	10-Hawkins	19-Wimbish	9-Conwell

1989 • No. 6 Seed in Midwest Region • First Round

Head Coach: Nancy Wilson • **Final record:** 23-7 overall; 10-2 Metro

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/15	No. 11 Tenn. Tech	L	73-77	Columbia, S.C.	31-Hunt	12-Hunt	23-Brown	12-Clayton

1990 • No. 5 Seed in Mideast Region • Sweet 16

Head Coach: Nancy Wilson • **Final record:** 24-9 overall; 13-1 Metro

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/14	No. 12 Bowling Green	W	93-50	Columbia, S.C.	22-Middleton	11-Hunt	15-Thompson	7-Bonner
3/17	at No. 4 Northwestern	W	76-67	Evanston, Ill.	21-Middleton	15-Banner	19-Savage	7-Savage, Kennelly
3/22	vs. No. 1 Washington	L	61-73	Iowa City, Iowa	20-Hunt	10-Hunt	17-Deden	10-Deden

1991 • No. 7 Seed in Mideast Region • First Round

Head Coach: Nancy Wilson • **Final record:** 22-9 overall; 12-2 Metro

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/13	at No. 10 Vanderbilt	L	64-73	Nashville, Tenn.	27-Williams	14-Williams	24-Scholten	16-Scholten

2002 • No. 3 Seed in East Region • Elite Eight

Head Coach: Susan Walvius • **Final record:** 25-7 overall; 10-4 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/16	No. 14 Liberty	W	69-61	Columbia, S.C.	19-Ujhelyi	14-Penn	19-Walker	9-Foreid
3/18	No. 6 Cincinnati	W	75-56	Columbia, S.C.	21-Geter	10-Geter	13-Sharp, King	8-Wilder
3/23	vs. No. 7 Drake	W	79-65	Raleigh, N.C.	19-Penn, Gortman	8-Penn	20-Bennett	8-Anderson
3/25	vs. No. 1 Duke	L	68-77	Raleigh, N.C.	17-Gortman	9-Penn	24-Beard	7-Beard, Tillis

2003 • No. 5 Seed in East Region • Second Round

Head Coach: Susan Walvius • **Final record:** 23-8 overall; 9-5 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/23	vs. No. 12 Chattanooga	W	68-54	University Park, Pa.	18-Ciocan	14-Ujhelyi	18-Warfield	7-Patton
3/25	at No. 4 Penn State	L	67-77	University Park, Pa.	21-Penn	9-Penn	27-Mazzante	4-Joseph, Wright

2012 • No. 5 Seed in Fresno Region • Sweet 16

Head Coach: Dawn Staley • **Final record:** 25-10 overall; 10-6 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/17	vs. No. 12 E. Michigan	W	80-48	W. Lafayette, Ind.	12-Grant	7-Bruner	14-Redditt	12-Watkins
3/19	at No. 4 Purdue	W	72-61	W. Lafayette, Ind.	21-Grant	8-Welch	15-Houser	13-Ostarello
3/25	vs. No. 1 Stanford	L	60-76	Fresno, Calif.	18-Sutton	12-Welch	39-N. Ogwumike	10-Ogwumike, Ogwumike

2013 • No. 4 Seed in Norfolk Region • Second Round

Head Coach: Dawn Staley • Final record: 25-8 overall; 11-5 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/23	vs. No. 13 S. Dakota State	W	74-52	Boulder, Colo.	15-Bruner, Walker	11-Bruner	15-Eide	4-Boever, Dietel, Lingle
3/25	vs. No. 12 Kansas	L	69-75	Boulder, Colo.	16-Bruner, Welch	12-Bruner	27-Engelman	12-Gardner

2014 • No. 1 Seed in Stanford Region • Sweet 16

Head Coach: Dawn Staley • Final record: 29-5 overall; 14-2 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/23	vs. No. 16 CSU Northridge	W	73-58	Seattle, Wash.	24-Mitchell	16-Coates	26-Sharpe	6-Sharpe, Fong
3/25	vs. No. 9 Oregon State	W	78-69	Seattle, Wash.	21-Welch	11-Coates, Welch	21-Weisner	9-Gibson
3/30	vs. No. 4 North Carolina	L	58-65	Palo Alto, Calif.	22-Coates	11-Coates	19-DeShields	9-Mavunga

2015 • No. 1 Seed in Greensboro Region • Final Four

Head Coach: Dawn Staley • Final record: 34-3 overall; 15-1 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/20	No. 16 Savannah State	W	81-48	Columbia, S.C.	15-Wilson	9-Wilson	21-Kalu	8-Davis
3/22	No. 8 Syracuse	W	97-68	Columbia, S.C.	14-Coates, Mitchell	10-Welch	23-Peterson	7-Briana Day
3/27	vs. No. 4 North Carolina	W	67-65	Greensboro, N.C.	18-Cotes, Mitchell	10-Coates	15-Coleman	13-Mavunga
3/29	vs. No. 2 Florida State	W	80-74	Greensboro, N.C.	21-Mitchell	6-Mitchell	13-Romero	7-Romero
4/5	vs. No. 1 Notre Dame	L	65-66	Tampa, Fla.	20-Wilson	14-Welch	22-Loyd	8-Turner

2016 • No. 1 Seed in Sioux Falls Region • Sweet 16

Head Coach: Dawn Staley • Final record: 33-2 overall; 16-0 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/18	No. 16 Jacksonville	W	77-41	Columbia, S.C.	22-Coates	11-Wilson	17-B. Brown	6-Mercer
3/20	No. 9 Kansas State	W	73-47	Columbia, S.C.	20-Mitchell	10-Coates	21-Lewis	9-Lewis
3/25	No. 4 Syracuse	L	72-80	Sioux Falls, S.D.	18-Coates	16-Coates	26-Peterson	13-Briana Day

2017 • No. 1 Seed in Stockton Region • National Champion

Head Coach: Dawn Staley • Final record: 33-4 overall; 14-2 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/17	No. 16 UNC Asheville	W	90-40	Columbia, S.C.	22-Gray	12-Gray	12-Webb	7-Scott, Weaver
3/19	No. 8 Arizona State	W	71-68	Columbia, S.C.	21-Wilson	11-Wilson	20-Brunner	9-Brunner
3/25	vs. No. 12 Quinnipiac	W	100-58	Stockton, Calif.	28-K. Davis	8-Gray	12-Fay, Martucci	4-Fay
3/27	vs. No. 3 Florida State	W	71-64	Stockton, Calif.	23-K. Davis	7-Cliney	16-Romero	10-Slaughter
3/31	vs. No. 2 Stanford	W	62-53	Dallas, Texas	18-Gray	19-Wilson	14-McCall, Smith	14-McCall
4/2	vs. No. 1 Mississippi State	W	67-55	Dallas, Texas	23-Wilson	10-Gray, Wilson	12-Vivians	10-McCowan

2018 • No. 2 Seed in Albany Region • Elite Eight

Head Coach: Dawn Staley • Final record: 29-7 overall; 12-4 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/16	No. 14 NC A&T	W	63-52	Columbia, S.C.	19-Wilson	16-Wilson	21-Green	6-Foy
3/18	No. 10 Virginia	W	66-56	Columbia, S.C.	25-Wilson	11-Wilson	16-Two players	7-Willoughby
3/24	vs. No. 11 Buffalo	W	79-63	Albany, N.Y.	20-Jennings, Wilson	13-Wilson	29-Dillard	4-Oursler
3/26	vs. No. 1 UConn	L	65-94	Albany, N.Y.	27-Wilson	8-Wilson	23-Williams	7-Collier

2019 • No. 4 Seed in Greensboro Region • Sweet 16

Head Coach: Dawn Staley • Final record: 23-10 overall; 13-4 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/22	No. 13 Belmont	W	74-52	Charlotte, N.C.	15-Cooper	9-Jennings	13-Maggard	5-Harmeyer
3/24	No. 5 Florida State	W	72-64	Charlotte, N.C.	20-Herbert Harrigan	7-Jennings	19-Ekhome	18-Gillespie
3/30	No. 1 Baylor	L	68-93	Greensboro, N.C.	16-Herbert Harrigan	5-Herbert Harrigan	25-Richards	14-Cox

2021 • No. 1 Seed in Hemisfair Region • Final Four

Head Coach: Dawn Staley • Final record: 26-5 overall; 14-2 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/21	No. 16 Mercer	W	79-53	San Antonio, Texas	20-Boston, Saxton	18-Boston	15-Neal-Tysor	6-Lewis
3/23	No. 8 Oregon State	W	59-42	San Antonio, Texas	19-Boston	11-Beal	13-Jones	5-Mitrovic, Oelhoffen
3/28	No. 5 Georgia Tech	W	76-65	San Antonio, Texas	17-Cooke	7-Amihere	20-Lahtinen	7-Cubaj, Fletcher
3/30	No. 6 Texas	W	62-34	San Antonio, Texas	26-Cooke	8-4 players	13-Warren	7-Taylor, Ebo
4/2	No. 1 Stanford	L	65-66	San Antonio, Texas	25-Cooke	16-Boston	24-Jones	13-Le. Hull

2022 • No. 1 Seed in Greensboro Region • Overall No. 1 Seed • National Champion**Head Coach:** Dawn Staley • **Final record:** 35-2 overall; 15-1 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/18	No. 16 Howard	W	79-21	Columbia, S.C.	10-Boston, Feagin	13-Saxton	8-Warren	5-Warren
3/20	No. 8 Miami (FL)	W	49-33	Columbia, S.C.	11-Cardoso	16-Boston	15-Djaldi-Tabdi	5-Erjavec
3/25	vs. No. 5 North Carolina	W	69-61	Greensboro, N.C.	28-Boston	22-Boston	23-Kelly	7-Ustby
3/27	vs. No. 7 Creighton	W	80-50	Greensboro, N.C.	19-Boston	11-Saxton	12-Jensen	4-Saunders
4/1	vs. No. 1 Louisville	W	72-59	Minneapolis, Minn.	23-Boston	18-Boston	18-Engstler	9-Engstler
4/3	vs. No. 2 UConn	W	64-49	Minneapolis, Minn.	26-Henderson	16-Boston	14-Bueckers	6-Bueckers

2023 • No. 1 Seed in Greenville 1 Region • Overall No. 1 Seed • Final Four**Head Coach:** Dawn Staley • **Final record:** 35-2 overall; 15-1 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/17	No. 16 Norfolk State	W	72-40	Columbia, S.C.	11-Cooke, Amihere	9-Boston	13-Wheeler	8-Wheeler
3/19	No. 8 South Florida	W	76-45	Columbia, S.C.	21-Cooke	11-Boston	20-Tsineke	8-Fankam Mendjiadeu
3/25	No. 4 UCLA	W	59-43	Greenville, S.C.	10-Beal, Cardoso, Hall	14-Boston	14-Osborne	7-Osborne
3/27	No. 2 Maryland	W	86-75	Greenville, S.C.	22-Boston	10-Boston	24-Miller	5-Meyers, Miller
3/31	No. 2 Iowa	L	73-77	Dallas, Texas	24-Cooke	14-Cardoso	41-Clark	7-Martin

2024 • No. 1 Seed in Albany 1 Region • Overall No. 1 Seed • National Champion**Head Coach:** Dawn Staley • **Final record:** 38-0 overall; 16-0 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/22	No. 16 Presbyterian	W	91-39	Columbia, S.C.	21-Fulwiley	13-Kitts	9-Sjokvist, Kindseth	6-Cunill
3/24	No. 8 North Carolina	W	88-41	Columbia, S.C.	20-Fulwiley	10-Cardoso	12-Ustby	6-Gakdeng, Ustby
3/29	No. 4 Indiana	W	79-75	Albany, N.Y.	22-Cardoso	7-Cardoso	21-Parrish	6-Garzon, Moore-McNeil
3/31	No. 3 Oregon State	W	70-58	Albany, N.Y.	15-T Johnson	14-Watkins	16-Beers	12-Gardiner
4/5	No. 3 NC State	W	78-59	Cleveland, Ohio	22-Cardoso	20-Watkins	20-James	9-Baldwin
4/7	No. 1 Iowa	W	87-75	Cleveland, Ohio	19-T Johnson	17-Cardoso	30-Clark	8-Clark

2025 • No. 1 Seed in Birmingham 2 Region**Head Coach:** Dawn Staley • **Final record:** 34-3 overall; 15-1 SEC

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Site	SC Points	SC Rebs.	Opp. Points	Opp. Rebs.
3/21	No. 16 Tenn. Tech	W	108-48	Columbia, S.C.	22-Edwards	6-Kitts	13-Thornton	6-Grimes
3/23	No. 9 Indiana	W	64-53	Columbia, S.C.	11-Hall	11-Kitts	12-Ciezki	8-Garzon
3/28	No. 4 Maryland	W	71-67	Birmingham, Ala.	23-Fulwiley	11-Kitts	17-Smikle	7-Sellers
3/30	No. 2 Duke	W	54-50	Birmingham, Ala.	14-Kitts	8-Feagin	18-Fournier	7-Okananwa

Tournament Field: 32 teams 1982, 1984-85; 40 teams 1983, 1986-88; 48 teams 1989-93; 64 teams 1994-2021; 68 teams 2022-present.**Notes:** The 2020 NCAA Tournament was cancelled due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.; opponents listed with regional seed, not national ranking

SOUTH CAROLINA NCAA TOURNAMENT HISTORY BY OPPONENT (54-17)

Alabama (1-0)
3/16/88 W 77-63
Arizona State (1-0)
3/19/17 W 71-68
Baylor (0-1)
3/30/19 L 68-93
Belmont (1-0)
3/22/19 W 74-52
Bowling Green (1-0)
3/14/90 W 93-50
Buffalo (1-0)
3/24/18 W 79-63
Chattanooga (1-0)
3/23/03 W 68-54
Cincinnati (1-0)
3/18/02 W 75-56
Connecticut (1-1)
3/26/18 L 65-94
4/3/22 W 64-49
Creighton (1-0)
3/27/22 W 80-50
CSU Northridge (1-0)
3/23/14 W 73-58
Drake (1-0)
3/23/02 W 79-6
Duke (1-1)
3/25/02 L 68-77
3/30/25 W 54-50
East Carolina (1-0)
3/14/82 W 79-54
Eastern Michigan (1-0)
3/17/12 W 80-48
Florida State (3-0)
3/29/15 W 80-74
3/27/17 W 71-64
3/24/19 W 72-64
Georgia Tech (1-0)
3/28/21 W 76-65
Howard (1-0)
3/18/22 W 79-21
Indiana (2-0)
3/29/24 W 79-75
3/23/25 W 64-83
Iowa (1-1)
3/31/23 L 73-77

4/7/24 W 87-75
Jacksonville (1-0)
3/18/16 W 77-41
Kansas (0-1)
3/25/13 L 69-75
Kansas State (1-0)
3/20/16 W 73-47
Kentucky (0-1)
3/18/82 L 69-73
Liberty (1-0)
3/16/02 W 69-61
Louisville (1-0)
4/1/22 W 72-59
Maryland (2-0)
3/27/23 W 86-75
3/28/25 W 71-67
Mercer (1-0)
3/21/21 W 79-53
Miami (FL) (1-0)
3/20/22 W 49-33
Middle Tenn. St. (0-1)
3/12/86 L (ot) 77-78
Mississippi State (1-0)
4/2/17 W 67-55
Norfolk State (1-0)
3/17/23 W 72-40
North Carolina (3-1)
3/30/14 L 58-65
3/27/15 W 67-65
3/25/22 W 69-61
3/24/24 W 88-41
NC State (1-0)
4/5/24 W 78-59
N. Carolina A&T (1-0)
3/16/18 W 63-52
Northwestern (1-0)
3/17/90 W 76-67
Notre Dame (0-1)
4/5/15 L 65-66
Oregon State (3-0)
3/25/14 W 78-69
3/23/21 W 59-42
3/31/24 W 70-58
Penn State (0-1)
3/25/03 L 67-77

Presbyterian (1-0)
3/22/24 W 91-39
Purdue (1-0)
3/19/12 W 72-61
Quinnipiac (1-0)
3/25/17 W 100-58
Savannah State (1-0)
3/20/15 W 81-48
South Dakota St. (1-0)
3/23/13 W 74-52
South Florida (1-0)
3/19/23 W 76-45
Stanford (1-2)
3/24/12 L 60-76
3/31/17 W 62-53
4/2/21 L 65-66
Syracuse (1-1)
3/22/15 W 97-68
3/25/16 L 72-80
Tennessee Tech (1-1)
3/15/89 L 73-77
3/21/25 W 108-48
Texas (1-1)
3/20/88 L 58-77
3/30/21 W 62-34
UCLA (1-0)
3/25/23 W 59-43
UNC Asheville (1-0)
3/17/17 W 90-40
Vanderbilt (0-1)
3/13/91 L 64-73
Virginia (1-0)
3/18/18 W 66-56
Washington (0-1)
3/22/90 L 61-73

Seeding History and Records		
Times as the Seeds	Record as the Seeds	Record vs. the Seeds
as No. 1.....8	as No. 1.....38-5	vs. No. 1.....3-8
as No. 2.....1	as No. 2.....3-1	vs. No. 2.....5-2
as No. 3.....3	as No. 3.....5-3	vs. No. 3.....3-0
as No. 4.....2	as No. 4.....3-2	vs. No. 4.....6-3
as No. 5.....3	as No. 5.....5-3	vs. No. 5.....3-0
as No. 6.....1	as No. 6.....0-1	vs. No. 6.....3-0
as No. 7.....2	as No. 7.....0-2	vs. No. 7.....2-0
		vs. No. 8.....6-0
		vs. No. 9.....4-0
		vs. No. 10.....1-2
		vs. No. 11.....1-1
		vs. No. 12.....4-1
		vs. No. 13.....2-0
		vs. No. 14.....2-0
		vs. No. 15.....0-0
		vs. No. 16.....9-0

South Carolina was the overall No. 1 seed three times (2022, 2023, 2024)

SOUTH CAROLINA NCAA TOURNAMENT GAME-BY-GAME LINE SCORES

Date	Team	Site	Result	1st	2nd	OT	Total	FG-A	Pct.	3FG-A	Pct.	FT-A	Pct.	Off-Def-Tot	PF	A	TO	Blk	Stl
3/14/82	South Carolina East Carolina	H	W	34	45	—	79	33-57	.579	—	—	13-22	.591	50	21	20	25	8	7
				14	40	—	54	21-75	.280	—	—	12-22	.545	40	23	12	17	0	11
3/18/82	South Carolina Kentucky	N	L	34	35	—	69	32-67	.478	—	—	5-9	.555	13-37-50	17	18	26	4	6
				38	35	—	73	33-74	.446	—	—	7-16	.438	13-22-35	14	17	12	0	12
3/12/86	South Carolina Middle Tennessee State	H	L (OT)	35	31	11	77	32-70	.457	—	—	13-20	.650	48	18	22	16	3	9
				28	38	12	78	35-79	.443	—	—	8-17	.471	48	22	20	15	4	8
3/16/88	South Carolina Alabama	H	W	34	43	—	77	24-44	.545	1-3	.333	28-45	.622	13-31-44	17	18	22	7	10
				22	41	—	63	26-72	.361	2-12	.167	9-21	.429	21-22-43	31	11	19	0	14
3/20/88	South Carolina Texas	A	L	30	28	—	58	25-65	.385	0-4	.000	8-12	.667	21-24-45	19	7	24	2	7
				34	43	—	77	32-68	.471	0-0	—	13-24	.542	15-21-36	15	11	13	3	13
3/15/89	South Carolina Tennessee Tech	H	L	49	24	—	73	28-58	.483	3-9	.333	14-17	.824	12-17-29	16	21	16	4	8
				38	39	—	77	34-67	.504	1-3	.333	8-13	.615	16-24-40	15	15	21	1	9
3/14/90	South Carolina Bowling Green	H	W	42	51	—	93	36-60	.600	4-7	.571	17-23	.739	8-35-43	16	23	20	3	13
				22	28	—	50	19-65	.292	0-7	.000	12-16	.750	11-22-33	16	12	25	0	10
3/17/90	South Carolina Northwestern	A	W	38	38	—	76	32-67	.478	5-5	1.000	7-12	.583	13-26-39	15	7	13	0	5
				32	35	—	67	28-60	.467	0-2	.000	11-14	.786	9-25-34	17	15	11	0	6
3/22/90	South Carolina Washington	N	L	26	35	—	61	25-66	.378	1-6	.167	10-16	.625	18-16-34	13	8	21	0	10
				29	44	—	73	32-59	.542	1-3	.333	8-10	.800	11-27-38	17	9	17	3	9
3/13/91	South Carolina Vanderbilt	A	L	31	33	—	64	26-64	.406	4-18	.222	8-13	.615	15-25-40	20	13	14	1	4
				25	48	—	73	26-62	.419	3-14	.214	18-23	.783	13-29-42	12	16	10	5	6
3/16/02	South Carolina Liberty	H	W	41	28	—	69	26-64	.406	4-16	.250	13-23	.565	19-28-47	16	22	19	3	10
				29	32	—	61	24-64	.375	2-11	.182	11-15	.733	16-28-44	19	10	19	3	7
3/18/02	South Carolina Cincinnati	H	W	27	48	—	75	29-66	.439	4-12	.333	13-17	.765	14-30-44	13	19	12	5	9
				24	32	—	56	20-62	.323	8-19	.421	8-9	.889	13-26-39	13	9	18	2	3
3/23/02	South Carolina Drake	N	W	39	40	—	79	31-66	.470	7-15	.467	10-15	.667	20-17-37	14	20	12	1	16
				23	42	—	65	24-50	.480	6-18	.333	11-14	.786	11-18-29	11	15	21	3	6
3/25/02	South Carolina Duke	N	L	22	46	—	68	30-68	.441	4-10	.400	4-6	.667	11-25-36	20	13	16	1	12
				35	42	—	77	28-58	.483	3-10	.300	18-24	.750	9-26-35	9	19	14	9	7
3/23/03	South Carolina Chattanooga	N	W	35	33	—	68	24-61	.393	6-28	.214	14-18	.778	18-29-47	17	15	20	3	7
				32	22	—	54	21-60	.350	4-20	.200	8-13	.615	11-20-31	15	16	17	0	12
3/25/03	South Carolina Penn State	A	L	23	44	—	67	23-57	.404	6-18	.333	15-20	.750	13-28-41	19	15	22	3	8
				37	40	—	77	30-60	.500	7-18	.389	10-16	.625	7-23-30	19	21	13	2	14
3/17/12	South Carolina Eastern Michigan	N	W	39	41	—	80	32-60	.533	5-19	.263	11-14	.786	11-27-38	18	22	17	11	11
				23	25	—	48	16-60	.267	0-3	.000	16-22	.727	16-20-36	12	10	17	3	6
3/19/12	South Carolina Purdue	A	W	33	39	—	72	28-57	.491	6-16	.375	10-20	.500	10-20-30	15	11	12	2	11
				26	35	—	61	22-56	.393	4-10	.400	13-17	.765	16-24-40	21	16	20	5	6
3/24/12	South Carolina Stanford	N	L	30	30	—	60	25-68	.368	4-12	.333	6-10	.600	18-20-38	19	10	11	3	7
				36	40	—	76	28-53	.528	1-1	1.000	19-25	.760	9-27-36	11	15	11	9	5
3/23/13	South Carolina South Dakota State	N	W	44	30	—	74	25-52	.481	4-11	.364	20-26	.769	8-32-40	13	13	15	5	10
				26	26	—	52	17-52	.327	3-14	.214	15-18	.833	5-23-28	21	6	16	2	10
3/25/13	South Carolina Kansas	N	L	41	28	—	69	27-72	.375	2-8	.250	13-22	.591	26-21-47	15	9	13	4	9
				42	33	—	75	29-63	.460	5-10	.500	12-18	.667	17-26-43	17	14	15	6	7
3/23/14	South Carolina Cal St. Northridge	N	W	36	37	—	73	22-50	.440	2-9	.222	27-43	.643	15-37-52	16	17	11	8	1
				26	32	—	58	21-68	.309	5-15	.333	11-15	.733	13-23-36	28	8	5	4	3
3/25/14	South Carolina Oregon State	N	W	34	44	—	78	20-54	.370	4-6	.667	34-43	.791	16-29-45	18	10	9	2	6
				25	44	—	69	25-65	.385	10-30	.333	9-18	.500	17-23-40	21	15	14	7	5
3/30/14	South Carolina North Carolina	N	L	21	37	—	58	23-61	.377	4-12	.333	8-10	.800	13-22-35	19	12	13	5	5
				29	36	—	65	24-58	.414	4-14	.286	13-18	.722	11-24-35	15	11	12	4	7
3/20/15	South Carolina Savannah State	H	W	43	38	—	81	34-53	.642	3-11	.273	10-15	.667	12-21-33	20	23	15	5	10
				30	18	—	48	17-51	.333	2-9	.222	12-19	.632	14-10-24	17	4	15	2	8
3/22/15	South Carolina Syracuse	H	W	53	44	—	97	32-58	.552	8-19	.421	25-31	.806	9-31-40	19	20	12	4	5
				25	43	—	68	21-63	.333	8-26	.308	18-23	.783	13-22-35	24	8	13	4	3
3/22/15	South Carolina North Carolina	N	W	29	38	—	67	20-46	.435	7-16	.438	20-28	.714	8-29-37	17	14	15	5	4
				25	40	—	65	23-62	.371	4-13	.308	15-20	.750	13-23-36	22	9	9	4	8
3/22/15	South Carolina Syracuse	N	W	38	42	—	80	30-49	.612	2-5	.400	18-27	.667	7-21-28	18	14	12	5	6
				41	33	—	74	25-59	.424	8-16	.500	16-21	.762	16-17-33	26	13	12	1	4
4/5/15	South Carolina Notre Dame	N	L	28	37	—	65	28-65	.431	2-12	.167	7-16	.438	16-29-45	13	13	13	6	7
				32	34	—	66	26-64	.406	2-5	.400	12-14	.857	10-27-37	17	16	10	6	7

Date	Team	Site	Result	1st	2nd	OT	Total	FG-A	Pct.	3FG-A	Pct.	FT-A	Pct.	Off-Def-Tot	PF	A	TO	Blk	Stl
3/18/16	South Carolina Jacksonville	H	W	32 21	45 20	- -	77 41	29-64 14-50	.453 .280	3-15 4-12	.200 .333	16-24 9-9	.667 1.000	14-30-44 5-25-30	10 23	13 6	10 21	4 5	14 4
3/20/16	South Carolina Kansas State	H	W	45 26	28 21	- -	73 47	26-60 18-56	.433 .321	6-22 2-14	.273 .143	15-26 9-13	.577 .692	18-29-47 12-20-32	15 19	11 9	11 16	6 2	9 7
3/25/16	South Carolina Syracuse	N	L	43 33	29 47	- -	72 80	28-63 29-76	.444 .382	8-32 8-23	.250 .348	8-14 14-21	.571 .667	15-27-42 24-23-47	23 15	21 7	18 10	5 3	8 5
3/17/17	South Carolina UNC Asheville	H	W	48 22	42 18	- -	90 40	37-65 15-58	.569 .259	4-18 5-15	.222 .333	12-16 5-8	.750 .625	17-28-45 13-13-26	15 14	20 6	5 14	3 1	10 2
3/19/17	South Carolina Arizona State	H	W	33 39	38 29	- -	71 68	22-50 24-59	.440 .407	4-12 5-11	.333 .333	23-28 15-20	.821 .750	7-22-29 14-22-36	20 23	11 14	12 15	5 0	10 8
3/25/17	South Carolina Quinnipiac	N	W	45 27	55 31	- -	100 58	36-59 22-51	.610 .431	10-16 6-13	.625 .462	18-19 8-10	.947 .800	10-25-35 5-13-18	12 19	21 11	13 17	4 2	8 6
3/27/17	South Carolina Florida State	N	W	40 29	31 35	- -	71 64	26-45 26-71	.578 .366	3-10 2-15	.300 .133	16-20 10-13	.800 .769	2-29-31 18-18-36	11 18	8 12	18 11	5 1	7 10
3/31/17	South Carolina Stanford	N	W	20 29	42 24	- -	62 53	23-63 23-62	.365 .371	3-13 4-14	.231 .286	13-21 3-5	.619 .600	20-23-43 16-25-41	11 16	10 13	14 16	5 5	6 8
4/2/17	South Carolina Mississippi State	N	W	36 26	31 29	- -	67 55	25-55 19-55	.455 .345	0-3 2-12	.000 .167	17-22 15-18	.773 .833	13-27-40 9-18-27	14 19	7 8	11 10	8 3	6 4
3/16/18	South Carolina NC A&T	H	W	39 21	24 31	- -	63 52	20-52 17-58	.385 .293	4-12 7-17	.333 .412	19-22 11-16	.864 .688	8-34-42 9-23-32	13 17	7 10	19 13	8 3	9 10
3/18/18	South Carolina Virginia	H	W	30 25	36 31	- -	66 56	23-54 18-57	.426 .316	5-13 7-20	.385 .350	15-23 13-18	.652 .722	11-30-41 11-20-31	16 18	16 10	10 11	5 4	6 4
3/24/18	South Carolina Buffalo	N	W	40 31	39 32	- -	79 63	30-59 24-68	.508 .353	1-5 7-24	.200 .292	18-20 8-13	.900 .615	16-32-48 9-12-21	16 19	21 15	26 13	5 2	6 15
3/26/18	South Carolina UConn	N	L	33 54	32 40	- -	65 94	28-56 37-63	.500 .587	1-7 12-20	.143 .600	8-13 8-8	.615 1.000	9-18-27 8-21-29	12 12	10 25	13 7	1 3	5 7
3/22/19	South Carolina Belmont	H*	W	29 16	45 36	- -	74 52	31-56 18-52	.554 .346	5-15 7-25	.333 .280	7-11 9-11	.636 .818	14-24-38 10-12-22	16 13	14 11	14 17	6 2	6 3
3/23/19	South Carolina Florida State	H*	W	37 30	35 34	- -	72 64	24-56 27-76	.429 .355	4-12 3-14	.333 .214	20-24 7-11	.833 .636	10-23-33 27-23-50	14 23	12 10	12 13	9 3	5 5
3/30/19	South Carolina Baylor	N	L	23 49	45 44	- -	68 93	21-63 37-71	.333 .521	4-19 1-4	.211 .250	22-27 18-24	.815 .750	10-20-30 19-35-54	18 20	9 20	11 14	7 9	6 8
3/21/21	South Carolina Mercer	N	W	43 32	36 21	- -	79 53	28-62 24-65	.452 .369	3-14 3-11	.214 .273	20-28 2-3	.714 .667	21-31-52 9-18-27	11 21	12 14	17 12	4 4	8 9
3/23/21	South Carolina Oregon State	N	W	30 18	29 24	- -	59 42	22-62 18-57	.355 .316	1-15 3-19	.067 .158	14-18 3-6	.778 .500	14-36-50 5-27-32	12 15	8 11	12 13	8 8	10 6
3/28/21	South Carolina Georgia Tech	N	W	39 35	37 30	- -	76 65	31-55 27-59	.564 .458	8-14 6-12	.571 .500	6-6 5-7	1.000 .714	7-22-29 11-17-28	8 10	16 12	13 12	3 0	5 7
3/30/21	South Carolina Texas	N	W	37 22	25 12	- -	62 34	25-57 14-61	.439 .230	3-7 3-15	.429 .200	9-10 3-6	.900 .500	10-36-46 11-22-33	12 14	14 7	14 15	14 3	4 5
3/30/21	South Carolina Stanford	N	L	25 31	40 35	- -	65 66	24-67 25-60	.358 .417	9-20 5-8	.450 .625	8-12 11-12	.667 .917	22-18-40 17-19-36	15 15	9 11	11 12	5 12	6 7
3/18/22	South Carolina Howard	H	W	44 4	35 17	- -	79 21	28-79 8-54	.354 .148	8-38 1-9	.211 .111	15-21 4-4	.714 1.000	30-39-69 6-22-28	6 15	20 2	14 20	5 7	12 3
3/20/22	South Carolina Miami (FL)	H	W	23 10	26 23	- -	49 33	18-61 11-46	.295 .239	4-18 5-19	.222 .263	9-16 6-8	.563 .750	19-30-49 6-25-31	10 15	9 6	16 19	8 4	5 6
3/25/22	South Carolina North Carolina	N	W	39 31	30 30	- -	69 61	23-69 24-52	.333 .462	7-19 3-11	.368 .273	16-22 10-16	.727 .625	25-23-48 7-26-33	17 19	8 12	14 13	5 6	5 2
3/27/22	South Carolina Creighton	N	W	46 25	34 25	- -	80 50	28-55 21-56	.509 .375	3-9 7-21	.333 .333	21-27 1-5	.778 .200	12-31-43 6-17-23	10 20	10 17	7 11	5 0	5 3
4/1/22	South Carolina Louisville	N	W	34 28	38 31	- -	72 59	27-57 27-63	.474 .429	6-17 1-8	.353 .125	12-17 4-7	.706 .571	11-25-36 13-20-33	11 17	19 5	15 15	4 2	11 13
3/27/22	South Carolina UConn	N	W	35 27	29 22	- -	64 49	22-60 22-54	.367 .407	3-16 4-16	.188 .250	17-26 1-4	.654 .250	21-28-49 6-18-24	11 21	9 14	14 15	4 5	6 4
3/17/23	South Carolina Norfolk State	H	W	34 18	38 22	- -	72 40	21-54 16-61	.389 .262	5-17 4-12	.294 .333	25-41 4-8	.610 .444	16-33-49 14-19-33	8 24	17 6	12 17	11 0	11 11
3/19/23	South Carolina South Florida	H	W	33 29	43 16	- -	76 45	30-71 17-58	.423 .293	3-9 6-14	.333 .429	13-18 5-5	.722 1.000	24-31-55 8-20-28	7 14	13 8	11 13	10 7	7 5
3/25/23	South Carolina UCLA	N	W	25 15	34 28	- -	59 43	24-63 15-51	.381 .294	4-16 3-18	.250 .167	7-12 10-13	.583 .769	15-27-42 8-26-34	11 16	19 10	10 15	6 4	5 3
3/27/23	South Carolina Maryland	N	W	38 30	48 45	- -	86 75	32-70 29-58	.457 .500	6-15 7-14	.400 .500	16-26 10-15	.615 .667	25-23-48 7-19-26	12 26	19 15	13 13	6 9	4 7
3/31/23	South Carolina Iowa	N	L	37 38	36 37	- -	73 77	30-77 28-57	.390 .491	4-20 7-23	.200 .304	9-13 14-14	.892 1.000	26-23-49 5-20-25	20 18	9 14	1 10	5 1	6 8

Date	Team	Site	Result	1st	2nd	OT	Total	FG-A	Pct.	3FG-A	Pct.	FT-A	Pct.	Off-Def-Tot	PF	A	TO	Blk	Stl
3/22/24	South Carolina Presbyterian	H	W	48	43	-	91	36-64	.563	9-24	.375	10-15	.667	13-31-44	8	18	9	7	11
				25	14	-	39	17-60	.283	3-18	.167	2-4	.500	11-16-27	11	10	17	0	4
3/24/24	South Carolina North Carolina	H	W	56	32	-	88	32-71	.451	9-20	.450	15-19	.789	19-35-54	14	17	13	7	13
				19	22	-	41	15-63	.238	3-18	.167	8-14	.571	14-19-33	17	6	18	7	4
3/29/24	South Carolina Indiana	N	W	49	30	-	79	30-60	.500	8-16	.500	11-16	.688	9-23-32	14	17	4	7	4
				32	43	-	75	28-61	.459	13-33	.394	6-9	.667	10-20-30	18	17	14	3	8
3/31/24	South Carolina Oregon State	N	W	37	33	-	70	26-78	.333	4-20	.200	14-18	.778	22-29-51	14	12	6	6	6
				33	25	-	58	20-55	.364	8-25	.320	10-13	.769	7-30-37	17	17	12	5	3
4/5/24	South Carolina NC State	N	W	32	46	-	78	33-66	.500	8-19	.421	4-4	1.000	12-34-46	16	18	15	6	10
				31	28	-	59	20-62	.323	6-23	.261	13-18	.722	11-21-32	9	5	12	1	9
4/7/24	South Carolina Iowa	N	W	49	38	-	87	25-73	.479	8-19	.421	9-17	.529	18-33-51	17	16	13	8	8
				46	29	-	75	25-63	.397	9-23	.391	16-20	.397	7-22-29	14	13	9	4	6
3/21/25	South Carolina Tennessee Tech	H	W	60	48	-	108	43-64	.672	12-19	.632	10-13	.769	13-34-47	8	25	16	8	10
				27	21	-	48	19-59	.322	4-20	.200	6-7	.957	7-8-15	16	7	18	3	12
3/23/25	South Carolina Indiana	H	W	25	39	-	64	24-55	.436	5-13	.385	11-16	.688	8-29-37	8	14	12	7	7
				26	27	-	53	21-51	.412	7-20	.350	4-6	.667	2-25-27	16	17	16	2	5
3/28/25	South Carolina Maryland	N	W	31	40	-	71	25-65	.385	4-15	.267	17-21	.810	13-34-47	18	13	18	7	0
				33	34	-	67	25-64	.391	4-13	.308	13-18	.722	7-27-34	19	11	14	1	8
3/30/25	South Carolina Duke	N	W	26	28	-	54	19-44	.432	3-8	.375	13-20	.650	6-24-30	13	7	16	3	13
				22	28	-	50	19-60	.317	5-17	.294	7-13	.538	19-22-41	18	12	19	5	7

* - In 2019, the team hosted games at Charlotte's Halton Arena due to the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament hosting games in Colonial Life Arena.

SOUTH CAROLINA NCAA TOURNAMENT RECORD BOOK

Team

Most Points Scored

Game: 108 vs. *Tennessee Tech*, 3/21/25
Tourn.: 493 in 2024 (6 games)

Fewest Points Scored

Game: 49 vs. Miami (FL), 3/20/22
Tourn.: 64 in 1991 (1 game)

Margin of Victory

Game: 60 (108-48) vs. *Tennessee Tech*, 3/21/25

Margin of Defeat

Game: 29 (65-94) vs. Connecticut, 3/26/18

Field Goals Made

Game: 43 vs. *Tennessee Tech*, 3/21/25
Tourn.: 192 in 2024 (6 games)

Field Goal Attempts

Game: 79 vs. Howard, 3/18/22
Tourn.: 412 in 2024 (6 games)

Field Goal Percentage

Game: .672 (43-64) vs. *Tennessee Tech*, 3/21/25
Tourn.: .526 (144-274) in 2015 (5 games)

3-Point Field Goals Made (Since 1987-88)

Game: 12 vs. *Tennessee Tech*, 3/21/25
Tourn.: 46 in 2024 (6 games)

3-Point Field Goal Attempts (Since 1987-88)

Game: 38 vs. Howard, 3/18/22
Tourn.: 118 in 2024 (6 games)

3-Point Field Goal Percentage (Since 1987-88)

Game (Min. 10 3FGA): .632 (12-19) vs. *Tennessee Tech*, 3/21/25
Tourn. (Min. 20 3FGA): .390 (46-118) in 2024 (6 games)

Free Throws Made

Game: 34 vs. Oregon State, 3/25/14
Tourn.: 99 in 2017 (6 games)

Free Throw Attempts

Game: 45 vs. Alabama, 3/16/88
Tourn.: 129 in 2022 (6 games)

Free Throw Percentage

Game (Min. 20 FTA): .900 (18-20) vs. Buffalo, 3/24/18
Tourn. (Min. 30 FTA): .842 (32-38) in 2003

Total Rebounds

Game: 69 vs. Howard, 3/18/22
Tourn.: 294 in 2022 (6 games)

Offensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Game: 30 vs. Howard, 3/18/22
Tourn.: 118 in 2022 (6 games)

Defensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Game: 39 vs. Howard, 3/18/22
Tourn.: 185 in 2024 (6 games)

Assists

Game: 25 vs. *Tennessee Tech*, 3/21/25
Tourn.: 98 in 2024 (6 games)

Blocked Shots

Game: 14 vs. Texas, 3/30/21
Tourn.: 41 in 2024 (6 games)

Steals

Game: 16 vs. Drake, 3/23/02
Tourn.: 52 in 2024 (6 games)

Individual

Points Scored

Game: 31 by Beth Hunt vs. Tennessee Tech, 3/15/89
Tourn.: 115 by A'ja Wilson in 2017 (6 games)
Career: 306 by A'ja Wilson, 2015-18 (18 games)

Scoring Average

Tourn. (Min. 2 games): 23.0 by Sheila Foster in 1982 (2 games)
Career (Min. 2 yrs./4 gms.): 21.5 by Beth Hunt, 1989-90 (4 games)

Field Goals Made

Game: 13 by Brantley Southers vs. East Carolina, 3/14/82
Tourn.: 42 by Allisha Gray in 2017 (6 games)
Career: 109 by A'ja Wilson, 2015-18 (18 games)

Field Goal Attempts

Game: 23 by Brantley Southers vs. Middle Tennessee State, 3/12/86
Tourn.: 80 by Zia Cooke in 2023 (5 games)
Career: 222 by Zia Cooke, 2021-23 (16 games)

Field Goal Percentage

Game (Min. 10 FGA): .846 (11-13) by Allisha Gray vs. UNC Asheville, 3/1/17
Tourn. (Min. 15 FGA): .750 (21-28) by Alaina Coates in 2016 (3 games)
Career (Min. 30 FGA/2 yrs.): .642 (61-95) by Alaina Coates, 2014-16 (11 games)

3-Point Field Goals Made (Since 1987-88)

Game: 5 by MiLaysia Fulwiley vs. Presbyterian, 3/22/24
 5 by Zia Cooke vs. Stanford, 4/2/21
 5 by Kaela Davis vs. Quinnipiac, 3/25/17
 5 by Tina Roy vs. Syracuse, 3/25/16
 5 by Karen Middleton at Northwestern, 3/17/90
Tourn.: 14 by Te-Hina Paopao in 2024 (6 games)
 14 by Destanni Henderson in 2022 (6 games)
Career: 25 by Zia Cooke, 2021-23 (16 games)

3-Point Field Goal Attempts (Since 1987-88)

Game: 15 by Tina Roy vs. Syracuse, 3/25/16
Tourn.: 37 by Destanni Henderson in 2022 (6 games)
Career: 78 by Zia Cooke, 2021-23 (16 games)

3-Point Field Goal Percentage (Since 1987-88)

Game (Min. 5 3FGA):	1.000 (5-5) by Karen Middleton at Northwestern, 3/17/90
Tourn. (Min. 10 3FGA):	.625 (10-16) by Karen Middleton in 1990 (3 games)
Career (Min. 20 3FGA/2 yrs.):	.407 (11-27) by Kelly Morrone, 2002-03 (6 games)

Free Throws Made

Game:	13 by Tiffany Mitchell vs. CSU Northridge, 3/23/14
Tourn.:	33 by A'ja Wilson in 2017 (6 games)
Career:	88 by A'ja Wilson, 2015-18 (18 games)

Free Throw Attempts

Game:	17 by Tiffany Mitchell vs. CSU Northridge, 3/23/14
Tourn.:	44 by Aliyah Boston in 2022 (6 games)
Career:	113 by A'ja Wilson, 2015-18 (18 games)

Free Throw Percentage

Game (Min. 10 FTA):	1.000 (10-10) by A'ja Wilson vs. Quinnipiac, 3/25/17 1.000 (10-10) by Alaina Coates vs. North Carolina, 3/27/15
Tourn. (Min. 15 FTA):	.895 (17-19) by Aliyah Boston in 2021 (5 games)
Career (Min. 20 FTA/2 yrs.):	.844 (27-32) by Mikiah Herbert Harrigan 2017-20 (13 games)

Total Rebounds

Game:	22 by Aliyah Boston vs. North Carolina, 3/25/22
Tourn.:	91 by Aliyah Boston in 2022 (6 games)
Career:	199 by Aliyah Boston, 2021-23 (16 games)

Rebounding Average

Tourn. (Min. 2 games):	19.0 by Sheila Foster in 1982 (2 games)
Career (Min. 2 yrs./4 gms.):	12.4 by Aliyah Boston, 2021-23 (16 games)

Offensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Game:	12 by Aliyah Boston vs. North Carolina, 3/25/22
Tourn.:	32 by Aliyah Boston in 2022 (6 games)
Career:	70 by Aliyah Boston, 2021-23 (16 games)

Defensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Game:	15 by Ashlyn Watkins vs. NC State, 4/5/24 15 by Sheila Foster vs. Kentucky, 3/18/82
Tourn.:	59 by Aliyah Boston in 2022 (6 games)
Career:	129 by Aliyah Boston, 2021-23 (16 games)

Assists

Game:	9 by Tyasha Harris vs. Buffalo, 3/24/18 9 by Martha Parker vs. Tennessee Tech, 3/15/89
Tourn.:	26 by Raven Johnson in 2024 (6 games)
Career:	52 by Tyasha Harris, 2017-20 (13 games)

Blocked Shots

Game:	9 by Laeticia Amihere vs. Texas, 3/30/21
Tourn.:	16 by A'ja Wilson in 2017 (6 games)
Career:	43 by A'ja Wilson, 2015-18 (18 games)

Steals

Game:	6 by Jocelyn Penn vs. Drake, 3/23/02 6 by Monica Williams vs. Alabama, 3/16/88
Tourn.:	17 by Raven Johnson in 2024 (6 games)
Career:	24 by Bianca Cuevas-Moore, 2015-19 (16 games)

Opponent Records

Team	
Most Points:	94 by Connecticut, 3/26/18
Fewest Points:	21 by Howard, 3/18/22
Field Goals Made:	37 by Baylor, 3/30/19 37 by Connecticut, 3/26/18
Field Goal Attempts:	79 by Middle Tennessee State, 3/12/86
FG %age:	.587 (37-63) by Connecticut, 3/26/18
3-Pt. FGs Made:	13 by Indiana, 3/9/24
3-Pt. FG Attempts:	33 by Indiana, 3/9/24
3FG %age (Min. 10 3FGA):	.600 (12-20) by Connecticut, 3/26/18
Free Throws Made:	19 by Stanford, 3/24/12
FT %age (Min. 20 FTA):	.800 (16-20) by Iowa, 4/7/24
Rebounds:	54 by Baylor, 3/30/19
Assists:	25 by Connecticut, 3/26/18
Blocks:	12 by Stanford, 4/2/21
Steals:	15 by Buffalo, 3/24/18

Individual	
Points:	41 by Caitlin Clark, Iowa, 3/31/23
Field Goals Made:	15 by Caitlin Clark, Iowa, 3/31/23
Field Goal Attempts:	31 by Caitlin Clark, Iowa, 3/31/23
FG %age (Min. 10 FGA):	.818 (9-11) by Carla Bennett, Drake, 3/23/02
3-Pt. FGs Made:	5 by Caitlin Clark, Iowa, 4/7/24 5 by Sydney Parrish, Indiana, 3/29/24 5 by Caitlin Clark, Iowa, 3/31/23 5 by Maeva Djaldi-Tabdi, Miami (FL), 3/20/22 5 by Crystal Dangerfield, UConn, 3/26/18 5 by Jamie Weisner, Oregon State, 3/25/14
3-Pt. FG Attempts:	17 by Caitlin Clark, Iowa, 3/31/23
3FG %age (Min. 5 3FGA):	.714 (5-7) by Crystal Dangerfield, UConn, 3/26/18
Free Throws Made:	8 by Lexie Hull, Stanford, 4/2/21 8 by Lauren Cox, Baylor, 3/30/19 8 by Stephanie Walker, Liberty, 3/16/02
Free Throw Attempts:	11 by Cierra Dillard, Buffalo, 3/24/18
FT %age (Min. 10 FTA):	.917 (11-12) by Nnemkadi Ogwumike, Stanford, 3/24/12
Rebounds:	16 by Wendy Scholtens, Vanderbilt, 3/13/91
Assists:	8 by Chloe Moore-McNeil, Indiana, 3/29/24 8 by Caitlin Clark, Iowa, 3/31/23
Blocks:	6 by Cameron Brink, Stanford, 4/2/21
Steals:	6 by Cierra Dillard, Buffalo, 3/24/18



SOUTH CAROLINA UPDATED RECORD BOOK

**3 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS • 7 NCAA FINAL FOURS • 9 NCAA ELITE EIGHTS • 15 NCAA SWEET 16s
9 SEC REGULAR-SEASON CHAMPIONSHIPS • 9 SEC TOURNAMENT TITLES
2 NATIONAL PLAYERS OF THE YEAR • NATIONAL FRESHMAN OF THE YEAR • 26 ALL-AMERICANS
9 SEC PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARDS • 59 ALL-SEC SELECTIONS**

SCORING RECORDS

Team Records			Individual Records		
Most Points Scored			Most Points Scored		
Game:	137 vs. Wheeling College, 1/13/79		Game:	51 by Jocelyn Penn vs. Stetson, 1/4/03	
1st Half:	75 vs. Wheeling College, 1/13/79		Season:	754 by Katrina Anderson in 1977-78 (34 games)	
2nd Half:	78 at Notre Dame, 1/31/81		Career:	2,389 by A'ja Wilson, 2015-18 (138 games)	
1st Qtr:	37 vs. Saint Peter's, 11/22/16		SEC Game:	38 by Shannon Johnson at LSU, 1/15/94	
2nd Qtr:	35 vs. Arkansas, 1/3/16		SEC Season:	287 by A'ja Wilson in 2017-18 (13 games)	
3rd Qtr:	36 at Vanderbilt, 1/12/20		SEC Career:	1,020 by A'ja Wilson, 2015-18 (59 games)	
4th Qtr:	37 vs. Maryland, 11/12/23		Highest Scoring Average		
Season:	3,247 in 2023-24 (38 games)		Season:	24.7 by Shannon Johnson in 1995-96 (691 in 28 games)	
SEC Game:	106 at Vanderbilt, 1/14/21		Career:	21.3 by Beth Hunt, 1989-90 (1,340 in 63 games)	
Highest Scoring Average			SEC Season:	23.8 by Shannon Johnson in 1993-94 (262 in 11 games)	
Season:	85.4 in 2023-24 (3,247 in 38 games)		SEC Career:	19.0 by Shannon Johnson, 1993-96 (836 in 44 games)	
SEC Season:	84.3 in 2023-24 (1,347 in 16 games)		20-Point Games		
Scoring Margin			Season:	22 by Shannon Johnson in 1995-96 (28 games)	
Game:	+103 (137-34) vs. Wheeling, 1/13/79		Career:	57 by Shannon Johnson, 1993-96 (109 games)	
Season:	+28.9 (85.4-56.6) in 2023-24 (38 games)		SEC Season:	9 by A'ja Wilson in 2017-18 (13 games)	
SEC Game:	+63 (106-43) at Vanderbilt, 1/14/21			9 by Shannon Johnson in 1995-96 (11 games)	
SEC Season:	+ 26.4 (80.0-53.6) in 2022-23 (16 games)		SEC Career:	23 by A'ja Wilson, 2015-18 (59 games)	
Fewest Points Scored			Most Points Scored By Class		
Game:	32 at Stanford, 11/26/10		Freshman:	516 by Sheila Foster in 1978-79 (37 games)	
1st Half:	9 vs. Georgia, 2/1/97		Game:	40 by Sharon Gilmore at Florida International, 2/7/83	
2nd Half:	13 vs. Mississippi State, 3/5/09		Sophomore:	634 by Shannon Johnson in 1993-94 (27 games)	
1st Qtr:	6 vs. UCLA, 12/18/16		Junior:	754 by Katrina Anderson in 1977-78 (34 games)	
2nd Qtr:	6 vs. St. John's, 11/25/17		Senior:	747 by A'ja Wilson in 2017-18 (33 games)	
	6 vs. Stanford, 3/31/17		20-Point Games By Class		
3rd Qtr:	8, 5 times, most recent vs. Miami (FL), 3/20/22		Freshman:	7 by four, most recently, by Karen Middleton in 1987-88 (34 games)	
4th Qtr:	5 vs. Appalachian State, 12/5/18		Sophomore:	18 by Shannon Johnson in 1993-94 (27 games)	
SEC Game:	33 at Vanderbilt, 1/5/97		Junior:	21 by Beth Hunt in 1989-90 (33 games)	
				21 by Katrina Anderson in 1977-78 (34 games)	
			Senior:	22 by Shannon Johnson in 1995-96 (28 games)	

Career Leaders

Points				30-Point Games			
Player	Gms	Pts		Player	Gms		
1. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	138	2389		1. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	17		
2. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	134	2266		2. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	6		
3. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	2230		3. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	5		
4. Brantley Southers (1982-86)	120	1982		Brantley Southers (1982-86)	5		
5. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	1942		Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	5		
6. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	117	1939		6. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	4		
7. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	139	1885		Annie Lester (1997-2000)	4		
8. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	137	1845		Marsha Williams (1990-93)	4		
9. Schonna Banner (1987-90)	125	1791		Schonna Banner (1987-90)	4		
10. Martha Parker (1986-89)	124	1728		Sheila Foster (1979-82)	4		
				Denise Nanney (1975-77)	4		
Scoring Average (Min. 50 GP)				20-Point Games			
Player	Gms	Pts	Avg	Player	Gms		
1. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	63	1340	21.3	1. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	57		
2. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	71	1454	20.5	2. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	47		
3. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	2230	20.5	3. Brantley Southers (1982-86)	41		
4. Denise Nanney (1975-77)	78	1388	17.8	Sheila Foster (1979-82)	41		
5. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	138	2389	17.3	5. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	35		
6. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	134	2269	16.9	6. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	34		
7. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	117	1939	16.6	7. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	33		
8. Brantley Southers (1982-86)	120	1982	16.5	8. Marsha Williams (1990-93)	30		
9. Charlene DuBose (1974-76)	50	806	16.1	9. Denise Nanney (1975-77)	30		
10. Schonna Banner (1987-90)	125	1791	14.3	10. Evelyn Johnson (1980-83)	26		

SCORING RECORDS

SEC Games Only – Career Leaders

Points		
Player	Gms	Pts
1. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	59	1020
2. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	63	915
3. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	64	898
4. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	64	862
5. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	44	836

Scoring Average (Min. 25 GP)

Player	Gms	Pts	Avg
1. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	44	836	19.0
2. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	59	1020	17.3
3. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	55	807	14.7
4. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	63	915	14.5
5. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	64	898	14.0

30-Point Games

Player	Gms
1. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	4
2. Annie Lester (1997-2000)	3
3. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	2
4. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	1
Brionna Dickerson (2006-09)	1
Teresa Geter (2001-02)	1
Marsha Williams (1991-92)	1

20-Point Games

Player	Gms
1. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	23
2. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	21
3. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	13
Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	13
5. Annie Lester (1997-2000)	12

Season Leaders

Points		
Player	Gms	Pts
1. Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	34	754
2. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	33	748
3. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	33	747
4. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	30	716
5. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	37	700
6. Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	28	691
7. Shannon Johnson (1994-95)	27	646
8. Shannon Johnson (1993-94)	27	634
9. Sheila Foster (1981-82)	31	627
10. A'ja Wilson (2016-17)	35	626

Scoring Average (Min. 20 GP)

Player	Gms	Pts	Avg
1. Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	28	691	24.7
2. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	30	716	23.9
3. Shannon Johnson (1994-95)	27	646	23.9
4. Shannon Johnson (1993-94)	27	634	23.5
5. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	33	748	22.7
6. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	33	747	22.9
7. Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	34	754	22.2
8. Marsha Williams (1991-92)	28	598	21.4
9. Brantley Southers (1985-86)	30	615	20.5
10. Sheila Foster (1981-82)	31	627	20.2

30-Point Games

Player	Gms
1. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	7
2. Shannon Johnson (1994-95)	6
Shannon Johnson (1993-94)	6
4. Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	5
5. Jocelyn Penn (2003-04)	4
Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	4
7. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	3
Marsha Williams (1991-92)	3

20-Point Games

Player	Gms
1. Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	22
2. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	21
Beth Hunt (1989-90)	21
Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	21
5. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	18
Shannon Johnson (1993-94)	18
Sheila Foster (1981-82)	18
8. Shannon Johnson (1994-95)	17
Marsha Williams (1991-92)	17
10. Brantley Southers (1985-86)	16

SEC Games Only – Season Leaders

Points		
Player	Gms	Pts
1. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	13	287
2. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	13	280
3. Zia Cooke (2022-23)	16	272
4. Annie Lester (1997-98)	14	267
5. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	16	265

Scoring Average (Min. 10 GP)

Player	Gms	Pts	Avg
1. Shannon Johnson (1993-94)	11	262	23.8
2. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	13	287	22.1
3. Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	11	239	21.7
4. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	13	280	21.5
5. Marsha Williams (1991-92)	11	233	21.2

20-Point Games

Player	Gms
1. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	9
Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	9
3. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	8
Shannon Johnson (1993-94)	8
5. A'ja Wilson (2016-17)	7

Single-Game Leaders

Points	
Player	Pts
1. Jocelyn Penn vs. Stetson, 1/4/03	51
2. Jocelyn Penn vs. Wofford, 12/4/02	50
Shannon Johnson at Appalachian State, 1/31/96	50
4. Jocelyn Penn vs. College of Charleston, 11/24/02	45
5. Shannon Johnson vs. Appalachian State, 2/7/95	44
6. Shannon Johnson vs. East Tennessee State, 1/26/94	42
7. Katrina Anderson vs. Florida State, 2/11/78	41
8. Sharon Gilmore at Florida International, 2/27/83	40
9. Shannon Johnson vs. Arizona State, 12/20/95	39
Denise Nanney vs. Francis Marion, 1/28/76	39

SCORING RECORDS

SEC Games Only – Single-Game Leaders

Points

Player	Pts
1. Shannon Johnson at LSU, 1/15/94	38
2. Shannon Johnson vs. Mississippi State, 12/8/93	36
3. Jocelyn Penn vs. Kentucky, 2/27/03	35
Jocelyn Penn vs. Arkansas, 1/13/02	35
Shannon Johnson vs. Tennessee, 2/15/96	35

Year-by-Year Scoring Average Leaders

Season	Player	Class	Gms	Pts	Avg	Season	Player	Class	Gms	Pts	Avg
1974-75	Denise Nanney	So.	30	527	17.6	1999-00	Annie Lester	Sr.	28	354	12.6
1975-76	Denise Nanney	Jr.	22	391	17.8	2000-01	Teresa Geter	Jr.	27	312	11.6
1976-77	Denise Nanney	Sr.	26	470	18.1	2001-02	Jocelyn Penn	Jr.	32	525	16.4
1977-78	Katrina Anderson	Jr.	34	754	22.2	2002-03	Jocelyn Penn	Sr.	30	716	23.9
1978-79	Katrina Anderson	Sr.	37	700	18.9	2003-04	Cristina Ciocan	Sr.	27	317	11.7
1979-80	Sheila Foster	So.	36	589	16.4	2004-05	Lauren Simms	So.	26	306	11.8
1980-81	Sheila Foster	Jr.	30	534	17.8	2005-06	Melanie Johnson	Jr.	29	318	11.0
1981-82	Sheila Foster	Sr.	31	627	20.2	2006-07	Lauren Simms	Sr.	33	324	9.8
1982-83	Sharon Gilmore	Fr.	28	425	15.2	2007-08	Jordan Jones	Fr.	32	419	13.1
1983-84	Brantley Southers	So.	30	551	18.4	2008-09	Brionna Dickerson	Sr.	19	254	13.4
1984-85	Brantley Southers	Jr.	28	482	17.2	2009-10	Valerie Nainima	Jr.	29	492	17.0
1985-86	Brantley Southers	Sr.	30	615	20.5	2010-11	leasia Walker	So.	33	403	12.2
1986-87	Martha Parker	So.	30	466	15.5	2011-12	Markeshia Grant	Sr.	35	387	11.1
1987-88	Martha Parker	Jr.	34	563	16.6	2012-13	Aleighsa Welch	So.	33	395	12.0
1988-89	Beth Hunt	So.	30	592	19.7	2013-14	Tiffany Mitchell	So.	34	527	15.5
1989-90	Beth Hunt	Jr.	33	748	22.7	2014-15	Tiffany Mitchell	Jr.	37	533	14.4
1990-91	Karen Middleton	Sr.	31	544	17.5	2015-16	A'ja Wilson	So.	33	530	16.1
1991-92	Marsha Williams	Jr.	28	598	21.4	2016-17	A'ja Wilson	Jr.	35	626	17.9
1992-93	Lori Joyner	Sr.	22	337	15.3	2017-18	A'ja Wilson	Sr.	33	747	22.6
1993-94	Shannon Johnson	So.	27	634	23.5	2018-19	Te'a Cooper	Jr.	30	357	11.9
1994-95	Shannon Johnson	Jr.	27	646	23.9	2019-20	Mikiah Herbert Harrigan	Sr.	33	432	13.1
1995-96	Shannon Johnson	Sr.	28	691	24.7	2020-21	Zia Cooke	So.	31	494	15.9
1996-97	Nikki Miers	So.	27	404	15.0	2021-22	Aliyah Boston	Jr.	37	623	16.8
1997-98	Annie Lester	So.	28	495	17.7	2022-23	Zia Cooke	Sr.	36	569	15.4
1998-99	Annie Lester	Jr.	27	397	14.7	2023-24	Kamilla Cardoso	Sr.	33	474	14.4

FIELD GOAL RECORDS

Team Records

Most Field Goals Made

Game: 60 vs. Wheeling College, 1/13/79
 Season: 1,255 in 2023-24 (38 games)
 SEC Game: 42 at Vanderbilt, 1/14/21
 42 at Florida, 2/27/20

Most Field Goal Attempts

Game: 105 vs. Georgia Southern, 12/9/78
 Season: 2,550 in 2023-24 (38 games)
 SEC Game: **82 vs. Arkansas, 2/20/25**
 82 vs. LSU, 2/14/98

Highest Field Goal Percentage

Game: .717 (33-46) vs. Georgia Southern, 12/19/87
 Season: .527 (976-1852) in 1988-89 (30 games)
 SEC Game: .672 (.39-58) at Texas A&M, 1/21/24

Individual Records

Most Field Goals Made

Game: 22 by Jocelyn Penn vs. Wofford, 12/4/02
 Season: 316 by Beth Hunt in 1989-90 (33 games)
 Career: 924 by Sheila Foster, 1979-82 (134 games)
 SEC Game: 14 by Annie Lester vs. LSU, 12/1/98
 SEC Season: 110 by Aja Wilson in 2017-18 (13 games)
 110 by Jocelyn Penn in 2002-03 (13 games)
 SEC Career: 384 by Aja Wilson, 2015-18 (59 games)

Most Field Goal Attempts

Game: 37 by Shannon Johnson at Appalachian State, 1/31/96
 Season: 573 by Brantley Southers in 1985-86 (30 games)
 Career: 1768 by Brantley Southers, 1982-86 (120 games)
 SEC Game: 28 by Shannon Johnson at LSU, 1/15/94
 SEC Season: 243 by Zia Cooke in 2020-21 (16 games)
 SEC Career: 815 by Zia Cooke, 2020-23 (63 games)

Highest Field Goal Percentage

Game: 1.000 (13-13) by Aliyah Boston vs. NC A&T, 11/29/21
 (Min. 10 FGM)
 Season: .644 (168-261) by Alaina Coates in 2015-16
 (Min. 150 FGM)
 Career: .620 (597-963) by Alaina Coates, 2014-17
 (Min. 400 FGM)
 SEC Game: .917 (11-12) by LeLe Grissett at Vanderbilt, 1/18/18
 .917 (11-12) by Jocelyn Penn at Vanderbilt, 1/16/03
 SEC Season: .635 (99-156) by Aja Wilson in 2016-17
 (Min. 80 FGM)
 .635 (99-156) by Jocelyn Penn in 2001-02
 SEC Career: .619 (266-430) by Alaina Coates, 2014-17
 (Min. 200 FGM)

Highest Field Goal Percentage By Class (Min. 150 FGM)

Freshman: .608 (174-286) by Aliyah Boston in 2019-20
 Game: 1.000 (7-7) by Victoria Saxton at Arkansas, 2/3/19
 1.000 (7-7) by Alaina Coates vs. SC State, 12/22/13
 Sophomore: .576 (242-420) by Beth Hunt in 1988-89
 Junior: .644 (168-261) by Alaina Coates in 2015-16
 Senior: .628 (282-449) by Jocelyn Penn in 2002-03

Career Leaders

Field Goals Made

Player	Gms	FGM
1. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	134	924
2. Aja Wilson (2015-18)	138	893
3. Brantley Southers (1982-86)	120	859
4. Schonna Banner (1987-90)	125	775
5. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	772
6. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	762
7. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	117	757
8. Evelyn Johnson (1980-83)	113	674
9. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	137	653
10. Sharon Gilmore (1983-86)	110	646

Field Goal Attempts

Player	Gms	FGA
1. Brantley Southers (1982-86)	120	1768
2. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	1759
3. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	134	1712
4. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	137	1709
5. Aja Wilson (2015-18)	138	1624
6. Schonna Banner (1987-90)	125	1426
7. Karen Middleton (1988-91)	128	1417
8. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	139	1400
9. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	1709
10. Evelyn Johnson (1980-83)	113	1390

Field Goal Percentage (Min. 400 FGM and 2 years played)

Player	FGM-A	Pct
1. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	597-963	.620
2. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	757-1277	.593
3. Aleighsa Welch (2012-15)	560-970	.577
4. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	558-967	.577
5. Aja Wilson (2017-18)	893-1624	.550
6. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	762-1396	.546
7. Schonna Banner (1987-90)	775-1426	.543
8. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	589-1084	.543
9. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	924-1712	.540
10. Martha Parker (1986-89)	626-1177	.532

Season Leaders

Field Goals Made

Player	Gms	FGM
1. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	33	316
2. Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	34	306
3. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	37	283
4. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	30	282
5. Aja Wilson (2017-18)	33	278
6. Brantley Southers (1985-86)	30	266
7. Sheila Foster (1981-82)	31	252
8. Sheila Foster (1979-80)	36	245
9. Beth Hunt (1988-89)	30	242
10. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	37	239
Brantley Southers (1983-84)	30	239

FIELD GOAL RECORDS

Field Goal Attempts

Player	Gms	FGA
1. Brantley Southers (1985-86)	30	573
2. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	33	547
3. Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	28	544
Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	34	544
5. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	37	540
6. Denise Nanney (1976-77)	26	527
7. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	33	513
8. Martha Suber (1974-75)	30	509
9. Marsha Williams (1991-92)	28	508
10. Shannon Johnson (1993-94)	27	506

Field Goal Percentage (Min. 150 FGM)

Player	FGM-A	Pct
1. Alaina Coates (2015-16)	168-261	.644
2. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	282-449	.628
3. Jocelyn Penn (2001-02)	218-351	.621
4. Aliyah Boston (2019-20)	174-286	.608
5. Kamilla Cardoso (2023-24)	193-325	.594
6. A'ja Wilson (2016-17)	233-396	.588
7. Sheila Foster (1981-82)	252-432	.583
8. Alexis Jennings (2017-18)	158-271	.583
9. Sharon Gilmore (1982-83)	184-317	.580
10. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	316-547	.578

Single-Game Leaders

Field Goals Made

Player	FGM
1. Jocelyn Penn vs. Wofford, 12/4/02	22
2. Jocelyn Penn vs. Stetson, 1/4/03	19
Shannon Johnson at Appalachian State, 1/31/96	19
Denise Nanney vs. Francis Marion, 1/28/76	19
5. Jocelyn Penn vs. College of Charleston, 11/24/02	18

Field Goal Attempts

Player	FGA
1. Shannon Johnson at Appalachian State, 1/31/96	37
2. Beth Hunt vs. Southern Miss, 3/10/90	32
3. Martha Suber vs. Anderson, 1/28/75	30
4. Shannon Johnson vs. East Tennessee State, 1/26/94	31
5. Jocelyn Penn vs. Stetson, 1/4/03	29
Shannon Johnson vs. Appalachian State, 12/4/93	29

Field Goal Percentage (Min. 10 FGA)

Player	FGM-A	Pct
1. Aliyah Boston vs. NC A&T, 11/29/21	13-13	1.000
Brantley Southers vs. Auburn, 1/30/84	10-10	1.000
3. Sharon Gilmore vs. Marshall, 1/8/83	14-15	.930
4. LeLe Grissett at Vanderbilt, 1/18/18	11-12	.917
Jocelyn Penn at Vanderbilt, 1/16/03	11-12	.917
Jocelyn Penn vs. South Carolina State, 12/22/99	11-12	.917
Sharon Gilmore vs. NC State, 12/11/82	11-12	.917
8. Teresa Geter at Alabama, 1/14/01	10-11	.909
Rita Johnson at Notre Dame, 1/31/81	10-11	.909
10. Victaria Saxton at Vanderbilt, 1/14/21	9-10	.900
Alexis Jennings at Vanderbilt, 1/18/18	9-10	.900
Lori Joyner at Cincinnati, 2/11/91	9-10	.900

Year-by-Year Field Goal Percentage Leaders

(Minimum 100 Made)

Season	Player	Class	FGM-A	Pct
1974-75	Charlene DuBose	Jr.	224-469	.478
1975-76	Denise Nanney	Jr.	164-340	.482
1976-77	Denise Nanney	Sr.	217-527	.412
1977-78	Katrina Anderson	Jr.	306-544	.563
1978-79	Katrina Anderson	Sr.	283-540	.524
1979-80	Sheila Foster	So.	245-452	.542
1980-81	Sheila Foster	Jr.	211-396	.533
1981-82	Sheila Foster	Sr.	252-432	.583
1982-83	Sharon Gilmore	Fr.	184-317	.580
1983-84	Mindy Ballou	So.	137-261	.525
1984-85	Sharon Gilmore	Jr.	110-215	.512
1985-86	Sharon Gilmore	Sr.	189-368	.514
1986-87	Schonna Banner	Fr.	183-350	.523
1987-88	Martha Parker	Jr.	202-359	.563
1988-89	Beth Hunt	So.	242-420	.576
1989-90	Beth Hunt	Jr.	316-547	.578
1990-91	Karen Middleton	Sr.	187-437	.428
1991-92	Marsha Williams	Jr.	236-508	.465
1992-93	Marsha Williams	Sr.	131-310	.423
1993-94	Shannon Johnson	So.	231-506	.457
1994-95	Cindy Kelly	Jr.	114-232	.491
1995-96	Shannon Johnson	Sr.	238-544	.438
1996-97	Annie Lester	Fr.	103-222	.464
1997-98	Annie Lester	So.	190-424	.448
1998-99	Jocelyn Penn	Fr.	130-247	.526
1999-00	Jocelyn Penn	So.	127-230	.552
2000-01	Teresa Geter	Jr.	113-190	.595
2001-02	Jocelyn Penn	Jr.	218-351	.621
2002-03	Jocelyn Penn	Sr.	282-449	.628
2003-04	Iva Sliskovic	Fr.	123-224	.549
2004-05	Lauren Simms	So.	122-293	.416
2005-06	Melanie Johnson	Jr.	127-241	.527
2006-07	Melanie Johnson	Sr.	110-259	.425
2007-08	Ilona Burgrova	Sr.	118-214	.551
2008-09	La'Keisha Sutton	Fr.	108-263	.411
2009-10	Kelsey Bone	Fr.	164-367	.447
2010-11	Ashley Bruner	So.	116-215	.540
2011-12	Ashley Bruner	Jr.	100-225	.444
2012-13	Aleighsa Welch	So.	134-224	.598
2013-14	Alaina Coates	Fr.	148-242	.612
2014-15	Alaina Coates	So.	141-251	.562
2015-16	Alaina Coates	Jr.	168-261	.644
2016-17	Alaina Coates	Sr.	140-209	.670
2017-18	Alexis Jennings	Jr.	158-271	.583
2018-19	Alexis Jennings	Sr.	144-263	.548
2019-20	Aliyah Boston	Fr.	174-286	.608
2020-21	Victaria Saxton	Jr.	114-199	.573
2021-22	Aliyah Boston	Jr.	239-441	.542
2022-23	Aliyah Boston	Sr.	185-331	.559
2023-24	Kamilla Cardoso	Sr.	193-325	.594

3-POINT FIELD GOAL RECORDS

Team Records (Since 1987-88)

Most 3-Point Field Goals Made

Game:	17 vs. Western Carolina, 1/13/94
Season:	253 in 2023-24 (38 games)
SEC Game:	14 at Auburn, 1/5/17
	14 vs. Florida, 1/21/01
	14 at Alabama, 1/22/95

Most 3-Point Field Goal Attempts

Game:	46 at Florida, 2/20/94
Season:	744 in 1993-94 (27 games)
SEC Game:	46 at Florida, 2/20/94

Highest 3-Point Field Goal Percentage

Game:	1.000 (5-5) at Georgia Southern, 12/19/87
	1.000 (5-5) at Northwestern, 3/17/90
Season:	.446 (54-121) in 1988-89
SEC Game:	.700 (7-10) vs. Tennessee, 1/24/00

Individual Records (Since 1987-88)

Most 3-Point Field Goals Made

Game:	9 by Jordan Jones vs. NC A&T, 3/21/08
	9 by Shannon Johnson vs. Arizona State, 12/20/95
Season:	115 by Karen Middleton in 1990-91 (31 games)
Career:	317 by Karen Middleton, 1988-91 (128 games)
SEC Game:	7, seven times, last by Tina Roy vs. Arkansas, 1/3/16
SEC Season:	48 by Valerie Nainima in 2009-10 (16 games)
SEC Career:	111 by Kelly Morrone, 2000-04 (54 games)
	111 by Christi Timmons, 1992-95 (44 games)

Most 3-Point Field Goal Attempts

Game:	20 by Christi Timmons at Florida, 2/20/94
Season:	265 by Karen Middleton in 1990-91 (31 games)
Career:	794 by Christi Timmons, 1992-95 (107 games)
SEC Game:	20 by Christi Timmons at Florida, 2/20/94
SEC Season:	127 by Valerie Nainima in 2009-10 (16 games)
SEC Career:	358 by Christi Timmons, 1992-95 (44 games)

Highest 3-Point Field Goal Percentage

Game:	1.000 (6-6) by Tiffany Mitchell vs. San Diego St., 11/23/14 (Min. 5 3FGA)
Season:	.541 (40-74) by Tiffany Mitchell in 2013-14 (Min. 30 3FGM)
Career:	.445 (317-712) by Karen Middleton, 1988-91 (Min. 75 3FGM)
SEC Game:	1.000 (5-5) by Courtney Newton vs. Georgia, 1/27/11
	1.000 (5-5) by Nicki Bass at Georgia, 1/18/92
SEC Season:	.567 (17-30) by Tiffany Mitchell in 2014-15 (Min. 15 3FGM)
SEC Career:	.398 (43-108) by La'Keisha Sutton, 2009-12 (Min. 35 3FGM)

Highest 3-Point Field Goal Percentage By Class

Freshman:	.434 (75-173) by Karen Middleton in 1987-88
Game:	1.000 (3-3) by La'Keisha Sutton at Tennessee, 1/18/09
	1.000 (3-3) by Sarah Burgess vs. Vanderbilt, 1/16/03
	1.000 (3-3) by Sarah Burgess vs. Stenson, 1/4/03
Sophomore:	.541 (40-74) by Tiffany Mitchell in 2013-14
Junior:	.469 (115-265) by Karen Middleton in 1989-90
Senior:	.468 (87-186) by Te-Hina Paopao in 2023-24

Career Leaders

3-Point Field Goals Made

Player	Gms	3FGM
1. Karen Middleton (1988-91)	128	317
2. Christi Timmons (1992-95)	107	239
3. Kelly Morrone (2000-04)	116	238
4. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	208
5. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	137	196
6. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	139	180
7. Tina Roy (2012-16)	139	164
8. Heather Godfrey (1995-98)	108	159
9. Destanni Henderson (2019-22)	129	157
10. Nicki Bass (1991-94)	110	152

3-Point Field Goal Attempts

Player	Gms	3FGA
1. Christi Timmons (1992-95)	107	794
2. Karen Middleton (1988-91)	128	712
3. Kelly Morrone (2000-04)	116	650
4. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	137	573
5. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	545
6. Tina Roy (2012-16)	139	516
7. Heather Godfrey (1995-98)	108	480
8. Nicki Bass (1991-94)	110	470
9. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	139	451
10. Stacy Booker (2004-07)	108	418

3-Point Field Goal Percentage (Min. 75 3FGM and 2 years played)

Player	3FGM-A	Pct
1. Karen Middleton (1988-91)	317-712	.445
2. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	180-451	.399
3. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	208-545	.382
4. Destanni Henderson (2019-22)	157-414	.379
5. Kelly Morrone (2000-04)	238-650	.366
6. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	196-573	.342
7. Valerie Nainima (2010-11)	115-340	.338
8. Tatyana Troina (2000-02)	92-273	.337
9. Markeshia Grant (2011-12)	96-287	.334
10. Heather Godfrey (1995-98)	159-480	.331

Season Leaders

3-Point Field Goals Made

Player	Gms	3FGM
1. Karen Middleton (1990-91)	31	115
2. Jordan Jones (2007-08)	32	97
3. Te-Hina Paopao (2023-24)	37	87
4. Christi Timmons (1991-92)	28	84
5. Valerie Nainima (2009-10)	29	82
Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	28	82
7. Kelly Morrone (2003-04)	28	81
8. Christi Timmons (1993-94)	26	79
9. Karen Middleton (1989-90)	33	76
10. Karen Middleton (1987-88)	34	75

3-POINT FIELD GOAL RECORDS

3-Point Field Goal Attempts

Player	Gms	3FGA
1. Karen Middleton (1990-91)	31	265
2. Christi Timmons (1993-94)	26	244
3. Jordan Jones (2007-08)	32	243
4. Christi Timmons (1991-92)	28	241
5. Valerie Nainima (2009-10)	29	229
6. Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	28	202
7. Kelly Morrone (2003-04)	28	199
8. Christi Timmons (1994-95)	27	198
9. Kelly Morrone (2002-03)	31	189
10. Te-Hina Paopao (2023-24)	37	186

3-Point Field Goal Percentage (Min. 30 3FGM)

Player	3FGM-A	Pct
1. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-14)	40-74	.541
2. Karen Middleton (1989-90)	76-162	.469
3. Te-Hina Paopao (2023-24)	87-186	.468
4. Karen Middleton (1988-89)	51-112	.455
5. Lindsey Spann (2017-18)	38-84	.452
6. Karen Middleton (1990-91)	115-265	.434
7. Karen Middleton (1987-88)	75-173	.434
8. Tessa Johnson (2023-24)	35-81	.432
9. Tiffany Mitchell (2014-15)	57-137	.416
10. Destanni Henderson (2020-21)	41-99	.414

Single-Game Leaders

3-Point Field Goals Made

Player	3FGM
1. Jordan Jones vs. NC A&T, 3/21/08	9
Shannon Johnson vs. Arizona State, 12/20/95	9
3. Kelly Morrone at Duke, 11/25/01	8
Karen Middleton at Tulane, 2/23/91	8
Karen Middleton vs. Auburn, 12/29/90	8
Karen Middleton vs. Memphis, 3/12/88	8
7. Tina Roy vs. Arkansas, 1/3/16	7
Markeshia Grant vs. Tennessee, 2/2/12	7
Jordan Jones at NC State, 3/24/08	7
Kelly Morrone vs. Mississippi, 2/5/04	7
Cristina Ciocan at Charlotte, 12/14/03	7
Kelly Morrone vs. Mercer, 11/26/03	7
Sarah Burgess vs. Mississippi, 3/6/03	7
Tatyana Troina vs. Florida, 1/21/01	7
Heather Godfrey vs. UTEP, 11/28/97	7
Shannon Johnson vs. Appalachian State, 2/7/95	7
Christi Timmons at Florida, 2/20/94	7
Christi Timmons vs. Arkansas, 2/12/94	7
Karen Middleton vs. Memphis, 1/3/91	7
Karen Middleton vs. Memphis, 1/7/89	7
Karen Middleton vs. Tennessee, 1/20/88	7

3-Point Field Goal Attempts

Player	3FGA
1. Christi Timmons at Florida, 2/20/94	20
2. Valerie Nainima vs. Boston University, 12/28/09	17
Jordan Jones vs. NC A&T, 3/21/08	17
4. Karen Middleton at Auburn, 11/28/89	16
5. Tina Roy vs. Syracuse, 3/25/16	15
Jordan Jones at Mississippi, 1/20/08	15
Christi Timmons vs. Fairleigh Dickinson, 12/31/94	15
Karen Middleton vs. Memphis, 3/12/88	15
9. Angela Hunter vs. Seton Hall, 12/30/04	14
10. Kelly Morrone vs. Mercer, 11/26/03	14

3-Point Field Goal Percentage (Min. 5 3FGA)

Player	3FGM-A	Pct
1. Tiffany Mitchell vs. San Diego State, 11/23/14	6-6	1.000
Courtney Newton vs. Georgia, 1/27/11	5-5	1.000
Shannon Johnson vs. Miami, 11/28/93	5-5	1.000
Nicki Bass at Georgia, 1/18/92	5-5	1.000
Karen Middleton at Northwestern, 3/17/90	5-5	1.000
6. Kelly Morrone at Duke, 11/25/01	8-9	.889
7. Lindsey Spann at Clemson, 11/16/17	6-7	.857
8. Zia Cooke vs. Georgia Tech, 3/28/21	5-6	.833
Destanni Henderson vs. USC Upstate, 11/21/19	5-6	.833
Zia Cooke at Dayton, 11/13/19	5-6	.833
Kaela Davis vs. Quinnipiac, 3/25/17	5-6	.833
Bianca Cuevas-Moore at Auburn, 1/5/17	5-6	.833
Jenny Randall vs. Rice, 2/13/95	5-6	.833
Jenny Randall vs. Campbell, 1/31/95	5-6	.833
Karen Middleton at Tulane, 2/3/90	5-6	.833

Year-by-Year 3-Point FG Percentage Leaders

(Minimum 30 Made)

Season	Player	Class	3FGM-A	Pct
1987-88	Karen Middleton	Fr.	75-173	.434
1988-89	Karen Middleton	So.	51-112	.455
1989-90	Karen Middleton	Jr.	76-162	.469
1990-91	Karen Middleton	Sr.	115-265	.434
1991-92	Christi Timmons	Fr.	84-241	.349
1992-93	Christi Timmons	So.	30-111	.270
1993-94	Shannon Johnson	So.	44-111	.396
1994-95	Heather Godfrey	Fr.	43-106	.406
1995-96	Shannon Johnson	Sr.	82-202	.406
1996-97	Nikki Miars	So.	30-102	.294
1997-98	Heather Godfrey	Sr.	40-122	.326
1998-99	Nikki Miars	Sr.	33-105	.314
1999-00	Kelly Morrone	Fr.	50-135	.370
2000-01	Shaun Gortman	Jr.	34-105	.324
2001-02	Shaun Gortman	Sr.	52-143	.364
2002-03	Kelly Morrone	Jr.	62-189	.328
2003-04	Kelly Morrone	Sr.	81-199	.407
2004-05	Stacy Booker	So.	35-116	.302
2005-06	Stacy Booker	Jr.	38-122	.311
2006-07	Stacy Booker	Sr.	40-154	.260
2007-08	Jordan Jones	Fr.	97-243	.399
2008-09	Brionna Dickerson	Sr.	31-85	.365
2009-10	Valerie Nainima	Jr.	82-229	.358
2010-11	Valerie Nainima	Sr.	33-111	.297
2011-12	Markeshia Grant	Sr.	64-176	.364
2012-13	leasia Walker	Sr.	43-141	.305
2013-14	Tiffany Mitchell	So.	40-74	.541
2014-15	Tiffany Mitchell	Jr.	57-137	.416
2015-16	Tina Roy	Sr.	66-184	.359
2016-17	Bianca Cuevas-Moore	Jr.	37-99	.374
2017-18	Lindsey Spann	Sr.	38-84	.452
2018-19	Bianca Cuevas-Moore	Sr.	37-112	.330
2019-20	Tyasha Harris	Sr.	38-99	.384
2020-21	Destanni Henderson	Jr.	41-99	.414
2021-22	Destanni Henderson	Sr.	55-138	.399
2022-23	Brea Beal	Sr.	38-100	.380
2023-24	Te-Hina Paopao	Sr.	87-186	.468

FREE THROW RECORDS

Team Records

Most Free Throws Made

Game: 42 vs. Cincinnati, 2/12/84
 Season: 627 in 2013-14 (34 games)
 SEC Game: 33 vs. Georgia, 1/16/93

Most Free Throw Attempts

Game: 54 vs. Cincinnati, 2/12/84
 Season: 930 in 2013-14 (34 games)
 SEC Game: 51 vs. Georgia, 2/16/93

Highest Free Throw Percentage

Game: 1.000 (12-12) vs. Marshall, 3/7/88
 Season: .730 (224-307) in 2018-19
 SEC Game: .971 (8-12) at Auburn, 2/21/02

Individual Records

Most Free Throws Made

Game: 18 by Denise Nanney vs. James Madison, 3/7/75
 Season: 186 by Aja Wilson in 2017-18 (33 games)
 Career: 597 by Aja Wilson, 2015-18 (138 games)
 SEC Game: 14 by Annie Lester vs. Alabama, 2/17/00
 SEC Season: 75 by Tiffany Mitchell in 2013-14 (16 games)
 SEC Career: 249 by Aja Wilson, 2015-18 (59 games)

Most Free Throw Attempts

Game: 24 by Denise Nanney vs. James Madison, 3/7/75
 Season: 254 by Aja Wilson in 2017-18 (33 games)
 Career: 835 by Aja Wilson, 2015-18 (138 games)
 SEC Game: 19 by Annie Lester vs. Mississippi, 1/31/98
 SEC Season: 98 by Shannon Johnson in 1993-94 (11 games)
 SEC Career: 357 by Aja Wilson, 2015-18 (59 games)

Highest Free Throw Percentage

Game: 1.000 (14-14) by Aja Wilson vs. Hampton, 11/20/16
 Season: .856 (83-97) by Brantley Southers in 1985-86
 (Min. 80 FTM)
 Career: .802 (264-329) by Brantley Southers, 1981-86
 (Min. 200 FTM)
 SEC Game: 1.000 (12-12) by MiLaysia Fulwiley at Kentucky, 2/25/24
 (Min. 10 FTM)
 SEC Season: .855 (47-55) by Tiffany Mitchell in 2014-15
 (Min. 40 FTM)
 SEC Career: .829 (218-263) by Tiffany Mitchell, 2013-16
 (Min. 100 FTM)

Highest Free Throw Percentage By Class

Freshman: .782 (79-101) by MiLaysia Fulwiley in 2023-24
 Game: 1.000 (12-12) by MiLaysia Fulwiley at Kentucky, 2/25/24
 Sophomore: .816 (124-152) by Nikki Miars in 1996-97
 Junior: .838 (98-117) by Tiffany Mitchell in 2014-15
 Senior: .856 (83-97) by Brantley Southers in 1985-86

Career Leaders

Free Throws Made

Player	Gms	FTM
1. Aja Wilson (2015-18)	138	597
2. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	478
3. Martha Parker (1986-89)	124	473
4. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	139	447
5. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	134	418
6. Jocelyn Penn (1999-03)	117	411
7. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	133	409
8. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	387
9. Nikki Miars (1996-99)	108	357
10. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	137	343

Free Throw Attempts

Player	Gms	FTA
1. Aja Wilson (2015-18)	138	835
2. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	679
3. Martha Parker (1986-89)	124	641
4. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	133	638
5. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	134	624
6. Jocelyn Penn (1999-03)	117	604
7. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	139	578
8. Aleighsa Welch (2012-15)	137	545
9. Marsha Williams (1990-93)	116	513
10. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	510

Free Throw Percentage (Min. 200 FTM and 2 years played)

Player	FT-A	Pct
1. Brantley Southers (1982-86)	264-329	.802
2. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	251-317	.792
3. Mikiah Herbert Harrigan (2017-20)	235-297	.791
4. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	447-578	.773
5. Bianca Cuevas-Moore (2015-19)	218-283	.770
6. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	387-510	.759
7. Mindy Ballou (1983-86)	211-280	.754
8. Nikki Miars (1996-99)	357-474	.753
9. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	343-457	.751
10. Martha Parker (1986-89)	473-641	.738

Season Leaders

Free Throws Made

Player	Gms	FTM
1. Aja Wilson (2017-18)	33	186
2. Aja Wilson (2016-17)	35	160
3. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-14)	34	157
Martha Parker (1987-88)	34	157
5. Shannon Johnson (1994-95)	27	154
6. Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	28	142
7. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	30	138
8. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	37	134
9. Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	28	133
10. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	37	131
Aja Wilson (2014-15)	37	131

Free Throw Attempts

Player	Gms	FTA
1. Aja Wilson (2017-18)	33	254
2. Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	34	242
3. Martha Parker (1987-88)	34	231
4. Shannon Johnson (1994-95)	27	227
5. Aja Wilson (2016-17)	35	217
6. Marsha Williams (1991-92)	28	200
7. Aja Wilson (2014-15)	37	198
Tiffany Mitchell (2013-14)	34	198
9. Nicki Bass (1991-92)	28	196
10. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	37	195

FREE THROW RECORDS

Free Throw Percentage (Min. 80 FTM)

Player	FT-A	Pct
1. Brantley Southers (1985-86)	83-97	.856
2. Tiffany Mitchell (2014-15)	98-117	.838
3. Tiffany Mitchell (2015-16)	124-152	.816
Nikki Miars (1996-97)	124-152	.816
5. Kaela Davis (2016-17)	82-101	.812
6. Martha Parker (1988-89)	119-150	.793
7. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-14)	157-198	.793
8. Zia Cooke (2022-23)	114-144	.792
9. Annie Lester (1997-98)	115-148	.777
10. Zia Cooke (2020-21)	88-114	.772

Single-Game Leaders

Free Throws Made

Player	FTM
1. Denise Nanney vs. James Madison, 3/7/75	18
2. Joyce Gilbert vs. North Greenville, 2/2/77	17
3. A'ja Wilson vs. Rutgers, 11/24/17	15
4. A'ja Wilson vs. Hampton, 11/20/16	14
Annie Lester vs. Alabama, 2/17/00	14
Annie Lester vs. Mississippi, 1/31/98	14
7. Kaela Davis at Ohio State, 11/14/16	13
Tiffany Mitchell vs. Cal State Northridge, 3/23/14	13
Jocelyn Penn vs. Wofford, 12/8/01	13
Shannon Johnson vs. Michigan, 12/1/94	13
Shannon Johnson vs. Kentucky, 3/4/94	13
Schonna Banner vs. Cincinnati, 1/9/87	13
Sheila Foster vs. Notre Dame, 2/20/82	13

Free Throw Attempts

Player	FTA
1. Denise Nanney vs. James Madison, 3/7/75	24
2. Annie Lester vs. Mississippi, 1/31/98	19
Beth Hunt vs. Florida State, 1/22/90	19
4. A'ja Wilson at Maryland, 11/13/17	18
Joyce Gilbert vs. North Greenville, 2/2/77	18
6. A'ja Wilson vs. Rutgers, 11/24/17	17
Tiffany Mitchell vs. Cal State Northridge, 3/23/14	17
Annie Lester vs. Alabama, 2/17/00	17
Shannon Johnson vs. Kentucky, 3/4/94	17
8. Kaela Davis at Ohio State, 11/14/16	16
Shannon Johnson vs. Florida, 2/18/95	16
Sheila Foster vs. Notre Dame, 2/20/82	16
Katrina Anderson vs. NC State, 12/20/77	16

Free Throw Percentage (Min. 10 FTM)

Player	FTM-A	Pct
1. A'ja Wilson vs. Hampton, 11/20/16	14-14	1.000
MiLaysia Fulwiley at Kentucky, 2/25/24	12-12	1.000
Nikki Miars vs. Clemson, 12/18/96	12-12	1.000
Sharon Gilmore vs. Indiana, 12/29/83	12-12	1.000
Alaina Coates vs. North Carolina, 3/27/15	10-10	1.000
Tiffany Mitchell vs. Georgia, 2/27/14	10-10	1.000
Nikki Miars vs. Furman, 11/23/97	10-10	1.000
Nikki Miars vs. Cornell, 12/30/96	10-10	1.000
Nicki Bass at Florida, 2/8/92	10-10	1.000
Rita Johnson at Clemson, 3/10/81	10-10	1.000
10. Aliyah Boston vs. North Carolina, 3/25/22	12-13	.923
Aliyah Boston vs. Ole Miss, 1/27/22	12-13	.923
Jocelyn Penn vs. Wofford, 12/8/01	12-13	.923

Year-by-Year FT Percentage Leaders

(Minimum 50 Made)

Season	Player	Class	FTM-A	Pct
1974-75	Denise Nanney	So.	87-123	.707
1975-76	Denise Nanney	Jr.	63-94	.670
1976-77	Joyce Gilbert	Fr.	66-75	.880
1977-78	Katrina Anderson	Jr.	142-242	.587
1978-79	Katrina Anderson	Sr.	134-195	.687
1979-80	Becky Parker	Fr.	51-70	.729
1980-81	Rita Johnson	Sr.	78-97	.804
1981-82	Evelyn Johnson	Jr.	50-71	.704
1982-83	Marsi McAlister	So.	63-89	.708
1983-84	Brantley Southers	So.	73-88	.830
1984-85	Brantley Southers	Jr.	60-78	.769
1985-86	Brantley Southers	Sr.	83-97	.856
1986-87	Monica Williams	Jr.	55-72	.764
1987-88	Martha Parker	Jr.	157-231	.680
1988-89	Martha Parker	Sr.	119-150	.793
1989-90	Beth Hunt	Jr.	115-171	.673
1990-91	Karen Middleton	Sr.	55-67	.821
1991-92	Nicki Bass	So.	81-106	.764
1992-93	Lori Joyner	Sr.	104-135	.770
1993-94	Jenny Randall	Jr.	51-59	.864
1994-95	Cindy Kelly	Jr.	54-78	.692
1995-96	Shannon Johnson	Sr.	133-179	.743
1996-97	Nikki Miars	So.	124-162	.816
1997-98	Annie Lester	So.	115-148	.777
1998-99	Shannon Segres	Fr.	70-93	.753
1999-00	Shannon Segres	So.	51-64	.797
2000-01	Teresa Geter	Jr.	74-99	.747
2001-02	Teresa Geter	Sr.	69-85	.812
2002-03	Cristina Ciocan	Jr.	57-74	.770
2003-04	Iva Sliskovic	Fr.	61-88	.693
2004-05	None with Minimum FTM			
2005-06	Iva Sliskovic	Jr.	75-106	.708
2006-07	Iva Sliskovic	Sr.	66-93	.710
2007-08	Ilona Burgrova	Sr.	60-87	.690
2008-09	La'Keisha Sutton	Fr.	77-114	.675
2009-10	Valerie Nainima	Jr.	68-90	.756
2010-11	Ieasia Walker	So.	91-146	.623
2011-12	La'Keisha Sutton	Sr.	68-90	.756
2012-13	Aleighsa Welch	So.	126-178	.708
2013-14	Tiffany Mitchell	So.	157-198	.793
2014-15	Tiffany Mitchell	Jr.	98-117	.838
2015-16	Tiffany Mitchell	Sr.	124-152	.816
2016-17	Kaela Davis	Jr.	82-101	.812
2017-18	Mikiah Herbert Harrigan	So.	53-69	.768
2018-19	Tyasha Harris	Jr.	76-89	.854
2019-20	Tyasha Harris	Sr.	66-77	.857
2020-21	Zia Cooke	So.	88-114	.772
2021-22	Aliyah Boston	Jr.	131-170	.771
2022-23	Zia Cooke	Sr.	114-144	.792
2023-24	MiLaysia Fulwiley	Fr.	79-101	.782

REBOUNDING RECORDS

Team Records

Total Rebounds

Game: 82 vs. Claflin, 1/24/78
Season: 1,830 in 2022-23 (37 games)
SEC Game: 74 vs. Arkansas, 1/22/23

Rebounding Average

Season: 49.5 in 2022-23 (1830 in 37 games)
SEC Season: 49.3 in 2022-23 (789 in 16 games)

Rebounding Margin

Game: +57 (74-17) vs. Arkansas, 1/22/23
Season: +20.4 (49.5-29.1) in 2022-23 (37 games)
SEC Game: +57 (74-17) vs. Arkansas, 1/22/23
SEC Season: +21.3 (49.3-28.0) in 2022-23 (789 in 16 games)

Offensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Game: 35 vs. Louisiana-Lafayette, 11/18/01
Season: 679 in 2022-23 (37 games)
SEC Game: 32 vs. Arkansas, 1/22/23

Defensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Game: 50 vs. College of Charleston, 11/25/20
Season: 1,208 in 2023-24 (38 games)
SEC Game: 42 vs. Arkansas, 1/22/23

Individual Records

Total Rebounds

Game: 26 by Demetress Adams vs. Arkansas, 2/3/08
Season: 462 by Aliyah Boston in 2021-22 (37 games)
Career: 1,493 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23 (138 games)
SEC Game: 26 by Demetress Adams vs. Arkansas, 2/3/08
SEC Season: 212 by Aliyah Boston in 2021-22 (16 games)
SEC Career: 729 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23 (64 games)

Rebounding Average

Season: 12.8 by Katrina Anderson in 1977-78 (434 in 34 games)
Career: 11.3 by Katrina Anderson, 1978-79 (805 in 71 games)
SEC Season: 13.3 by Aliyah Boston in 2021-22 (212 in 16 games)
SEC Career: 11.4 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23 (64 games)

Offensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Game: 12 by Aliyah Boston vs. North Carolina, 3/25/22
12 by Marsha Williams at Furman, 1/20/93
Season: 150 by Aliyah Boston in 2021-22 (37 games)
Career: 518 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23 (138 games)
SEC Game: **10, 3x, last by Joyce Edwards at Vanderbilt, 2/23/25**
SEC Season: 69 by Aliyah Boston in 2021-22 (16 games)
SEC Career: 244 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23 (64 games)

Defensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Game: 17 by A'ja Wilson vs. LSU, 2/22/18
17 by Demetress Adams vs. Arkansas, 2/3/08
Season: 312 by Aliyah Boston in 2021-22 (37 games)
Career: 975 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23 (138 games)
SEC Game: 17 by A'ja Wilson vs. LSU, 2/22/18
17 by Demetress Adams vs. Arkansas, 2/3/08
SEC Season: 143 by Aliyah Boston in 2021-22 (16 games)
SEC Career: 485 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23 (64 games)

20-Rebound Games

Season: 4 by Katrina Anderson (1977-78)
Career: 4 by Katrina Anderson (1978-79)

Total Rebounds By Class

Freshman: 329 by Sheila Foster in 1978-79 (37 games)
Game: 25 by Aliyah Boston vs. Arkansas, 1/9/20
Sophomore: 379 by Sheila Foster in 1979-80 (36 games)
Junior: 462 by Aliyah Boston in 2021-22 (37 games)
Senior: 391 by A'ja Wilson in 2017-18 (33 games)

Career Leaders

Total Rebounds

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	1493
2. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	134	1427
3. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	133	1230
4. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	138	1195
5. Marsha Williams (1990-93)	116	1026
6. Aleighsa Welch (2012-15)	137	956
7. Schonna Banner (1987-90)	125	901
8. Sharon Gilmore (1983-86)	110	882
9. Denise Nanney (1975-77)	78	877
10. Brantley Southers (1982-86)	120	862

Rebounding Average (Min. 50 GP and 2 years played)

Player	Gms	Reb	Avg
1. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	71	805	11.3
2. Denise Nanney (1975-77)	78	877	11.2
3. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	1493	10.8
4. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	134	1427	10.6
5. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	63	613	9.7
6. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	133	1230	9.2
7. Marsha Williams (1990-93)	116	1026	8.8
8. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	138	1195	8.7
9. Sharon Gilmore (1983-86)	110	882	8.0
10. Cynthia Jacobs (1978-80)	65	515	7.9

Offensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	518
2. Aleighsa Welch (2012-15)	137	449
3. Marsha Williams (1990-93)	116	427
4. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	133	380
5. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	138	374
6. Victaria Saxton (2019-23)	166	365
7. Annie Lester (1997-2000)	110	348
8. Jocelyn Penn (1999-03)	117	345
9. Ashley Bruner (2010-13)	128	338
10. Kamilla Cardoso (2022-24)	101	317

Defensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	975
2. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	133	850
3. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	138	821
4. Marsha Williams (1990-93)	116	599
5. Petra Ujhelyi (2000-03)	119	579
6. Aleighsa Welch (2012-15)	137	507
7. Iva Sliskovic (2004-07)	119	491
8. Schonna Banner (1987-90)	125	489
9. Kamilla Cardoso (2022-24)	101	474
Brea Beal (2020-23)	138	474

REBOUNDING RECORDS

20-Rebound Games

Player	Gms
1. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	4
Denise Nanney (1975-77)	4
3. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	3
4. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	2
5. Ashlyn Watkins (2023-present)	1
A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	1
Demetress Adams (2006-09)	1
Marsha Williams (1990-93)	1
Beth Hunt (1989-90)	1

SEC Games Only – Career Leaders

Total Rebounds

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	64	729
2. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	62	599
3. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	59	540
4. Aleighsa Welch (2012-15)	62	430
5. Annie Lester (1997-2000)	54	376

Rebounding Average (Min. 25 GP and 2 years played)

Player	Gms	Rebs	Avg
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	64	729	11.4
2. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	62	599	9.7
3. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	59	540	9.2
4. Kamilla Cardoso (2022-24)	40	333	8.3
5. Annie Lester (1997-2000)	54	376	7.0

Offensive Rebounds

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	64	244
2. Aleighsa Welch (2012-15)	62	190
3. Victaria Saxton (2020-23)	78	182
4. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	59	177
5. Annie Lester (1997-2000)	54	166

Defensive Rebounds

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	64	485
2. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	62	437
3. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	59	363
4. Petra Ujhelyi (2000-03)	56	249
5. Aleighsa Welch (2012-15)	62	240

Season Leaders

Total Rebounds

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	37	462
2. Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	34	434
3. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	33	391
4. Sheila Foster (1980-81)	30	381
5. Sheila Foster (1979-80)	36	379
6. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	37	371
7. Aliyah Boston (2022-23)	37	364
8. Denise Nanney (1974-75)	30	361
9. Alaina Coates (2015-16)	35	360
10. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	31	357

Rebounding Average (Min. 20 GP)

Player	Gms	Reb	Avg
1. Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	34	434	12.8
2. Sheila Foster (1980-81)	30	381	12.7
3. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	37	462	12.5
4. Denise Nanney (1975-76)	22	267	12.1
5. Denise Nanney (1974-75)	30	361	12.0
6. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	33	391	11.8
7. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	31	357	11.5
8. Marsha Williams (1991-92)	28	315	11.3
9. Sheila Foster (1981-82)	31	338	10.9
10. Alaina Coates (2016-17)	28	300	10.7

Offensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	37	150
2. Kamilla Cardoso (2022-23)	36	134
3. Marsha Williams (1991-92)	28	133
4. Aleighsa Welch (2012-13)	33	131
5. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	31	127
6. Marsha Williams (1990-91)	31	126
7. Aliyah Boston (2022-23)	37	124
8. Kamilla Cardoso (2023-24)	33	122
9. Victaria Saxton (2021-22)	37	118
10. Aliyah Boston (2019-20)	33	117

Defensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	37	312
2. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	33	276
3. Alaina Coates (2015-16)	35	253
4. Aliyah Boston (2022-23)	37	240
5. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	31	230
Beth Hunt (1989-90)	33	230
7. Alaina Coates (2016-17)	28	208
8. Alaina Coates (2013-14)	34	203
9. A'ja Wilson (2015-16)	33	199
10. Kamilla Cardoso (2023-24)	33	198
Petra Ujhelyi (2002-03)	31	198

20-Rebound Games

Player	Gms
1. Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	4
2. Denise Nanney (1974-75)	3
3. Sheila Foster (1980-81)	2
4. Ashlyn Watkins (2023-24)	1
Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	1
Aliyah Boston (2019-20)	1
A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	1
Demetress Adams (2007-08)	1
Marsha Williams (1992-93)	1
Beth Hunt (1989-90)	1
Sheila Foster (1978-79)	1
Denise Nanney (1975-76)	1

REBOUNDING RECORDS

SEC Games Only – Season Leaders

Total Rebounds

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	16	212
2. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	16	196
3. Alaina Coates (2015-16)	16	177
4. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	13	166
Alaina Coates (2016-17)	15	166

Rebounding Average (Min. 10 GP)

Player	Gms	Rebs	Avg
1. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	16	212	13.3
2. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	13	166	12.8
3. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	16	196	12.3
4. Alaina Coates (2016-17)	15	166	11.1
5. Alaina Coates (2015-16)	16	177	11.1

Offensive Rebounds

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	16	69
2. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	16	62
3. Aliyah Boston (2022-23)	16	57
4. Aliyah Boston (2019-20)	16	56
Aleighsa Welch (2012-13)	16	56

Defensive Rebounds

Player	Gms	Reb
1. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	16	143
2. Alaina Coates (2015-16)	16	140
3. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	16	134
4. Alaina Coates (2016-17)	15	123
5. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	13	113

Single-Game Leaders

Total Rebounds

Player	Reb
1. Demetress Adams vs. Arkansas, 2/3/08	26
2. Aliyah Boston vs. Arkansas, 1/9/20	25
3. A'ja Wilson vs. LSU, 2/22/18	24
Denise Nanney vs. Anderson, 1/28/75	24
5. Denise Nanney vs. Davidson, 2/6/75	23
6. Aliyah Boston vs. North Carolina, 3/25/22	22
Sheila Foster at Clemson, 3/10/81	22
Sheila Foster vs. UCLA, 1/5/81	22
Katrina Anderson vs. East Carolina, 3/11/78	22
Katrina Anderson vs. Clifton, 1/24/78	22
Denise Nanney vs. UNC-Greensboro, 2/14/75	22

Offensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Player	Off Reb
1. Aliyah Boston vs. North Carolina, 3/25/22	12
Marsha Williams at Furman, 1/20/93	12
3. Michelle Murray vs. Georgia Southern, 2/3/92	11
4. Joyce Edwards at Vanderbilt, 2/23/25	10
Aliyah Boston vs. Arkansas, 1/9/20	10
Six other times, most recently, Jocelyn Penn vs. Stetson, 1/4/03	10

Defensive Rebounds (Since 1987-88)

Player	Def Reb
1. A'ja Wilson vs. LSU, 2/22/18	17
Demetress Adams vs. Arkansas, 2/3/08	17
3. A'ja Wilson vs. St. John's, 11/25/17	16
Alaina Coates at Kentucky, 2/2/17	16
5. Ashlyn Watkins vs. NC State, 4/5/24	15
Aliyah Boston vs. Arkansas, 1/9/20	15
Beth Hunt vs. Old Dominion, 1/20/90	15
Brantley Southers vs. UNC Asheville, 2/24/86	15
Sheila Foster vs. Kentucky, 3/18/82	15

SEC Games Only – Single-Game Leaders

Total Rebounds

Player	Reb
1. Demetress Adams vs. Arkansas, 2/3/08	26
2. Aliyah Boston vs. Arkansas, 1/9/20	25
3. A'ja Wilson vs. LSU, 2/22/18	24
4. Aliyah Boston at Florida, 1/30/22	19
Alaina Coates at Arkansas, 2/5/17	19
A'ja Wilson at Kentucky, 3/1/15	19

Offensive Rebounds

Player	Reb
1. Joyce Edwards at Vanderbilt, 2/23/25	10
Aliyah Boston vs. Arkansas, 1/9/20	10
Annie Lester vs. Mississippi, 1/31/98	10
Marsha Williams vs. Mississippi, 1/25/92	10
4. Kamilla Cardoso vs. Tennessee, 3/3/24	9
Aliyah Boston vs. Texas A&M, 1/13/22	9
Aleighsa Welch vs. Tennessee, 2/23/15	9
Aleighsa Welch at Georgia, 2/25/15	9
Demetress Adams vs. Arkansas, 2/3/08	9

Defensive Rebounds

Player	Reb
1. A'ja Wilson vs. LSU, 2/22/18	17
Demetress Adams vs. Arkansas, 2/3/08	17
3. Alaina Coates at Kentucky, 2/2/17	16
4. Aliyah Boston at Florida, 1/30/22	15
Aliyah Boston vs. Arkansas, 1/9/20	15

REBOUNTING RECORDS

Year-by-Year Rebound Average Leaders

Season	Player	Class	Gms	Reb	Avg	Season	Player	Class	Gms	Reb	Avg
1974-75	Denise Nanney	So.	30	361	12.0	1999-00	Petra Ujhelyi	Fr.	28	180	6.4
1975-76	Denise Nanney	Jr.	22	267	12.1	2000-01	Teresa Geter	Jr.	27	176	6.5
1976-77	Denise Nanney	Sr.	26	249	9.6	2001-02	Jocelyn Penn	Jr.	32	214	6.7
1977-78	Katrina Anderson	Jr.	34	436	12.8	2002-03	Petra Ujhelyi	Sr.	31	288	9.3
1978-79	Katrina Anderson	Sr.	37	371	10.0	2003-04	Iva Sliskovic	Fr.	28	200	7.1
1979-80	Sheila Foster	So.	36	379	10.5	2004-05	Melanie Johnson	So.	28	189	6.8
1980-81	Sheila Foster	Jr.	30	381	12.7	2005-06	Melanie Johnson	Jr.	29	192	6.6
1981-82	Sheila Foster	Sr.	31	338	10.9	2006-07	Melanie Johnson	Sr.	32	176	5.5
1982-83	Sharon Gilmore	Fr.	28	232	8.3	2007-08	Demetress Adams	Jr.	32	286	8.9
1983-84	Brantley Southers	So.	30	240	8.0	2008-09	Demetress Adams	Sr.	18	130	7.2
1984-85	Sharon Gilmore	Jr.	22	169	7.7	2009-10	Kelsey Bone	Fr.	29	268	9.2
1985-86	Sharon Gilmore	Sr.	30	266	8.9	2010-11	Ashley Bruner	So.	33	175	5.3
1986-87	Schonna Banner	Fr.	29	182	6.3	2011-12	Aleighsa Welch	Fr.	33	200	6.1
1987-88	Schonna Banner	So.	33	240	7.3	2012-13	Ashley Bruner	Sr.	33	267	8.1
1988-89	Beth Hunt	So.	30	276	9.2	2013-14	Alaina Coates	Fr.	34	285	8.4
1989-90	Beth Hunt	Jr.	33	337	10.2	2014-15	Alaina Coates	So.	36	285	7.9
1990-91	Marsha Williams	So.	31	303	9.8	2015-16	Alaina Coates	Jr.	35	253	10.3
1991-92	Marsha Williams	Jr.	28	315	11.3	2016-17	Alaina Coates	Sr.	28	300	10.7
1992-93	Marsha Williams	Sr.	24	256	10.7	2017-18	Aja Wilson	Sr.	33	391	11.8
1993-94	Malinda McDaniel	Sr.	27	220	8.1	2018-19	Alexis Jennings	Sr.	32	199	6.2
1994-95	Shannon Johnson	Jr.	27	172	6.4	2019-20	Aliyah Boston	Fr.	33	310	9.4
1995-96	Trese Hickey	Jr.	27	177	6.6	2020-21	Aliyah Boston	So.	31	357	11.5
1996-97	Annie Lester	Fr.	27	180	6.7	2021-22	Aliyah Boston	Jr.	37	462	12.5
1997-98	Annie Lester	So.	28	247	8.8	2022-23	Aliyah Boston	Sr.	37	364	9.8
1998-99	Annie Lester	Jr.	27	213	7.9	2023-24	Kamilla Cardoso	Sr.	33	320	9.7

DOUBLE-DOUBLE RECORDS

Team Records

Double-Doubles

Season: 42 in 1977-78
SEC Season: 16 in 2021-22

Individual Records

Double-Doubles

Season: 30 by Aliyah Boston in 2021-22 (37 games)
Career: 82 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23 (138 games)
SEC Season: 16 by Aliyah Boston in 2021-22 (16 games)
SEC Career: 42 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23 (64 games)

Double-Doubles By Class

Freshman: 13 by Aliyah Boston in 2019-20 (33 games)
Sophomore: 22 by Denise Nanney in 1974-75 (30 games)
Junior: 30 by Aliyah Boston in 2021-22 (37 games)
Senior: 24 by A'ja Wilson in 2017-18 (33 games)

Career Leaders

Double-Doubles

Player	Gms	Dbl-Dbls
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	82
2. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	134	72
3. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	133	57
4. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	138	54
5. Marsha Williams (1990-93)	116	44
6. Denise Nanney (1975-77)	78	42
7. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	71	41
8. Sharon Gilmore (1983-86)	110	32
9. Brantley Southers (1982-86)	120	29
10. Kamilla Cardoso (2022-24)	101	27
Beth Hunt (1989-90)	63	27

SEC Games Only – Career Leaders

Double-Doubles

Player	Gms	Dbl-Dbls
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	64	42
2. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	62	27
3. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	46	21
4. Kamilla Cardoso (2022-24)	40	11
5. Marsha Williams (1992-93)	22	10
Annie Lester (1997-2000)	54	10

Season Leaders

Double-Doubles

Player	Gms	Dbl-Dbls
1. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	37	30
2. Katrina Anderson (1977-78)	34	25
3. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	33	24
4. Sheila Foster (1980-81)	34	23
5. Aliyah Boston (2022-23)	37	22
Denise Nanney (1974-75)	30	22
7. Alaina Coates (2015-16)	33	20
Sheila Foster (1981-82)	31	20
Sheila Foster (1979-80)	36	20
10. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	31	17
Marsha Williams (1991-92)	28	17

Consecutive Double-Doubles

Player	Start Date	End Date	Games
1. Aliyah Boston	11/29/21	3/25/22	27
2. Katrina Anderson	1/14/78	2/6/78	9
Denise Nanney	2/1/75	2/28/75	9
4. Aliyah Boston	1/8/23	2/5/23	8
5. Sheila Foster	1/30/82	2/17/82	7
Katrina Anderson	1/14/78	2/6/78	7
Denise Nanney	2/1/75	2/28/75	7

SEC Games Only – Season Leaders

Double-Doubles

Player	Gms	Dbl-Dbls
1. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	16	16
2. Aliyah Boston (2022-23)	16	10
Alaina Coates (2015-16)	16	10
3. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	16	9
A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	13	9

All-Time Triple-Doubles

Chloe Kitts (16 pts/13 rebs/10 assts) at Ole Miss, 2/27/25

Aliyah Boston (16 pts/11 rebs/10 blks) vs. #22/23 Georgia, 1/21/21
Aliyah Boston (12 pts/12 rebs/10 blks) vs. Alabama State, 11/5/19
Alaina Coates (29 pts /16 rebs /10 blks) vs. Winthrop, 12/13/15
Iva Slikovic (18 pts / 15 rebs / 10 assts) vs. High Point, 12/20/06
Cristina Ciocan (22 pts / 10 rebs /13 assts) at Clemson, 11/21/03
Shaun Gortman (21 pts / 12 rebs / 10 assts) vs. Georgia Southern, 12/18/99
Martha Parker (25 pts /11 rebs / 10 assts) vs. DePaul, 3/1/89
Brantley Southers (18 pts / 17 rebs / 11 assts) vs. UNC Asheville, 2/24/86

Team Records (Since 1976-77)

Assists

Game: 35 vs. UNC Asheville, 2/24/86
Season: 702 in 2023-24 (38 games)
SEC Game: 30 at Kentucky, 2/25/24

Assist Average

Season: 20.6 in 1988-89 (618 in 30 games)
SEC Season: 18.1 in 2023-24 (290 in 16 games)

Individual Records (Since 1976-77)

Assists

Game: 18 by Cristina Ciocan vs. Florida A&M, 11/29/03
Season: 220 by Tyasha Harris in 2017-18 (36 games)
Career: 702 by Tyasha Harris, 2017-20 (139 games)
SEC Game: 14 by Cristina Ciocan vs. Vanderbilt, 1/3/02
SEC Season: 104 by Tyasha Harris in 2017-18 (16 games)
SEC Career: 357 by Tyasha Harris, 2017-20 (64 games)

Assist Average

Season: 7.3 by Mindy Ballou in 1983-84 (219 in 30 games)
Career: 5.3 by Cristina Ciocan, 2001-04 (615 in 116 games)
SEC Season: 6.5 by Tyasha Harris in 2017-18 (104 in 16 games)
SEC Career: 4.5 by Cristina Ciocan, 2001-04 (250 in 56 games)

Assist-to-Turnover Ratio

Season: 3.20 (176-55) by Tyasha Harris in 2018-19
(Min. 100 Assists)
Career: 2.55 (702-275) by Tyasha Harris, 2017-20
(Min. 250 Assists)
SEC Season: **3.33 (50-15) by Raven Johnson, 2024-25**
(Min. 50 Assists)
SEC Career: 2.98 (357-120) by Tyasha Harris, 2017-20
(Min. 125 Assists)

Assists By Class

Freshman: 162 by Martha Parker in 1985-86 (30 games)
Game: 14 by Martha Parker vs. Charlotte, 1/18/86
Sophomore: 220 by Tyasha Harris in 2017-18 (36 games)
Junior: 207 by Cristina Ciocan in 2002-03 (31 games)
Senior: 174 by Mindy Ballou in 1985-86 (30 games)

Career Leaders

Assists

Player	Gms	Asst
1. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	139	702
2. Cristina Ciocan (2001-04)	116	615
3. Mindy Ballou (1983-86)	115	595
4. Martha Parker (1986-89)	124	543
5. Sharon Rivers (1980-83)	122	512
6. Lisa Diaz (1987-90)	126	498
7. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	467
8. Sherry David (1988-91)	106	424
9. Destanni Henderson (2019-22)	129	423
10. Karen Middleton (1988-91)	128	409

Assist Average (Min. 50 GP)

Player	Gms	Asst	Avg
1. Cristina Ciocan (2001-04)	116	615	5.3
2. Mindy Ballou (1983-86)	115	595	5.2
3. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	139	702	5.1
4. Martha Parker (1986-89)	124	543	4.4
5. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	467	4.3
6. Sharon Rivers (1980-83)	122	512	4.2
7. Sherry David (1988-91)	106	424	4.0
8. Lisa Diaz (1987-90)	126	498	4.0
9. Natalie Funderburk (1993-96)	101	377	3.7
10. Nikki Miars (1996-99)	108	386	3.6

Assist-to-Turnover Ratio (Min. 250 Assists)

Player	Asst	TO	A:TO
1. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	702	275	2.55
2. Sharon Rivers (1980-83)	512	287	1.78
3. Destanni Henderson (2019-22)	423	263	1.61
4. Karen Middleton (1988-91)	409	257	1.59
5. Khadijah Sessions (2013-16)	298	196	1.52
6. Lisa Diaz (1987-90)	498	334	1.49
7. Mindy Ballou (1983-86)	595	404	1.47
8. Natalie Funderburk (1993-96)	377	260	1.45
9. Cristina Ciocan (2001-04)	615	451	1.36
10. Sherry David (1988-91)	424	312	1.36

SEC Games Only – Career Leaders

Assists

Player	Gms	Asst
1. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	64	357
2. Cristina Ciocan (2001-04)	56	250
3. Destanni Henderson (2019-22)	62	224
4. La'Keisha Sutton (2009-12)	62	193
5. Raven Johnson (2023-present)	48	166

Assist Average (Min. 20 GP)

Player	Gms	Asst	Avg
1. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	64	357	5.6
2. Cristina Ciocan (2001-04)	56	250	4.5
3. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	44	161	3.7
4. Destanni Henderson (2019-22)	62	224	3.6
5. Nikki Miars (1996-99)	50	159	3.2

Assist-to-Turnover Ratio (Min. 125 Assists)

Player	Asst	TO	A:TO
1. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	357	120	2.98
2. Destanni Henderson (2019-22)	224	121	1.85
3. Cristina Ciocan (2001-04)	250	213	1.17
4. Khadijah Sessions (2013-16)	126	110	1.15
5. Ieasia Walker (2010-13)	159	153	1.04

Season Leaders

Assists

Player	Gms	Asst
1. Tyasha Harris (2017-18)	36	220
2. Mindy Ballou (1983-84)	30	219
3. Cristina Ciocan (2002-03)	31	207
4. Sharon Rivers (1981-82)	31	190
5. Tyasha Harris (2019-20)	33	189
6. Cristina Ciocan (2001-02)	30	185
7. Tyasha Harris (2018-19)	33	176
8. Raven Johnson (2023-24)	37	179
9. Lisa Diaz (1988-89)	30	174
Mindy Ballou (1985-86)	30	174

ASSIST RECORDS

Assist Average (Min. 20 GP)

Player	Gms	Asst	Avg
1. Mindy Ballou (1983-84)	30	219	7.3
2. Cristina Ciocan (2002-03)	31	207	6.7
3. Cristina Ciocan (2001-02)	30	185	6.2
4. Sharon Rivers (1981-82)	31	190	6.1
5. Tyasha Harris (2017-18)	36	220	6.1
6. Mindy Ballou (1984-85)	27	162	6.0
7. Lisa Diaz (1988-89)	30	174	5.8
8. Mindy Ballou (1985-86)	30	174	5.8
9. Tyasha Harris (2019-20)	33	189	5.7
10. Martha Parker (1985-86)	30	162	5.4

Assist-to-Turnover Ratio (Min. 100 Assists)

Player	Asst	TO	A:TO
1. Tyasha Harris (2018-19)	176	55	3.20
2. Raven Johnson (2023-24)	179	58	3.09
3. Brea Beal (2022-23)	100	38	2.90
4. Tyasha Harris (2019-20)	189	68	2.78
5. Tyasha Harris (2017-18)	220	93	2.37
6. Raven Johnson (2022-23)	123	52	2.37
7. Te-Hina Paopao (2023-24)	136	61	2.23
8. Khadijah Sessions (2014-15)	105	49	2.14
9. Lisa Diaz (1988-89)	174	85	2.05
10. Tyasha Harris (2016-17)	117	59	1.98

SEC Games Only – Season Leaders

Assists

Player	Gms	Asst
1. Tyasha Harris (2017-18)	16	104
2. Tyasha Harris (2018-19)	16	99
3. Tyasha Harris (2019-20)	16	94
4. Destanni Henderson (2020-21)	16	89
5. Cristina Ciocan (2001-02)	14	87

Assist Average (Min. 10 GP)

Player	Gms	Asst	Avg
1. Tyasha Harris (2017-18)	16	104	6.5
2. Cristina Ciocan (2001-02)	14	87	6.2
3. Tyasha Harris (2018-19)	16	99	6.2
4. Cristina Ciocan (2002-03)	14	86	6.1
5. Tyasha Harris (2019-20)	16	94	5.9

Assist-to-Turnover Ratio (Min. 50 Assists)

Player	Asst	TO	A:TO
1. Raven Johnson (2024-25)	50	15	3.33
2. Tyasha Harris (2018-19)	99	30	3.30
3. Tyasha Harris (2017-18)	104	34	3.06
4. Tyasha Harris (2019-20)	94	31	3.03
5. Te-Hina Paopao (2023-24)	62	23	2.70

Single-Game Leaders

Assists

Player	Asst
1. Cristina Ciocan vs. Florida A&M, 11/29/03	18
2. Raven Johnson vs. Clemson, 11/16/23	17
3. Tyasha Harris at Tennessee, 2/24/19	14
Cristina Ciocan vs. Vanderbilt, 1/3/02	14
Mindy Ballou vs. Clemson, 2/3/86	14
Martha Parker vs. Charlotte, 1/18/86	14
Mindy Ballou vs. Cincinnati, 2/12/84	14
Cheryl Autry vs. Clemson, 3/7/79	14
9. 6 times, most recently,	13
Tyasha Harris at Kentucky, 1/21/18	

SEC Games Only – Single-Game Leaders

Assists

Player	Asst
1. Tyasha Harris at Tennessee, 2/24/19	14
Cristina Ciocan vs. Vanderbilt, 1/3/02	14
3. Tyasha Harris at Kentucky, 1/21/18	13
4. Cristina Ciocan at Florida, 2/3/02	11
Natalie Funderburk at Mississippi State, 1/3/96	11

Year-by-Year Assist Average Leaders

Season	Player	Class	Gms	Asst	Avg
1976-77	Joyce Gilbert	Fr.	26	65	2.5
1977-78	Sue Shue	Fr.	34	83	2.4
1978-79	Cheryl Autry	Fr.	37	151	4.1
1979-80	Rita Johnson	Jr.	36	119	3.3
1980-81	Sharon Rivers	So.	30	120	4.0
1981-82	Sharon Rivers	Jr.	31	190	6.1
1982-83	Sharon Rivers	Sr.	27	143	5.3
1983-84	Mindy Ballou	So.	30	219	7.3
1984-85	Mindy Ballou	Jr.	27	162	6.0
1985-86	Mindy Ballou	Sr.	30	174	5.8
1986-87	Monica Williams	Jr.	30	116	3.9
1987-88	Martha Parker	Jr.	34	131	3.9
1988-89	Lisa Diaz	Jr.	30	174	5.8
1989-90	Sherry David	Jr.	32	161	5.0
1990-91	Sherry David	Sr.	30	160	5.3
1991-92	Christi Timmons	Fr.	28	102	3.6
1992-93	Shannon Johnson	Fr.	27	83	3.1
1993-94	Shannon Johnson	So.	27	133	4.9
1994-95	Shannon Johnson	Jr.	27	138	5.1
1995-96	Natalie Funderburk	Sr.	28	127	4.5
1996-97	Nikki Miars	So.	27	86	3.2
1997-98	Nikki Miars	Jr.	28	139	5.0
1998-99	Nikki Miars	Sr.	27	116	4.3
1999-00	Kelly Morrone	Fr.	27	78	2.9
2000-01	Cristina Ciocan	Fr.	28	81	2.9
2001-02	Cristina Ciocan	So.	30	185	6.2
2002-03	Cristina Ciocan	Jr.	31	207	6.7
2003-04	Cristina Ciocan	Sr.	27	133	4.9
2004-05	Lea Fabbri	So.	24	72	3.0
2005-06	Lea Fabbri	Jr.	29	82	2.8
2006-07	Lauren Simms	Sr.	33	94	2.8
2007-08	Samone Kennedy	Fr.	31	106	3.4
2008-09	Samone Kennedy	So.	28	68	2.4
	La'Keisha Sutton	Fr.	28	68	2.4
2009-10	Valerie Nainima	Jr.	29	81	2.8
2010-11	La'Keisha Sutton	Jr.	33	118	3.6
2011-12	Ieasia Walker	Jr.	35	113	3.2
2012-13	Ieasia Walker	Sr.	33	108	3.3
2013-14	Tiffany Mitchell	So.	34	118	3.5
2014-15	Tiffany Mitchell	Jr.	37	106	2.9
2015-16	Tiffany Mitchell	Sr.	35	90	2.6
2016-17	Tyasha Harris	Fr.	37	117	3.2
2017-18	Tyasha Harris	So.	36	220	6.1
2018-19	Tyasha Harris	Jr.	33	176	5.3
2019-20	Tyasha Harris	Sr.	33	189	5.7
2020-21	Destanni Henderson	Jr.	31	157	5.1
2021-22	Destanni Henderson	Sr.	34	133	3.9
2022-23	Raven Johnson	Fr.	37	123	3.4
2023-24	Raven Johnson	So.	37	179	4.8

Team Records (Since 1976-77)

Blocks

Game:	17 vs. Presbyterian, 12/16/23
	17 vs. Appalachian State, 11/17/19
Season:	326* in 2022-23 (37 games)
SEC Game:	15 vs. Alabama, 2/3/22

Block Average

Season:	8.8* in 2022-23 (326 in 37 games)
SEC Season:	8.4 in 2019-20 (134 in 16 games)

Individual Records (Since 1976-77)

Blocks

Game:	10 last by Aliyah Boston vs. Georgia, 1/21/21
	10 by Aliyah Boston vs. Alabama State, 11/5/19
	10 by Alaina Coates vs. Winthrop, 12/13/15
Season:	105 by A'ja Wilson in 2017-18 (33 games)
Career:	363 by A'ja Wilson, 2015-18, (138 games)
SEC Game:	10 by Aliyah Boston vs. Georgia, 1/21/21
SEC Season:	57 by Aliyah Boston in 2020-21 (16 games)
SEC Career:	165 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23 (64 games)

Block Average

Season:	3.2 by A'ja Wilson in 2017-18 (33 games)
Career:	2.6 by A'ja Wilson, 2015-18 (363 in 138 games)
SEC Season:	3.6 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-21 (57 in 16 games)
SEC Career:	2.7 by A'ja Wilson, 2015-18 (158 in 59 games)

Blocks By Class

Freshman:	86 by Aliyah Boston in 2019-20 (33 games)
Game:	10 by Aliyah Boston vs. Alabama State, 11/5/19
Sophomore:	103 by A'ja Wilson in 2015-16 (33 games)
Junior:	90 by Aliyah Boston, 2021-22 (37 games)
	90 by A'ja Wilson in 2016-17 (35 games)
Senior:	105 by A'ja Wilson in 2017-18 (33 games)

* indicates NCAA Record

Career Leaders

Blocks

Player	Gms	Blk
1. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	138	363
2. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	330
3. Mikiah Herbert Harrigan (2017-20)	136	210
Alaina Coates (2014-17)	133	210
5. Kamilla Cardoso (2022-24)	101	198
6. Victoria Saxton (2019-23)	166	192
7. Lakesha Tolliver (2004-07)	112	177
8. Elem Ibiam (2012-15)	126	164
9. Michelle Murray (1990-93)	96	148
10. Petra Ujhelyi (2000-03)	119	143

Block Average (Min. 50 GP)

Player	Gms	Blk	Avg
1. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	138	363	2.6
2. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	330	2.4
3. Kamilla Cardoso (2022-24)	101	198	2.0
4. Teresa Geter (2001-02)	55	99	1.8
5. Lakesha Tolliver (2004-08)	112	177	1.6
6. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	133	210	1.6
7. Mikiah Herbert Harrigan (2017-20)	136	210	1.5
8. Michelle Murray (1990-93)	96	148	1.5
9. Elem Ibiam (2012-15)	126	164	1.3
10. Demetress Adams (2006-09)	112	140	1.3

SEC Games Only – Career Leaders

Blocks

Player	Gms	Blk
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	64	165
2. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	59	158
3. Victoria Saxton (2019-23)	78	96
4. Alaina Coates (2014-17)	62	92
5. Mikiah Herbert Harrigan (2017-20)	61	91

Block Average (Min. 20 GP)

Player	Gms	Blk	Avg
1. A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	59	158	2.7
2. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	64	165	2.6
3. Kamilla Cardoso (2022-24)	40	75	1.9
Teresa Geter (2001-02)	24	45	1.9
5. Mikiah Herbert Harrigan (2017-20)	61	91	1.5

Season Leaders

Blocks

Player	Gms	Blk
1. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	33	105
2. A'ja Wilson (2015-16)	33	103
3. Ashlyn Watkins (2023-24)	38	91
4. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	37	90
A'ja Wilson (2016-17)	35	90
6. Aliyah Boston (2019-20)	33	86
7. Elem Ibiam (2013-14)	34	83
8. Kamilla Cardoso (2023-24)	33	82
9. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	31	81
10. Aliyah Boston (2022-23)	37	73
Alaina Coates (2013-14)	34	73

Block Average (Min. 20 GP)

Player	Gms	Blk	Avg
1. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	33	105	3.2
2. A'ja Wilson (2015-16)	33	103	3.1
3. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	31	81	2.6
4. Aliyah Boston (2019-20)	33	86	2.6
5. A'ja Wilson (2016-17)	35	90	2.6
6. Kamilla Cardoso (2023-24)	33	82	2.5
7. Elem Ibiam (2013-14)	34	83	2.4
8. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	37	90	2.4
9. Ashlyn Watkins (2023-24)	38	91	2.4
10. Mikiah Herbert Harrigan (2018-19)	33	71	2.2

BLOCK RECORDS

SEC Games Only – Season Leaders

Blocks		
Player	Gms	Blk
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	16	57
2. A'ja Wilson (2015-16)	16	53
3. Elem Ibiam (2013-14)	16	44
4. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	13	42
5. Aliyah Boston (2022-23)	16	36
Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	16	36
Aliyah Boston (2019-20)	16	36

Block Average (Min. 10 GP)

Player	Gms	Blk	Avg
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-21)	16	57	3.6
2. A'ja Wilson (2015-16)	16	53	3.3
3. A'ja Wilson (2017-18)	13	42	3.2
4. Elem Ibiam (2013-14)	16	44	2.8
5. Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	16	36	2.3
Aliyah Boston (2021-22)	16	36	2.3
Aliyah Boston (2019-20)	16	36	2.3

Single-Game Leaders

Blocks	
Player	Blk
1. Aliyah Boston vs. Georgia, 1/21/21	10
Aliyah Boston vs. Alabama State, 11/5/19	10
Alaina Coates vs. Winthrop, 12/13/15	10
4. Laeticia Amihere vs. Texas, 3/30/21	9
A'ja Wilson at Temple, 12/21/17	8
A'ja Wilson vs. Texas A&M, 1/17/16	8
A'ja Wilson at Kentucky, 1/14/16	8
Jean Walling vs. South Carolina State, 12/7/77	8
8. Kamilla Cardoso vs. Presbyterian, 12/16/23	7
Aliyah Boston vs. Maryland, 12/12/21	7
Aliyah Boston at Kentucky, 1/10/21	7
Aliyah Boston vs. Arkansas, 2/6/20	7
A'ja Wilson vs. Arkansas, 1/25/18	7
A'ja Wilson vs. Georgia, 3/3/17	7
Elem Ibiam at Mississippi State, 2/6/14	7
Lakesha Tolliver vs. UNC Wilmington, 12/1/07	7

SEC Games Only – Single-Game Leaders

Blocks	
Player	Blk
1. Aliyah Boston vs. Georgia, 1/21/21	10
2. A'ja Wilson vs. Texas A&M, 1/17/16	8
A'ja Wilson at Kentucky, 1/14/16	8
4. Aliyah Boston at Kentucky, 1/10/21	7
Aliyah Boston vs. Arkansas, 2/6/20	7
A'ja Wilson vs. Arkansas, 1/25/18	7
Elem Ibiam at Mississippi State, 2/6/14	7

Year-by-Year Block Average Leaders

Season	Player	Class	Gms	Blks	Avg
1976-77	Janice Wolfe	Sr.	26	23	0.9
1977-78	Katrina Anderson	Jr.	34	23	0.7
	Jean Walling	Fr.	34	23	0.7
1978-79	Katrina Anderson	Sr.	37	29	0.8
1979-80	Cynthia Jacobs	Sr.	36	18	0.5
1980-81	Philicia Allen	Fr.	29	32	1.1
1981-82	Sheila Foster	Sr.	31	23	0.7
	Brantley Southers	Fr.	31	23	0.7
1982-83	Sharon Gilmore	Fr.	28	29	1.0
1983-84	Sharon Gilmore	So.	30	34	1.1
1984-85	Sharon Gilmore	Jr.	22	18	0.8
1985-86	Sharon Gilmore	Sr.	30	20	0.7
1986-87	Schonna Banner	Fr.	29	17	0.6
1987-88	Schonna Banner	So.	33	32	1.0
1988-89	Schonna Banner	Jr.	30	29	0.9
1989-90	Schonna Banner	Sr.	33	25	0.8
1990-91	Michelle Murray	So.	31	53	1.7
1991-92	Michelle Murray	Jr.	28	49	1.8
1992-93	Michelle Murray	Sr.	23	43	1.9
1993-94	Cindy Kelly	So.	26	20	0.7
1994-95	Shannon Johnson	Jr.	27	18	0.6
1995-96	Shannon Johnson	Sr.	28	20	0.7
1996-97	Rachell Lee	Jr.	24	23	1.0
1997-98	Donna Carr	Jr.	27	10	0.4
1998-99	Annie Lester	Jr.	27	5	0.2
1999-00	Petra Ujhelyi	Fr.	28	27	0.9
2000-01	Teresa Geter	Jr.	27	54	2.1
2001-02	Petra Ujhelyi	Jr.	32	45	1.4
2002-03	Petra Ujhelyi	Sr.	31	48	1.5
2003-04	Iva Sliskovic	Fr.	28	26	0.9
2004-05	Melanie Johnson	So.	28	54	1.9
2005-06	Iva Sliskovic	Jr.	29	37	1.3
2006-07	Lakesha Tolliver	Jr.	33	60	1.8
2007-08	Lakesha Tolliver	Sr.	26	47	1.8
2008-09	Demetress Adams	Sr.	18	21	1.2
2009-10	Kelsey Bone	Fr.	29	19	0.7
2010-11	Jewel May	Sr.	33	22	0.7
2011-12	Ashley Bruner	Jr.	35	25	0.7
2012-13	Elem Ibiam	So.	30	30	1.0
2013-14	Elem Ibiam	Jr.	34	83	2.4
2014-15	A'ja Wilson	Fr.	37	65	1.8
2015-16	A'ja Wilson	So.	33	103	3.1
2016-17	A'ja Wilson	Jr.	35	90	2.6
2017-18	A'ja Wilson	Sr.	33	105	3.2
2018-19	Mikiah Herbert Harrigan	Jr.	33	71	2.2
2019-20	Aliyah Boston	Fr.	33	86	2.6
2020-21	Aliyah Boston	So.	31	81	2.6
2021-22	Aliyah Boston	Jr.	37	90	2.4
2022-23	Aliyah Boston	Sr.	37	73	2.0
2023-24	Kamilla Cardoso	Sr.	33	82	2.5

STEAL RECORDS

Team Records (Since 1976-77)

Steals

Game: 35 vs. Georgia Southern, 12/9/78
Season: 496 in 1979-80 (36 games)
SEC Game: 24 vs. Arkansas, 1/30/93

Steal Average

Season: 14.2 in 1998-99 (384 in 27 games)
SEC Season: 13.5 in 1998-99 (189 in 14 games)

Individual Records (Since 1976-77)

Steals

Game: 11 by Jocelyn Penn vs. South Carolina State, 12/22/98
Season: 126 by Katrina Anderson in 1978-79 (37 games)
Career: 359 by Jocelyn Penn, 1999-2003 (117 games)
SEC Game: 9 by Jocelyn Penn vs. Georgia, 2/7/02
SEC Season: 49 by Ieasia Walker in 2012-13 (16 games)
SEC Career: 162 by Jocelyn Penn, 1999-2003 (55 games)

Steal Average

Season: 3.7 by Jocelyn Penn in 2002-03 (112 in 30 games)
Career: 3.1 by Jocelyn Penn, 1999-2003 (359 in 117 games)
SEC Season: 3.5 by Jocelyn Penn, in 2002-03 (45 in 13 games)
SEC Career: 2.9 by Jocelyn Penn, 1999-2003 (162 in 55 games)

Steals By Class

Freshman: 80 by Cheryl Autry in 1978-79 (37 games)
Game: 11 by Jocelyn Penn vs. South Carolina State, 12/22/98
Sophomore: 88 by Sheila Foster in 1979-80 (36 games)
Junior: 94 by Jocelyn Penn in 2000-01 (32 games)
Senior: 126 by Katrina Anderson in 1978-79 (37 games)

Career Leaders

Steals

Player	Gms	Stl
1. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	117	359
2. Rita Johnson (1978-81)	130	298
3. Martha Parker (1986-89)	124	284
4. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	260
5. Ieasia Walker (2010-13)	130	258
6. Sheila Foster (1979-82)	134	250
7. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	139	234
8. Cristina Ciocan (2001-04)	116	227
9. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	139	224
10. Annie Lester (1997-2000)	110	215

Steal Average (Min. 50 GP)

Player	Gms	Stl	Avg
1. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	117	359	3.1
2. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	71	184	2.6
3. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	260	2.4
4. Rita Johnson (1978-81)	130	298	2.3
5. Martha Parker (1986-89)	124	284	2.3
6. Melanie Johnson (2005-07)	89	192	2.2
7. Shaunzinski Gortman (1999-2002)	105	212	2.0
8. Ieasia Walker (2010-13)	130	258	2.0
9. Cristina Ciocan (2001-04)	116	227	2.0
10. Annie Lester (1997-2000)	110	215	2.0

SEC Games Only – Career Leaders

Steals

Player	Gms	Stl
1. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	55	162
2. Ieasia Walker (2010-13)	64	128
3. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	64	110
4. Lisa Williams (1996-99)	51	107
5. Annie Lester (1997-2000)	54	104

Steal Average (Min. 20 GP)

Player	Gms	Stl	Avg
1. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2003)	55	162	2.9
2. Lisa Williams (1996-99)	51	107	2.1
3. Ieasia Walker (2010-13)	64	128	2.0
4. Annie Lester (1997-2000)	54	104	1.9
5. Teresa Geter (2001-02)	24	46	1.9

Season Leaders

Steals

Player	Gms	Stl
1. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	37	126
2. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	30	112
3. Jocelyn Penn (2001-02)	32	94
4. Ieasia Walker (2012-13)	33	90
5. Rita Johnson (1979-80)	36	89
6. Rita Johnson (1980-81)	30	88
Sheila Foster (1979-80)	36	88
8. Cheryl Autry (1978-79)	37	80
9. Tyasha Harris (2017-18)	36	79
Jocelyn Penn (1998-99)	27	79
Ieasia Walker (2010-11)	33	79

Steal Average (Min. 20 GP)

Player	Gms	Stl	Avg
1. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	30	112	3.7
2. Katrina Anderson (1978-79)	37	126	3.4
3. Jocelyn Penn (2001-02)	32	94	2.9
4. Rita Johnson (1980-81)	30	88	2.9
5. Jocelyn Penn (1998-99)	27	79	2.9
6. Ieasia Walker (2012-13)	33	90	2.7
7. Annie Lester (1997-98)	28	76	2.7
8. Jocelyn Penn (1999-2000)	28	74	2.6
9. Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	28	74	2.6
10. Martha Parker (1985-86)	30	77	2.6

STEAL RECORDS

SEC Games Only – Season Leaders

Steals

Player	Gms	Stl
1. Ieasia Walker (2012-13)	16	49
2. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	13	45
Jocelyn Penn (2001-02)	14	45
4. Ieasia Walker (2010-11)	16	44
5. Lisa Williams (1997-98)	14	38

Steal Average (Min. 10 GP)

Player	Gms	Stl	Avg
1. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	13	45	3.5
2. Jocelyn Penn (2001-02)	14	45	3.2
3. Ieasia Walker (2012-13)	16	49	3.1
4. Ieasia Walker (2010-11)	16	44	2.8
5. Lisa Williams (1997-98)	14	38	2.7

Single-Game Leaders

Steals

Player	Stl
1. Jocelyn Penn vs. South Carolina State, 12/22/98	11
2. Cristina Ciocan vs. Middle Tennessee, 12/16/02	9
Jocelyn Penn vs. Georgia, 2/7/02	9
Jocelyn Penn vs. Coastal Carolina, 12/19/99	9
Christi Timmons vs. Michigan, 12/1/94	9
Pam Adams at Georgia Southern, 12/3/77	9
7. Lauren Simms vs. Tennessee, 1/15/04	8
Jocelyn Penn vs. Kentucky, 2/27/03	8
Cristina Ciocan at Mississippi State, 1/06/02	8
Shannon Johnson vs. Georgia Southern, 12/06/93	8
Rita Johnson vs. SMU, 12/8/80	8
Rita Johnson at Kentucky, 1/10/79	8
Sharon Rivers vs. George State, 2/17/82	8

SEC Games Only – Single-Game Leaders

Steals

Player	Stl
1. Jocelyn Penn vs. Georgia, 2/7/02	9
2. Lauren Simms vs. Tennessee, 1/15/04	8
Jocelyn Penn vs. Kentucky, 2/27/03	8
Cristina Ciocan at Mississippi State, 1/6/02	8
5. Petra Ujhelyi vs. Tennessee, 1/28/02	7
Nikki Miars vs. Mississippi State, 1/10/99	7
Lisa Williams vs. LSU, 2/14/98	7

Year-by-Year Steal Average Leaders

Season	Player	Class	Gms	Steals	Avg
1976-77	Edith Cook	Jr.	26	70	3.7
1977-78	Katrina Anderson	Jr.	34	58	1.7
1978-79	Katrina Anderson	Sr.	37	126	3.4
1979-80	Rita Johnson	Jr.	36	89	2.5
1980-81	Rita Johnson	Sr.	30	88	2.9
1981-82	Sharon Rivers	Jr.	31	73	2.4
1982-83	Sharon Rivers	Sr.	27	61	2.3
1983-84	Marsi McAlister	Jr.	29	49	1.7
1984-85	Marsi McAlister	Sr.	28	59	2.1
1985-86	Martha Parker	Fr.	30	77	2.6
1986-87	Martha Parker	So.	30	76	2.5
1987-88	Monica Williams	Sr.	32	58	1.8
1988-89	Martha Parker	Sr.	30	73	2.4
1989-90	Sherry David	Jr.	32	59	1.9
1990-91	Sherry David	Sr.	30	55	1.8
1991-92	Christi Timmons	Fr.	28	60	2.1
1992-93	Shannon Johnson	Fr.	27	83	3.1
1993-94	Shannon Johnson	So.	27	64	2.4
1994-95	Shannon Johnson	Jr.	27	57	2.1
1995-96	Shannon Johnson	Sr.	28	74	2.6
1996-97	Nikki Miars	So.	27	54	2.0
1997-98	Annie Lester	So.	28	76	2.7
1998-99	Jocelyn Penn	Fr.	27	79	2.9
1999-00	Jocelyn Penn	So.	28	74	2.7
2000-01	Teresa Geter	Jr.	27	54	2.7
2001-02	Jocelyn Penn	Jr.	32	94	2.9
2002-03	Jocelyn Penn	Sr.	30	112	3.7
2003-04	Kelly Morrone	Sr.	28	51	1.8
2004-05	Melanie Johnson	So.	28	62	2.2
2005-06	Melanie Johnson	Jr.	29	67	2.3
2006-07	Melanie Johnson	Sr.	32	63	2.0
2007-08	Demetress Adams	Jr.	32	65	2.0
2008-09	La'Keisha Sutton	Fr.	28	36	1.3
2009-10	Samone Kennedy	Jr.	29	34	1.2
2010-11	Ieasia Walker	So.	33	79	2.4
2011-12	Ieasia Walker	Jr.	35	63	1.8
2012-13	Ieasia Walker	Sr.	33	90	2.7
2013-14	Tiffany Mitchell	So.	34	62	1.8
2014-15	Khadijah Sessions	Jr.	37	68	1.8
2015-16	Khadijah Sessions	Sr.	35	70	2.0
2016-17	Bianca Cuevas-Moore	Jr.	37	56	1.6
2017-18	Tyasha Harris	So.	36	79	2.2
2018-19	Tyasha Harris	Jr.	33	55	1.7
2019-20	Tyasha Harris	Sr.	33	53	1.6
2020-21	Destanni Henderson	Jr.	31	39	1.3
2021-22	Destanni Henderson	Sr.	34	46	1.4
2022-23	Raven Johnson	Fr.	36	40	1.1
2023-24	Raven Johnson	So.	37	78	2.1

MINUTES PLAYED RECORDS

Individual Records (Since 1980-81)

Minutes Played

Season:	1,208 by Tyasha Harris in 2017-18 (36 games)
Career:	4,456 by Martha Parker, 1986-89 (124 games)
SEC Season:	553 by Ieasia Walker in 2012-13 (16 games)
	553 by La'Keisha Sutton in 2010-11 (16 games)
SEC Career:	2,010 by La'Keisha Sutton, 2009-12 (62 games)

Minutes Played Average

Season:	38.3 by Nikki Miars in 1997-98 (1072 in 28 games)
Career:	35.9 by Martha Parker, 1986-89 (4456 in 124 games)
SEC Season:	38.7 by Nikki Miars in 1997-98 (542 in 14 games)
SEC Career:	35.4 by Nikki Miars, 1996-99 (1772 in 50 games)

Minutes Played Average By Class

Freshman:	37.3 by Martha Parker in 1985-86 (1119 in 30 games)
Sophomore:	37.4 by Martha Parker in 1986-87 (1122 in 30 games)
Junior:	38.3 by Nikki Miars in 1997-98 (1072 in 28 games)
Senior:	37.9 by Sheila Foster in 1981-82 (1175 in 31 games)

Career Leaders

Minutes Played

Player	Gms	Min
1. Martha Parker (1986-89)	124	4456
2. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	139	4168
3. Tiffany Mitchell (2015-16)	139	4167
4. Karen Middleton (1988-91)	128	4013
5. Brantley Southers (1982-86)	120	3886
6. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	137	3831
7. Schonna Banner (1987-90)	125	3802
8. La'Keisha Sutton (2009-12)	125	3755
9. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138	3752
10. Nikki Miars (1996-99)	108	3711

Minutes Played Average (Min. 50 GP)

Player	Gms	Min	Avg
1. Martha Parker (1986-89)	124	4456	35.9
2. Nikki Miars (1996-99)	108	3711	34.4
3. Brantley Southers (1982-86)	120	3886	32.4
4. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	109	3495	32.1
5. Karen Middleton (1988-91)	128	4013	31.4
6. Beth Hunt (1989-90)	63	1969	31.3
7. Renee Najarian (1984-85)	55	1684	30.6
8. Schonna Banner (1987-90)	125	3802	30.4
9. La'Keisha Sutton (2009-12)	125	3755	30.0
10. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	139	4168	30.0

SEC Games Only – Career Leaders

Minutes Played

Player	Gms	Min
1. La'Keisha Sutton (2009-12)	62	2010
2. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	64	1979
3. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	64	1952
4. Ieasia Walker (2010-13)	64	1929
5. Aleighsa Welch (2012-15)	62	1812

Minutes Played Average (Min. 20 GP)

Player	Gms	Min	Avg
1. Nikki Miars (1996-99)	50	1772	35.4
2. Marsha Williams (1992-93)	22	738	33.5
3. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	44	1440	32.7
4. La'Keisha Sutton (2009-12)	62	2010	32.4
5. Shaunzinski Gortman (1999-2002)	49	1534	31.3

Season Leaders

Minutes Played

Player	Gms	Min
1. Tyasha Harris (2017-18)	36	1208
2. Sheila Foster (1981-82)	31	1175
3. Martha Parker (1987-88)	34	1172
4. Karen Middleton (1989-90)	33	1139
5. Karen Middleton (1990-91)	31	1134
6. Sheila Foster (1980-81)	30	1124
7. Martha Parker (1986-87)	30	1122
8. Doniyah Cliney (2017-18)	36	1120
9. Martha Parker (1985-86)	30	1119
10. Mindy Ballou (1985-86)	30	1116

Minutes Played Average (Min. 20 GP)

Player	Gms	Min	Avg
1. Nikki Miars (1997-98)	28	1072	38.3
2. Sheila Foster (1981-82)	31	1175	37.9
3. Sheila Foster (1980-81)	30	1124	37.5
4. Martha Parker (1986-87)	30	1122	37.4
5. Martha Parker (1985-86)	30	1119	37.3
6. Mindy Ballou (1985-86)	30	1116	37.2
7. Karen Middleton (1990-91)	31	1134	36.6
8. Jocelyn Penn (2002-03)	30	1088	36.3
9. Shannon Johnson (1994-95)	27	973	36.0
10. Nikki Miars (1998-99)	27	969	35.9

SEC Games Only – Season Leaders

Minutes Played

Player	Gms	Min
1. Ieasia Walker (2012-13)	16	553
La'Keisha Sutton (2010-11)	16	553
3. Destanni Henderson (2020-21)	16	549
4. Nikki Miars (1997-98)	14	542
5. Doniyah Cliney (2017-18)	16	541

Minutes Played Average (Min. 10 GP)

Player	Gms	Min	Avg
1. Nikki Miars (1997-98)	14	542	38.7
2. Jordan Jones (2007-08)	14	522	37.3
3. Shannon Johnson (1995-96)	11	408	37.1
4. Shannon Johnson (1994-95)	11	407	37.0
5. Nikki Miars (1998-99)	14	513	36.6

PARTICIPATION RECORDS

Individual Records		Games Played By Class	
Games Played		Freshman: 38 by MiLaysia Fulwiley in 2023-24	
Season:	38 by Feagin, Fulwiley, Watkins in 2023-24	Sophomore: 38 by Ashlyn Watkins in 2023-24	
Career:	166 by Victaria Saxton, 2019-23	Junior: 38 by Sania Feagin in 2023-24	
SEC Career:	78 by Victaria Saxton, 2019-23	Senior: 37 by nine players, last Te-Hina Paopao in 2023-24	
Games Started (Since 1980-81)		Games Started By Class (Since 1980-81)	
Season:	37, 11 times	Freshman: 33 by three players	
Career:	138 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23	Sophomore: 35 by two players, last Raven Johnson in 2023-24	
SEC Career:	64 by Aliyah Boston, 2020-23	Junior: 37 by four players, last Bree Hall in 2023-24	
		Senior: 37 by eight players, last Te-Hina Paopao in 2023-24	

Career Leaders

Games Played	
Player	GP
1. Victaria Saxton (2019-23)	166
2. LeLe Grissett (2018-22)	150
3. Bree Hall (2022-present)	145
4. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	139
Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	139
Tina Roy (2012-16)	139
7. Brea Beal (2020-23)	138
Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138
A'ja Wilson (2015-18)	138
10. Zia Cooke (2020-23)	137
Bianca Cuevas-Moore (2015-19)	137
Aleighsa Welch (2012-15)	137

Games Started (Since 1980-81)	
Player	GS
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	138
2. Brea Beal (2020-23)	137
Zia Cooke (2020-23)	137
4. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	135
5. Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	127
6. Martha Parker (1986-89)	122
7. Schonna Banner (1987-90)	113
8. Petra Ujhelyi (2000-03)	109
9. Shannon Johnson (1993-96)	108
10. Aleighsa Welch (2012-15)	105
La'Keisha Sutton (2009-12)	105
Sharon Gilmore (1983-86)	105

Consecutive Games Started (Since 1980-81)			
Player	Start Date	End Date	GS
1. Aliyah Boston	11/5/19	3/31/23	138
2. Tiffany Mitchell	3/3/13	2/22/16	103
3. Zia Cooke	11/5/19	1/16/22	82
4. Shannon Johnson	12/1/92	3/3/95	81
5. Nikki Miars	11/23/96	1/31/99	75
6. Schonna Banner	2/26/88	3/20/90	72
7. Brantley Southers	11/29/83	1/15/86	71
8. Aleighsa Welch	11/14/13	4/5/15	69
9. Martha Parker	11/28/86	2/18/88	54
10. Tyasha Harris	12/21/17	2/14/19	49

SEC Games Only – Career Leaders

Games Played	
Player	GP
1. Victaria Saxton (2019-23)	78
2. LeLe Grissett (2018-22)	77
3. Brea Beal (2020-23)	64
Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	64
Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	64
Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	64
leasia Walker (2010-13)	64

Games Started	
Player	GS
1. Aliyah Boston (2020-23)	64
2. Brea Beal (2020-23)	63
Zia Cooke (2020-23)	63
Tyasha Harris (2017-20)	63
5. Tiffany Mitchell (2013-16)	60

Season Leaders

Games Played	
Player	GP
1. Sania Feagin (2023-24)	38
MiLaysia Fulwiley (2023-24)	38
Ashlyn Watkins (2023-24)	38
4. Joyce Edwards (2024-25)	37
Sania Feagin (2024-25)	37
MiLaysia Fulwiley (2024-25)	37
Bree Hall (2024-25)	37
Raven Johnson (2024-25)	37
Te-Hina Paopao (2024-25)	37
28 other times	37

Games Started (Since 1980-81)	
Player	GS
1. Sania Feagin (2024-25)	37
Bree Hall (2023-24, 2024-25)	37
Raven Johnson (2024-25)	37
Te-Hina Paopao (2023-24, 2024-25)	37
Brea Beal (2022-23)	37
Aliyah Boston (2021-22 and 2022-23)	37
Zia Cooke (2022-23)	37
Victaria Saxton (2021-22 and 2022-23)	37
Elem Ibiam (2014-15)	37
Tiffany Mitchell (2014-15)	37
Aleighsa Welch (2014-15)	37
10. 5 players	36

TEAM SEASON RECORDS

Most Games Played

Season	Record	GP
1. 2023-24	38-0	38
2. 2024-25	34-3	37
2022-23	36-1	37
2021-22	35-2	37
2016-17	33-4	37
2014-15	34-3	37
1978-79	27-10	37

Most Games Won

Season	Record	Wins
1. 2023-24	38-0	38
2. 2022-23	36-1	36
3. 2021-22	35-2	35
5. 2024-25	34-3	34
2014-15	34-3	34

Highest Win Percentage

Season	Record	Pct
1. 2023-24	38-0	1.000
2. 2022-23	36-1	.973
3. 2019-20	32-1	.970
4. 2021-22	35-2	.946
5. 2015-16	33-2	.943

Longest Winning Streak

Season	Streak
1. 2023-24	38
2. 2022-23	36
3. 2019-20	26
4. 2015-16	22
2014-15	22

Most Consecutive Losses

Season	Streak
1. 2004-05	9
2. 2003-04 thru 2004-05	8
2003-04	8
4. 1975-76	7
1998-99	7

Most Points Scored

Season	Gms	Points
1. 2023-24	38	3,247
2. 2022-23	37	2,972
3. 2024-25	37	2,953
1978-79	37	2,953
5. 2016-17	37	2,824

Most Points Allowed

Season	Gms	Points
1. 1978-79	37	2,288
2. 1987-88	34	2,283
3. 1979-80	36	2,210
4. 2018-19	33	2,204
5. 2017-18	36	2,203

Highest Scoring Average

Season	Gms	PPG
1. 2023-24	38	85.4
2. 2019-20	33	82.0
3. 2022-23	37	80.3
4. 1988-89	30	80.2
5. 1978-79	37	79.8

Scoring Margin

Season	Gms	+/-
1. 2023-24	38	+28.9
2. 2022-23	37	+28.6
3. 2019-20	33	+25.9
4. 2014-15	37	+21.7
5. 2021-22	37	+20.2

Highest Opp. Scoring Avg.

Season	Gms	PPG
1. 1994-95	27	76.0
2. 1993-94	27	74.9
3. 2015-16	33	73.6
4. 1998-99	27	72.9
5. 1997-98	28	72.4

Lowest Opp. Scoring Avg.

Season	Gms	PPG
1. 2021-22	27	50.7
2. 2011-12	35	51.4
3. 2022-23	37	51.8
4. 2014-15	37	54.1
5. 2013-14	34	55.8

Field Goals Made

Season	Gms	FGM
1. 2023-24	38	1,255
2. 1978-79	37	1,234
3. 1979-80	36	1,141
4. 2024-25	37	1,126
5. 2022-23	37	1,120

Field Goal Attempts

Season	Gms	FGA
1. 2023-24	38	2,550
2. 1978-79	37	2,524
3. 1979-80	36	2,458
4. 2022-23	37	2,425
5. 2024-25	37	2,409

Field Goal Percentage

Season	FGM-A	Pct
1. 1988-89	976-1852	.527
2. 1989-90	1014-2036	.498
3. 2023-24	1255-2550	.492
4. 1981-82	974-1986	.490
5. 1978-79	1234-2524	.489

3-Point Field Goals Made

Season	Gms	3FGM
1. 2023-24	38	253
2. 1993-94	27	248
3. 1994-95	28	218
4. 2024-25	37	213
5. 1995-96	28	206

3-Point Field Goal Attempts

Season	Gms	3FGA
1. 1993-94	27	744
2. 1994-95	27	725
3. 2023-24	38	640
4. 2024-25	37	632
5. 1995-96	28	601

3-Point FG Percentage

Season	3FGM-A	Pct
1. 1988-89	54-121	.446
2. 1989-90	86-195	.441
3. 1988-89	90-228	.395
4. 2023-24	253-640	.395
5. 1990-91	189-481	.393

Consecutive Gms w/ 3-Pt FG

Dates	Games
1. 11/24/01 - 1/29/06	136
2. 1/30/14 - 3/31/17	122
3. 11/25/20 - 11/16/23	108
4. 2/3/08 - 2/10/11	91
5. 2/27/93 - 11/23/96	85

Free Throws Made

Season	Gms	FTM
1. 2013-14	34	627
2. 2016-17	37	593
3. 2022-23	37	569
4. 2015-16	33	555
5. 2017-18	36	549

Free Throw Attempts

Season	Gms	FTA
1. 2013-14	34	930
2. 2015-16	33	834
3. 2016-17	37	827
4. 2022-23	37	826
5. 2014-15	37	792

Free Throw Percentage

Season	FTM-A	Pct
1. 2018-19	495-678	.730
2. 1988-89	401-555	.723
3. 2016-17	593-827	.717
4. 2017-18	549-776	.707
5. 1983-84	393-558	.704

Rebounds

Season	Gms	Rebs
1. 2022-23	37	1,830
2. 2021-22	37	1,771
3. 2023-24	38	1,761
4. 1977-78	34	1,740
5. 2024-25	37	1,562

Offensive Rebounds

Season	Gms	OREbs
1. 2022-23	37	679
2. 2021-22	37	635
3. 2006-07	33	592
4. 2012-13	33	571
5. 2011-12	35	564

Defensive Rebounds

Season	Gms	DREbs
1. 2023-24	38	1,208
2. 2022-23	37	1,151
3. 2021-22	37	1,136
4. 2024-25	37	1,051
5. 2014-15	37	1,009

Rebounding Average

Season	Gms	RPG
1. 2022-23	37	49.5
2. 2021-22	37	47.9
3. 2020-21	31	47.0
4. 2019-20	33	46.5
5. 2023-24	38	46.3

Highest Rebounding Margin

Season	Gms	+/-
1. 2022-23	37	+20.4
2. 2021-22	37	+17.7
3. 2020-21	31	+14.4
4. 2023-24	38	+12.6
5. 2019-20	33	+12.4

Assists

Season	Gms	Assts
1. 2023-24	38	702
2. 1979-80	36	633
3. 1988-89	30	618
4. 2014-15	37	616
5. 2022-23	37	614

Steals

Season	Gms	Stls
1. 1979-80	36	496
2. 2001-02	32	406
3. 2006-07	33	392
4. 1998-99	27	384
5. 2002-03	31	366

Blocked Shots

Season	Gms	Blks
1. 2022-23	37	326
2. 2023-24	38	297
3. 2019-20	33	284
4. 2021-22	37	273
5. 2013-14	34	240

Personal Fouls

Season	Gms	PFs
1. 1979-80	36	744
2. 1977-78	34	644
3. 2006-07	33	612
4. 1987-88	34	609
5. 1998-99	27	600

Turnovers

Season	Gms	TOs
1. 1977-78	34	777
2. 2007-08	32	666
3. 1979-80	36	653
4. 1999-00	28	630
5. 1981-82	31	628

TEAM GAME RECORDS

Most Points

Game	Pts
1. vs. Wheeling College, 1/13/79	137
2. vs. Notre Dame, 1/31/81	124
3. vs. College of Charleston, 11/25/20	119
vs. Columbia College, 1978-79	119
5. vs. North Carolina A&T, 11/17/06	117
vs. East Tennessee State, 12/19/00	117

Most Points, First Half

Game	Pts
1. vs. Wheeling, 1/13/79	75
2. vs. East Tennessee State, 12/19/00	65
3. vs. USC Upstate, 11/21/19	64
vs. Saint Peter's, 11/22/16	64
vs. Longwood, 2/21/06	64

Most Points, Second Half

Game	Pts
1. at Notre Dame 1/31/81	78
2. vs. Wofford, 11/17/98	68
3. vs. Maryland, 11/12/23	66
4. vs. Arkansas, 1/18/21	62
vs. Wheeling 1/13/79	62
vs. Claflin, 1/24/78	62

Most Points, Single Quarter (Since 2015-16)

Game	Qtr	Pts
1. vs. Maryland, 11/12/23	4th	37
vs. Saint Peter's, 11/22/16	1st	37
3. vs. Florida, 2/13/25	1st	36
vs. Presbyterian, 12/16/23	1st	36
at Kentucky, 1/12/23	4th	36
vs. Alabama, 2/3/22	1st	36
at Vanderbilt, 1/12/20	3rd	36
vs. Alabama State, 11/5/19	3rd	36

Fewest Points

Game	Pts
1. at Stanford, 11/26/10	32
2. at Vanderbilt, 1/5/97	33
3. vs. Georgia, 3/4/11	34
4. vs. Georgia, 2/1/97	35
5. at Tennessee, 2/1/07	36
vs. LSU, 2/13/05	36

Fewest Points, First Half

Game	Pts
1. vs. Georgia, 2/1/97	9
2. at Tennessee, 2/1/07	11
3. at Stanford, 11/26/10	11
4. at Auburn, 2/5/83	12
5. at Vanderbilt, 1/9/05	13

Fewest Points, Second Half

Game	Pts
1. vs. Mississippi State, 3/5/09	13
2. at Arkansas, 1/27/13	15
at Georgia, 1/13/13	15
at Maine, 11/30/91	15
at Kentucky, 1/13/11	15
vs. Georgia, 3/4/11	15

Fewest Points, Single Quarter (Since 2015-16)

Game	Qtr	Pts
1. vs. Appalachian State, 12/5/18	4th	5
2. vs. Oregon State, 3/23/21	4th	6
vs. Indiana, 11/28/19	4th	6
vs. St. John's, 11/25/17	2nd	6
vs. Stanford, 3/31/17	2nd	6
vs. UCLA, 12/18/16	1st	6

Largest Combined Score

Game	SC	Opp	Tot
1. vs. Cincinnati, 2/12/84	112	102	214
2. vs. College of Charleston, 1/26/76	93	116	209
3. vs. Clemson, 11/21/03	103	99	202
4. vs. Fairleigh Dickinson, 12/31/94	109	86	195
vs. UNLV, 2/28/88	98	97	195

Largest South Carolina Victory

Game	SC	Opp	Diff
1. vs. Wheeling, 1/13/79	137	34	103
2. vs. Mississippi Valley State, 11/24/23	101	19	82
3. vs. College of Charleston, 11/25/20	119	38	81
4. vs. USC Upstate, 11/21/19	112	32	80
5. vs. Notre Dame, 1/31/80	124	48	76

Largest South Carolina Defeat

Game	SC	Opp	Diff
1. at Connecticut, 12/17/07	39	97	58
2. at Tennessee, 1/11/01	45	99	54
3. at Alabama, 2/9/97	38	87	49
4. at Vanderbilt, 1/9/05	43	88	45
5. vs. Tennessee, 2/8/93	57	100	43

Field Goals Made

Game	FGM
1. vs. Wheeling, 1/13/79	60
2. at Notre Dame 1/31/81	55
3. vs. Georgia Southern, 12/9/78	53
4. vs. UNC Asheville 2/24/86	47
vs. College of Charleston, 2/11/78	47

Field Goal Attempts

Game	FGA
1. vs. Georgia Southern, 12/9/78	105
2. vs. Lander, 1/20/75	102
3. vs. Claflin, 1/18/77	99
vs. Davidson, 2/6/75	99
5. vs. East Carolina, 2/18/77	98
vs. Furman, 1/29/77	98

Field Goal Percentage (Min. 40 FGA)

Game	FGM-A	Pct
1. vs. Georgia Southern, 12/19/87	33-46	.717
2. vs. Morgan State, 12/6/23	41-60	.683
3. at Texas A&M, 1/21/24	39-58	.672
4. vs. Tennessee Tech, 3/21/25	43-64	.672
5. vs. Notre Dame, 1/31/81	55-82	.671

TEAM GAME RECORDS

3-Point Field Goals Made (since 1987-88)

Game	3FGM
1. vs. Western Carolina, 1/13/94	17
2. vs. Minnesota, 12/11/16	16
3. vs. Temple, 12/21/18	15
4. Five times, most recent, vs. Appalachian State, 12/5/18	14

3-Point Field Goal Attempts (since 1987-88)

Game	3FGA
1. vs. Florida, 2/20/94	46
2. vs. Alabama, 1/22/94	43
3. vs. Mississippi State., 2/5/04	39
4. vs. Howard, 3/18/22	38
5. vs. Minnesota, 12/11/16	33
vs. Wofford, 2/19/96	33

3-Point Field Goal Percentage (Min. 5 3FGA)

Game	3FGM-A	Pct
1. at Georgia Southern, 12/19/87	5-5	1.000
at Northwestern, 3/17/90	5-5	1.000
3. vs. VCU, 1/10/91	6-8	.750
4. vs. Jackson State, 12/07/07	7-10	.700
vs. Tennessee, 1/14/00	7-10	.700

Free Throws Made

Game	FTM
1. vs. Cincinnati, 2/12/84	42
2. vs. Savannah State, 12/14/14	34
vs. Oregon State, 3/25/14	34
4. vs. Wofford, 11/17/98	33
vs. Georgia 1/16/93	33

Free Throw Attempts

Game	FTA
1. vs. Cincinnati, 2/12/84	54
2. vs. Georgia, 2/16/93	51
3. at Mississippi State, 1/6/13	50
4. vs. Arkansas 1/30/93	49
5. vs. Savannah State, 12/28/13	48

Free Throw Percentage (Min. 10 FTA)

Game	FTM-A	Pct
1. vs. Marshall, 3/7/88	12-12	1.000
2. at Auburn, 2/21/02	8-12	.971
3. vs. Georgia State, 2/28/87	22-23	.957
4. vs. Florida, 2/13/25	21-22	.955
5. vs. Alabama, 1/31/21	19-20	.950

Rebounds

Game	Rebs
1. vs. Claflin, 1/24/78	82
2. vs. Arkansas, 1/22/23	74
3. vs. Clemson, 11/16/23	73
vs. College of Charleston, 11/25/20	73
5. vs. UNC Asheville 2/24/86	70

Rebound Margin

Game	SC	Opp	Diff
1. vs. Arkansas, 1/22/23	74	17	+57
2. vs. UNC Asheville. 2/24/86	70	19	+51
3. vs. Hampton, 11/27/22	62	15	+47
4. vs. Clemson, 11/16/23	73	27	+46
5. vs. College of Charleston, 11/25/20	73	28	+45

Offensive Rebounds (since 1987-88)

Game	OREbs
1. vs. Louisiana-Lafayette, 11/18/01	35
2. vs. Arkansas, 1/22/23	32
at Charleston Southern, 12/6/91	32
vs. Furman, 11/23/97	32
5. vs. Tennessee, 2/20/22	31
vs. Winthrop, 2/15/97	31

Defensive Rebounds (since 1987-88)

Game	DREbs
1. vs. College of Charleston, 11/25/20	50
2. vs. Mississippi Valley State, 11/24/23	49
3. vs. Clemson, 11/16/23	48
4. vs. Arkansas, 1/22/23	42
vs. North Carolina, 12/20/01	42
vs. Memphis, 2/17/90	42

Assists (since 1976-77)

Game	Assts
1. vs. UNC Asheville, 2/24/86	35
2. vs. Florida Atlantic, 12/15/99	34
vs. South Carolina State, 12/14/88	34
vs. Florida Atlantic, 12/15/99	34
5. vs. Wofford, 12/4/02	33
vs. Georgia Southern, 12/12/88	33
at Western Carolina, 1/13/94	33

Blocked Shots (since 1976-77)

Game	Blks
1. vs. Presbyterian, 12/16/23	17
vs. Appalachian State, 11/17/19	17
3. vs. South Dakota tate, 11/20/23	16
vs. Coastal Carolina, 12/21/22	16
vs. Kansas State, 12/3/21	16
vs. Alabama State, 11/5/19	16
vs. Clemson, 11/15/18	16
vs. Winthrop, 12/13/15	16

Steals (since 1976-77)

Game	Stls
1. vs. Georgia Southern, 12/9/78	35
2. vs. South Carolina State, 12/22/98	30
3. vs. Coastal Carolina, 12/19/99	28
4. vs. Fordham, 12/3/06	25
vs. Georgia Southern, 12/12/88	25
at Winthrop, 2/11/78	25

Personal Fouls

Game	PFs
1. vs. Florida State, 1/25/88	34
2. vs. Alabama, 2/25/99	33
3. at Florida, 1/30/00	30
at Marshall, 1/15/84	30
at New Orleans, 1/8/86	30

Turnovers

Game	TOs
1. vs. Georgia State, 2/28/87	35
2. at Tennessee, 2/1/07	34
at LSU, 2/27/00	34
4. at Wake Forest, 12/3/08	32
5. 4 times, last vs. Mississippi State, 1/10/99	31

OPPONENT RECORDS

Individual (since 1977-78)

Points	
Player	Pts
1. Cornelia Gayden, LSU, 1/14/95	46
2. Karen Pelphrey, Marshall, 1/15/84	44
3. Caitlin Clark, vs. Iowa, 3/31/23	41
4. Nnemkadi Ogwumike, Stanford, 3/24/12	39
5. Alissa Pili, Utah, 12/10/23	37
Carmen Jones, Tulane, 3/8/90	37
Janet Harris, Georgia, 1/30/82	37

Field Goals Made	
Player	FGM
1. Barbara Kennedy, Clemson, 2/6/82	19
2. Karen Pelphrey, Marshall, 1/15/84	17
Rachelle Bostic, Indiana, 12/29/83	17
4. Pearl Moore, Francis Marion, 2/13/77	16
5. Alissa Pili, Utah, 12/10/23	15
Caitlin Clark, vs. Iowa, 3/31/23	15
Napheesa Collier, at Connecticut, 2/11/19	15
Chennedy Carter, Texas A&M, 12/31/17	15
Cornelia Gayden, LSU, 1/14/95	15

Field Goal Attempts	
Player	FGA
1. Pearl Moore, Francis Marion, 2/13/77	41
2. Chennedy Carter, Texas A&M, 12/31/17	37
3. Carmen Jones, Tulane, 3/8/90	36
4. Sam Jones, East Carolina, 2/27/82	33
5. Pearl Moore, Francis Marion, 2/24/78	32

3-Point Field Goals Made	
Player	3FGM
1. Jeni Garber, Virginia Tech, 2/16/91	8
2. Morgan Sharps, at Bowling Green, 12/19/23	7
Brandi McCain, Florida, 1/21/01	7
4. Azzi Fudd, UConn, 2/16/25	6
Amber Ramirez, vs. Arkansas, 3/7/20	6
Meredith Marsh, Vanderbilt, 2/28/10	6
Eight other times	6

3-Point Field Goal Attempts	
Player	3FGA
1. Caitlin Clark, vs. Iowa, 3/31/23	17
Shaundra Roberts, Kentucky, 1/24/96	17
3. Jordan Hobbs, vs. Michigan, 11/4/24	16
4. Tasha Phillips, Clemson, 12/3/04	15
Brandi McCain, Florida, 1/21/01	15
Jeni Garber, Virginia Tech, 2/16/91	15

Free Throws Made	
Player	FTM
1. Kaila Charles, at Maryland, 11/13/17	14
Lakeia Stokes, Clemson, 11/21/03	14
Danielle Featherstone, Arkansas State, 12/29/94	14
4. Aicha Coulibaly, vs. Texas A&M, 3/8/24	13
Robyn Benton, Kentucky, 2/2/23	13
Chelsea Dungee, vs. Arkansas, 3/8/19	13
Tombi Bell, Florida, 1/30/00	13
Ann Helms Jemmye, Mississippi State, 1/2/97	13
Amy Tucker, Ohio State, 1/8/81	13

Free Throw Attempts	
Player	FTA
1. Murriel Page, Florida, 1/17/98	22
2. Lakeia Stokes, Clemson, 11/21/03	20
3. Armintie Price, Mississippi, 3/3/05	19
4. Cheryl Cook, Cincinnati, 1/24/85	18
5. Joyce Harrell, Georgia State, 12/17/77	17

Rebounds	
Player	Rebs
1. Teaira McCowan, at Mississippi State, 1/17/19	24
Courtney Paris, Oklahoma, 12/30/07	24
3. Janet Harris, Georgia, 1/30/82	23
4. Monique Billings, UCLA, 12/18/16	22
5. Teaira McCowan, at Mississippi State, 2/5/18	20
Sylvia Fowles, LSU, 2/4/07	20

Offensive Rebounds	
Player	OREbs
1. Kyla Oldacre, Texas, 1/12/25	12
Teaira McCowan, at Mississippi State, 1/17/19	12
3. Pam Seymore, Memphis, 1/30/85	10
4. Aneesah Morrow, LSU, 1/24/25	9
Teaira McCowan, Mississippi State, 3/3/19	9
Unique Thompson, at Auburn, 2/28/19	9
Shakira Austin, Maryland, 11/18/18	9
Seven other times	9

Defensive Rebounds	
Player	DREbs
1. Monique Billings, UCLA, 12/18/16	17
Jennifer Brzezinski, Michigan, 12/1/94	17
3. Courtney Paris, Oklahoma, 12/30/07	15
Katrina McClain, Georgia, 1/2/87	15
5. Teaira McCowan, at Mississippi State, 2/5/18	14
Dee Merriweather, Alabama, 1/20/05	14
Yolanda Watkins, Alabama, 1/22/95	14
Charlotte Robinson, Mississippi State, 1/7/93	14

Assists	
Player	Assts
1. Karla May, Marshall, 1/15/84	16
2. Renee Magee, Southern Miss, 2/6/89	14
Julie Cardinale, Central Florida, 2/17/86	14
4. Channise Lewis, Maryland, 11/18/18	12
Dana Smith, Florida, 1/17/09	12
Cheron Wells, Clemson, 2/12/92	12
Dorothy Jones, Louisville, 1/27/86	12
Nancy Lieberman, Old Dominion, 2/10/77	12

Blocked Shots	
Player	Blks
1. Tamari Key, Tennessee, 2/20/22	10
2. Tamari Key, Tennessee, 2/2/20	9
A'Rianna Harris, Purdue, 12/15/19	9
4. Regina Street, Memphis State, 2/14/84	8
5. Five times, most recent, Faustine Aifuwa, LSU, 2/14/21	7

Steals	
Player	Stls
1. Cherelle George, Purdue, 11/26/05	10
Tiffany Lanier, Georgia Southern, 12/3/02	10
3. Drema Greer, Clemson, 12/6/78	9
4. Carena Easley, Jackson State, 12/7/07	8
Armintie Price, Mississippi, 3/3/05	8

OPPONENT RECORDS

Turnovers

Player	TOs
1. Roberta Williams, South Carolina State, 12/3/79	14
2. Alexis Williams, Texas Pan-American, 12/29/98	13
3. Laquita Ball, South Carolina State, 12/17/05	12
Lushanna Burgess, South Carolina State, 12/22/98	12
Brenda Williams, South Carolina State, 12/22/85	12
Corinne Gulas, Penn State, 2/9/80	12

Team (since 1977-78)

Most Points

Game	Pts
1. College of Charleston, 1/26/76	116
2. at Clemson, 11/21/03	103
3. Cincinnati, 2/12/84	102
4. at Furman, 1/25/95	101
5. at Tennessee, 2/18/93	100

Most Points, First Half

Game	Pts
1. Baylor, 12/2/19	57
2. Georgia, 2/08/01	56
3. vs. Connecticut, 3/26/18	54
at Tennessee, 1/11/01	54
5. Connecticut, 2/1/18	53
Fairleigh Dickinson, 12/31/94	53
at Clemson, 11/21/03	53

Most Points, Second Half

Game	Pts
1. Cincinnati, 2/12/84	68
2. at Vanderbilt, 3/2/95	59
3. at Tennessee, 1/23/03	58
4. UCLA, 1/5/81	57
5. at Kentucky, 2/2/83	56

Most Points, Single Quarter (Since 2015-16)

Game	Qtr	Pts
1. Baylor, 12/2/19	1st	32
at Maryland, 11/13/17	4th	32
Kentucky, 2/26/17	4th	32
4. vs. Arkansas, 3/8/19	3rd	30
vs. Connecticut, 3/26/18	1st	30
vs. Syracuse, 3/25/16	4th	30

Fewest Points

Game	Pts
1. Mississippi Valley State, 11/24/23	19
2. Howard, 3/18/22	21
South Carolina State, 12/14/11	21
4. Charleston Southern, 12/18/22	23
5. Presbyterian, 11/27/11	24
Georgia Southern, 2/3/92	24

Fewest Points, First Half

Game	Pts
1. Howard, 3/18/22	4
2. Charleston Southern, 12/18/22	6
3. Bethune-Cookman, 12/21/05	7
4. East Tennessee State, 12/18/22	8
South Carolina State, 12/14/11	8
Ohio, 11/28/08	8
Florida A&M, 12/30/01	8

Fewest Points, Second Half

Game	Pts
1. Mississippi Valley State, 11/24/23	7
2. Presbyterian, 12/16/23	9
3. North Carolina Central, 12/1/14	10
4. Presbyterian, 11/27/11	11
5. vs. Texas, 3/30/21	12
Hampton, 11/20/16	12
North Carolina Central, 12/2/13	12

Fewest Points, Single Quarter (Since 2015-16)

Game	Qtr	Pts
1. vs. Texas, 3/30/21	4th	0
at Vanderbilt, 1/14/22	2nd	0
at Ole Miss, 1/30/20	1st	0
4. Presbyterian, 3/22/24	4th	2
at Cal Poly, 11/22/22	1st	2
East Tennessee State, 11/7/22	2nd	2
Howard, 3/18/22	2nd	2
Howard, 3/18/22	1st	2
UConn, 2/10/20	1st	2
at Ole Miss, 1/30/20	2nd	2

Field Goals Made

Game	FGM
1. College of Charleston, 1/26/76	47
2. at Tennessee, 1/11/01	42
3. at Tennessee, 2/18/93	41
4. Baylor, 12/2/18	39
Vanderbilt, 2/26/95	39
at College of Charleston, 1/11/77	39

Field Goal Attempts

Game	FGA
1. South Carolina State, 1/20/77	104
Federal City, 1/17/76	104
3. Voorhees, 2/28/77	102
4. Francis Marion, 1/28/76	101
5. at South Carolina State, 1/26/77	100

Highest FG Percentage

Game	FGM-A	Pct
1. New Hampshire, 12/30/97	28-44	.636
2. College of Charleston, 2/25/78	37-60	.617
3. at Vanderbilt, 2/18/07	28-46	.609
4. at Vanderbilt, 1/18/01	29-48	.604
5. at Old Dominion, 2/13/80	37-62	.597
at Valdosta State, 2/12/79	37-62	.597

Lowest FG Percentage

Game	FGM-A	Pct
1. Mississippi Valley State, 11/24/23	8-67	.119
2. South Carolina State, 12/14/11	6-48	.125
3. Bethune-Cookman, 12/21/05	8-57	.140
4. Georgia Southern, 2/3/92	9-64	.141
5. Howard, 3/18/22	8-54	.148

3-Point Field Goals Made

Game	3FGM
1. UConn, 2/16/25	13
vs. Indiana, 3/29/24	13
Alabama, 2/27/98	13
4. Arkansas, 1/9/20	12
vs. Connecticut, 3/26/18	12

OPPONENT RECORDS

3-Point Field Goal Attempts

Game	3FGA
1. at Arkansas, 2/29/24	41
2. Arkansas, 2/20/25	35
3. vs. Arkansas, 3/3/23	34
4. vs. Oklahoma, 3/8/25	33
vs. Indiana, 3/29/24	33

Highest 3-Point FG Percentage

Game	3 FGM-A	Pct
1. LSU, 2/17/96	5-5	1.000
2. at Auburn, 2/16/06	4-5	.800
3. Vanderbilt, 3/3/00	7-9	.778
4. at Connecticut, 2/9/15	8-11	.727
5. at Mississippi, 1/18/07	5-7	.714

Free Throws Made

Game	FTM
1. Arkansas State, 12/29/94	33
2. Alabama, 2/25/99	32
3. at Vanderbilt, 2/26/06	31
at Tennessee, 2/11/97	31
5. at LSU, 2/17/02	29
Arkansas, 3/3/95	29
at Virginia, 12/21/85	29

Free Throw Attempts

Game	FTA
1. Alabama, 2/25/99	48
2. Arkansas State, 12/29/94	42
3. at Florida International, 11/25/07	39
at LSU, 2/17/02	39
at Florida, 1/30/00	39
at UNLV, 11/25/85	39

Free Throw Percentage (Min. 10 FTA)

Game	FT-A	Pct
1. vs. Iowa, 3/31/23	14-14	1.000
at Clemson, 11/20/24	12-12	1.000
Wofford, 12/29/24	10-10	1.000
at UConn, 2/13/17	10-10	1.000
Furman, 12/9/12	10-10	1.000
at Auburn, 11/28/89	17-17	1.000

Rebounds

Game	Rebs
1. at Alabama, 1/22/95	68
2. at Georgia, 1/29/94	61
at UNLV, 11/25/85	61
4. Auburn, 11/28/87	60
South Carolina State, 1/20/77	60

Offensive Rebounds

Game	ORebs
1. Auburn, 1/07/01	37
2. Furman, 11/23/97	32
3. LSU, 1/24/25	28
Tennessee, 1/15/92	28
5. Florida State, 3/24/19	27
vs. Tennessee, 3/2/18	27
at Memphis State, 1/24/87	27

Defensive Rebounds

Game	DRebs
1. at Alabama, 1/22/95	42
2. LSU, 2/14/98	41
Marist, 12/18/95	41
4. at Stanford, 1/8/07	39
Alabama, 1/22/94	39

Assists

Game	Assts
1. at Old Dominion, 2/13/80	33
at Clemson, 1/24/83	33
3. at Tennessee, 1/11/01	30
4. at Kentucky, 2/2/83	28
5. at Connecticut, 12/17/07	27
at Tennessee, 2/18/93	27
at Louisiana Tech, 1/15/83	27

Blocked Shots

Game	Blks
1. Stanford, 12/21/21	13
Clemson, 11/25/97	13
3. vs. Stanford, 4/2/21	12
4. vs. Arkansas, 3/4/22	11
Tennessee, 2/20/22	11
8 other times	11

Steals

Game	Stls
1. Memphis, 2/26/92	23
2. at LSU, 1/12/06	19
at LSU, 2/27/00	19
NC State, 2/17/79	19
Georgia Southern, 12/9/78	19

Personal Fouls

Game	PFs
1. Tulane, 12/19/95	47
2. Arkansas, 1/30/93	37
3. Georgia, 1/16/93	36
4. Missouri, 1/10/16	34
Clemson, 3/1/80	34

Turnovers

Game	TOs
1. Georgia Southern, 12/9/78	49
2. South Carolina State, 12/22/98	44
3. SMU, 12/8/80	42
4. Virginia Tech, 1/30/89	39
5. Coastal Carolina, 12/19/99	38



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2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

With Final Four in Tampa, Gamecocks want to finish the quest they began 10 years ago

David Cloninger, Post & Courier
March 21, 2025

COLUMBIA — Khadijah Sessions saw the double-team spring toward Maegan Conwright and as the trailer on the play, Sessions was ready when Conwright tried to dribble behind her back. She neatly plucked the ball and turned upcourt.

Sessions' only impulse was to run. Just go, pick up the bounce at the free-throw line, lift, lay it in and get back on defense.

There was no defense to run, outside of outracing her teammates spilling off the bench in celebration. The glass turned red just after Sessions' shot nestled through nylon, clinching an 80-74 win over Florida State, so the shot wasn't a buzzer-beater and probably shouldn't have been taken, as the game was already over.

There was no thinking of that at that moment. Sessions knew that South Carolina had done it, had completed its season-long quest to reach the 2015 Final Four and never thought of anything but making another play to make sure there was no possibility of another team snatching it away.

"At that moment, everybody was looking, probably thinking, 'Just hold the ball. Let the clock go out,'" Sessions said, 10 years later and in her second season as a USC assistant coach. "I wasn't trying to show anybody up, I wasn't thinking at all.

"That particular year, we just knew we were going to win it. Knowing we had pretty much everybody back and who we were bringing in, we knew we had enough in the room to get right back to where we were. To see everybody stand up cheering ... it was like we had just won the national championship."

Ten years ago, the Gamecocks reached the Final Four for the first time under coach Dawn Staley. Seven years after her landmark hire and a mere 10 wins in her first season, a steady and patient cultivation of recruiting, culture and burnishing her Hall-of-Fame credentials — as a coach, to add to what she already earned as a player — Staley was taking a massively talented USC team to the final weekend she reached three times when she played.

No, the journey did not end like so many hoped it would. But it did two years later, and again five years after that, then one more time two years after that. As the Gamecocks start this year's NCAA Tournament trying to make themselves back-to-back national champions, the Final Four is again in Tampa, Fla., where in 2015, the glass ceiling broke for Staley's emerging program.

Looking back at that 2014-15 season as the 2024-25 team tries to get one for the squad that set the standard:

'Great season coming this year, we 'bout to kill it'

Success has to be born from failure. That's what all those movies say.

The Gamecocks won 29 games in 2013-14, including their first regular-season SEC championship. Nobody was thinking of that in the immediate aftermath of a 65-58 Sweet 16 loss to North Carolina at Stanford's Maples Pavilion.

Of course there was sorrow, bitterness, anger over the season-ending loss. There's never anything else.

But there was a tiny undercurrent.

"We thought the sky was the limit," said Goose Creek native Aleighsa Welch, then a rising senior and a bedrock of what the Gamecocks were building as Staley's first recruit from South Carolina. "We brought back a really good core, brought in an amazing freshman class."

In a situation that seems impossible today, USC returned every significant member of that team, including two-time SEC Player of the Year Tiffany Mitchell, Welch, Sessions, Asia Dozier, Elem Ibiam and Alaina Coates. Supporting cast Tina Roy, Tiffany Davis, Olivia Gaines and India Farmer had all contributed to that 29-win season, and Staley had already received commitments from Bianca Cuevas-Moore, Doniyah Cliney, Kaydra Duckett and Jatarie White, a class that ranked fourth in the country.

But the biggest news was yet to come. The last uncommitted top-100 prospect in the class hadn't wanted to sign in the fall, preferring to wait until the spring. Staley and staff certainly knew where to find her, as she attended Heathwood Hall Episcopal School, just six miles from Colonial Life Arena.

Every other coach in the country knew it, too, and many had made the trip over the past three years trying to convince A'ja Wilson that their school was perfect for her. Connecticut, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina were the four that survived until the final cut.

"We worked really hard for A'ja. She would be groundbreaking for us because we never had a No. 1 recruit," Staley said. "When you look at other programs, they have a player that puts you in positions to take you to another level. We felt A'ja was that player for us. You really plan to make a long run in the tournament because of a player like that."

On April 16, in front of a packed Heathwood Hall gym, Wilson looked into the camera beaming her image across ESPN. Flanked by her family and high school coach, she said she would be attending the University of South Carolina.

The war whoop from the USC basketball office was heard in every corner of the state.

"We were following A'ja since she was at Heathwood," Mitchell said. "Adding a player like A'ja is only going to propel your team, only going to make you better. She made everybody around her want to up their game."

"We were heavily trying to get her here, whatever it took, talking to (Wilson's mother, Eva) and (father) Roscoe. We knew if we got her, we had a really good shot to getting back to where we were," Sessions said. "A couple of us were watching it together. Clearly, she made the right decision."

'Cause y'all ain't never seen a squad like this'

The summer workouts, the first day of practice, everyone knew. Just knew.



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"Looking back to it when I played and A'ja was a freshman, she was a baby. Now she's the best player in the world," Welch said. "Even then, she had the potential."

Roy, the Gamecocks' 3-point specialist, was blown away. And inspired.

Roy had plenty of talents, rapping one of the best. She created a team song every year she was at USC (and still does, sampling Kendrick Lamar's "Not Like Us" for this year's squad), but with so many eyes on the 2014-15 squad, the creative arm of the team wanted to really exploit the opportunity.

Roy was asked to pen some lyrics.

"There was a really good song at the time, and I just sat down and thought about each player on the team," Roy said, "and like Iggy Azalea started it, I thought, 'First things first' is a good way to start."

'Ranked No. 2 right now, but anybody can get it'

The Gamecocks debuted as the second-ranked team in the Associated Press top 25 behind two-time defending national champion Connecticut. USC opened by hosting the other USC, winning 70-61 but discovering something.

Wilson, the superstar-in-waiting, looked skittish. She started and played 16 minutes but had four points, five rebounds and three turnovers.

It would be the only time she started all season. It was the last tweak Staley needed to make.

"Once we did decide she'd come off the bench, she allowed people to play their normal roles for us," Staley said. "To bring Alaina and A'ja off the bench made us a totally different basketball team. To sub in both post players, the ovation they got was priceless."

The Gamecocks were plenty talented without it. But think of the intimidation factor, to not have to start 6-foot-4 and 6-5 and then bring them in after USC was almost always ahead in the first five minutes.

"It was an easy option for me. All I had to do was just lob it up," said Sessions, the point guard, with a laugh. "If I got beat off the dribble, I knew I had Alaina Coates and A'ja Wilson as shot-blockers. Teams had to defend us differently."

'First things first, we the realest. And we 'bout to make the whole world feel it'

UConn's overtime loss to Stanford in its second game of the season pushed the Gamecocks to No. 1 for the first time in their history. There were only three close games as USC sprinted to a 22-0 start.

Wilson posted her first double-double and hit a putback for a two-possession lead against Syracuse, 67-63, in the Bahamas. Once SEC play began, always-tough Kentucky lost to USC 68-60.

The game that really left a mark was on Dec. 9 at Duke. Trailing most of the game, the Gamecocks cut the deficit to one point with a Mitchell 3-pointer. Staley substituted Gaines, a defensive stopper, during the ensuing timeout.

The Blue Devils struggled to inbound the ball, and once they did, Sessions hounded Rebecca Greenwell and seemed to poke the ball loose. Gaines grabbed the carom and called timeout.

Gaines is listed as playing one minute — it was actually about four seconds — and she had the crucial steal. ("O will lock you down, the ball straight take that.")

Staley, throughout that season, said that if there was ever a late-game situation where the Gamecocks had to sink a shot, she was going to give the ball to "Superwoman," Mitchell. It was Mitchell who took the ball into the lane, lifting a runner for the win.

It rimmed out. Wilson, doing what she trained to do since she first picked up a ball, followed the shot, caught the board, put it right back up in the white square etched onto the glass and watched it ricochet through the rim with 1.8 seconds to play.

'Bout to be the No. 1 team in the country'

UConn had lost its game for the year. After that, the Huskies began a record 111-game winning streak (which the end of it three years later also played into South Carolina's fortunes).

The Gamecocks were obliterated 87-62 in Storrs on Feb. 9.

"I remember we went to UConn and got smacked. It really opened our eyes — 'We're good, but not that good,'" Sessions said. "We had to find ways to do what we do when they take our options away."

The Gamecocks only lost once the rest of the way, a 67-56 defeat at Kentucky that denied a 16-0 SEC record on the final day of the regular season. They responded by winning their first SEC Tournament in North Little Rock, Ark., beating Tennessee for the title.

Able to finally host NCAA Tournament games after being on the road for two straight years due to the NCAA clashing with the state's politics, the Gamecocks began the NCAA Tournament with a pair of teams they had already played that year. They again thrashed Savannah State and steamrolled Syracuse 97-68, quite a switch from the Bahamas game.

That sent USC to Greensboro, N.C., for the Sweet 16, where a rematch with North Carolina awaited.

'Final Four championship, that's where we headed'

The Gamecocks were in trouble. Big trouble. With 90 seconds to go, they trailed by three and never could completely stop a tremendously talented group of Tar Heels, including Allisha Gray, who would later play a pivotal part in USC history.



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Enter Gaines. The senior was fouled, put on the line for one-and-one, and bricked the free throw. But she rebounded her miss and passed, working her way to the left corner.

She wasn't a 3-point shooter. She'd attempted seven all year and made two.

The ball went to her, and she was open for a split second. Gaines let it fly.

It drew every bit of iron from the rim it could but dropped through to tie the game.

UNC tied the game at 65 with 27.2 seconds to go, meaning it was time for Mitchell to once again don her cape. Superwoman drove the lane, spun and hit a layup with 3.5 showing. The Gamecocks were in the Elite Eight.

Florida State two days later, in what amounted to a USC home game (Can't win a national championship if you don't have home-court advantage. You can't win without traveling fans," Staley said), Mitchell scored seven straight points and assisted on another deuce after the Gamecocks trailed 67-65 with three minutes to play. Dozier hit two free throws for a four-point lead, then Sessions caught Conwright.

It was real. All season, they had never been shy about saying the Final Four was the goal. Staley encouraged it.

And now they were going.

"For me, being there from my freshman year, seeing the changes to my junior year, I really couldn't believe the program had got to this," Roy said. "We really had a chance to go all the way."

"Going back to the locker room, celebrating with my teammates, it took a while for it to fully sink in," Welch said. "Just being in a position to play in the Final Four, this is why you go through anything."

As Sessions streaked downcourt with the game-ending layup, Staley motioned for her assistants — Lisa Boyer, Nikki McCray-Penson, Darius Taylor — to join her for a group hug. They had all done it.

"We always embrace it as a coaching staff. I know how much we've sacrificed, how much we work we put in," Staley said. "It was the start of something truly special, but we didn't know that. We were just happy about it being our first."

Luck of the Irish

Can't talk about the beauty of that season without mentioning the ugly end. What galls is that play — that damned play — could probably never be replicated.

It happened just once, and that was enough to end the season.

"That's probably the only game I've never watched again. And me, I always watch South Carolina again," Sessions said. "That one game, I just cannot rewatch."

The Gamecocks did not play their best against Notre Dame in the Final Four. They trailed 15-3 to start on a night where the shots would not fall.

"In all honesty, it took me a really long time to look at my college career and really say, this loss was not the defining moment of the career," Welch said. "With the game and how we lost, a one-point game, it'll stick with me the rest of my life."

Welch, one of the best rebounders in school history, put back a Mitchell miss for USC's first lead, 65-64, with 1:12 to play. Then she stole the ball from All-American Jewell Loyd and was fouled but missed the one-and-one.

"It's hard to watch it. Sometimes we watch some of it, sometimes they run it back when TV shows a few older games," Roy said. "Every time, it's, 'Man, hopefully the ending will be different.' It never is."

Wilson was on Loyd as she lifted a short jumper. It was an airball.

Before any of the Gamecocks could react or rebound, Madison Cable swooped down the baseline, catching the rainbow miss. She took one dribble, turned — and the most galling part of it: Folks swear she never looked at the rim until the ball was out of her hand — launched a shot from the block.

Her only points of the night gave the Fighting Irish the lead. Nineteen seconds.

With 13.9 seconds, USC called timeout. No question where that ball was going. Staley, again, had said it all year, and Superwoman had delivered all year.

The Irish knew it, and played Mitchell perfectly. The forced her left, double-teamed her into a trap, a desperation pass was blocked but didn't land out of bounds. Mitchell grabbed it and tossed up a prayer.

It hit the top of the backboard at the buzzer.

Welch's face crumpled as she buried it in her hands. Mitchell fell to the court. Roy, on pure instinct, gathered the rebound and threw up a 3-pointer.

But the last chance had been used.

"It took me a while to get over that game, knowing the ball was in my hands," Mitchell said. "That whole tournament came down to me taking that last shot. If we're going to win or lose, it's going to be on my shoulders."

A remarkable season. A historic season. It's easy to look back now, at the multitude of SEC titles, Final Fours and the three lovely ladies sitting in the front trophy case at Colonial Life Arena and say, "It all worked out for the best."



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Maybe. It still stings, as the constant hovers — why is it the highs are never as high as the lows are lows?

“When it’s your first Final Four, you really understand the margin of error. You have to study that. You really have to study that,” said Staley, who suffered her second 66-65 loss in a Final Four (and was destined to have another). “I proposed to our coaching staff to work backwards. What were our weaknesses throughout that year? Our late-game situations, we had long discussions on what we weren’t good at. We had to work backward to move forward.”

USC made it back to the Final Four in 2017 and won it. The Gamecocks haven’t missed a Final Four since 2019, with legions of fans forever going to insist that had there been one in the COVID season of 2020, USC would have won another national championship.

This team, the No. 2 overall seed and once again SEC regular-season and tournament champion, is again considered the favorite in its region to reach the Final Four. USC is stocked with veterans who posted a 38-0 national championship season a year ago, and it’s always been about, in the words of point guard Raven Johnson, “a repeat tour.”

Tampa 10 years ago is a memory. None of these players were there. Perhaps Staley brings up trying to finish the job that team started just because the Final Four is again in Tampa.

Staley will never forget that team. Not only did it notch a milestone, but it showed her what she needed to do to get the program across the finish line.

“There were certain things as a program we needed to learn,” Staley said. “We delved into finding out what those lessons were, to take it to another level.

“That loss to Notre Dame is always going to sting. But let’s say we won and went on to the national championship game. Maybe things wouldn’t have turned out the way they have.”

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Dawn Staley turned South Carolina into a powerhouse with relationships and X's and O's

*Mia Berry, Andscape
May 10, 2024*

South Carolina women's basketball coach Dawn Staley had a lot to celebrate on her 54th birthday May 4. In nearly 25 years of coaching collegiate basketball Staley has earned three national titles in seven years and catapulted the Gamecocks from a middle-of-the-pack SEC team to a national powerhouse program for women's basketball.

For Staley's former players, her contributions were necessary for the Gamecocks program and women's basketball.

"Coach Staley has never changed in the years that I've known her, and I don't see her changing at all," Las Vegas Aces center A'ja Wilson said. "That's what I love about her and I think that's what women's basketball needs is just someone that is literally a true honest GOAT. [I go so hard for Coach Staley] because no one wants her here. No one believed she could get to his point and she's sitting here shining. I think that is why she's such a trailblazer for women's basketball."

She spent nearly a decade at Temple University building up her coaching résumé and seven more years building relationships with players, recruiting players from South Carolina, and getting players to buy into her system. Staley is reaping the rewards — national championships, Final Four appearances, No. 1 rankings, top-ranked recruiting classes, and increased game attendance in Columbia, South Carolina.

In the three years before Staley took over the program in 2008, the Gamecocks were at the bottom half of the SEC standings. South Carolina hadn't finished top 5 in the SEC standings since the 2002-03 season and the highest program ranking in the 21st century was when the Gamecocks tied for second in 2001-02 and made it to the Elite Eight.

When Staley took over the South Carolina women's basketball program, former players and hometown products Wilson, guards Asia Dozier, and Khadijah Sessions, recall spectators could walk in at any point in pregame and get close to a courtside seat at most of the home games.

"I remember it being the school that not a lot of SEC teams wanted to come to play because it was either a blowout or the crowd sucked," Wilson said of her memories of South Carolina growing up. "It was so quiet. You could hear shoe squeaks, you could hear the play calls, you could talk to people from across the sections [and] I feel like they could hear your conversations. It was just very empty."

"I would only go to a women's game when Pat Summitt would go coach because you're like, 'when am I gonna see Pat Summitt again?' You went there when big dogs were in town, not necessarily to support the women's team."

Allen University coach Olivia Gaines remembers Staley mentioning winning champions and that's what sealed the deal on her commitment. Former Gamecocks player Markeshia Grant, currently a personal development coach who works with South Carolina, said it was playing a game of spades with Staley and a vision of what the program could become that sold her on joining the early era of Staley's program.

"Her mindset is that she wanted to win a national championship because she didn't do it as a player even though she got the opportunity several times. She just never won it," Grant said. "So that was her mindset coaching, and her mindset when she recruited us, like, 'Hey, you may not be the team that wins the national championship, but you will be the team to help us win the national championship.' So I was all for it."

The first few years of Staley's tenure were marked by gradual improvements in recruiting and increasing her program's win totals. The team reached its first Sweet 16 under her in 2012.

When building up her roster, Staley used yearly team mottos based on what she believed each team could accomplish. Announcing a yearly theme has continued to set the program up for success. The Gamecocks' theme of "Love" set the tone for South Carolina's undefeated season and their 87-75 victory over Iowa in the national championship game April 7.

"I just feel like it evolves with where the program is at the moment," Grant said. "We went from 'We Rise' to 'We Believe' to 'The Time is Now. [The themes] are so simple, but so powerful. The past themes have always been like 'Now,' thought-provoking or really powerful in terms of the concept and the detail that went in [and] the planning that went in behind it. Last year, the team motto was 'Dreams, Nets and Assets' or 'DNA.'"

"This year, Coach Staley said 'Love' [and] I recall her saying nothing beats love and I'm like 'You're right. Nothing does beat love.' Hate can't beat love. Racism can't beat love. Winning with love, means winning with grace. It means winning despite everything that you face in terms of adversity. ... That was this team."

Players never questioned Staley's basketball IQ and her ability to break down the fundamentals of the game to teach her players X's and O's. Even though some believe she hasn't been publicly acknowledged for her knowledge of the game, most of her players believe the relationship she builds with her players sets her apart from other coaches.

"She builds relationships with her kids and that was really, really important for me, because I needed her," Gaines said. "She was in my corner. She never made me feel like I was alone, and she told me it would be tough, but fighting through adversity is gonna make you stronger."

"She checks all the boxes of being a good coach. X's and O's are very important. I think she does a good job with it, but I also like the relationships that she builds with people. She is probably the most humble person. It is nothing for Coach [Lisa] Boyer or anybody to draw up a play because she believes in her staff, but Coach Staley has drawn up stuff to win basketball games as well. Sometimes it goes under the radar, which is fine, but it kind of speaks for itself. She's won several SEC championships. She's won three national championships now. She can do it. She's done it. She's winning."

Dozier described Staley as a tough coach who demanded discipline and sacrifice, and that she always gave the team honesty and love in return. Dozier, who was an assistant coach for North Carolina A&T last season, recalled how Staley's jovial antics with the team — from doing the popular dunk challenge from several years ago during a summer camp to her latest Beyoncé appreciation post — embody the person and coach the Hall of Famer is.

"It's the balance with the players," Dozier said. "I laugh because I used to crack jokes with Coach Staley all the time. I felt like she did a good job of keeping us level, always taking the game seriously [but] not too serious to the point where it wasn't fun for us. She'd be chewing you out one second and then the next minute she's like giving you a wet willy."

Sessions, who is now an assistant coach on South Carolina's coaching staff, remembers the early grind of learning under Staley before the program attracted some of the nation's top recruits.



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"She was tough, man. She's from Philly. She gave it to us, but that kind of molded her program and that's why she has the success and the players that she has now," Sessions said.

"We never had the top players here. We just started getting top players really after A'ja Wilson.

"We weren't the No. 1 in the country. We weren't No. 2, [or] No. 3. We were just four-star kids coming together believing in each other, believing in Coach Staley's system and sticking to it."

Connecticut Sun guard Tiffany Mitchell grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina, an hour and a half away from Columbia, South Carolina. She saw the promise in the program and committed in her junior year of high school in 2011.

"You're gonna have to work your way if you're going to play," Mitchell said. "You're going to work for everything. Nothing is given to you once you leave high school, but being the person and player that I am, I love the challenge."

Wilson committed in 2014. Indiana Fever center Aliyah Boston followed with her commitment in 2018. Now, the Gamecocks roster bolsters talented rising sophomore MiLaysia Fulwiley and rising junior Ashlyn Watkins while adding top talent, five-star incoming freshman Joyce Edwards, who won co-MVP honors at the 2024 McDonald's All American game in April.

"I really just went to South Carolina because it's never been done here before," Wilson said. "They got an amazing coach who's done everything that I want to do. Why not? I feel like that was the biggest turning point, a young girl decided to stay home and build around a program that was up-and-coming, and then the rest is history."

"I always say Coach Staley could be anywhere in the United States and I probably would have gone to be coached by her. But it just kind of was a blessing that she was at South Carolina, and I was from there."

Sessions has seen the Gamecocks' home venue, Colonial Life Arena, go from a few seats occupied to sold out during most home games regardless of who the Gamecocks are playing.

"I think we got a good crowd because they're not used to it but coming from 5,000 to 8,000 to 18,000 your senior year, it's still a feeling that I pretty much can't describe," Sessions said. "When I walked out of one of those games, I was like, 'Wow. I'm coaching in it. I played it.'"

"[Staley] really made us dial into the community and I think that's what pulled the heartstrings of our fan base. A lot of people now are really bought into the girls team because they feel like they're connected to them. They feel like they are cool with them. That's what brings and builds the culture now to where you have people fighting over seats," Wilson said.

Wilson said people doubted her decision-making when she committed to Staley and the Gamecocks. Many told her the program would never be able to win a national championship. Wilson believes the win in 2017 marked a shift in the SEC where South Carolina went from the school in the middle of the conference to a program everyone wanted to beat.

"It was a moment where I was like, I can't even put into words because I feel like every championship we win at South Carolina and as Coach Staley wins, it's always like they [said] you couldn't do it, they didn't want you to do it, and yet here you are doing it," Wilson said. "That moment will forever be stapled in my mind because no one wanted us to do it. No one wanted us to win. OK, but here we are.

"So it's like another thing that no one will ever be able to take away from us. I think that feeling is so powerful to this day, because you can see how it started to what we see now."

South Carolina won its first national championship in 2017. Dozens of former players were in Dallas to witness Staley's first title.

"[Dawn] was really big on making sure all the former players were a part of the celebration," Grant, who attended the game, said. "Literally, she got off the stage and went and got all the former players out of the crowd. Every single former player that was there, she made sure that we were on the floor to celebrate. It was just a full-circle moment and I was so proud that we were able to experience our first national championship."

For Atlanta Dream guard Allisha Gray, who transferred into the program and played with the Gamecocks her senior year from 2016-17, it was a turning point that would position the Gamecocks for future titles.

"A sense of relief like we finally got over the hump," Gray said of 2017. "From 2017, the program just took off. Winning national championships is almost like the norm for South Carolina every season, competing in the Final Four competing [and] competing for national championships so it's almost that's the standard now. The momentum started 2017 and it hasn't stopped since then."

Staley sent replica trophies to all her former players inscribed with the words "Because of you," acknowledging the contributions they made to the program.

"She's just a stand-up person and she cares about you outside of what [you] could do for her on the basketball court, which you got to respect," Sessions said. "Once you win, she doesn't like celebrating by herself. She knows that it took everybody that came to South Carolina under her to get her where she is today. She doesn't make you feel any less than that. She makes you feel why you committed to her still to this day. So that's what's so special because she hasn't changed."

Staley is affectionately known as "Louis Vuitton Dawn." As the program has grown, so has her wardrobe.

"It wasn't always Louis Vuitton, but it was always something. Probably half the time she had it on I couldn't tell you, to be honest," Dozier said. "Back then there weren't tunnel walks and being dressed and all that before games. We were there in our sweatsuits and stuff, but she definitely used to dress down. We always had our little 'ah' moments before the game."

"Coach Staley has been getting paid more and more every year so the bags are changing, so she's changing. I don't blame her. I would do the same thing if I was a millionaire. She worked hard to wear that. She definitely was sharp when we played, but she definitely wasn't in the Louis Vuitton and stuff," Sessions said.

Staley's first title win made her the second Black coach to win a national title. After her second title win in 2022, she became the first Black coach to win multiple championships. With her most recent title, Staley journeys further in a league of her own as the first Black woman to win three national titles and complete an undefeated season. Staley is one of five Division I women's basketball coaches to win three national championships.



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“Her being one of [five] coaches with three or more national championships and her being the only Black woman up there I think that’s a huge part of her legacy. For her to be able to do what she did as a player and then turn around and be just as successful as a coach,” Dozier said. “Coaching is deeper than [wins and losses]. It’s overall influence — your players, program building, culture building, inspiration — all of those aspects of coaching that really define how successful you are. Coach Staley is breaking barriers.”

Many of Staley’s former players have become coaches. Former Temple player and WNBA champion Candice Dupree is the women’s basketball coach at Tennessee State University. Dozier and Gaines are coaches at historically Black colleges and universities.

“She’s going to continue to inspire other people and the people who come after her. I [am] a part of her legacy. If I go on and coach in the national championship, that will also be part of Coach Staley’s legacy because of how she has allowed me to grow in my profession,” Dozier said. “So it’ll go a lot deeper and a lot farther than just South Carolina and how many championships they win. She’s touched so many lives in her time as a coach that her legacy is gonna be for generations and years to come, even when she’s done coaching.”

Wilson, along with the players that came before her, helped establish a high standard and culture of winning at South Carolina. She is adamant that future players adopt the high standards of South Carolina basketball so the legacy can continue.

“This is the standard that you have to uphold to be coached by Coach Staley. Nothing more, nothing less. Do your job, and then you will be a great [player],” Wilson said. “I think that is kind of what we all instilled in ourselves to lay the foundation now for Aliyah [Boston], Joyce [Edwards] and everyone else that’s upcoming.”

With two titles in three years, many players believe this is just the beginning of what Staley’s dynasty at South Carolina.

“I only see more success in her future, more championships, more records being broken, more players in the pros,” Mitchell said. “All of that is in front of her because of the work that she’s put in behind closed doors that we probably don’t see. I definitely feel like there’s nothing but greatness in front of the program.”

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The Excellence of Dawn Staley

Lauren Dreher, SLAM
May 30, 2024

Look up and the first things you'll see inside South Carolina's practice gym are the portraits of the players she's coached, mentored, inspired: first-round WNBA draft picks including A'ja Wilson, Aliyah Boston, Alaina Coates, Allisha Gray, Kaela Davis, Laeticia Amihere, Mikiah Herbert Harrigan, Ty Harris and Zia Cooke. They serve as a reminder to anyone who steps in the gym that, even within an entire athletic program, The Dawn Staley Era is, and has always been, at the forefront. She's the only Gamecocks basketball coach—men's or women's—to amass 300 wins, and the only Black head coach in hoops—men's or women's—to win multiple national championships. Look all around the gym and you'll notice there are words plastered on the walls that reflect what she embodies, too: TOUGHNESS, PASSION, FAMILY.

When the legend herself walks in wearing an all-white fit, her aura and energy is mesmerizing. Her presence commands the entire room. This is the same visionary who just led her team to an undefeated season and the program's third national championship, a feat very few expected them to accomplish. This is the very trailblazer who is the highest paid Black coach in all of women's basketball. This is the Dawn Staley, the dream merchant who has led not just a program, but the culture, into a new day where no one can deny what she's done and no one can doubt that she is one of the greats. It's written in the banners, in the stars, and on this very cover. She is in charge. The CEO of excellence.

With her right hand man, Champ, prancing a few steps behind her, Staley exudes calm, cool and collected as she walks onto set. Biggie is blasting through the speakers in the background, serving as the perfect anthem for what we're trying to capture: her aura, her energy and all that damn swagggg. Not only is this Dawn's first-ever solo SLAM cover, but it's the first time ever that any coach has had their own cover for the magazine. Today is about capturing the legacy of someone who is way bigger than the box scores—but, if we are talkin' hoops, a legacy that includes 38 straight wins this past season. The Gamecocks were out here destroying teams by upwards of 50, 60, nah, 80 points per game.

As legendary photographer Diwang Valdez snaps away, Staley, who is now wearing the team's 2024 National Champions tee, effortlessly poses in front of the camera. Just when you think the flicks couldn't get any more fly, Dawn turns things up with another outfit change. This time she's rocking a black blazer, tearaway joggers and, of course, a crisp Louis Vuitton tee. She goes from giving soft smiles and playful banter to transforming, as she leans back into the chair she's now sitting in, crosses her legs and rests her elbow on a basketball. She stares into the lens, giving the same look that we've seen from her on the court. It's deeply methodical, poetic even. Right now, Dawn means business.

This is the face of someone who has personified strength, resilience and authenticity for decades. Here, she gives us a glimpse into her mind and her magic—a conversation that is as much about basketball as it is about how she sees people, her legacy, and—with true sincerity—herself.

SLAM: You've mentioned in the past how you didn't really have an interest in coaching, at least early on. Can you bring us back to when you were playing in the WNBA and coaching at Temple at the same time?

Dawn Staley: One of the most gratifying moments of my life was to be able to play and then be able to coach all at the same time. Because it played on both sides of my brain and the passion was on full display. If any of the younger players in the WNBA ever have the opportunity to do both, they would find that it's so fulfilling. You're able to get out the aggression of playing while also being a dream merchant for younger players and giving them an experience that you are actually living. A lot of coaches have to go back in time to that place when they were playing, but when you're able to do it in real time, it is an automatic respect from your players because they know you're doing the very thing that you're asking them to do and to be disciplined at.

SLAM: You often refer to yourself not just as a coach but a "dream merchant." Can you elaborate on what you mean?

DS: Anybody that is coaching this game, that's what you are. I know we try to figure out our purpose in coaching, and it's just that: being a dream merchant for young people. Helping young people find their passion [and] work towards that. It's not always basketball—it's not. For 90 percent of them, it's not basketball. It is figuring out what you want to do, because I want people to work in their passion. It is a lot easier to work in your passion if that's what you do on a daily basis. The real world really is taxing. It pulls you in a lot of different directions and if you're not passionate about it, you are not going to give it your full effort. And maybe half of you is good enough in some instances, but for you as a person, your fulfillment is most important.

So, what does a dream merchant do? That person guides, that person helps to navigate, that person is a listener [and] an observer. That person is someone that is trustworthy of not only the student-athlete but everybody that touches that student-athlete, because it's not just a one-way street. All young people have people in their lives that impact them. I find that young people talk to their parents every single day...I think back to when I was their age, I probably talked to my mom or my dad maybe twice a month. And you know when that was? When the funds were low. But they talk to them every day, so I'm like, OK, well, I may have to change my style. I may have to pivot a little bit because I want to be the biggest voice in my players' heads, and if it's the parents that have access in that way, in talking to their daughters every day, [then] I gotta talk to the parents.

SLAM: Who were your mentors? And did any coaches inspire you?

DS: I really didn't have coaching mentors. I'm more of a private person. I don't like to show weakness, and that's probably a downfall of mine, but it's the very thing that keeps me going, because it has me working. It always has me preparing for the worst, and I don't like to take my problems to anybody else. I will say I have people in my life that I bounce things off that [are not] as close to the game as probably some other coaches, and I like them to give me feedback from the outside looking in, because when it's all said and done, I like to be covered. My mind works as a basketball coach most of the time, so I'm always looking for basketball things to teach lessons to our players because I believe that sometimes they learn better from that standpoint.

And then, if I get advice from somebody that's not in the basketball world, I can balance that and make sure that I'm giving our players what I see, as well as what somebody else may see that I'm not covering.

SLAM: Has your approach to coaching changed at all over the years? Are there things that worked early in your career that may not work now and vice versa?

DS: We're in an era where we have to pivot. What worked 24 years ago will not work today. I'll say this: The core principles of who I am as a person and coach doesn't change. [The] battles I fight? They change. Take for instance this year—my approach was entirely different than my approach in just the recent years. In recent years, we had a group of players that got it. They understood the assignment and what they needed to do and they executed on and off the court, so they gave us no issues. I was just able to be a basketball coach.

This year, they were different. They were younger, their approach was different. They were lackluster, they didn't really have a plan as individuals—they may have thought they had a plan. Their plan was just to play more. You can approach it that way, but it's shallow, so you gotta put something behind it. We worked from a place that we hadn't worked from in a long time, which was, Hit the ground running. We couldn't [even do that] because they couldn't run, they were outta shape. They came in just thinking, I wanna play. I sat for a long time. It's my time. Well, their time, and who they thought was taking their time, [the] approach was a lot different. Zia, Aliyah, Brea [Beal], they all came in shape.



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Every time that we had to come back in the summer, so we could hit the ground running...It was more of creating better discipline and habits, because they hadn't formed it to the degree of them being ready to rock and roll. So, I looked at it as a challenge, and once I looked at it [as that], I got more passionate behind it because I'm drawn to challenges. It was cool because they did teach me [that] there are a number of ways to be successful and a number of ways to approach things.

One of the battles that I did not fight that I normally fight: if everybody had the same sweatsuit on, and one person didn't, I knew that they spoke to that person. I knew it. I could see it, I'm looking at [it] and it looks strange to me...I approached it as a mistake that had been handled. But that's one of the things I didn't fight, because I knew this team had a way of delivering the message that I would deliver.

SLAM: As you mentioned, the start of the season was a little different for you. What do you attribute this year's success to?

DS: We've had the best team in the country prior to this year, I would say for years. The best team in the country and this one ended up being the best team in the country by way of default, so to speak. But it was a way that was formed by them and I will give them all the credit because they could've balked, they could've said, I should be starting—for a while, they could've said, I'm the It. I should be starting. Tessa [Johnson could've been like], I could play with the best of them. Let me get some of Breezy's time. Let me get some of Raven's time. [But] they didn't. Actually, the youngsters just allowed the older players to guide them to the point where they were so confident entering the basketball game that they knew that they were going to make an impact. And they kept holding each other accountable. Ashlyn [Watkins] found her superpower, and her superpower is on both sides of the basketball, but it was also leading. Her voice was prevalent in huddles, and it got to the point where they didn't want to lose. It wasn't even being undefeated, they just didn't want to lose. It was nothing about winning each and every game, but in the moment of each game, they didn't want to lose. So, they would listen to each other and they were very coachable, and then we just got momentum. We kept pushing through and then when we got to the Final Four, they were like, We gonna win this thing.

Before the national championship game, they were talking major cash ish. The coaches' locker room is connected to the big locker room, and we don't go in there [to] let them have their space. I'm too close to the situation, I don't want to hear them, [but] they're like, We're going to kick their A, and I'm like, Lord, they don't know what they don't know. Either we're going to get blown out, or we're going to blow somebody out because they were talking. And I know they're hyping themselves up, but as coaches, you know, we gotta go out there and face Caitlin [Clark] and them. Like, they got themselves here, they got momentum.

As coaches, too, we would ask each other, You drinking the Kool-Aid? We would literally ask each other. So, for the most part we were like, Nah, we ain't drinking it. Towards the end of the year, we asked, How about now? You drinking the Kool-Aid? I'm like, I'm sippin'. I ain't taking a big gulp, but I'm sippin'. Because they're putting it on display. I think, just overall as I reflect, it was a super cool journey and environment to be around them. They just played loose. I told this to a friend, I said, "They played free."...So, I think that was really kind of cool for them to take us coaches down their journey. It's usually, like, our journey—how we want to direct them and guide them. Nah. Nah, we got on their train and we rode their coattails.

SLAM: Now that you've accomplished it all—going undefeated, winning your third chip—how does it feel?

DS: It feels great, like seriously. It's unbelievable to me...[The] 2022 [team] looked the part. They looked the part, they played the part. They played just freer, but with pressure. And then this group was just unlike any of them. I don't think anybody saw it coming. We didn't see it coming, so that's what I like about it. I'm sitting [here] and I'm happy...I want to share our story. I want to share the good, the bad, the ugly but also the likelihood of someone else doing what we did—I want to give them hope, because we didn't look like a national championship team at the beginning of the season. We looked like most of the teams in the country, so we're relatable to most of the teams. If we could do it, anybody could do it.

SLAM: Your legacy reaches far beyond Xs and Os, wins and losses. We could go on and on, but what do you, Dawn Staley, want your legacy to be?

DS: I want my legacy to be an "odds beater." I am an odds beater. The odds said that I wouldn't be an Olympian, I wouldn't be the head coach of an Olympic team. To have coached 24 years in this game, I know that I don't care about a personal legacy. I want to let my players talk about the legacy that they were able to feel every day from our coaching staff. I don't have to say anything, they say it. Historically speaking, you don't really hear my name as being a great coach, whether it's X-ing and O-ing. I'm probably known to be a player's coach, whatever that means. But to win three national championships, to not be an X and O coach and only be a player's coach, I think we're doing pretty good. If the X-ing and O-ing coaches aren't winning national championships, I know they would probably flip it and be a player's coach, if it produces national championships. I really don't care about any of that, but what I do care about is our players, their experiences [and] their legacy, because the more of a legacy they have, it comes back. I just want to do right by our players.

SLAM: You've seen women's basketball skyrocket from a business standpoint, starting from your playing days to what it is today. What has it been like to see this transformation in real time?

DS: Women's basketball is super cool, now. I would say now. It was super cool to me when I was growing up playing it and going to college because I didn't know what I didn't know. Now that I know what I know about our game, one, we've been intentionally held back. I know that because it just doesn't come out of nowhere. It seems like our game has just come out of nowhere and now everybody is falling in love with it, when we know different. We know that back when I was playing in '88, in college, in '89, people were watching. They would tune in. I know it because I know when I go to different places, I'm more known for playing at Virginia than anything. So, they were watching it.

So, what happens between then and now? Decision makers are making some really good calls when it comes to our game...They know that women's basketball is a mainstay. So, the biggest difference now is we are being treated like a real sport. The good, the bad and the ugly because in sports you have storylines, like a Caitlin Clark. In our game you have storylines of us being undefeated, winning a national championship. You've got Juju [Watkins], Hannah [Hidalgo], MiLaysia [Fulwiley], all of these storylines that are being played out now because the fans want more and more and more. And now, finally, and maybe, it's the new negotiated TV deal that is allowing us to continue to grow. Maybe there's somebody in the room that's making sure that we have different people telling our stories. You got Elle Duncan, Chiney Ogumike, Aliyah Boston, [Andraya] Carter, Carolyn Peck...I thought that whole crew broke basketball down like no other. Wasn't biased, because we gotta get the bias out of our game. So, you saw what happens when it's unbiased. It was absolutely beautiful.

SLAM: You don't seem like the type to chase milestones or history, it just sort of finds its way to you. With that being said, is there anything that you have your eyes set on before you bow out of coaching?

DS: Selfishly, it's just one thing that I wanted out of this game: I wanted to be a Hall of Famer. So, I went in [to the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame] in 2013 as a player. Now, I do want to go in as a coach.

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2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

To keep South Carolina on top, Dawn Staley had to change

Chantel Jennings, The Athletic
November 13, 2024

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Just a few weeks before South Carolina began its campaign to defend its national title, fifth-year senior Te-Hina Paopao laughed and joked with teammates on the sideline during practice as coach Dawn Staley stood nearby and rattled off feedback to players conducting a full-court drill.

Staley either didn't notice or didn't mind Paopao that October Monday (but given that it's Staley, it's fair to assume it's not the former). A year ago, Staley would've characterized it as Paopao's being unfocused. The constant chatter would have felt like disrespect to the game and that she was allowing distractions to enter this sacred space. But today, Staley doesn't see it that way at all. Instead, she understands it as a necessary piece of what this team needs and more importantly, how she needed to adjust for her players. It's now part of how they win games, even if it wasn't how she won games in the past.

That ability to adapt might be Staley's greatest asset as the No. 1 Gamecocks, who are on a 40-game winning streak, return most of last season's roster and embark on a season in which they could become the first program to repeat as national champions since UConn won four straight from 2013 to 2016.

Staley has set the bar high at South Carolina. Time and time again, she has asked players to step outside their comfort zones. But last year, she had to do that too ... even if she fought it first. A year ago at this time, when her players wouldn't stop chattering, she'd looked to the north end of the gym where massive banners hang representing South Carolina's first-round WNBA Draft picks. She'd remember what it had been like to coach those players who helped Staley mold the program into the gold standard and she'd fear, is this team going to tear down everything we built?

But then? That team accomplished something none of those players on the wall ever did — went undefeated and won a national title. In the course of that run, last season's team also taught the Hall of Fame coach an unexpected lesson: Even in her mid-50s, after she's won almost everything, there is still a lot more to learn.

"This game will stretch you out. It will give you what you need," Staley says. "In some uncanny way, I've always gotten something I needed at the time I needed it."

When she was a player, successes and losses often reinforced Staley's idea of what it meant to respect the game — to be focused, to remove distractions. When she was cut from the 1992 Olympic team, the crushing defeat fueled her drive to return in 1996 (and an additional two Olympics after that). When she started as a coach at Temple in 2000, she was still playing in the WNBA, and the game allowed her to learn how to balance herself and see the game differently.

When South Carolina — then an SEC bottom dweller — hired Staley in 2008, she came in with an intensity and expectation that the players would have the same drive and chips on their shoulders as she did. But they didn't. During Staley's first preseason in Columbia, associate head coach Lisa Boyer pulled Staley aside to tell her that all the players could hear was her volume, not her words.

If Staley wanted to get through to them, she needed to pivot. She didn't need to lower her standards, but she needed to change her approach.

The game gave her a chance to evolve. And she did. South Carolina, which had been to the Sweet 16 just twice in its history, won its first national title nine seasons after Staley took over.

Last season, Boyer reminded her of that pivot 15 years earlier and made her consider that the game perhaps was giving her a chance to do it again, to stretch herself as a coach. This time, it wasn't about changing how she communicated but allowing players to communicate the way they needed to, to cede ground in a way she never had before to get this group to go further than she ever had before. Staley, who describes herself as an old-school coach who likes things to be defined strictly as right or wrong, suddenly realized she needed to step into the gray area so South Carolina could reach its full potential.

"She changed her coaching," Paopao says. "She had to get things across quickly before we started losing attention. We were good for like six to eight minutes ... And she knows that. She knows our attention span is small."

Staley picked her battles. She allowed the talking, singing and joking so long as players were more disciplined in every other way on and off the court. When they were late to team events or missed classes, she enforced time off from basketball. They weren't allowed in the gym or weight room. Staley called it PTO.

Amid the players' constant noise, Staley saw something clearly — this team was becoming one of the closest she had ever had. What she had once seen as a distraction she wanted to eliminate was unexpectedly what brought players together.

"I enjoy the challenges of the job, I really do. And I think I'm pretty good at it. But some stuff, you can't win," Staley says, referring to her losing the battle against her players in their chatty silliness.

The hallmark of great coaches is their ability to adapt over the years. Often, the focus is on an evolution on the court or how they adjust to new rules, not how a coach fundamentally — and quickly — adapts to their own players.

"They really can't help it. It's who they are. As long as we're getting what we need to get from a competitive and a practice and core values standpoint, I let them be who they are," Staley says. "That's why I coach — to allow our players to get to who they are a lot quicker in their life. ... Who am I to put my traditional outlook on life and basketball on them? To put them in a box they don't fit in?"

It's with this view that a stretched and pivoted Staley has returned for her 25th season on the sideline. The Gamecocks remain largely the same personality-wise even if their play looks a bit different now without 6-foot-7 Kamilla Cardoso, who's in the WNBA, but they've already clocked wins over Michigan and top-15 NC State.

This year feels different for Staley even if the roster and the results have been largely the same. South Carolina keeps winning, and the chatter in practice is still there. Paopao says they're "not as bad" as they were last season but she can't be quite sure. Maybe it's just that Staley isn't fighting them on it as much, she wonders.

This year, Staley wouldn't dream of doing that.

"My heart is always with young people and wanting them to grow and learn, but it's a challenge," she says. "I needed (the lesson) for the pure sake of them letting us know, 'It's cool, we've got you. We've got you but we're going to be us.' That was refreshing."



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Why Gamecocks coach Dawn Staley shows love to South Carolina band during NCAA success

Chapel Fowler, The State
March 31, 2025

BIRMINGHAM, ALA. – South Carolina women's basketball coach Dawn Staley thinks college bands across the country “probably don't get the credit they deserve.”

That's not the case at USC, though.

Case in point: After the Gamecocks beat Duke 54-50 to advance to their fifth straight Final Four on Sunday afternoon, Staley made a postgame beeline to the on-court section of Legacy Arena where the Carolina Band was sitting.

Before moving on to other postgame duties, Staley hugged band director Quintus Wrighten, high-fived about a dozen students in the two front rows and posed for a picture with the group, grinning and flashing USC's “Spurs Up” gesture.

For the second year in a row, Staley also sent band members off to the regional round with a batch of homemade goods. Wrighten, USC's associate director of athletic bands and a co-director of the basketball bands, posted a picture of him eating one of Staley's chocolate chip cookies on his flight to Birmingham.

“Coach @dawnstaley did it again!” he wrote in a March 26 post on X.

After South Carolina beat Duke, Staley said it was “customary” for her to show love to the Carolina Band after big wins. She had a similar postgame moment with the group after USC beat Texas to win the 2025 SEC championship in Greenville.

“They really are part of the atmosphere that's created in the gym,” Staley said.

A team having its band at a neutral site, such as this weekend's NCAA Tournament regional, can have a tangible impact, she added.

“They're injecting energy,” she said. “When they're playing their songs, no matter what we're doing, no matter how locked in we are, it just feels familiar.”

It helped that the majority of the 11,252 fans in attendance on Sunday were rooting for South Carolina. The combination of the USC band and cheering fans in Birmingham made the venue feel like Colonial Life Arena during big runs.

“When they're able to give us some familiarity, you can lock into what needs to happen out there on the floor,” Staley said.

USC trailed in the fourth quarter for a second straight game but ultimately outscored Duke 16-8 in the period. With the win, No. 1 South Carolina advances to play either No. 1 Texas or No. 2 TCU in a Final Four game on Friday night in Tampa.

Band members are ‘part of it’

Staley is a longtime supporter of South Carolina's band, and her gestures toward the group go back years. After USC won the 2022 national championship in Minneapolis, she brought the trophy over to band members so they could hold it and celebrate.

She was also part of a group of prominent supporters that donated money for the Carolina Band to help the group travel to New York City and perform during the 2024 Macy's Thanksgiving Parade.

Staley, football coach Shane Beamer and USC alum and country music star Darius Rucker donated \$25,000 apiece to help the band make it to NYC. Last fall was the first time South Carolina's roughly 400-member band had played at the event.

“I really enjoy them,” Staley said. “Some of them have been here over the past four years and are going to their fourth Final Four. So I want them to feel a part of it.”

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2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Dawn Staley's bracelet collection keeps growing. There's a story behind each one

Jordan Kaye, The State
March 25, 2025

The predictions weren't even close.

"Ten to 12," said senior guard Te-Hina Paopao.
"Six or seven," guessed sophomore MiLaysia Fulwiley.
"Thirty-six," added senior Bree Hall
"Like 15," thought senior Sakima Walker.
Junior Maryam Dauda agreed: "Fifteen," she said.

So what's the answer? How many different bands, bangles, wristlets, friendship bracelets, etc., does South Carolina coach Dawn Staley wear on her right wrist?

Sitting at a podium inside Colonial Life Arena during the opening weekend of the NCAA Tournament, Staley lifted up her arm to show a rainbow covering her entire wrist.

And there was no need to count because, Staley said, senior Sania Feagin had already done the leg work.

"I think I'm up to 28," Staley said. "Doesn't look like 28."

Apparently not, given that a majority of her players — save for Hall — were all off by more than a dozen. But if it doesn't seem like 28, it still looks 10 times the amount even the biggest jewelry lover would wear.

Forget the fashion. There's a level of dedication to every day take off and put on that many different items — and then have the self-control to not get bothered by over two dozen bracelets moving and clacking with every step.

"I would be fidgeting with (the bracelets)," Dauda said.

"I've worn a few before," added Walker. "But I don't have as many."

"She's probably already used to it," said Paopao.

The origin story behind the bracelets is that there are a million stories. Each, Staley said, has been gifted to her. Of the 28 items, there are a couple of bands supporting causes. There are numerous Taylor-Swift-esque friendship bracelets with her name on it. And there are others that add color, where a child or a fan took the time to thread beads onto a thin piece of string with the Gamecocks' head coach in mind.

Then they give it to Staley and, well, what's she supposed to do? Not wear it? C'mon.

Staley has built the best basketball program of the past decade through genuineness. Winning alone does not account for the Gamecocks leading all women's basketball teams in attendance ... for 10 straight seasons. It is in the program's DNA, starting with the bond between team and fans — a connection so strong that they're not even referred to as fans

They are FAMs.

And, as such, think of it like this: If your child gave you jewelry, you'd wear it. Or at least Staley would.

"When young people give me the bracelets I just immediately put them on," she said Saturday. "People customize it for me and I figure I will wear them until they break."

It's also why Staley wears the same necklaces every day. Each — there were four, as of Friday's game — serves as a reminder of someone or something.

The most recent addition came as a gift from the rapper Plies, who has become an outspoken supporter of Staley and her program, even traveling to Columbia for a number of games of the past few seasons. That necklace features a replica of the NCAA Tournament trophy encrusted with diamonds.

One is for a young girl named Blakeleigh, who was going through cancer treatment at UVA Children's Hospital when Staley met her, followed her color scheme and crafted a necklace. Later, in a surprise on ESPN, Blakeleigh made another necklace for Staley, which she also wears every day.

"We're preparing for a second-round game," Staley said Saturday, "but she's probably preparing for a second surgery or a 22nd treatment."

The fourth necklace is from a young man battling sickle cell disease. whom Staley met at a local children's hospital.

"I had a cousin that passed from sickle cell," Staley said Saturday. "So it gives me perspective on what we're doing, where we are. And really for us, although we think it's our world, our passion, what we do, it really is just basketball. When you put it in perspective of what other people have to go through."

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2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

'Something incredible': Columbia becomes a women's hoops mecca for fans amid USC's success

Chris Trainor, *The State*
March 22, 2025

Friday was just the second day of spring, but it had a festive, carefree, "school's out" sort of feel in various parts of downtown Columbia.

On a bright, sunny afternoon, the sounds of the University of South Carolina marching band rang out in the lobby of Columbia's elegant Marriott hotel on Main Street. High-top tables and barstools across the Vista were filled with customers, many of whom were wearing garnet T-shirts or caps and had frosty mugs of beer at their fingertips. Smiling mothers and daughters and dads and friends stopped for photos outside of Colonial Life Arena, just steps away from a statue of A'ja Wilson.

Indeed, March Madness had arrived in Columbia, and USC's vaunted women's basketball team — the defending national champions — were starting a tourney run that players and fans alike hope will lead to another title.

USC is hosting a set of first and second round tournament games at Colonial Life Arena. The Gamecocks easily bested Tennessee Tech on Friday, while Indiana downed Utah. South Carolina and the Hoosiers will now meet on Sunday in the tournament's round of 32.

Friday was a red-letter day for fans such as Columbia's Temeika Cunningham, who was at the Marriott for a "send off" of the women's team as it boarded the bus and left the hotel for the arena. Cunningham said she's been a fan of the women's program for more than 20 years.

"I was a fan and watching the basketball team and coming to the games when Susan Walvius was the coach and I could sit right behind the team or the analysts," said Cunningham, who is a season ticketholder and even attended the Gamecocks' season opening game in Paris, France in 2023.

"And now I've watched it grow and how Coach [Dawn] Staley has grown the game since taking over."

Excitement for the early rounds of the NCAA Tournament in downtown Columbia is likely not a surprise at this point. After all, Staley, in her 17th year at South Carolina, has built a true juggernaut in women's hoops.

Under her leadership, the Gamecocks have won three national championships (including last season's undefeated campaign), been to the Final Four six times, won nine SEC Tournament titles and nine SEC regular season championships. The program has sent numerous players into the WNBA and has become a bellwether for women's basketball excellence. USC's national championship game in 2024 against Iowa and sharp-shooting guard Caitlin Clark peaked at more than 24 million TV viewers, making it the most watched women's basketball game of all-time.

But nowhere has the enthusiasm for Staley's program been felt more stridently than in and around Colonial Life Arena, where crowds supporting the Gamecocks have continued to swell, year after year.

Consider this: The season before Staley arrived in Columbia, the women's hoops team averaged about 1,800 fans per home game. Then, in Staley's first season in 2008-09, the team averaged about 2,800 fans per game, a number the university was so proud of at the time that it sent out a press release touting it. That would turn out to be a mere fraction of what was to come.

South Carolina has now led the nation in average women's basketball attendance for 10 consecutive seasons. For the 2024-25 regular season, the Gamecocks averaged an eye-popping 17,000 fans per game, and sold more than 13,000 season tickets.

That level of excitement and turnout radiates across downtown Columbia, the Vista district and beyond, Columbia Mayor Daniel Rickenmann says. The mayor, a USC alum, says he entertains discussions about the USC's women's hoops team just about everywhere he goes.

"The women's program has helped Columbia elevate," Rickenmann said. "There truly isn't a place that I travel in the U.S. where somebody doesn't bring up Coach Staley and the women's basketball team. We have fans across the country. People are intrigued, they are excited about it. I think it has been unbelievably elevating for the university. Think about what it means to our loyal fans, our restaurateurs, our hoteliers.

"That all plays into it. It has really helped elevate our community."

Scott Powers is the executive director of Experience Columbia SC Sports, an arm of Columbia's tourism and visitors bureau that focuses on supporting athletic events that come to the region. Powers noted that USC has now hosted first and second round NCAA Tournament games numerous times across Staley's tenure, and those weekends are always a boost to the local economy.

"I know it seems like since Coach Staley has been here that this is just something that happens every year, but it's not that easy," Powers said. "I never want us to take it for granted. Twenty years ago when I first started, before Coach Staley was here, you hoped that every so often you'd be able to host [the NCAA] first and second round."

'It's a human story'

Colonial Life Arena sits in the Vista, one of Columbia's key hospitality and hotel districts. Abby Anderson, executive director of the Vista Guild organization that advocates for the district, said having early round NCAA Tournament games at the CLA is a boost for the neighborhood.

"It's a big deal for our city, in general," Anderson said. "People from all over come for these first round games and they are visiting the city, in addition to the Vista. You can come [to the Vista] and park your car and you are just steps from the arena and any of our fabulous restaurants or bars. You can walk in an art gallery and experience what the Vista has."

On Friday afternoon, the Thirsty Fellow Pizzeria & Pub on Gadsden Street in the Vista was filled with hoops fans in USC gear, enjoying pizza, cheesesteaks, cocktails and more before the Gamecocks' tilt against Tennessee Tech. Thirsty Fellow is literally steps away from Colonial Life Arena, and has become a reliable pregame and postgame hangout for USC fans.

Friends Tivona Taylor and Marilyn Inabinette, each from Columbia, say they often hit the Thirsty Fellow before ballgames. They were there Friday, enjoying a bite to eat before the tournament tipped off. Taylor and Inabinette are each season ticketholders — they've got eight tickets between them — and said the appeal of the USC women's program goes beyond simply the team's championship pedigree.



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"I think it's because Dawn Staley is so relatable," Taylor said. "She is just a real girl from Philly. You can relate to her. She's more than a coach to these girls. She is a mother figure, she's a big sister and she teaches them life beyond basketball. And we can relate to that. Young girls need that. It just works. It's a human story."

Anderson said it has been extraordinary to see the growth of the USC women's program and the swell of attendance for basketball games. When the team is averaging 17,000 fans per game during the regular season, that impact is felt in the Vista.

"So many people come and park close by and say, 'Hey, we're going to get here at 5 o'clock for a 7 o'clock game and get something to eat,' and spend some time in our district as they are preparing for the game," Anderson said. "We've definitely felt that on nights they are here. Our hotels see it. It's a big deal, top to bottom, that they've been so successful for so long."

Columbia's Rocky Easterling was at the bar at Thirsty Fellow ahead of Friday's USC-Tennessee Tech game, enjoying a drink before heading over to the arena. He had on a cutoff Gamecocks women's basketball T-shirt and his legs featured tattoos commemorating USC's national championships.

Easterling said he's been going to USC women's hoops games for 14 years, and attends nearly every game. He said Staley has created an environment that makes fans of all stripes feel welcome.

"She's just such an original person," Easterling said. "She just draws people in and she's authentic. She does everything for the community and is just a wonderful person."

'A sport that deserves to be elevated'

Rickenmann, in his first term as Columbia's mayor after a long run on city council, said Staley has been ascendant as South Carolina's coach, and that vibe has translated over to the city itself.

"We have embraced a sport that deserved to be elevated," Rickenmann said. "It deserves to have a strong fanbase. And it has been done watching a coach take her players to the next level at every point. She is teaching them there are no barriers. We can do whatever we put our mind to, and people support that."

Columbia's Kris Fink was among the pregame crowd at Thirsty Fellow on Friday. A longtime women's basketball enthusiast and a former coach, Fink said she's been a USC season ticketholder since Staley began her tenure in Columbia.

Fink said the USC women's program has found the perfect mix of winning play and community engagement for success in Columbia.

"One, they love winners," Fink said of the fanbase. "But I think Dawn has also embraced the community. ... She is a part of the community that gives back. It speaks highly of her and of Columbia, as well. There is a feeling we are all in this together."

Local residents and fans shouldn't take the Gamecocks' success, and the impact it has on downtown and the city, for granted, Anderson said.

"It's remarkable and very special to see what its happening right here in our town," Anderson said. "There is something really incredible happening here. ... The vibrancy that happens in Columbia because of the women's basketball team is pretty incredible."

###



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Best show in town: In USC win over LSU, Colonial Life Arena was 'loudest that it's been'

Jordan Kaye, The State
January 25, 2025

It was about the time that the Apple watches buzzed in unison the "loud environment" alerts that you started looking toward the rafters of Colonial Life Arena, wondering what sort of Frank Gehry magician could design a place to hold so much noise.

"It's really incredible. Like genuinely," said Gamecocks guard Bree Hall. "It gets so, so loud. And I always tell my teammates, I want to ask somebody else what it's like to be on the other side of the stick where you're playing here at our games. Because boy, it has to be hard."

When buildings become deafening, people like to say, "It's so loud, I can barely hear myself think," which is simply a ridiculous adage. Humans do not stop consuming their own thoughts. Just like on Friday evening, as No. 2 South Carolina dominated late to grab a 66-56 win over No. 5 LSU, as the decibels inside Colonial Life Arena rose and rose.

If you were inside the building, inside the noise, thoughts were rattling around your head. Perhaps about early 2000s architecture. Or maybe you were thinking, 1: How on Earth does a recruit come to this place and not want to be a part of it? And 2: Is it possible that South Carolina never loses another home game? Like, ever? Well, forever is a long time. Still, it might never happen.

"That's probably the loudest that it's been," USC coach Dawn Staley said of Friday's environment.

When the first quarter ended, LSU was up one. ESPN's Holly Rowe grabbed ever-confident coach Kim Mulkey for an interview — which would have felt like the time for the four-time national champion to use some of her bravado. But, well, it was like *deja vu* just washed over her.

"I've been in this building down a hell of a lot more," Mulkey said.

So has everyone else.

Think about this: South Carolina only won by 10 on Friday. Only. Just one other time across the past two seasons has South Carolina played in Colonial Life Arena and won by fewer points. As far as actually losing a game — you've got to go back over 1,000 days, when the Gamecocks fell to N.C. State in 2020. And even that deserves a massive asterisk considering the COVID pandemic limited capacity to 3,500.

The actual real last time South Carolina lost on its home floor was March 3, 2019, when Mississippi State edged USC by four points. The Gamecocks starters that afternoon: Doniyah Cliney, Te'a Cooper, Alexis Jennings, Biana Cuevas-Moore and Tyasha Harris.

That feels like a million years ago. And in reality, not much has changed. South Carolina is still winning. Still out for national championships. Still making its case as the top college basketball program of this generation.

The only difference? Attendance.

The season when South Carolina last fell in a "real" home game, the Gamecocks were averaging over 11,500 fans a game. That figure held pretty true for years — between 2014-15 and 2022-23, Staley's squad was attracting an average crowd between about 12,000 and 14,000 folks.

Then came last year. A squad with a brand-new starting lineup. A team that Staley seemed unsure of all preseason. That team captivated people. During its 38-0 undefeated run to a national championship, the Gamecocks drew over 16,000 people a game.

And that rolled over to this year. Through 10 games this season — with opponents ranging from LSU and Texas to Wofford and Coppin State — over 16,800 folks are packing inside Colonial Life Arena to watch South Carolina dominate its opponents.

"If you wanna give a sixth man award," said guard Raven Johnson, "give it to the FAMs."

And, yes, South Carolina is not winning solely because of its crowd. That is naive for a program that has stacked its roster with the best talent in America year after year. For a program that has a talent advantage almost every night — regardless of where they're playing.

But it would also be easy to use some chicken-or-the-egg philosophy. If you were one of the best women's basketball players in the country, wouldn't you want to play in Colonial Life Arena, too?

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How South Carolina became the top program in women's basketball

Michael Voepel, ESPN.com
February 14, 2025

COLUMBIA, S.C. -- There's always noise on game days. On a windy Sunday afternoon in January outside Colonial Life Arena, traffic snarls in all directions, fans dressed in garnet and black form long lines, and laughter seems ever present.

Inside, closer to tipoff, 18,000 Gamecock faithful -- known as the G-Hive -- bring nonstop energy, treating game day like a cross between a holiday party and a concert for their favorite band.

Welcome to South Carolina women's basketball.

For the opponent, the atmosphere -- not to mention the Gamecocks -- can be overwhelming. On this day, Oklahoma, one of eight ranked teams in the SEC, can't find any answers. The Sooners, used to running their opponents into the ground with their fast pace, lose by 41 points. Gamecocks sophomore MiLaysia Fulwiley and freshman Joyce Edwards make highlight reel plays; five SC players score in double figures.

It was the 18th win of the season for South Carolina, which hosts UConn on Sunday (1 p.m. ET, ABC). After a 38-0 national championship season last year, the Gamecocks are looking to run it back in 2025 -- and to cement their reputation as one of the top teams in all of college sports.

"They're who all of us are looking at in terms of being able to build the depth, the culture they have, the crowd," Oklahoma coach Jennie Baranczyk said. "This is, right now, the example in women's basketball."

But when coach Dawn Staley took over the Gamecocks in 2008, they had been to the NCAA tournament just twice in the previous 17 seasons. After finishing 10-18 and 11-11 in the SEC in Staley's first season, the Gamecocks were 29-5 and league champions -- with a trip to the NCAA tournament Sweet 16 -- in her sixth.

Early on in Columbia, Staley built the program's talent with regional recruits and its attendance with almost tireless accessibility. She chatted with fans, in person and on social media, stopped in restaurants for lunch and gave away game tickets, becoming the approachable face of her team, the university and the city of Columbia.

What came next was even harder: maintaining it. Staley has done that, too. From 2014-15 through 2023-24, the Gamecocks went 319-35 overall and 147-13 in the SEC. They won three NCAA titles, made another three Final Four appearances, won eight SEC regular-season and tournament titles, led Division I in attendance every year and produced two WNBA No. 1 draft picks in A'ja Wilson and Aliyah Boston.

South Carolina's dominance has changed not only the program and the SEC, but the balance of power in women's college basketball. And the No. 4 Gamecocks, 23-2 overall and 11-1 in the SEC, are once again a national championship contender. UCLA and Texas, which are also in the mix for No. 1 seeds in the NCAA tournament, are the only teams to beat South Carolina this season.

"I just came here wanting to win, wanting to be a sponge to it all," said Wilson, a three-time WNBA MVP whose South Carolina career from 2014 to 2018 helped launch the decade of dominance. "To see the legacy and longevity of this program, where it's going ... that's what we were built on, that's our culture."

Here are some of the milestones, pivotal moments, triumphs and heartbreaks over the past 10 seasons that helped South Carolina become the dynasty of women's college basketball.

April 16, 2014: A'ja Wilson announces she is staying home

A statue of Wilson was unveiled outside Colonial Life Arena in 2021, and her No. 22 jersey was retired there earlier this month. She's an NCAA champion with two WNBA titles and two Olympic gold medals. No player has had more impact on the program -- all thanks to two weekly phone calls that helped Staley land Wilson, the No. 1 recruit in the country in 2014.

Wilson grew up in greater Columbia and attended Gamecock basketball camps. Her father, Roscoe Wilson, was a former basketball player who had trained her and brought her to Staley's attention. As Wilson blossomed into a superstar recruit every program wanted, Staley realized someone else held the key to getting her to be a Gamecock.

"In every process, you have to find that person who really knows what's going [on] inside the recruit's mind. And it was her mom, Eva, for A'ja," Staley told ESPN. "I usually try to talk to recruits once a week. And then we added her mom once a week."

Eva Wilson told Staley that her daughter was dealing with dyslexia, something A'ja would open up about near the end of her college career to help inspire others. Staley told Eva every resource would be available to Wilson, and she would be there for her, too.

But as the time came for Wilson to publicly announce her college choice, Staley and her staff weren't sure of her decision.

"We found out like eight minutes before she was going on TV to say it," South Carolina associate head coach Lisa Boyer told ESPN. "She was heavily recruited. We were dealing with UConn, with North Carolina, with Tennessee at that point."

Tennessee coaching legend Pat Summitt had stepped down in 2012 because of early onset Alzheimer's. North Carolina coach Sylvia Hatchell missed the 2013-14 season battling cancer, while then-assistant Andrew Calder guided the Tar Heels to the Elite Eight, beating South Carolina in the Sweet 16. Wilson made her decision less than a month later.

"I don't know what would have happened if Pat and Coach Hatchell hadn't been sick then, if that might have changed anything," Boyer said. "But we did know how strong a connection Dawn had formed with A'ja and her family."

Wilson has had the most impact on the program, but she wasn't the first foundational recruit for Staley. That was guard Tiffany Mitchell of Charlotte, North Carolina, who picked the Gamecocks in 2012.

"Tiffany committed to me and our program before it was popular," Staley said. "She was one of the top players in the country and chose us."



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Mitchell was the spark that lit South Carolina's torch, and getting Wilson ensured the flame wouldn't go out. Her success and popularity opened even more recruiting doors nationwide for South Carolina, while her local roots further endeared the program to fans.

Wilson has said that Staley always understood the right buttons to push and that her mother sensed that, too.

"Eva knew, just from our conversations, what we needed and what A'ja needed, and that it would be the perfect fit," Staley said. "It probably would not have worked out as beautifully if she wasn't from here. Like if she was the No. 1 recruit from the Midwest, or the Northeast or the West Coast or someplace? I don't think we would have this kind of momentum that we've built from the time she walked on campus."

March 29, 2015: Gamecocks reach their first Final Four

The Gamecocks entered 2014-15 knowing there was a huge step to take.

The season before, they won Staley's first SEC regular-season title and then made the Sweet 16. With standouts like Mitchell returning and Wilson joining them as a freshman, excitement around the program had never been higher.

Mitchell, then a junior, realized South Carolina was on the verge of something much bigger than she had dreamed when she chose the Gamecocks.

"I never knew committing would ignite such a change in the program," Mitchell said. "But I trusted Dawn and she trusted me to help change the narrative at South Carolina."

In 2015, the Gamecocks went 15-1 in the SEC, their best record since joining the conference in 1991-92. They won the SEC tournament for the first time, beating Tennessee -- the league's long-time standard-bearer -- in the final.

After cruising through the first two rounds of the NCAA tournament, the Gamecocks met North Carolina in the Sweet 16 for the second year in a row. The regional, in Greensboro, North Carolina, was closer to the Tar Heels' campus, but by this point the traveling party with the Gamecocks was enormous.

South Carolina prevailed 67-65. The first Final Four in program history was one win away. But with three minutes to play in the Gamecocks' regional final against Florida State, they trailed 67-65. Someone had to take over.

Mitchell did, with an assist and then seven consecutive points in an 80-74 win that sent South Carolina to the national semifinals in Tampa, Florida. The Gamecocks were the newcomers in a Final Four where the other three teams -- Notre Dame, UConn and Maryland -- all previously had won at least one national championship.

South Carolina lost 66-65 to Notre Dame in the semifinals. Wilson, who came off the bench that season, led South Carolina with 20 points and 9 rebounds.

For Staley, who went to three Final Fours as a player at Virginia but never won a title, was disappointed but resolute after her first trip as a coach.

"I told our team that I hope they take note of how hard it is to get to this point and how much work it took," Staley said after the loss. "We're not far off. We just have to continue and get these experiences. If we ever get to this point again, we can have different results. I want us to have a certain hunger, a certain bad taste in our mouths from being so close to competing for a national championship that it will fuel us."

April 2, 2017: Mission accomplished

Staley knew a key part of the path to the top was staying present and not jumping ahead. She said her 2015-16 team had to learn that the hard way.

"They had a taste of the Final Four. We had a pretty good team coming back, and they just didn't appreciate the process of getting back there," she said. "We were drunk on our success. And although we were good, I could almost feel the team shortchanging the process."

A No. 1 seed in the 2016 NCAA tournament, South Carolina lost in the Sweet 16 to Syracuse. Mitchell -- her college career over -- was despondent in the locker room afterward.

Staley's college career had ended with a national semifinal loss 25 years earlier. She went on to play professionally in the ABL and WNBA for 10 seasons, win three Olympic gold medals, be the United States flag-bearer in the 2004 Athens Games and was now a high-profile coach. But she knew how empty Mitchell felt.

"The big losses drive me because our players hurt," Staley said. "Really hurt. And that hurts me, deeply."

Staley funneled all that emotion into 2016-17. Wilson was a junior. Top transfer Allisha Gray -- who had played for North Carolina against South Carolina twice previously in the NCAA tournament -- joined the Gamecocks. This time, Staley said, she reminded the players to focus on every step: the regular-season title, the SEC tournament crown and each game of the NCAA tournament, which included a too-close-for-comfort 71-68 second-round win over Arizona State.

The regional was across the country in Stockton, California, with Florida State the Elite Eight opponent. The Gamecocks won 71-64, then beat Stanford 62-53 in the semifinals in Dallas.

Still absorbing the fact they had advanced to their first national championship game, Staley and her staff watched, as shocked as the rest of the women's basketball world, as Mississippi State ended UConn's 111-game winning streak in the second semifinal.

South Carolina, which had already defeated the Bulldogs twice that season, did it again in the final. Staley became the second Black head coach -- Carolyn Peck at Purdue in 1999 was the first -- to win the NCAA women's basketball title.

Boyer said the celebration at the Gamecocks' hotel that night went into the wee hours. At about 3 a.m., after most of the well-wishers had left, two coaches remained.

"I just turned to Dawn and said, 'We finally did it. What do we do now?'" Boyer recalled. "And she said, 'We've got to win another one.'"

Feb. 10, 2020: Gamecocks clear the UConn hurdle

Staley had at least one other big ticket to punch: a victory over UConn. The programs' first meeting was in December 2007, the season before Staley took over at South Carolina,



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and UConn won by 58 points. In Staley's first seven games against the Huskies, South Carolina lost by an average of 21.3 points. The closest the Gamecocks got was an 11-point loss in 2017.

But Staley was committed to keeping the series going.

"People will shy away from playing them, but for me, it was more magnetic to play them," Staley said of the Huskies. "Because they were the standard, and you're always measuring yourself against them.

"It hurt me when we used to lose by 20 points. You change things up -- one year we tried to take the air out of the ball. You have to learn how to beat them."

The Gamecocks' celebrated freshman class of 2019-20, led by Aliyah Boston and nicknamed "The Freshies," finally cracked the UConn code. South Carolina won 70-52 behind 13 points and 12 rebounds from Boston.

South Carolina then won the SEC tournament and was 32-1 and ranked No. 1 when the NCAA announced the 2020 men's and women's basketball tournaments were canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In early May, Staley had a milestone birthday: 50. Amid so much uncertainty in the world and an extension of her time as Olympic coach with the Tokyo Games delayed to 2021, Staley said she recommitted to her next big goal: getting the Freshies a national championship.

April 3, 2022: After a crushing ending, the Freshies finish the job

After leading the nation in attendance the previous six seasons, the Gamecocks had to adjust to mostly empty arenas in the 2020-21 season due to COVID-19 restrictions. The 2021 NCAA tournament was played in a bubble in San Antonio.

South Carolina, a No. 1 seed, won its second-round game over Oregon State on March 23. Two days later, Gamecocks assistant coach Jolette Law's mother, who had been battling illness, died in her hometown of Florence, South Carolina.

If Law left the bubble, she wouldn't be able to return for the rest of the tournament.

"It was the hardest, most painful time in my life," Law said. "After we won the SEC tournament, I went to the hospital and saw my mother. We talked, listened to gospel music, she kept saying she was tired. But in your mind, you don't think your mom is going to die."

Law asked Staley not to tell the players, hoping not to distract them.

"But when I didn't show up at dinner, they wanted to know why," Law said. "Those kids wrote letters to me, and they made a video for me. I knew my mom would want me to stay and finish this out with them."

The Gamecocks advanced to the national semifinals against No. 1 seed Stanford. Boston's putback at the buzzer bounced out, and South Carolina lost 66-65. Boston doubled over in tears, her reaction so raw even some Stanford players comforted her while their teammates were celebrating.

"Aliyah, all our kids, were just devastated. And I had to go home and bury my mother," Law said. "But God said, 'If you trust me, if you lean on me, I will give you the strength to be able to do what you need to do.'"

Just as the players helped her deal with her personal loss, Law said she and the staff helped them deal with the game loss. Having overcome her own recent grief, Law had the perspective to help Boston deal with her heartbreak.

"She finally started to get over it that summer," Staley said. "But then she had to relive it, because [the video] kept being plastered all over the place. So then we talked about, 'The only thing to do to get past it would be to come back and win the championship.'"

Boston followed Wilson as a superstar post recruit; they had different personalities, but a similar resolve. Boston spent the next summer improving her diet and strength. With a strong 2022 season, she was on her way to being the National Player of the Year, and South Carolina had lost just one game as it headed into the 2022 SEC tournament.

It lost the SEC final 64-62 to Kentucky on a 3-pointer with 4 seconds left. But that disappointment didn't rattle Staley; she said she thought it made the Gamecocks more determined going into the NCAA tournament.

They faced UConn -- and coach Geno Auriemma, 11-0 in NCAA finals -- for the title.

"There was a lot of talk about Geno being undefeated in national championship games. I was like, 'Well, I am, too. I'm 1-0,'" Staley said, laughing.

That became 2-0 in Minneapolis after a 64-49 victory, the second-fewest points UConn had ever scored in an NCAA tournament game. The fewest (47) had come 30 years earlier.

Boston had 11 points, 16 rebounds and two blocks. The image of her from the 2021 semifinal loss had stayed with her, not as failure but as fuel.

"I don't want anyone to use a photo of me crying ever again," Boston said.

March 31, 2023: A full reset after an imperfect ending

Unlike the 2021-22 season, Staley said in 2023 that she didn't think the Gamecocks needed a loss to refocus. The Freshies were now seniors ready to deliver South Carolina's first perfect season. Everything pointed to it. Everyone expected it.

But the Gamecocks lost in the national semifinals when Iowa's Caitlin Clark scored 41 points and led the Hawkeyes to a 77-73 upset.

Afterward, Staley was furious about many things, including the officiating and the fact that as the overall No. 1 seed, South Carolina played a Saturday-Monday regional schedule



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instead of Friday-Sunday, which meant the Gamecocks got one fewer day of rest before the Final Four than Iowa.

"With every loss, I fine-tooth-comb everything," Staley said, adding she later talked privately to the semifinal officials. "I got stuff off my chest. I said something to all of them. I've mended those things."

Five Gamecocks seniors were picked in the 2023 WNBA draft, led by No. 1 Boston. It was a tough summer for Staley trying to adjust to what she knew would be a very different kind of team.

"I said during that time, 'I don't know how much longer I can do this,'" Staley said.

Law and the rest of the staff helped her move forward.

"One day, we were sitting in her office, and she was just like, 'OK, guys, our season this year is going to be a white, blank canvas. Give me your thoughts,'" Law said. "We just went around the room, and it was almost like a little retreat. We started talking about what we could do with that canvas. It was like breathing life back into her."

That's when Staley accepted she couldn't treat this team the same as any previous group.

"I am a coach that can meet players where they are," Staley said. "I just didn't think I would ever have to go that far. I'm OK with moving 75% to their 25. But they took me to 90. The consistent thing was they worked hard, but they had fun doing it. I thought it was too much fun."

"Then I just realized, 'This is who they are.' You could mess that up thinking about how regimented and disciplined you had to be. We just gave into it. We just start laughing with them sometimes."

April 7, 2024: The perfect ending

The Iowa loss was painful to think about and worse to rewatch. One image stood out: South Carolina guard Raven Johnson dribbling, wide open, behind the 3-point arc, and Clark waving her off, as if to say, "Don't worry, she's not going to shoot it."

South Carolina needed more perimeter shooting, and guard Te-Hina Paopao, a transfer from Oregon, fit the bill. Johnson also worked on her shooting, preparing for what she called her revenge tour.

South Carolina made 163 3-pointers and shot 31% from behind the arc in 2022-23. That jumped to 253 and 39.5% in 2023-24. Johnson, who shot 24.1% (14 of 58) in 2022-23, improved to 35.0% (25 of 80). And Paopao led the way with 87 3-pointers on 46.8% shooting from downtown.

Khadijah Sessions, a Gamecocks player from 2012 to '16 and now one of South Carolina's assistant coaches, said Staley is always open to changing tactics.

"She adjusts with the times," Sessions said. "She understood in this day and age, you have to shoot the 3 more."

The closest South Carolina came to a loss last season was in the SEC tournament semifinals against Tennessee. Down 73-71 in the closing seconds, Staley put the game in the hands of 6-foot-7 center Kamilla Cardoso. Cardoso made the only 3-pointer of her college career for a 74-73 victory.

At the Final Four, the Gamecocks faced Iowa again, this time in the championship game. The demons from 2023 were gone. South Carolina won 87-75, and Staley had her third NCAA title.

South Carolina became the 10th Division I women's basketball team in the NCAA era to have a perfect season. UConn has done it six times; South Carolina, Tennessee, Baylor and Texas once.

"Going from where we were to where we went," Staley said, smiling and shaking her head, "I still can't believe it was that team that went undefeated."

Ten months later, the Gamecocks are in the hunt for the 2025 title. In that 101-60 win over Oklahoma on Jan. 19, Paopao, who returned to South Carolina for a fifth season, was one of the five players to hit double figures. The performance showcased South Carolina's depth, even after losing junior forward Ashlyn Watkins to an ACL injury in January. Seven South Carolina players average between 12.3 and 7.2 points per game.

Law said everyone likely assumes now it's easy to recruit to South Carolina because of all the Gamecocks' success.

"That's not the case at all, because you've got to recruit that much harder," Law said. "Everybody else is saying, 'Why would you want to go there? They're loaded. You're not needed. Come here and be the star.'"

"We had to change our approach. We sell our culture: Do you want to be a part of a dynasty, be among other women that are trying to win championships?"

Staley thinks back to South Carolina's first NCAA title in 2017, at a time when UConn had won the previous four in a row and seemed invincible with its triple-digit winning streak.

"We gave everybody else hope then," Staley said. "Because we weren't quite a powerhouse yet. We were still up-and-coming. So it was a win not just for us, but for the overall game."

Now the Gamecocks set the standards they once chased.

"When you're successful, there are direct correlations to your habits," Staley said. "When you've won one championship, you know what contributes to you getting another one. And then another. And you just try to keep it going."

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South Carolina WBB players give their pitch to potential transfer portal recruits

Michael Sauls, The State
March 28, 2025

BIRMINGHAM, ALA. – March is a busy time for South Carolina women's basketball.

The Gamecocks are playing in the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament on Friday and head coach Dawn Staley and her staff are also having to deal with the recent opening of the transfer portal.

"I'm going to call somebody when I leave here. A few people," Staley said Thursday. "Just because you got to let them know, 'Hey, we're thinking about you. We got this run we're trying to. ... But you are a priority for us."

Staley will rely on her players to beat Maryland in the Sweet 16, but if she calls on them to help recruit players out of the portal, she'd be in good hands, too.

Raven Johnson, for example, might already be doing just that. She told reporters Thursday she was "definitely" trying to persuade Florida State's Ta'Niya Laston, the nation's leading scorer who has reportedly entered the portal, to transfer to South Carolina.

The State asked a few Gamecocks to give their hypothetical recruiting pitch Thursday. Here's what they said:

Te-Hina Paopao

Paopao's pitch to a potential portal recruit is simple: "If you want to win you got to come to South Carolina."

"Obviously, it's a lot of team ball," she continued. "You got to lock in and just be able to play outside yourself and be a team player. Just win, that's what I'm gonna say. If you want to win, just come here to South Carolina."

Paopao is a transfer herself.

The guard game to Columbia after three seasons at Oregon, where she was a two-time All-Pac 12 player. Paopao averaged 12.5 points per game in 77 games with the Ducks.

In her first year with South Carolina last season, Paopao won a national title with the Gamecocks. She led the nation in 3-point percentage and was named an All-American.

"I'm actually one of the few very successful portal stories ... shoutout to the portal," Paopao said. "But at the same time, just super blessed to be able to play for Dawn and it's just been a fun ride."

Maryam Dauda

Dauda said she would help Staley recruit a portal prospect if called upon, and urged potential recruits to "give the whole process a chance" if Staley comes calling.

Her elevator pitch revolves around community:

"I would say having great teammates. For me, I was scared leaving Arkansas, leaving my family and then coming here because I didn't know what I would expect from my teammates and everything. I was welcomed with open arms. So I would say just talk to people on the team and just see how the environment is."

Dauda, like Paopao, is a transfer. She spent the first two years of her career at Arkansas, about 30 miles down the road from her hometown of Bentonville, Arkansas.

Now with nearly a year in Columbia under her belt, Dauda looks back at her decision to transfer to South Carolina with full confidence.

"I'm glad I left and I came to Columbia," she said. "I was nervous at first, leaving home because I didn't know what to expect. Obviously, basketball-wise, I knew what I was coming into. But school-wise, I didn't know what to expect, if I'm gonna have friends outside of basketball or anything. But I'm very glad I made that decision."

Sania Feagin

Feagin's pitch to future Gamecocks is all about getting to be mentored and taught by Staley and her staff.

"I would tell them that you're going to learn from the best," she said.

Feagin got even more specific and offered a recruiting pitch for future post players, unprompted. "Post players-wise, I'd tell them come here, work hard, earn your position, trust the process when you do come here and understand that you're going to get better no matter what."

Feagin sat behind the likes of future WNBA draft picks in Victaria Saxton, Laeticia Amihere, Aliyah Boston and Kamilla Cardoso for the first three years of her career. She's finally gotten an opportunity to step into the limelight this season and has started in all 35 games for the Gamecocks.

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Why Gamecocks say road to the SEC championship was harder than in years past

Michael Sauls, The State
March 11, 2025

Yellow, blue and white confetti fell from the ceiling of Bon Secours Wellness Arena Sunday evening. The victorious South Carolina women's basketball team stood there, center stage, and let that confetti rain down on them.

It's not the first time the Gamecocks have been in that spot (it's the ninth to be exact) and it likely won't be the last.

But for South Carolina, this year's title meant a bit more.

"This one's probably harder because you have that chip on our shoulder," Raven Johnson told The State.

Last year South Carolina improved to 32-0 with a win in the SEC Tournament championship game over LSU. But things weren't perfect this year. South Carolina lost three games which, in the grand scheme of things, isn't much. But standards are different for the Gamecocks.

"It just means a lot because of our journey here," Te-Hina Paopao said of the championship. "We endured some losses and knowing that our journey wasn't perfect, like last year, it just means so much."

With the addition of Texas and Oklahoma to the SEC things were harder this year, Johnson said.

"Just adding Texas and Oklahoma, you cannot take a day off in the SEC," Johnson said. "I think that tells you about our conference. Last year, I feel like there were top teams, and then a little mediocre teams, then a drop. But this year, every team in the SEC is good. I feel like that tells you about the power of the SEC. A lot of SEC teams are going to be really dominant in March Madness."

Before the SEC Tournament even started coach Dawn Staley said she knew it would be "by far" the hardest one she's coached in. Yet, South Carolina still won all three games it played in the tournament by 21, 18 and 19 points.

"The stress levels were up for the three games," Staley said. "We're playing some of our best basketball. We didn't know how it would turn out. I thought we put our habits out there on the floor for three games. It wasn't perfect basketball, but I think we were in it for longer stretches, the way that we needed to play in order for us to win. It produced some really quality wins against, like, stiff competition."

Even though there were stretches of this season Paopao that were tough, the Gamecocks never wavered.

"It was harder but at the same time, we still have that connectivity, the togetherness, the unity," Paopao told The State. "I'm just really proud of our team and how our journey hasn't been the best, we've had ups and downs, we've always been constant with each other. So I'm just really proud that we're hitting our stride at the perfect time."

Victory on Sunday might have also been a little bit sweeter for the Gamecocks for a few other more personal reasons.

South Carolina and Texas split the regular season series 1-1 with the Gamecocks winning in Columbia and the Longhorns winning in Austin. Both teams finished 15-1 in SEC play and South Carolina was given the No. 1 seed in the tournament after winning a coin flip tie breaker.

"It was personal, and we knew that we wanted to get our lick back," Paopao said of the win. "We knew that we didn't win against Texas at Texas, and that we just came up short. We knew that we wanted to get our win tonight."

There's also the fact that most of the team wasn't able to celebrate to the full extent after winning the SEC Championship game last year.

South Carolina's win in 2024 was marred by a scuffle at the end of the game with LSU that resulted in several ejections including all of South Carolina's bench, sans Sania Feagin and Te-Hina Paopao.

As a result, those players were in the locker room for the trophy presentation. But rest assured, everyone got in on the festivities this year.

"Last year we didn't, unfortunately, celebrate with everyone," Paopao said. "So for them to celebrate with us this year and experience the confetti at SEC, I'm just really proud and really happy."

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Gamecock veterans pick up team in tight tournament spot

Alan Cole, Gamecock Scoop
March 23, 2025

Nobody panicked, but everyone knew the situation.

South Carolina women's basketball went into halftime against No. 9 seed Indiana trailing on its home floor, a shock to the system for the players on the floor, the coaches on the bench and everyone packed into Colonial Life Arena expecting more of a "Bon Voyage" party before a trip to Birmingham than an actual dogfight.

It was the first time South Carolina has trailed at halftime of an NCAA Tournament game since the infamous Iowa loss in 2023, and the first time most of these players had experienced the tension of playing essentially a 20-minute season from behind.

"We weren't down or anything," freshman Adhel Tac said about the locker room atmosphere at halftime. "But we spoke to each other with a sense of urgency with what we saw on the court and what we needed to improve on. I feel like everyone bought into those things and locked in when we came back out."

South Carolina won the third quarter by a dozen points and played to a fourth quarter stalemate, winning 64-53 to advance to the Sweet 16 for the 11th consecutive tournament and keeping the opportunity to repeat as National Champions alive.

There was nothing overly forceful, switch-flipping or dramatic in the second half. The play style didn't change in one 15-minute halftime session nor did the personnel. South Carolina (32-3) took the floor with the exact same starting lineup it always does, trying to work to the same spots on offense and with the same defensive intensity as those first 31 victories.

The result was a quick 13-4 run, spurred by seven Chloe Kitts points as the junior forward found her spots and settled in after spending most of the second quarter on the bench in foul trouble.

"Chloe is experienced," Dawn Staley said. "She wants the ball in her hands, she wants to be a big playmaker for us, and she's got the experience to prove it. She's been playing really, really good basketball."

The specific situation of trailing at halftime was new to most of these players, but the general principle of not flinching under adversity was unmistakable. This group of seniors and coaches had been through everything imaginable at this time of year. Those who were around for the 2022 team saw a procession of blowouts to a title. The 2023 team experienced heartbreak, the 2024 one had redemption and a couple close shaves along the way.

They've had leads, blowouts, big leads that became close — specifically against Indiana last year — buzzer-beaters from 6-foot-7 centers, double-digit deficits in National Championship games and just about everything else.

Any surprise that they bolted out of the locker room and took care of business after a shaky opening 20 minutes?

"The urgency wasn't a desperate kind of urgency," Tac continued. "It was just that we wanted to make sure that we had the message to get across to each other. We still were calm."

Senior Bree Hall closed out her Columbia career with arguably her best game of the season, locking up defensively and knocking down a trio of timely 3-pointers. One very early in the game, then in the second quarter to cut a six-point deficit in half and finally a critical one during the third quarter run off a Te-Hina Paopao block. Speaking of Paopao, her four steals and two blocks set the tone defensively, and her 3-pointer right at the shot clock buzzer late in the shot clock extended the lead to double-digits with under five minutes to go.

Sanja Feagin scored 10 points in a nine-minute burst on either side of halftime, and Raven Johnson was sturdy defensively even without her usual offensive production.

"I know that our bench gets a lot of credit for having played consistently all season," Staley said. "But we cannot knock our experienced players. This is the time that they usually come and play really disciplined basketball, grind it out basketball to get it done."

No panic, just process.

On a day where Joyce Edwards was far from her usual self and admitted she saw more double-teams than ever before and MiLaysia Fulwiley only played nine minutes, South Carolina needed its upclassmen more than ever.

They delivered, and earned an opportunity to continue their collegiate careers in the process.

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

The duo of Bree Hall and Tessa Johnson make the Gamecocks' defense elite

*Chris Wellbaum, Gamecock Central
March 12, 2025*

Everyone knows the adage “defense wins championships” – heck, it may as well have been created for the 2022 Gamecocks – and South Carolina’s SEC Tournament run was spurred by championship-level defense.

In the past, South Carolina’s defense has always been anchored by a dominant big or two who could swat away anything that got near the basket. South Carolina holds the top three shot-blocking seasons in NCAA history, all in the past six seasons.

This season is different. Without last season’s top two shot-blockers, Kamilla Cardoso (WNBA) and Ashlyn Watkins (torn ACL), the Gamecocks don’t have the same safety net at the rim. It hasn’t mattered.

In three SEC tournament games, South Carolina played teams averaging 85.5 (Oklahoma), 83.6 (Vanderbilt), and 80.0 (Texas) points. Those teams were ranked fourth, seventh, and 12th in the country in scoring offense.

The Gamecocks only allowed an average of 61 points on 35.8% shooting. They also set a championship game record for the fewest points allowed (45), fewest points in a half (16), the second fewest field goals made (16), and the fourth lowest field goal percentage (29.6%).

It’s a team effort, but without an elite shot-blocker, the defensive focus now begins with the tag team of Bree Hall and Tessa Johnson.

Last season, Hall took over for Brea Beal as South Carolina’s top perimeter defender, and Johnson is the heir-apparent for next season.

In Greenville, they were matched up with three of the best scorers in the country, and they won their assignment every time. They did it by focusing on efficiency and making it hard to get the ball in scoring position, not point totals.

They held Vanderbilt’s Mikayla Blakes, who scored 50 or more points this season, to 20 points on 5-15 shooting. There were countless Vanderbilt possessions where Blakes never got the ball back after giving it up.

“She’s going to score. It’s our job to make it harder for her to score and try as best as we can to limit her production out there,” Johnson told me. She asked what Blakes’ shooting percentage was. I told her, and Johnson said, “We did our job.”

Oklahoma guard Payton Verhulst has the most success of any opponent during the tournament, scoring 15 points on 6-10 shooting.

They saved the biggest statement for last, making SEC Player of the Year Madison Booker an offensive non-factor in the championship game. Booker finished with 10 points and 10 rebounds, but seven of her points came in the fourth quarter after the outcome was already decided. She was 1-7 with two turnovers in the first three quarters and finished just 4-13. Booker also did not register an assist.

South Carolina tormented Booker in all three games. Booker had seven points on 3-19 shooting in the first game. She got 20 points in the win in Austin but still shot just 7-22. She finished the season averaging 12.3 points on 14-54 shooting (25.9%).

“Love that,” Hall said when I told her the stats. “25% is crazy.”

Booker missed open shots in the first game, and the Gamecocks freely acknowledged there was some luck involved. After the second game, Booker allegedly said that Hall couldn’t guard her (although scoring less than a point per shot sure sounds like a defensive win).

“It was a lot of extra motivation,” Hall said. “A lot of people had a lot of things to say after we lost to Texas the last time.”

As if Hall and the Gamecocks needed any extra motivation. Johnson credited Hall for setting the tone on Sunday. Dawn Staley knew in the morning shootaround that Hall was chomping at the bit.

“You have someone like a Breezy Hall, we were going over some of their high-frequency sets at shootaround,” Staley said. “It was a set that most teams run. I asked them if they wanted to go through it. They were like, No, give us the hard stuff, give us the hard sets. She was locked into the game plan and wanted to know what she needed to do in order for her to help us win another championship.”

It wasn’t just Hall, though. She and Johnson rotated frequently, keeping fresh legs on Booker, who played 36 minutes. It also gave them a chance to compare notes.

“She came out today and she was telling me about Booker because that was her matchup. I was watching it and she was helping me out, giving me advice. I’ll come out, and I’ll be like, okay Breezy, this, this, this.”

“I didn’t do it alone,” Hall said. “Tessa did a great job, taking some time on her and defending her.”

It’s a situation that could have turned volatile. Two players playing the same position, fighting for minutes, especially as the younger Johnson has emerged as the closer at the position while still coming off the bench.

South Carolina’s culture won’t let that happen, and it is a credit to the maturity of both players. I asked Hall how it feels to mentor “the new you.” It’s the sort of question some players would have bristled at answering. Not Hall.

“I definitely help her out,” Hall said. “She is always asking questions on the sidelines. What should she do with this certain screen or that certain screen. I feel like I am knowledgeable enough to know some of the things she is asking.”

Johnson has made significant strides on defense this season. She was a liability on that end of the court at the beginning of her freshman season. Last year in the SEC tournament, it was surprising that Johnson made defensive plays. This year it was expected, she said the difference is in her approach to the game.

“My defense has evolved more mentally than anything,” Johnson said. “I go into a game and I’m not like, oh this player might get by me, this player might score on me. I want to guard the best player or hot hand, whatever it is. I want that challenge. That changed my mindset and helped me become a better defender.”



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

MiLaysia Fulwiley and Tessa Johnson's rebounding contest keeps both sharp

Alan Cole, Gamecock Scoop
March 22, 2025

Late in the game against Tennessee Tech, outcome as solidified as any in the NCAA Tournament ever will be, Tessa Johnson grabbed a defensive rebound. She let out her patented ear-to-ear smile as she dribbled the ball back up the floor with South Carolina leading 98-43.

Why such a big grin for a seemingly mundane play in a 55-point game? It was her fifth rebound of the game, extending her personal lead over MiLaysia Fulwiley in the category to 5-1 on the day. Fulwiley grabbed one more — her 100th of the season — but could not make a comeback.

This was another day in the personal rebounding contest between Johnson and Fulwiley, a game the two sophomores started playing as a way to help both of them get better on the glass.

"I've had to learn that if my shot's not falling I have to go do something else out there," Johnson said. "I've been working on it this whole season, because I wasn't really rebounding as much. I was thinking, 'I'm a guard, I don't have to rebound as much, we have good rebounders.' But I've been emphasizing it, and me and Lay do a competition in practice and in games."

The rules are pretty simple, if you can even call them rules. In practice, whoever grabs more rebounds in five-on-five action wins the day. No individual drills or skill work counts. Self-counting, of course. In games, they can just look up at the scoreboard and see who has the lead.

South Carolina is ninth in the country in rebounding as a team, aided in no small part by its backcourt players. This year without Kamilla Cardoso in the middle to soak up all the rebounds, everyone else had to pick up the slack in terms of rebounding.

Heading into the second round of the tournament Fulwiley is on an even 100 boards for the season, and Johnson has 68. Both players insist it is close in practice, but say they have the upper hand.

Luckily they have officials, their teammates who are very aware of the game.

"Tessa low key gets her," Te-Hina Paopao said. "Lay has been doing a good job, but I think I've got Tessa."

Of course size helps on the glass, but so much of rebounding always comes down to effort. The desire to chase down a loose ball, the focus to track how a shot is going to carom off the rim and the grit to out-muscle an opposing player for a 50/50 ball in the air.

Come NCAA Tournament time, everyone is locked in. The looming specter of elimination basketball with the possibility of a championship is enough to keep anyone sharp. But the entire season, through non-conference blowouts, grueling practices and days where it would be easy to check out mentally, this rebounding competition has kept both focused on the glass.

Johnson is listed at an even six feet tall, Fulwiley checks in at five-foot-10, and you would never know it when a missed shot comes up in the air.

"It's helped us both a lot," Fulwiley said. "It's a friendly competition. It just motivates us to do the things that guards don't really want to do."

Everyone else loves watching it, too. It's a win-win situation for the Gamecocks, where both players push for rebounds and everyone else gets to enjoy the show, and occasionally remind them of what the other player is up to.

"I kind of forget about it in the game," Fulwiley said. "Then Sakima [Walker] will be like, 'Oh, Tessa just got a rebound. Our teammates are in on it, too, and they keep us updated.'"

Any chance it extends out to other statistical categories? Probably not, if Johnson has any say in it.

"Today I think Tessa got more," Paopao said. "And then Lay was like, 'I've got four blocks.' Tessa was like, 'I can't compete in that category, so we'll just stay with rebounds.'"

Rebounding it is, and the only question is who will grab more.

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2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Why Tessa Johnson thrives in big games

*Chris Wellbaum, Gamecock Central
December 4, 2024*

Tessa Johnson burst into the national conscience when she scored a career-high 19 points in the national championship game. She's carried that production over to her sophomore season, proving that performance was no outlier.

Last season Johnson averaged 6.6 points on 44.7% shooting and hit 43.2% from three. She was inconsistent early in the season, but a few weeks into SEC play the lightbulb came on. Johnson saved her best for the postseason, even if she never fully embraced the "Tournament Tessa" nickname.

Johnson has improved her statistics in nearly every category this season and has become one of South Carolina's most important players. She provides a consistent scoring punch off the bench, especially when the starters have struggled.

Johnson had 15 points to keep South Carolina close in the season-opener against Michigan, and then she scored 10 of the Gamecocks' first 12 points against UCLA.

"I see how the game starts," Johnson said. "Depending on that I'm just trying to do one thing out there and that's help my team, no matter if it's a slow start or whatever kind of start we have."

Johnson is averaging 9.5 points this season, 10.7 if you exclude the NC State game when she injured her ankle and couldn't play in the second half. She is shooting 48.8% overall and hitting 55% from three.

Johnson also seems to play her best in the big games. From last season's tournament run, to the season opener, to a critical three against Clemson, to UCLA and Iowa State, the moment never seems to get too big for her. Recently, I asked Johnson why the big stage doesn't bother her.

"I don't really know," she said. "I just go out there and try to play my best every game and get better. That's kind of my mentality out there."

Johnson is more than just a shooter. At 6-0 with long arms, she has always been a decent defender, but this season Johnson is making a big impact on that end of the court.

She blocked two shots against Clemson and then blocked a jumper in each game in Fort Myers. Johnson already has four blocks this season, more than she had all of last season. She is also shutting down opponents when they try to drive to the basket.

"Tessa's a player. I mean, obviously, she's knocking down some threes for us to get us a little bit of momentum," Dawn Staley said after the UCLA game. "We needed a lot more than Tessa today. But (I'm) proud of Tessa. Tessa's a player that is going to have an extraordinary career for us, and (I) look forward to helping her continue to develop."

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Watch her work: Joyce Edwards becoming vital to Gamecocks' success

David Cloninger, The Post & Courier
February 8, 2025

COLUMBIA — Natalie Norris was still bitter when she woke up that Saturday. Her Camden Bulldogs had lost for a variety of reasons the night before, but missed free throws glared.

She flushed it as best she could and headed to the car, an out-of-town trip on Saturday's docket. It was raining as she drove toward I-20.

Passing the Camden gym and the blacktop court across the street, she saw two figures shooting on the outside goal. In the rain. Vision wasn't obscured enough to miss who they were.

"Joyce and her dad were out there shooting free throws," she said. "She must have been in the 8th grade at the time, and she'd missed quite a few free throws that game."

Norris, stunned, texted Joyce Edwards' father later on.

"We weren't out there a long time," he texted back. "She just wanted to make some."

Norris, who had Edwards for six years on her varsity team (Edwards first made it as a 7th-grader), still chuckles at the memory.

"That's the kind of work ethic that she has that and the desire to play," said Norris, who retired from coaching in 2024 after Edwards led the Bulldogs to back-to-back state championships. "She's willing to put in all the extra time that's needed to see that she's able to come out on top."

Edwards is on top at present, becoming South Carolina's leading scorer after five of six games where she led the Gamecocks in scoring. Not that she's thinking about it.

"I really don't go out there necessarily looking to score. I just give them what the defense gives me. It's just basketball at the end of the day," she shrugged. "Whatever look you get, you know what you're supposed to do. There's an action and a reaction. That's all there is."

South Carolina knew it was getting a great player, and a great athlete. Edwards also played soccer and volleyball at Camden (consecutive state titles in the latter as well) and was as naturally gifted in those as she was at basketball.

But ... the work.

Edwards is forever in the gym, fine-tuning every aspect of her game. She doesn't have much free time but most of what she does get is spent with a ball in her hands.

Norris remembered another time, after a Camden win. Edwards of course started and starred.

The next day she played in a soccer tournament at Airport High. A doubleheader.

"Joyce is the epitome of a competitor. Whatever it is, she wants to win. As much of anything, she looks to be competing," Norris said. "She didn't like that time off."

Dawn Staley picked up the stat sheet after a win at Tennessee, one where the Gamecocks nearly squandered the entirety of a 22-point fourth-quarter lead. Edwards was the one who didn't panic, take bad shots or force her motion in two clutch baskets that clinched the game.

"How many minutes did she play? 29? Probably need to play her 5-6 more," Staley said, clearly displeased with how her veterans had handled the Lady Volunteers' late run. "Joyce plays the right way. Joyce makes good basketball decisions. And that's why you see her flourish."

Her first game, against Michigan and super-freshman Sylva Swords in Las Vegas, Edwards scored 10 points with seven rebounds, a block and two steals in 29 minutes. Sure, there remain some freshman moments, but they're getting fewer and farther between.

"I wish I had that patience as a freshman," marveled A'ja Wilson, the greatest of all time as a USC athlete and now a three-time MVP in the WNBA. "To have that patience and that IQ right now, an understanding how to read the defense and how you're being played, that is what you don't learn probably until you're in the pros. I do see a little of myself in Joyce, and that's pretty good. She's going to be perfect."

Her minutes have risen since Ashlyn Watkins was lost for the season and her production continues to improve. Staley took timeout from the standard praise to trumpet Edwards for the awards circuit, saying that the National Freshman of the Year award doesn't have to be a one-woman race.

Staley didn't clarify who she was discussing, but there are a handful of frontrunners. Swords is doing great things at Michigan; top national recruit Sarah Strong is second in scoring at Connecticut; Vanderbilt's Mikayla Blakes is the highest-scoring freshman in the SEC and dropped 53 points in a win last week.

Blakes certainly seems to be Edwards' chief competition for SEC and National Freshman of the Year and there is really is no comparison when looking strictly at points. Staley is imploring all to look at the total package.

"What she's been able to do with the type of schedule that we have? Not easy," Staley said. "So I just don't want people to forget what Joyce is doing over here."

(Edwards' numbers and that she has only started one game seem to make her a shoo-in for SEC Sixth Woman of the Year)

What she's doing is working. Always. In games. Out of games.

"Her sophomore year, we lost by two to Keenan in the state championship," Norris said (side note: Keenan was led by a flashy junior named MiLaysia Fulwiley). "That hurt everybody, but gosh, the focus she came in with that next year? There was no doubt that there was nothing less than getting back."

"She's highly motivated," Staley said. "She's very Aliyah (Boston)-like when it comes to what she pours into her game."



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Awards and accolades are fine. The mantel at the Edwards home in Camden is packed with them. Edwards pays no mind to what's being said or announced, she just keeps working. Numbers? The only ones that interest her are Gamecock wins.

If there's one facet of her game she feels she's missing, one area where perhaps she didn't play as well as she wanted to last game, Edwards is at the practice courts at Carolina Coliseum immediately fixing it. It's an old building.

But at least the roof doesn't leak when it rains.

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Why WNBA star A'ja Wilson said South Carolina freshman Joyce Edwards already plays like a pro

*Lulu Kesin, Greenville News
February 2, 2025*

COLUMBIA — On Saturday, South Carolina women's basketball players gathered in a circle after practice and listened to every bit of wisdom A'ja Wilson had to share.

Wilson, who played for coach Dawn Staley from 2014-18 and won the program's first title in 2017, is back in town as her jersey will be retired in a ceremony before the No. 2 Gamecocks (20-1, 8-0 SEC) play Auburn on Sunday (noon, SEC Network).

Freshman Joyce Edwards, who is averaging a team-high 12.4 points, kept raising her hand and was seen asking Wilson numerous questions.

After answering questions about her past at South Carolina, Wilson answered a question about the present and future of the program.

"Joyce, her IQ is something that's going to take her far," Wilson said of the forward. "I think she is already becoming a pro at a young age of a freshman, and obviously she's going to have her ups and downs ... but the patience and IQ that she plays with is crazy. It's insane. I wish I had that patience as a freshman ... to have that patience and that IQ right now and understanding how to read the defense and how you're being played, that is what you don't learn, probably until you're in the pros."

Similar to Edwards, Wilson came off the bench as a freshman in 2014.

"I do see a little bit of myself in Joyce," Wilson said.

Both forwards are from South Carolina. Wilson was born and raised in Columbia, and Edwards grew up about 40 miles away from Colonial Life Arena in Camden.

When Wilson was drafted as the No. 1 overall pick in the 2018 WNBA draft by the Las Vegas Aces, Edwards was only 12.

Now as a freshman, she's leading the Gamecocks in scoring and is averaging 20.7 minutes and 4.9 rebounds per game. As a freshman, Wilson averaged 19.1 minutes and 13.1 points. In the last four consecutive games, Edwards has been the team's highest scorer and has scored above 10 points in 15 games so far. She's scored 14 or more points in five of the last six, including 18 points on Monday against Tennessee.

"She's a home grown kid," Wilson said. "I'm so glad that she came here, because no one gets you ready, no one can prep your mind for the next level, other than coach Staley, and I think she's in the right hands. She got a great group around her, so yeah, she's gonna be good."

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

BUTTA: MiLaysia Fulwiley saves Gamecocks, leads them into Elite Eight

*David Cloninger, Post & Courier
March 28, 2025*

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — How many times has Dawn Staley told her not to do it? That as good as she was — USC's coach has labeled her a generational talent far more than once — South Carolina simply did not need MiLaysia Fulwiley to take over a game?

Fulwiley never took it too personally, and she definitely never forgot how. The Gamecocks are going to the Elite Eight because of it.

USC's sophomore dynamo hometown kid, a 5-foot-9 ball of fiery brilliance, donned her cape on March 28 and led the Gamecocks past Maryland 71-67, cementing a game against second-seed Duke in two days with the winner advancing to the Final Four. She scored a game-high 23 points, taking over when USC's pelt was about tacked to the wall, pouring in 16 of the team's 24 second-half points to leave the Terrapins shell-shocked.

Yes, they scouted her. Of course they did. But how does she ... how can she ... how can we stop ...

"Nobody in the country has anyone able to match that kind of speed," Maryland coach Brenda Frese said with a shake of her head. "We were trying to kind of corral her with two to three players, but you see her ending speed. We had no answer for her."

The Gamecocks ask the same questions. But they don't have to have the solutions.

They just have to keep watching, mouths agape, at how seemingly effortlessly the woman that calls herself "Laywitdabutta" just keeps doing it. And against Maryland, nobody else could.

"Nobody can guard her," senior Raven Johnson said. "She's unstoppable."

Despite Chloe Kitts scoring USC's first 10 points, the Gamecocks (33-3) never got into rhythm, undone by Maryland's zone defense that completely cut off any inside game. With floor leader Te-Hina Paopao sitting with two first-half fouls, USC couldn't solve its issues — too many turnovers (18), too many bad decisions (particularly in shot selection), way too many fouls (although that was a product of a very inconsistent crew of officials).

Maryland's defense was tight and being rewarded by the whistles. Maryland's offense was what it always is — methodical, disciplined, working for smart shots and trips to the line.

Maryland (25-8) nearly had South Carolina down and almost out in its "Repeat Tour" to claim a second straight national championship. But the Terrapins didn't have Fulwiley.

She entered and scored the team's next seven points after Kitts' hot start. Maryland's relentless pressure began to affect her and the rest of the Gamecocks, and as the deficit swelled to seven three minutes into the third quarter, USC appeared overwhelmed.

Enter Fulwiley. Cutting to the basket, made with a foul. Deking her defender out of her shoes, taking a step in and burying the jumper.

Around her back to herself and finishing. Driving, driving, driving against a Maryland defense that was doubling most anybody who came into the paint — and succeeding.

"Every game I kind of feel like I need to do more. Today I kind of just locked in and was really straightforward with what I wanted to do, which is score," Fulwiley said. "Just score. Get the ball in the hoop."

She revealed she heard a defender holler mid-play for her teammates to help, that Fulwiley was not going to score again. She shrugged and did it anyway.

"I prepare myself to just expect anything with her," fellow guard Tessa Johnson said. "No, it doesn't surprise me ... but she still surprises me."

In the fourth, with the Gamecocks back on top 61-60 on (what else?) a Fulwiley bucket, Staley was on the sideline with palms flat, motioning for the team to slow it down.

Fulwiley drove to the rack and scored. Staley chuckled and clapped her hands. As many times as she's had to get on Fulwiley's case — and had to again against Maryland, an instance that Staley described as "big-time" — there are those times where even she has to just step back and marvel.

"Lay just wants to win. Two months ago, she wouldn't have been able to recover from (a dressing down)," Staley said. "Shut down, we probably would have lost the game, because she was the only one could really manufacture her own shots."

"I think in those moments, I feel like I can coach her the most, where she'll listen the most."

The Gamecocks advanced to play second-seeded Duke on March 30 in the Elite Eight, their eighth appearance in 10 years and where they have won six of the previous seven. USC beat the Blue Devils 81-70 in Columbia on Dec. 5, but as Staley said, the kitchen gets hot when you're trying to survive at this stage.

But USC has Fulwiley. Nobody else does. If she needs to take over again, she's more than capable.

"I wouldn't really say take over," she said, putting her Superwoman performance on the shelf. "I honestly just went out there and tried to help our team get closer to our next goal, which is the Elite Eight. And I think I did that."

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

It's gotta be the shoes: Gamecocks' Fulwiley takes foot fashion sense into Sweet 16

David Cloninger, Post & Courier
March 26, 2025

COLUMBIA — MiLaysia Fulwiley was in near-panic mode.

They weren't in her backpack. Not in her locker cabinet or under her locker bench, each of which South Carolina's staff had insisted all players spruce up before the NCAA Tournament (and thus open locker rooms for media access) arrived at Colonial Life Arena.

About time for warmups. Where could they be?

She must have left them at the hotel. There was no time to call Mom to go over there and get them for her.

Fulwiley reluctantly donned her red and black (Gamecock garnet is very hard to replicate on a shoe) sneakers to face Tennessee Tech in USC's tournament opener. Nothing against the actual shoes — Fulwiley was the first college athlete to sign with the sneaker brand of Golden State superstar Steph Curry — but she likes to wear a different pair for each game, and she'd worn these before.

"I like showing off all the new ones," Fulwiley said, opening a locker door to reveal several pairs fighting for space. "There were like 100 shoes down there, but they made us clean out our lockers."

She says she's going to debut her newest pair — a canary-yellow set of Curry 2 FloTro Lows called the "Butta," inspired by Fulwiley's nickname "LayWitDaButta," due to how she can churn opponents into Land O' Lakes — for a March 28 Sweet 16 matchup with Maryland. It will be the second signature shoe she's had this year after the Curry 12 "FamLAY" that she had to recycle for the Tennessee Tech game.

Coach Dawn Staley could relate to the dilemma. She liked to constantly switch game shoes as well.

"She's such a shifty player that what she does in a pair of sneakers loosens them up," Staley said. "I was like that type where I needed a tight feel every time out."

So what happens to the shoes after Fulwiley wears them? Mostly charity.

"I hope that a fan will ask for my shoes because I'll give them to them. I just give them away to the fans most of the time," Fulwiley said. "I give some of my newer ones to my teammates. They'll say, 'I like those,' and I'll say, 'I got more, let me get you some.'"

They arrive in bunches at mother Phelliccia Mixon's house. Mixon will FaceTime her daughter and let her see the new choices, to which Fulwiley almost always picks the brightest colors.

"She wore some watermelon kind of ones (at the SEC Tournament). Those are my favorites," said freshman guard Maddy McDaniel. "I need those, too. She actually wears the same size as (Bree Hall) and (Sanja Feagin)."

Hall loves the gesture but can't really reciprocate. Nothing personal.

"Unfortunately, I have plantar fasciitis, so I only wear one or two pairs of shoes a year. Not because I want to, but the way I have to break in a pair," Hall said. "But it's great to see her get all these shoes and just giving them away to whoever likes them."

Fulwiley gifted each teammate a pair of metallic gold Currys for Valentine's Day. She's worn a lot of blue and bright yellow, along with some pink, gray and black kicks, throughout the season.

Then Curry himself walked into the Warriors' game hosting Toronto on March 20 wearing a T-shirt with Fulwiley's picture on it. Still just a sophomore, she's already won a national championship on an undefeated team, been named SEC Tournament MVP and Sixth Woman of the Year and been shouted out by Magic Johnson, but that?

That was special.

"I could only dream for something like that to happen," Fulwiley said. "I almost cried."

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Ahead of SEC Tournament title game, South Carolina's MiLaysia Fulwiley relishes her growth

Wilton Jackson, The Next
March 8, 2025

GREENVILLE, S.C. — South Carolina guard MiLaysia Fulwiley stood behind the 3-point line like she knew Te-Hina Paopao was about to dish her the ball in an SEC Tournament semifinal against Oklahoma on Saturday. As Paopao dribbled past Oklahoma's Reyna Scott and Raegan Beers to the baseline, she dished a perfect chest pass to Fulwiley.

The Gamecocks' sophomore sensation fielded the pass, leaped off two feet with confidence — with Payton Verhulst's outstretched arm slightly in her sight — and drained her only 3-pointer of the game. Fulwiley greeted the Carolina Band as well as Gamecock cheerleaders and fans with a big smile before briefly skipping down the left sideline inside Bon Secours Wellness Arena. Her shot gave the Gamecocks an 83-65 advantage against the Sooners with 3:39 remaining.

Little did Fulwiley know that it would be her last field goal of the contest. With 2:03 to play in South Carolina's (29-3) eventual 93-75 victory against Oklahoma (25-7) to advance to an SEC-record sixth consecutive tournament championship game, head coach Dawn Staley subbed her second-leading scorer out of the game. As Fulwiley walked to the sideline, the SEC Sixth Woman of the Year shared a few chuckles with her coach before she received multiple high-fives from her teammates and walked to the end of the bench.

"I can't remember what [Staley] told me," Fulwiley told reporters postgame. "She was just telling me that I played good."

Not only did Fulwiley play well, she made smart decisions with the ball and was efficient, hitting 8 of 17 shots to finish with 19 points, five assists and three rebounds.

The moment felt all too familiar, but things were different.

Nearly a year ago to the date, Fulwiley played in her first SEC Tournament semifinal and delivered 13 points, four rebounds and a steal in 13 minutes in the Gamecocks' dramatic 74-73 win against Tennessee en route to the program's eighth conference tournament championship.

But on Saturday, Fulwiley's journey — one where she once advocated for more playing time off the bench and felt comfortable voicing that to Staley — delivered more clarity and understanding. One of women's college basketball's most electrifying players feels freer and more comfortable as she heads into the title game on Sunday and a run toward another NCAA championship in a few weeks.

"I think it was really all up to me, and I'm glad I finally actually understood that part," Fulwiley told reporters about her growth on the team. "I'm glad that I just stayed positive for everything. We got great coaches. They all kept my head high, and they all told me what [my role] was. ... The outsiders, they didn't really even know. But I'm glad that the coaches got me together."

As a freshman, Fulwiley started only three games and averaged 11.7 points, 2.9 rebounds, 2.2 assists and 1.7 steals per game while shooting 43.8% from the floor. Yet the 5'10 guard also took home SEC Tournament MVP honors that year.

Through two games in this year's tournament, Fulwiley has registered a combined 34 points, nine rebounds and eight assists. She has also generated several highlight plays, including an emphatic steal, a jaw-dropping cradle layup and a sensational behind-the-back pass to teammate Sania Feagin for a scoring opportunity in the Gamecocks' victory over Vanderbilt.

And to think, Fulwiley is only in Year 2. That's something Staley doesn't take for granted.

"[Fulwiley] is still very young," Staley said. "She has played probably her entire life doing what she wants to do and does it well. ... So we have to figure out how we get her to be a better reader out there on the floor. What we've been working on with her is just simplifying, making the layups, direct line drives, utilizing her speed. ... There's nobody that can beat her when she has the ball. ... That is her superpower."

Staley added, "She's been great to just kind of go through this journey with. ... She's such a great player, and you want to see her just complete her journey in a way that makes her a better pro, makes her more predictable, makes her more reliable."

With Saturday's win, South Carolina will face Texas (31-2) on Sunday afternoon in the SEC title game. It will be the third matchup between the two AP top-five opponents this season. The teams split the regular-season games: South Carolina captured a 67-50 win on Jan. 12, while the Longhorns earned their revenge on Feb. 9, 66-62.

Against Texas this season, Fulwiley totaled 21 points, six rebounds, three assists and six steals. As Texas seeks to follow up its first co-SEC regular-season title with a first SEC Tournament title, Fulwiley hopes to play a part in winning her second and South Carolina's ninth SEC Tournament crown since 2015.

But even as Staley prepares her players for the big stage that has become a mainstay in the DNA of the Gamecocks' program, she wants to continue to allow her sophomore star to become the player she wants to be — one that Staley deems powerful and a generational talent.

"We don't want to strip [Fulwiley] away from feeling the game and being out there and taking chances sometimes," Staley said. "Within those chances, there's some greatness that's taking place."

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

MiLaysia Fulwiley finds her confidence as Gamecocks near March

*David Cloninger, The Post & Courier
March 1, 2025*

COLUMBIA — They needed to see that smile again. Everyone, most of all the player wearing it.

MiLaysia Fulwiley wasn't playing badly. She was actually averaging more points than she did last year, when she burst onto the scene as a supporting actress destined for top billing. Slicing through the paint, whipping the ball around her body to her free hand or a teammate, displaying more moves than a jitterbugging centipede, that was Fulwiley on her best days, providing South Carolina fans ecstatic celebrations while causing opponents to mournfully call timeout.

The problem this year is that the end of those dizzying acrobatics — the ball going through the net — wasn't happening as frequently. Off the glass, off the rim, sometimes swatted out of her hands as she soared by enemies who had done their due diligence in film study.

That's when the sagging shoulders appeared. The head down. A player who above all exudes confidence suddenly had none to spare.

Yet brightness dawned after the Gamecocks' worst moment.

"(MiLaysia) was mad at the beginning. And you know, you can be mad and hold it in, or you can be mad and just kind of voice your opinion about things. And she was one that voiced her opinion," coach Dawn Staley said of the immediate aftermath of Connecticut's 87-58 romp over USC two weeks ago. "I've never been a part of a loss like that, with as much talent like this, ever. And she felt it and she voiced it."

Practiced like it, too. Which as any coach will always say, "Practice like you play."

Fulwiley barbecued Arkansas with 24 points, making 10 of 15 shots. She cooked Vanderbilt for 15 on 6-of-10 shooting. Thursday's pull-away win at Ole Miss was pedestrian for her, just nine points with 3 of 10 made field goals, but one of them was an answering 3-pointer to restore a double-digit lead in the third quarter, immediately after the Rebels' KK Dean had swished one of her own.

Fulwiley is up to 41.9 percent shooting for an even 12 points per game, better than the 40.3 for 11.5 she was before the last three games but below the 43.8 (shooting-wise) she was last season. The smile has returned, and at no better time: Following Sunday's game hosting No. 15 Kentucky, the Gamecocks begin the postseason, known in these parts as "Ring Season."

"Compared to how confident I was in the past, I was just happy. I like when I make shots, it makes me happy. So that's why I smiled," Fulwiley said. "When I play and don't think, when I do that how I did today, it just kind of goes in and I kind of just smirk."

Phelliccia Mixon has seen it throughout her daughter's playing life, albeit it with hardly any ebbs. Fulwiley has always been Fulwiley and on the rare occasions where she's stepped back a bit from the highlight reels, it's always returned. Quickly.

Mixon knew how the UConn loss stung Fulwiley but also knew it could be just what she needed. Fulwiley's sophomore season had been inconsistent.

"She keeps a lot of feelings to herself, she wants to be a team player and wait her turn. She didn't get frustrated, it was just like, 'My time is coming,'" Mixon said. "She just said she was focused. I knew when she didn't get her hair done, she was going to have a good game."

So it's a hair thing, too. Whatever the reason, the Fulwiley that was named SEC Tournament MVP last year has returned to the roster. Staley, who loves the myriad ways Fulwiley can score and stir up the crowd, often has to heat-check her, to sit her down after defensive miscues or when the game gets tight, because she can't completely trust her to do what the team needs her to do.

That's improving.

"I think in the moment, I don't think she can help herself at times, but I thought (Arkansas) was just great," Staley said. "She didn't force a shot. She dumped it off a few times. I think the biggest thing that she's doing is defending, she's competing on the other side of the floor."

There are also point guard-to-point guard talks. Staley has said many times that as good as she was on the floor, she couldn't do what Fulwiley can do so effortlessly. That said, there's a time to direct the team and a time to show off.

That's not only to help the team now but in the future. Point guard is a spot that will probably need to be filled next year.

"I kind of lacked confidence this season but I felt like it came at the right time and I just came out there like no one could guard me, and it showed," Fulwiley said. "I feel like I carry a lot of weight on my shoulders, and I do it well. I feel like I'm just doing great and I just got to keep going."

Anger was beneficial. The UConn loss seems to have unlocked something in Fulwiley that she and the Gamecocks need for the next month.

"It's fun to just watch her learn and grow. Like, she's probably still in a shell," Staley said. "And I know I can't wait to see the finished product of where I don't really have to say anything to her. She just knows."

Another step in evolution. Fulwiley spoke with SEC Network after Vanderbilt, widely smiling. Confidence beamed from every tooth.

"I'm scared for all our opponents."

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

This South Carolina 'power couple' spotlights athletic achievements, representation

Payton Titus, The State
October 14, 2024

MiLaysia Fulwiley didn't know JaMeesia Ford was that fast.

Fulwiley first knew Ford as the pretty girl she spotted between classes during the second week of school.

"I liked her outfit," Fulwiley said, sheepishly recalling her initial impression, "because she had this 'schoolgirl' look. She had on a skirt, and she looked like she was going to class. And I had on my sweats."

"This was when I had blond hair?" Ford asked, smiling, remembering details of their meet-cute.

"Yeah, she had on blond hair," Fulwiley said.

They officially met at a joint women's basketball and track and field hangout during the 2023 fall semester. Fulwiley, 2024 NCAA women's basketball champion and "generational talent," in the words of South Carolina head coach Dawn Staley, has plenty of athletic accomplishments of her own. But in getting to know Ford, a sprinting phenom, Fulwiley got to know track — and how Ford zooms on it.

Over the next several months, Ford set an under-20 world record in the 200 meter, became a two-time NCAA Indoor champion in the 200 and 4x400 meters and achieved a world ranking of No. 17 in the 200.

"I got to know her off the track," Fulwiley told The State, beaming. "So once I'd seen how she was on the track ...

"Well, what do you call it? The track or the field," Fulwiley asked, interrupting herself to double-check with Ford. "The track," Ford answered with a giggle. This is a constant learning process.

"I was like, 'Wow,'" Fulwiley continued, "she's almost as great of a person on the track as she is off the track."

It didn't take long for Fulwiley and Ford to break off from group hangs and start spending time one on one. They had their first date at Crafty Crab. And Old Chicago Pizza became one of their favorite spots.

Since hard-launching their relationship on TikTok in March, Fulwiley and Ford have cemented themselves as the power couple of USC athletics. They won co-Female Freshman of the Year at South Carolina's 2024 Gamecock Gala, an annual event honoring the school's top student-athletes. And they've been intentional in sharing their relationship with the world, recognizing that there aren't a lot of dual-sport, same-sex couples out there for young women to look up to.

"I've never really seen a couple that thrives like us," Fulwiley told The State. "That's what really made us want to go public."

LOVE AND BASKETBALL (AND TRACK)

Fulwiley and Ford are rarely idle.

First there's weights. Then practice. Class. Study hall. More class. More practice. And the occasional name, image and likeness deal obligation. (In addition to niche local deals like her signature "Laywitdabutter sauce" with Columbia restaurant Mr. Seafood, Fulwiley has high-profile sponsorship agreements with Under Armour's Curry Brand and Red Bull.)

Their windows of freedom are sparse and tiny, usually occurring in the early morning and late evening. Still, they manage to find pockets of time throughout the day to see each other. A couple minutes here or there. A shared walk to class. An active text thread.

"It's easy for us to understand because we're both athletes," Ford said. "... When we have free time, we make the best of it. Because we don't have a lot of time with each other. So we just admire those moments."

Their travel schedules often conflict, so they watch each other compete virtually. When Ford has a race and the women's basketball team is on the road, Fulwiley and her teammates crowd around her phone.

She turns to the rest of the huddle, assuring everyone that Ford is about to add another win to her resume. It's inevitable. They watch with great anticipation as Ford settles into the starting block, then ramp up their cheers as she flies down the lane.

Hops become full-fledged jumps. Yells turn into screams. And Ford proves Fulwiley right almost every time, beating her competition to the finish line.

"Just to see her go out there and actually win college races," Fulwiley said, "that showed me she's really talented. And I just want to be a part of her journey."

Ford feels the same way watching Fulwiley's games.

"It's a good feeling just watching your significant other accomplish their goals," Ford said.

She became a regular at Colonial Life Arena last season, often bolting from practice to her room (for a quick shower and outfit change) to home games to see Fulwiley in action. Away games go on Ford's TV so she and her roommate can cheer from afar.

During the postseason, Ford traveled to Greenville for the SEC championship game against LSU on March 10. She arrived at Bon Secours Wellness Arena during the first quarter after competing at the NCAA Indoor Championships in Boston the day before. Fulwiley scored a team-high 24 points and became the first freshman to win tournament MVP since Candace Parker (Tennessee) in 2006.

Ford also went to Cleveland for the national championship game between South Carolina and Iowa. Her coaches approved the trip as long as she made it back for 6 a.m. weights



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the next day. Fulwiley's mom, Phelliccia Mixon, drove Ford to the airport through postgame traffic so she would make her flight (and practice — mission accomplished on both counts).

"I didn't really start watching basketball till I met her, so it was very new for me," Ford said. "And the championship game, it was, I don't know how to explain it. I'm speechless still."

"Things like that showed me that she was very willing and committed to my career," Fulwiley said. "And vice versa."

SOCIAL MEDIA AND REPRESENTATION

Neither Fulwiley nor Ford recalled having a same-sex sports couple to look up to when they were younger.

Fulwiley remembers seeing WNBA star Brittney Griner's now-wife, Cherelle, love up on and support her. But because Fulwiley and Ford are both elite athletes and openly together while in college, they view their relationship as unique.

They officially shared their relationship with the world in a TikTok on March 12. The video captured Fulwiley and Ford dancing at the Dodie Anderson Academic Enrichment Center, where student-athletes meet with academic advisers and attend tutoring. While the post — made to Fulwiley's account — didn't explicitly declare them girlfriend and girlfriend, Fulwiley's teammates Bree Hall and Tessa Johnson did so in the comments.

"Fav couple," Hall wrote.

"Couple goalsssss," Johnson typed.

Fulwiley's TikTok garnered over 41,400 likes, 200 comments (many congratulating the young couple), 1,000 saves and 700 shares.

The positive feedback emboldened Fulwiley and Ford to post each other more. They started sharing pictures after basketball games and videos of them participating in the latest viral dance trends. In August, Fulwiley posted pictures of a photo shoot with Ford in Times Square promoting Under Armour's collaboration with Tuff Crowd.

When they split South Carolina's top freshman award, Fulwiley's celebratory posts on both platforms went viral, with each photo gallery combining for more than 100,000 likes.

"Once we realized that we are all over each other's social media, we realized that we can't break up," Fulwiley said with a laugh.

"Period," Ford said, also smiling and tilting her head to the side.

TikTok and Instagram have been mostly welcoming of their relationship, Fulwiley said, while Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) tend to house more hate.

South Carolina women's basketball is considered a national powerhouse and fervently celebrated in Columbia, so every member of the team is, at minimum, a local celebrity. When Fulwiley and Ford went public with their relationship, Ford was surprised to see people know of her athletic accomplishments, too.

Fulwiley scoffed at this idea and at Ford's surprise to have been nominated for Female Athlete of the Year at the 2024 Gamecock Gala, an award that would go to Fulwiley's senior teammate and Final Four most outstanding player Kamilla Cardoso.

"I'm like, 'Girl, the school sees what you're doing,'" Fulwiley told Ford. " 'You're literally putting on for track and field.' "

Ford let out a shy laugh, placed her left hand over her mouth and turned her gaze to the floor. One thing these women are going to do is hype each other up. Deservedly so. And they're not the only ones.

Aside from the occasional troll or nasty comment, Fulwiley and Ford feel largely celebrated by Gamecocks fans and their online community. Fans young and old have mostly positive things to say. "What a beautiful couple," and "Couple goals," are often written under their posts.

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

MiLaysia Fulwiley reaping benefits of partnership with NBA All-Star Steph Curry

Lou Bezjak, The State
March 22, 2025

MiLaysia Fulwiley was scrolling on social media late Thursday night when she saw something that nearly brought her to tears.

The South Carolina sophomore guard saw pictures and video of Golden State Warriors All-Star guard Stephen Curry walking in Chase Center wearing Fulwiley's "Playa Society" T-shirt that shows a caricature of her in her Gamecock uniform. The shirt retails for \$45.

ESPN's post of Curry wearing Fulwiley's T-shirt had more than 400,000 views.

"I was like, 'Oh my God,' I can't believe it. ... When I seen him with my shirt on, it was like a dream come true," Fulwiley said Friday after the Gamecocks' 108-48 win over Tennessee Tech in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. "For him to do that, it shows what a good person he is. Because he didn't have to do it just because I'm signed with his label."

Fulwiley said Curry was supposed to have worn the T-shirt sometime last year but things never materialized. But Curry wearing it this year came at a better time as the Gamecocks go after their second straight national championship.

Fulwiley scored 15 points in 19 minutes of the Gamecocks' first-round victory.

Curry has a connection with the sophomore senior guard dating back to her high school days. She attended his invitation-only camps in California and she played for Curry's AAU team during the summer before her senior year at Keenan High School.

Fulwiley was in shock when she got the initial call from Curry to play on his AAU squad, as she already was on a successful team the previous two summers.

"I had to leave because Curry asked me. It was a no-brainer," Fulwiley said. "My mom was like, you have to do it. He doesn't just call anyone and ask them to play for him. My mom was like, if you play with him he might be able to give you an NIL deal, and that is exactly what happened."

Fulwiley became the first college athlete to sign a name, image and likeness deal with the Curry Brand in March 2024.

"When it comes to the ability to change the game for good, nobody can speak to that more than MiLaysia," Curry said in a release after he signed Fulwiley last year. "She's changing the women's game on the fly with how she plays and moves on the court."

Fulwiley had news of her own Friday as her Curry Brand Grade MF12 "Butta" shoes dropped shortly after the Gamecocks' victory. This is her second pair of Curry Brand shoes released this year. In February, the Curry "FamLAY" Garnet and Black shoes were released and those were the ones she wore in Friday's game.

Fulwiley also gave each of her teammates a pair of the shoes for Valentine's Day.

The new "Butta" shoes are gold in color, representing more of Fulwiley's flashy on-court personality and her social media handle Laywitdabutter. Fulwiley said she will wear them during the NCAA Tournament.

"I wanted to do something that represented my name and my swagger," Fulwiley said. "... I feel like I am a very bright person and stand out a lot. It is only right to have bright shoes. I love how they created them. I gave them my colorways and ideas and they put them together."

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

South Carolina's Te-Hina Paopao is poetry in motion

Hunter Cruse, The Next
March 7, 2025

GREENVILLE, S.C. — South Carolina guard Te-Hina Paopao runs ball screens with a distinctive rhythm — almost like she's operating on a beat. It's something that aligns with LeBron James' recent comment that the rhythm and cadence of basketball is like music.

"It's been a big emphasis towards the postseason," Paopao told The Next. "During conference play, I feel like I didn't play with the pace and rhythm that I needed to. It shows on the court how much pace and rhythm I need to play with to be successful. It makes me better and gives our team more options when I play with pace."

Paopao's pacing has allowed her to be a dynamic pull-up scorer and pick-and-roll playmaker throughout her college career. Now, as a fifth-year senior, she's translated that pacing to a more aggressive driving approach, letting her fully actualize her passing and scoring.

This season, 37.4% of Paopao's field-goal attempts have come in the paint — up from 28.4% in 2023-24, according to CBB Analytics.

"Last year, my job was just to make 3-pointers ... because we had such a dominant big [Kamilla Cardoso] who was a willing passer," Paopao told SB Nation's Thomas Costello in January. "This year, I have a different role, where I attack the paint, attack closeouts, and just grow my game ... It just opens up the game more for my teammates as well."

Paopao navigates ball screens differently than sophomore guard MiLaysia Fulwiley and red-shirt junior guard Raven Johnson, requiring her bigs to adjust how they set screens.

Fulwiley's elite speed allows her to reject screens with ease and explode to the rim. On the other hand, Johnson is a well-below-average pull-up shooter, making her ball screens more about finding the roller or open shooter than creating her own shot.

Paopao falls between the two — less athletic than Fulwiley, but a more dynamic scorer than Johnson. Starting center Sania Feagin told The Next that Paopao prefers her to set screens early, hold them rather than slip, and roll quickly.

If defenders go under the screen, Paopao can capitalize on the space with her pull-up jumper. But if defenders fight over the screen, her abilities as a driver give her a chance to create advantages and maximize her live-dribble passing.

"I'm a pass-first type of guard," Paopao said. "I can find the best shot because I can read if the post defender is going to come up, and if they don't come up, I can drive and drop it off or pull up for a jumper."

On Nov. 1, 2024, in the days leading up to South Carolina's season opener, head coach Dawn Staley set a goal for Paopao to maintain her defensive growth from 2023-24.

Through 31 games, she has met that objective. South Carolina has posted an impressive 84.9 defensive rating against quad-1 opponents in 203 minutes, with defensive stalwart Johnson off the court and Paopao on the court, according to CBB Analytics.

"She's come a long, long way on defense," Johnson told The Next. "She's improved at everything, especially her footwork."

At 5'9 with a 5'9 wingspan, Paopao doesn't have the physical tools to recover and make up for defensive lapses. She has to pay attention to detail at the point of attack, chase shooters, or defend one pass away in help.

"I feel like I'm not a liability anymore, where my teammates have to cover for me," Paopao said. "I can now really guard on an island when I need to."

As South Carolina enters its first NCAA tournament without an All-American big on its roster since 2018-19, Paopao's shooting, secondary playmaking and defensive improvement will be crucial in the Gamecocks' quest to repeat as champions.

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Getting the ball in Chloe Kitts' hands was key to South Carolina's return to the Final Four

Cameron Teague Robinson, The Athletic
March 30, 2025

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — When Dawn Staley drew up South Carolina's final offensive possession, the goal was simple: Get the ball to Chloe Kitts.

Kitts, the 6-foot-2 junior post, was South Carolina's best offensive weapon in the fourth quarter. She scored eight of her 14 points in that quarter, but for her final two, she didn't want the ball.

After South Carolina left the huddle, Kitts turned to point guard Te-Hina Paopao and asked her, "Can you get the ball? Can you get the ball?" Paopao was taken aback and denied Kitts' request.

"Girl, what? Go get the ball," she told her.

Kitts got the ball and was fouled before walking to the free-throw line with her nerves at an all-time high. Kitts is a good free-throw shooter, she'd made 5 of 8 to that point and is an 81 percent free-throw shooter this season. But in that moment, with the Gamecocks' Final Four aspirations hanging in the balance, she was scared.

She couldn't even look at her father, Jason Kitts, in the stands.

Around her, South Carolina's players were encouraging her. Bree Hall, who was standing at the line to rebound, was telling Kitts: "You're unshakable. You got this." Sania Feagin told her to take a deep breath.

She listened to them and made both free throws. A few seconds later, top-seeded South Carolina defeated second-seeded Duke 54-50, clinching its fifth straight trip to the Final Four. But this one was different for Kitts.

It was affirmation that Kitts, who had watched as elite post player after elite post player come into that program and won, was deserving of her role as one of South Carolina's leaders.

"It feels amazing because I feel like I worked so hard, and my process is different. ... I'm just so thankful to be in that position at the end of the game to go to the Final Four," Kitts said.

As South Carolina celebrated another Elite Eight win, the floor was chaotic. Some players danced together, while others took pictures with their families. Staley even went off to the side to sign a baby's bottom.

Kitts, named MVP of the regional, found her mother and father first on the court amid the celebration. She hugged all of the parents of her teammates, cut her piece of the net and then made her way to the stands.

Kitts hugged and took pictures with fans who had sat behind South Carolina's bench. She was even given a child to hold while she took a picture. It was a scene that resembled a presidential candidate greeting voters, and Kitts loved it.

From the moment she stepped onto campus as a freshman, she said she's felt the support of South Carolina's fan base. Celebrating with them, even after one of her biggest NCAA Tournament moments, was a no-brainer.

"The fans mean so much to me. Those little boys and little girls look up to us," Kitts said.

It's more than just the fans who look up to Kitts. Now it's her team.

When Kitts skipped her high school senior season of basketball to enroll early at South Carolina, she knew that the transition to college wouldn't be easy.

"She probably thought it was the worst decision that she made when she was going through it," Staley said.

In that time, though, she got a chance to learn from players such as Aliyah Boston, Kamilla Cardoso and the rest of South Carolina's stacked teams that reached the Final Four.

The question was never about Kitts' talent. She had to learn the standard at South Carolina and grow into the college game. Once she did that, things started to click.

Last season, she started in 31 of 37 games and was a key part of the national championship team, but this season, she's had to step into a larger leadership role.

With Cardoso graduated, she and Feagin became the two leading post players.

Kitts is averaging a career-high 10.3 points with the added minutes, but it's her calming presence that holds more weight. She knows how to ease people in big moments and keeps things loose behind the scenes.

"What I really like about Chloe is, you know, whether she makes you laugh at something or she says something off the wall, it's her. She is comfortable in her skin," Staley said.

On the court, while she might be screaming inside, she doesn't show it on the outside as her presence relaxes everybody else because of her consistency. She's scored in double figures in 23 of her 35 games and has also reached that mark in 10 of the last 11 games.

"For her to step up and do what she's been doing the last month, it's been great to see and play with because we know we will get that from her every night," Paopao said.

The key to Kitts is her confidence, and her teammates see it growing every game.

"We had all the confidence in her, but we had to wait for her to feel that confidence in herself," Paopao said. "She's going to be that great leader we need for the next two games if we are going to handle business."

South Carolina's coaching staff and players have the utmost trust in Kitts. That, she said, was the only thing going through her mind as she stepped to the line for her final free throws of the game.

"My coach wanted me to have the ball at the end of the game because she knew I could make my free throws," Kitts said. "I just told myself, 'I'm really good at basketball.'"

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Chloe Kitts came into the SEC Tournament with an extra edge. It earned her an MVP

Michael Sauls, The State
March 10, 2025

Chloe Kitts has arguably played the basketball of her life in the last two weeks and her talents were once again on display in the SEC Tournament championship game.

Kitts finished with 15 points and nine rebounds in No. 5 South Carolina's 64-45 win over top-ranked Texas on Sunday. The win gives South Carolina its ninth SEC tournament title in 11 years (all under coach Dawn Staley) and third in a row.

USC finishes 30-3 and will learn its NCAA path on Selection Sunday next weekend.

Kitts' effort in the SEC Tournament was second to none as she was named to the All-Tournament team and the tournament's MVP.

"I just go out there and play as hard as I can," Kitts said. "I do what my coaches ask me to do...I just go out there and I play for my team and I play to win."

South Carolina has now had seven players named the SEC Tournament MVP – Kitts (2025), MiLaysia Fulwiley (2024), Aliyah Boston (2023, 2021), Mikiah Herbert Harrigan (2020), A'ja Wilson (2017, 2018), Tiffany Mitchell (2016), and Aleighsa Welch (2015)

"It's amazing," Kitts, a 6-foot-2 junior forward from Florida, said of joining the list of Gamecocks to earn the honor. "Those are all dogs."

Kitts scored 50 points in three SEC Tournament games over the last three days. She was 23 of 31 from the floor, and also recorded 23 rebounds.

"I feel like Chloe Kitts came in here with an edge," USC guard Raven Johnson told The State. "They left her off the All-SEC teams. I feel like she should have been on one of those teams. She proved to the SEC that she's one of the top forwards in this league."

"So I think she came in with a chip on the shoulder. She wanted to win. That's one thing about Chloe, she wants to win. She'll do whatever it takes to win."

Kitts started the tournament off on the right foot with a career-high 25 points against Vanderbilt on Friday in the SEC Tournament quarterfinals. Her 10 rebounds made it her ninth double-double of the season. Kitts had 10 points and four rebounds in the SEC Tournament semifinals against Oklahoma.

"She worked so hard these last couple days and I give it to her," Gamecocks forward Sania Feagin said of Kitts. "MVP (is) well deserved."

The junior caught fire in the final week of the regular season. Kitts finished with a triple-double against Ole Miss on February 27 and followed that up with a double-double a few days later against Kentucky in the regular season finale.

"I just feel like since the triple double game, I feel like that game really gave me confidence," Kitts said. "Makes me feel like I can do anything. And it's also nice that my coaches, my teammates, especially Khadijah (Sessions), fuels confidence into me. Makes me feel like I can do whatever."

Kitts was all smiles when SEC commissioner Greg Sankey presented her with the Tournament MVP trophy after the game. Unfortunately for her, the trophy was broken. Kitts laughed it off and said the SEC will be sending her a new one.

While she waits on that backup hardware, teammates say Kitts showed this weekend what they've known all along: That she, like USC's other SEC Tournament MVPs, is a "dog."

"Inside, outside, whatever you give her: You tell her to go, she's going to go and get that bucket," Feagin said.

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2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Chloe Kitts is finding herself at the right time

Chris Wellbaum, Gamecock Central
March 7, 2025

Somehow, South Carolina led just 68-63 at the media timeout in the fourth quarter. Mikayla Blakes had just banked in a three, and the Commodores had all the momentum. South Carolina desperately needed a basket, but Vanderbilt had the Gamecocks out of sorts.

It was Chloe Kitts time.

South Carolina inbounded the ball and got it to Kitts, who drove and pulled up for the basket. According to the official stats, the play took five seconds. It felt even faster.

Kitts initially suggested it was a play called "14," before Dawn Staley jokingly admonished her for giving away the play call. Later, Kitts insisted that she couldn't remember the play.

"I do not remember that play," she said. "I'm sorry, I really don't."

Tessa Johnson was more forthcoming. She said while Kitts wasn't the only option, they knew the ball was going to end up with her.

"There were reads off of it, but she ended up making it work," Johnson said.

Whatever the specifics were, it worked. And then Kitts grabbed a rebound. Then scored again. And then there was another rebound, this time with a foul and free throw.

"The thing about USC basketball is everybody can go off at any time, and today was her day," Joyce Edwards said. "We kept feeding her, as we should."

Kitts had scored seven straight points, and South Carolina was on the way to the semifinals. She scored 11 of her career-high 25 points in the fourth quarter and nine during the game-ending 16-0 run.

"My teammates just found me, and they kept telling me to go," Kitts said. "I just wanted to win so bad. I was just being aggressive."

Kitts added 10 rebounds for a double-double. Since the UConn loss, Kitts is averaging 13.4 points, 10.4 rebounds, and 3.4 assists, while shooting 61.4%. She has four double-doubles in the five games, including a triple-double.

"Oh my goodness, she's been having a year," Johnson said. "Before the game, I told her keep playing how you've been playing. She did that and she needs to continue to do that."

It's not hard to see that she is playing the best basketball of her career.

"I would imagine that this is kind of how she envisioned her entire season going, but it didn't go that way," Dawn Staley said. "It was a little bit up and down, inconsistent. But Chloe is strong enough mentally, physically to be able to handle the rigors of this league. No one is just going to kill it every single night."

It's a good time for Kitts to find that confidence. This is her third postseason, and she has learned from the disappointment of the 2023 Final Four and her personal rollercoaster in the 2024 Final Four.

"It's just self-confidence in knowing who I am and being comfortable with who I am," Kitts said.

In the postgame locker room, the players were still buzzing about Kitts' performance. At least most of them were. Kitts seemed to be the least excited

"I couldn't have done it without my teammates," Kitts shrugged, "but now we're moving on to the next one."

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

How South Carolina's Sania Feagin emerged as the leader Dawn Staley needed after three inconsistent seasons

Lulu Kesin, Greenville News
March 13, 2025

Sherri Feagin's feet were covered with confetti. She looked to her right at her daughter Sania and as she began to speak, a single teardrop fell.

A few more followed. Glassy-eyed with a prideful smile.

Feagin wiped the tears. She was donning a fresh "SEC tournament champion" hat and shirt, standing on the court in Bon Secours Wellness Arena after South Carolina women's basketball beat Texas for the program's ninth tournament title.

Their arms intertwined, one on each back. A 6-foot-3 daughter with a mom of nearly identical height.

"I'm just so proud," Sherri Feagin said. "She stayed the course, she kept her mind clear and it all shows out on the court. She put that work in and did what she had to do."

Despite two national championships it hasn't always been glamorous for Feagin, though she's remained committed to becoming a player and leader instrumental to South Carolina's success.

Sania Feagin's transition into Dawn Staley's starter, leader

A few weeks ago sophomore guard MiLaysia Fulwiley texted Feagin.

"We need you," she wrote. "We're not a great basketball team without you."

The next game, she had a career-high 22 points and five blocks against Ole Miss.

"When she's playing good, we're playing great," Fulwiley said. "I don't think people understand she came a long way. People think I was on the bench but she really sat on the bench. So for her to stay confident, stay true to herself, come out and do the things that she did and still don't get enough recognition, I'm just so proud of her. The type of person to always have your back, she's the post player you'll always want to play with. I love her."

Feagin's minutes were limited by stars ahead of her, but they have grown from 4.3 per game as a freshman to 7.9 to 15.1 and now nearly 20.

But when things weren't working early this season, coach Dawn Staley told Feagin she was taking her out of the lineup. Feagin texted her asking for one more chance.

"I knew that I could do better, knew it was time to do better," Feagin said.

In SEC tournament Feagin finished with 38 points total in three games. She earned an All-SEC tournament team nod and was named to the All-Defensive team last week.

Staley said Sunday that in the last three years, she'd never let Feagin play below her own standard.

"It's kind of really cool to see someone go through their process," Staley said. "Probably the first three years of her college year, didn't quite look or feel or sound like what she was capable of."

"But this year it paid off. When she's locked in, she's communicative, she's skillful, she can stick to a game plan, she can defend. You're seeing all of her skill set that we saw during the recruiting process that we didn't see on a consistent basis her first three years."

Sania Feagin is South Carolina's 'gentle' leader for Dawn Staley

South Carolina fans will remember March 10, 2024, for a long time.

The arena on its feet, 0.7 seconds left with South Carolina down two to Tennessee in the SEC quarterfinals when 6-foot-7 center Kamilla Cardoso shot a 3-pointer.

The ball mid-air and Feagin's arm raised, signaling the ball was going in.

It didn't matter that Cardoso hadn't ever taken a 3-point shot before. Feagin trusted her.

Flash forward a year later, 2.9 seconds left in the third quarter on Sunday in the championship game. Feagin caught the ball right in Cardoso's spot and drilled a 3-pointer against Texas. A head nod and chest puff followed.

Even in an elevated role this season, when she's the one making the huge shots, belief in her teammates never subsided.

In the semifinals vs Oklahoma, freshman Joyce Edwards couldn't buy a bucket and her frustration was visible. Feagin told her the shots will fall, keep your head up and keep going.

"She is such a gentle soul," Sherri Feagin said. "She's so loving and caring, she really cares for her teammates, every last one of them. She would love for her teammates to excel, she puts them before her. She does things that make people better, things that don't show up on the stat sheet. Talking them up when they're down, she's a nourisher."

When the other freshman in this year's class, Maddy McDaniel, took a visit as a recruit, she shadowed Feagin and was under her wing before even committing. When she arrived to move in, Feagin was the first player to greet her.

"She's been there for me since the jump," McDaniel said.

Her mom says that's how she's always been.



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“We used to call her the baby whisperer,” she said. “Babies love her, we’d turn around and she’d be holding a baby, somebody’s baby, anyone’s baby.”

How Sania Feagin unlocked best games of South Carolina career

Feagin knows she has at most, a month left in her college basketball career. The focus isn’t on the end, it’s on continuing to play how she has been in the latter half of the season.

Fueling the clear-minded fire. Unclogging the brain, which has allowed her to thrive lately.

It bottled up into one bad day, not long ago. Feagin didn’t know what was going on but similar to an emotional tornado of thoughts. She told her mom, then daily texts about breaking the habit of overthinking followed.

“I went on a little run where my mind was just taking over me,” Feagin said. “I realized that when you have a clear mind, nobody can stop you. I just emphasize keeping my mind straight.”

Sunday, those texts morphed into celebratory tears.

She’s averaging 8.1 points this season, but has scored in double digits 12 times. With plenty of scorers, Staley has never needed 30-point performances from Feagin.

Staley has always just needed exactly what Feagin is doing now.

The leadership, the fluid, effortless short jump shot, the defense.

“It feels good to know I wanted my turn, I trusted the process,” Feagin said. “No matter what, I go out there and play the game I love to play. Be dominant, be a voice for my teammates.”

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Sania Feagin's WNBA draft stock is on the rise

Hunter Cruse, The Next
March 12, 2025

GREENVILLE, S.C. – With only a few seconds left in the third quarter of South Carolina's SEC title win over Texas, senior center Sania Feagin fired just before the buzzer, draining her third 3-pointer of the season to stretch the Gamecocks' lead to 19.

This moment was the culmination of years of development and patience. Feagin, the No. 4 recruit in the 2022 recruiting class, could have easily started for most Division I programs. Instead, she chose to stay and learn behind All-Americans Aliyah Boston and Kamilla Cardoso, playing only 5.9 minutes per game in her first two seasons.

"It's really cool to see someone go through their process," head coach Dawn Staley told reporters following the SEC title. "The first three years of [Feagin] didn't quite look, feel or sound like what she was capable of. ... I never let Feagin play less than her standard. That meant she sat a lot, but this year, it paid off."

Feagin went through an up-and-down start to the 2024-25 season, struggling with foul trouble and offensive consistency as she adjusted to being a full-time starter. Over her first 15 games, she averaged 6.7 points and 3.7 rebounds on 54.9% shooting from 2 in 16.1 minutes per game.

However, after backup center Ashlyn Watkins suffered a season-ending knee injury on Jan. 5, Staley no longer had a safety net to turn to if Feagin was struggling.

Since the injury, Feagin has stepped up to the challenge, improving her scoring averages to 9.2 points and 5.3 rebounds on 67.6% shooting from 2 over the last 18 games.

"When she's locked in, she's communicative, she has great footwork, great touch and can stick to a gameplan," Staley said. "You're seeing all of her skill set that we saw during the recruiting process that we didn't see on a consistent basis during her first three years."

Feagin has not just become a quality high-major starting center — she's played her way into WNBA draft conversations. At 6'3 with a 6'5 wingspan, she is a master at the little things, from her help rotations and defensive communication to her screening and intuitive feel for spacing on offense.

What truly sets Feagin apart from other center prospects is how quickly she processes the game and her creativity as a passer. In the SEC title game alone, she delivered a wrap-around pass to a weakside shooter and a one-handed pass on the roll with her off-hand.

Coming into the season, The Next's 2025 preseason draft board (put together by our scouting team, including myself) had two key questions about Feagin:

1. Could she develop comfort with an offensive game outside of 10 feet?
2. Is there a world where she can maintain her absurd per-minute production when she sees more playing time?

She's now answered both. In three games at the SEC Tournament, Feagin scored 13 points on shots beyond 10 feet from the rim — more than she had in her freshman and sophomore seasons combined (9), per CBB Analytics.

"I feel like it's my confidence," Feagin told The Next. "I've always had the shot and was able to make those shots, but now, I'm just mentally [more confident]."

Feagin has a smooth one-motion release with good balance and touch. She's now up to 47.4% on medium-distance 2s and 43.5% on long 2s, per CBB Analytics.

For comparison, these are both higher marks than USC's Kiki Iriafen and LSU's Aneesah Morrow, albeit on lower volume.

South Carolina bigs, from Laeticia Amihere and Victaria Saxton to Cardoso and Boston, aren't asked to shoot 3-pointers within Staley's scheme. So, it's not out of the realm of possibilities that Feagin will become a quality 3-point spacer in a WNBA system that utilizes her that way.

Feagin can continue building up her draft stock with quality play throughout the rest of March. Based on scheme fit, she could be an option as early as No. 11 to Minnesota and No. 12 to Dallas. The Lynx and Wings also hold early second-round picks at No. 15 and No. 14, respectively.

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

The Winner: Raven Johnson's demand for success fuels Gamecocks as they begin the postseason

David Cloninger The Post & Courier
March 7, 2025

COLUMBIA — Kia Johnson saw it early. Besides inheriting her mother's basketball talent, there was that desire.

Others wanted to win. Her daughter Raven Johnson had to win.

"Her schoolwork. Even if it's really hard, she just figures it out. She always made honor roll," Kia said. "She played baseball until the age of 8 or 9, and she was the only girl on the boys' team."

As good as making the tag at second as she was at hauling in fly balls to the warning track, Raven decided to try softball only because the coaches at Sandtown Recreation begged her. "She was winning the games by herself," Kia said. "She was catching, she was pitching, and when she pitched, they had a first baseman who wasn't great at catching the ball.

"So Raven would just catch it and run it over to first herself."

Kia's late stepfather insisted that Raven and her twin brother Richard ("Thrilla and Killa" on the court) take swim lessons, so off the family went to Rosel Fann Natatorium. Each went into the pool to start learning how to dog-paddle.

"Out of nowhere, a coach in there training other girls, ran over. 'Does she swim?'" Kia said, to which she responded that Raven was just learning how. The coach, stunned, said no way because her form was already perfect, Raven finishing two laps while the other students were almost ending one.

"She pulled herself out of the water and the coach said, 'I need her on the swim team,'" Kia continued. "It's the arms (now a 6-foot-2 wingspan when Johnson is 5-9 if she stands very straight). She lays her hands flat out, they stretch below her knees."

Basketball got lucky, training for baseball and travel softball at the same time being put aside because they were the same time as the hoops season. Between festive games of spades and Monopoly with her family — "She was the one who wanted to buy every space she landed and make you pay her" — she showed up at Westlake (Ga.) High and told 'em what.

"She told the coach, 'I came here to win championships,'" Kia said. "That school had never won state before she walked through that door."

The first in 2018, Raven's freshman year, was when she scored 10 of her 15 points in the final 107 seconds to clinch it (she also had a game-high 11 rebounds). Raven won three more in three years, and the Geico national championship tournament in 2021.

There was no need to stop what obviously worked, so when Dawn Staley called, Raven told her the same.

"Raven didn't say one (championship)," Staley said. "It was plural with her."

our SEC regular-season titles. Two SEC Tournament titles (could get another). Three Final Four berths (could get another). Two national championships (could get another), the last the culmination of what she termed "Revenge Season," getting South Carolina back to the Final Four and finishing this time after losing in 2023.

(Revenge is a common theme. In 2019, Westlake watched Paul VI (Va.) hand them their first loss in 34 games. It took two years, but when they faced Paul VI again in the Geico title game? Well, you figure it out)

Raven helped the Gamecocks win the SEC regular season last week. The SEC Tournament is on deck, then the NCAA Tournament that USC has made a habit of sticking around in over the last four seasons.

She could leave after this year, but her freshman-year injury gives her a chance to return. The crowd at Colonial Life Arena knew it, chanting, "One more year" during her Senior Day, and Staley mimicked it, pointing to the SEC trophy as the standard for the underclassmen to reach and remarking, "To our returners ... whoever you are ..."

While not pushing her a millimeter and respecting the decision that Raven and her family need to make, Staley made it simple. "Raven makes us a better basketball team. Raven is a winner," she said. "She comes back, it increases our chances of winning a lot more basketball games."

The ultimate winner has helped post a program-record 136 wins over four years, to just six losses. It isn't enough, not since there are more opportunities.

"She wants to be standing next to another trophy on Sunday, then another in six more games after that," Kia said.

Of the six losses, three have come this year, the last particularly brutal. That one brought Raven to tears, a guarantee after every game she loses, which is why her eyes are almost always clear.

"You didn't see her after that UConn game. She went straight to the back," Kia said. "She does not like to lose. She told the team, 'We're going to get better together.'"

As the Gamecocks begin their SEC Tournament on Friday, the winner is only focused on winning. The next step, when she takes it, will have the same determination. And not for just one big win.

"Sometimes it freaks me out, 'We're gonna do this, we're gonna win these national championships,'" Kia said. "Everywhere she goes she puts an S on it."

Plus Ws.

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Raven Johnson's best assist is buying new car for mom, who never misses a game

Lulu Kesin, Greenville News
March 22, 2025

COLUMBIA — Raven Johnson loves to give gifts way more than receiving them.

In the new era of NIL where athletes can reap financial benefits it hasn't changed for the South Carolina women's basketball point guard.

Johnson wanted to reward her mother, Shekia Johnson, with a better car. For Johnson's entire childhood and throughout her busy high school basketball career, her mom's car was how she got everywhere.

Johnson won a national championship with the Gamecocks and was preparing for this season knowing her mom never misses a game. So the junior used her NIL money and bought Shekia a brand new Nissan for every trip from their home in Atlanta to Columbia and beyond.

"She does so much for me, I owe her a car," Johnson told The Greenville News on Saturday. "She sacrificed so much for me, my brothers and our family overall. I owe her that car, that moment. It was very surreal, seeing her so happy and the smile on her face. It made me light up."

Giving, not receiving, on and off the court.

Johnson is in her second year as a starter, orchestrating coach Dawn Staley's offense and though it's her fourth March Madness, it's only her third actively playing. After tearing her ACL as a freshman, she was given a medical redshirt year which means this may or may not be her last NCAA tournament. That's a decision she has still yet to announce.

Staley, who had a career as one of the most dynamic point guards to play the game, knows the pressure and intricacies of being the main facilitator.

"If anything goes wrong on floor I blame the point guards," Staley said. "Anything, any kind of misconnect, miscommunication. And they could not have been involved in the interaction ... You communicate on both sides of the basketball. You're the connector, the link to what needs to happen for us to execute."

No. 1 seed South Carolina (31-3) plays No. 9 seed Indiana (20-12) in the second round on Sunday (3 p.m., ABC). In the first round against Tennessee Tech on Friday, the Gamecocks shot an impressive 67% from the field and 63% from the 3-point line. Johnson hit back to back 3-pointers, finished with eight points, grabbed two rebounds and dished two assists. The stat line didn't show how she helped Te-Hina Paopao, Tessa Johnson and MiLaysia Fulwiley in the opener.

"Setting them up means the world to me," Johnson said. "I would give up my easy layup for someone else to get an easy layup. It's so surreal, I'm so happy to see others winning."

Paopao, who transferred to South Carolina after the 2022-23 season from Oregon, has started every game for the Gamecocks with Johnson by her side. Though Johnson is the traditional point guard, they're interchangeable but a signature play starts with Johnson and ends with a 3-pointer from Paopao.

On Friday, Paopao hit three 3-pointers.

"She's very selfless, very genuine," Paopao said of Johnson. "She just wants us to be great. It's great to see when you have a point guard like that. You want to run through a brick wall for her."

###



2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Maryam Dauda has found her joy

Chris Wellbaum, Gamecock Central
March 25, 2025

Maryam Dauda is happy to be here. She's happy to be in Columbia. Happy to be a student at South Carolina, happy to be a Gamecock, and most of all happy to be playing in her first NCAA Tournament. She's just happy.

Dauda spent three years at Arkansas, her home-state program. She missed her first season with an injury, but by her redshirt sophomore season, Dauda was a starter playing 30 minutes per game and leading the SEC in blocks in conference games.

Still, the feeling wasn't right. Dauda has nothing negative to say about her years at Arkansas, but it's clear she's in a better place.

"I'm a lot more happier," she said. "I feel like I'm on a team where everybody just wants to win. You don't have a person that's like, oh, I wanna win or whatever. Collectively everybody's wanting to win and just get to the next game."

A lot of players wouldn't be happy going from a season where they started every game and averaged nearly 30 minutes, to one where they racked up DNP's and averaged only six minutes, often only playing in garbage time.

Not Dauda. Playing isn't everything. The love and support from teammates and coaches is.

"It's been everything I hoped it would be and more," Dauda said. "I'm just taking one game at a time and just being in the present and just taking everything in and learning as I'm going. I'm learning from my teammates and learning from my coaches and just taking everything in."

Arkansas made the NCAA tournament in Dauda's first season and lost its first round game against Utah in Austin, TX. That was nothing compared to checking in to her first tournament game on Friday.

"Excited, more relieved, I should say," Dauda said after the game. "I just feel free, just going out there and playing, but I feel excited. I'm just moving on to the next round."

In the fourth quarter against Tennessee Tech, every Gamecock except Dauda had scored. Dawn Staley put Dauda in the game. Everyone knew she needed a bucket, including Dauda. She wasn't going to force anything, but her teammates were.

"I think it happened because we were kind of talking about it on the bench," Dauda said. "I was like, let it just flow and I don't want anybody to force it. Then (MiLaysia Fulwiley) just kind of saw the opportunity to pass me the ball and it just happened."

Dauda will graduate with a degree in economics this spring. She is eligible for the WNBA Draft, or could transfer again, but Dauda doesn't want to mess with a good thing.

"I'm definitely coming back for sure," Dauda said. "I'm coming back for sure."

She hopes to start her own international fashion line someday, and a master's degree in economics would help her achieve that.

"Yes, that's the goal," she said. "That's still the goal. but wherever that takes me, it takes me."

Right now it's taking her to the Sweet 16 in Birmingham.

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2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

Adhel Tac embracing freshman year

Alan Cole, Gamecock Scoop
March 29, 2025

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Adhel Tac has played 86 minutes all season.

Some of it was the reality of recovering from an ACL tear her senior year of high school, an injury which led her to enroll early at South Carolina once playing her final season of high school basketball officially out of the question. Some of it is the general nature of freshmen needing time to grow and develop behind more experienced players.

She is the very rare player to earn a National Championship ring before even being eligible to play.

Ask her teammates, and they will unanimously tell her she earned every last diamond in that ring.

“She’s a lover,” senior forward Sania Feagin said. “She’s loved on this team because she loves us and she gives us her all. She’s our biggest cheerleader, so why not be her biggest cheerleader?”

Keep an eye on South Carolina’s bench at any point, and you will see Tac as the most engaged player there. Living and dying on every single moment, engaged with every single action and the first one to jump off the bench when anything positive happens.

Every player would rather be in the game, obviously, but this is the upside of having Tac on the bench during this learning year. She is the consummate teammate, a player everyone loves spending time with and can’t wait to watch when she gets in the game.

“She is the kind of person that is happy for everyone else,” Tessa Johnson said. “No matter where she is or what is happening with her, she is happy for everyone else. The fact that she goes out there and does her thing makes everyone else happy. That’s just the team that we’re on.”

The benefit of having Tac on the bench? She is a coach in a player’s body.

In South Carolina’s second round game against Indiana, a series of defensive breakdowns plagued the first half. South Carolina’s bigs struggled on switches, and went into halftime trailing.

Tac, even as a freshman who did not play a second, knew what the problem was and did not shy away from pointing it out.

“I mean a lot of the time they’re on the court doing the right thing, there’s just no communication,” Tac said after the Indiana game. “Sometimes you have to remind them, open your mouth and say something.”

Last March, when Tac was not only sitting on the bench but unavailable to play anyway, she became an extra member of Dawn Staley’s staff.

Scouting opponents, working on game plans, being something of a bridge between the players and coaches. An extra set of eyes to view the game through a fresh lens, but also a peer for the players.

It helps that she’s wise beyond her years.

“She just knows her stuff,” Staley said. “Scouting reports, if there’s anybody that knows everything about our opposing team, it is Adhel. That will come with more playing time, for her to be able to put that on display. But she’s a pretty sharp cookie.”

For another player under these circumstances, this situation could have deteriorated quickly. It would be easy to get discouraged after not playing for an entire year, and mostly riding the bench even after getting healthy. Players without such a desire to learn might have spent last year just trying to recover physically without getting a head start on the intangibles side of their game.

But for Tac, a 6-foot-5 presence who knows she has all the tools to be next in a long line of great South Carolina post players, sharpening everything else is the first priority.

No shortcuts, easy paths or workarounds. Just hard work and a trust in both her own abilities and the development process.

“She is not resting on her laurels and feeling sorry for herself,” Staley said. “She is in the gym getting better. She’s getting in extra shots, getting in extra rebounding opportunities.”

She has a long way to go, but there is no rush.

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2024-25 SOUTH CAROLINA ATHLETICS - PRESS CLIPS

What's in a handshake? Just ask South Carolina basketball's Adhel Tac

Michael Sauls, The State
March 14, 2025

A familiar scene unfolds at the start of just about every college basketball game as each team's starting players are introduced to the crowd.

The ensuing theatrics vary from school to school but, typically, a player's position, hometown and jersey number are relayed over the arena's speakers and a loud cheer welcomes the player once their name is called.

Then the player strolls through a tunnel of teammates who aren't in the starting lineup, high-fiving them along the way. At the end of the tunnel, one player initiates a personalized handshake with each of the five starters.

South Carolina women's basketball's handshake aficionado is Adhel Tac.

The 6-foot-5 redshirt freshman said there's no formal selection process to be in charge of the handshakes. She simply volunteered to do it before the season started in October.

"I wanted to do it," Tac told The State. "I'm a very lively person, especially on the bench. A lot of people recognize my reactions and stuff like that, and I just thought it would be fun. I love to hype my teammates up. I just wanted that to be a part of what I do for games."

Tac's teammates concurred that her lively personality made her a natural choice.

"That's the type of person Adhel is," Te-Hina Paopao said. "She's really fun and goofy, really easy to get along with, and she has a really good memory. She's really smart and I think she just fulfilled that role."

Most of the handshakes were created by Tac, her teammates said. Chloe Kitts' lone request was that hers included blowing a kiss. Other than that she left the creative choices to Tac.

"I love doing all of them, because they're all unique to each person," Tac said.

Raven Johnson's handshake with Tac is highlighted by a seat belt gesture, a likely homage to her defensive prowess and the "Seat Belt Gang" of Johnson and Bree Hall.

"Adhel is the goofy, energy person on the team," Johnson told The State. "She wants to do it. She's funny, she came up with a lot of our handshakes, honestly. So we just rely on her for the handshakes."

Tac said remembering the handshakes isn't hard at all, adding that most are relatively easy. Last-second changes to her teammates' handshakes, which happen from time to time, don't bother her.

South Carolina's starting lineup has remained virtually the same all season, making the handshakes that much easier to remember. If the lineup were to change though, there'd be no need for panic.

"There's definitely not much to it," Tac said. "I feel like we don't really worry about this stuff, like, 'Oh, who's gonna be in the starting lineup' — that kind of thing. So it's just when it comes, and whenever we know, that's when we start figuring it out."

The easiest of all the handshakes, according to Tac, is the one that's changed the most.

That honor goes to Paopao.

"Te-Hina changed hers. This is actually the third one this season," Tac said. "I don't remember what the first one was. We always keep the first part of it with the hand slap, it's just the last move is different. ... Sometimes she'll come up to me and she goes, 'Oh, I want to change it,' and then she'll pick stuff."

Paopao said her handshake and others were inspired in part by various TikTok dances and audios. With March Madness right around the corner, she decided she wanted a simple, no-funny-business handshake that concludes with a salute.

"I wanted to change it for every season, throughout (the year)," Paopao said through a laugh. "So non-conference changed it, conference changed it and now it's a new season so I changed it as well. This one's more of a locked-in type of handshake, not more of a goofy one that I've been accustomed to with her. So it's more of a locked-in one and she's been very, very fun with that."

Something as small as a pregame handshake gets lost in the grand scheme of things when it comes to basketball. Still, it's just another way for a young player like Tac to have an impact on the game, especially when her playing time has been limited.

She's played in 21 games this year and is averaging 3.9 minutes of action per game. Her best game of the year came against Missouri in January, when she recorded nine points and six rebounds in five minutes.

Tac's job is important — just ask Paopao.

"It impacts the game a lot, especially for me," Paopao said. "When you go do handshakes, it's just something that tells you that you need to lock in and it's just time to get the team going and that we're gonna have to compete for 40 minutes."

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