

SOUTH MEDFORD LADY PANTHERS



UNDEFEATED SWC CHAMPIONS:

**2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015
2016, 2017, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023**

2020 OREGON 6A FINAL 4 CHAMPS

2012 UNDEFEATED OREGON STATE CHAMPIONS

2021 UNDEFEATED OREGON STATE CHAMPIONS

**2023 - 2024
MEDIA GUIDE**



WELCOME

Lady Panthers basketball fans,

Winter is here, and we are excited for another season! This year's South Medford Lady Panthers basketball poster is titled HERSTORY. This team is excited to carry the tradition of excellence while cherishing the opportunity to add their own chapter to the history of what has made South Medford basketball special.

Over the years, our program has traditionally scheduled tough opponents, and this year might be the toughest in quite some time. As a Nike Elite high school program, we've been selected to participate in some really incredible competitions that give our student athletes a chance to compete with teams of the highest national caliber.

Our preseason schedule alone features 12 out-of-area events and poses matchups with several nationally ranked teams — in just the month of December alone — and this year's SWC may finish with the highest league rating in our conference's history. Our goal every season is always to play the best competition to prepare ourselves for being the most meaningful in March.

After finishing the 22-23 season with a record of 27 and 3, an undefeated SWC title and a state championship runner-up finish, this year's team will have big shoes to fill. Significant is the loss of three seniors who all moved successfully into collegiate basketball, including starting roles in the PAC-12 and NAIA school respectively.

With only two seniors, one junior, seven sophomores and one frosh, our team is very young. Yet belief in our potential remains very high, given that nine of the 12 are returning from last year's team.

For me as the coach, it's always fun and rewarding to watch kids grow and develop. And while sometimes the process of maturation can be difficult, reflection on the journey is what truly brings smiles to our faces. Cultivating passion for basketball, tempered with the hard work and dedication to student athletes' goals, we reap the rewards of success on and off the court, making for the greatest memories.

This year's team features two seniors, Kim Ceron and Janaya Bullock. Kim has been a four-year varsity player receiving all-conference acknowledgments in her junior season and has recently committed to an NCAA scholarship at Menlo University in California. Janaya is coming off a year of absence to rehabilitate a torn ACL in spring 2022. Naya is still navigating options for post-high school play.

Excepting our senior class, the roster comprises ages 16 and under yet continues to show continual growth since last season's state championship runner-up finish. This youth movement is led by lone junior Sara Schmerbach, a returning all-conference selection who has garnered several NCAA Division I offers over the course of a successful spring and summer campaign.

I continue to believe our sophomores are the most talented single class I've had in my 17 years at South. It consists of seven players led by all-conference and all-state honoree Taylor Young, who has quickly become one of the Northwest's top recruits. Joining Young will be a very talented group of players who also have landed on the recruiting radars of universities after their successful off-season development. They consist of front court player Mayen Akpan and forward Dyllyn Howell, teamed with guards Jordan Barlow, Elise Richardson, Malia Taulani and Dannika Ostvik. Rounding out the roster will be lone freshman Payton Andersen, a very versatile combo guard. We know this collectively talented group of young players will play an important role in this year's Lady Panthers identity.

On behalf of our kids and coaches, we are grateful for our Lady Panthers friends, families and supporters. Your commitment to these outstanding young women is truly appreciated. The commitment to be the best student athletes they can be reflects South Medford, their families and our entire community, and I am blessed and honored by the opportunity to be their coach.

Coach Cole



VARSITY SCHEDULE

2023 - 2024 SOUTH MEDFORD BASKETBALL

DATE:	OPPONENT/LOCATION:	START TIME:
12/2/2023	@ Summit	12:30 PM
12/8/2023	@ Clackamas	6:00 PM
12/9/2023	@ Corvallis	Noon
12/12/2023	@ Orangewood Academy (CA)	6:00 PM
12/13/2023	@ Sage Hill School (CA)	6:00 PM
12/18/2023	@ Oregon City	8:55 PM
12/19/2023	@ Silverton	7:00 PM
12/20/2023	@ TBD	TBD
12/28/2023	@ Cleveland	Noon
12/29/2023	@ TBD	TBD
12/30/2023	@ TBD	TBD
1/2/2024	@ Mountain View	6:00 PM
1/9/2024	Roseburg	6:45 PM
1/12/2024	@ Sheldon	6:45 PM
1/16/2024	Grants Pass	6:45 PM
1/19/2024	Tualatin	6:00 PM
1/23/2024	@ North Medford	6:45 PM
1/26/2024	Willamette	6:45 PM
1/30/2024	@ South Eugene	6:45 PM
2/2/2024	Sheldon	6:45 PM
2/6/2024	Roseburg	6:45 PM
2/13/2024	Grants Pass	6:45 PM
2/16/2024	Willamette	6:45 PM
2/19/2024	@ North Medford	6:45 PM
2/23/2024	@ South Eugene	6:45 PM

HOME GAMES

Check www.osaa.org/teams/53845 for the latest schedule and updates

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VARSITY ROSTER



#0 ELISE RICHARDSON

Guard - 10th



#1 MALIA TAULANI

Guard - 10th



#3 TAYLOR YOUNG

Guard - 10th



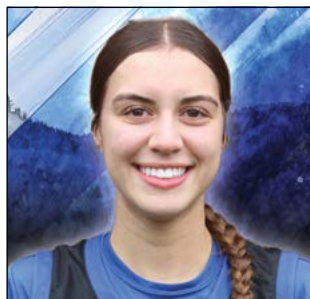
#5 SARA SCHMERBACH

Guard - 11th



#10 KIM CERON

Forward - 12th



#11 JORDAN BARLOW

Guard - 10th



#12 DYLLYN HOWELL

Forward - 10th



#14/15 MAYEN AKPAN

Center - 10th



#21 JANAYA BULLOCK

Center - 12th



#24 PAYTON ANDERSEN

Guard - 9th



#32 DANNI OSTVIK

Guard - 10th



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Tom Cole

Varsity Head Coach

Tom Cole is in his 17th season as Lady Panthers varsity head coach in a nearly 30-year career of coaching youth in Missouri and Oregon. Under Coach Cole, South Medford has become a perennial state and nationally recognized program, earning South Medford Lady Panthers basketball the distinction as a Nike Elite high school program. Prior to Cole's arrival, the Lady Panthers had gone 1 and 48. Within five years, the program won its first state championship, finished nationally ranked and became the only team in Oregon large school classification history to finish a perfect 30 and 0.



Coach Cole's record over 17 seasons is 347 and 96, which includes winning three state titles, while also leading the Lady Panthers to the final eight state championship tournament in 14 of the past 15 seasons. The Lady Panthers have accomplished 11 undefeated SWC league championships with a conference record under Cole's tenure of 186 and 28. Cole has been named SWC coach of the year 10 times, OSAA coach of the year in 2012 and Oregon Coaches Association coach of the year in 2012, 2013 and 2020. The Lady Panthers have celebrated 28 student athletes moving forward with college scholarships during his tenure, with many of them at the highest NCAA levels.

Coach Cole's true passion is the empowerment work of Kids Unlimited, a nonprofit youth development agency he helped start nearly 25 years ago. Kids Unlimited today provides more than 2,500 students representing vulnerable communities with preschool, charter school, afterschool and summer programs.



Lady Panthers with NFL Player Odell Beckham Jr. at a community golf fundraiser.

Ted Curtius

JV Coach

Coach Ted has been a dedicated coach and mentor to kids for over 18 years coaching AAU and high school teams for the South Medford girls' basketball program. He's coached Frosh, JV2 and JV at the high school level for 15 years.

Ted's commitment to kids has made a huge impact on the success of the program at all levels. Ted continues to coach at the AAU and development level for younger kids. Ted's teams are always competitive. Ted is the owner of Curtius Plumbing, and both have been generous contributors to Panthers sports for nearly two decades.



Tiani Bradford

Varsity Assistant Coach

Coach Tiani is in her third year at the high school level contributing to her fifth year of coaching. She also is in her second year helping coach the South Medford AAU program. Prior to joining South Medford, Tiani was an assistant coach for two years at Southern Oregon University, where she played collegiately.

When Coach Tiani is not coaching for South, she works as Food Program Director for Kids Unlimited, where she helps to handle all things on the administrative side, providing high-quality, nutritious, made-from-scratch meals to KU Academy students and KU Afterschool Program participants.



Hannah Warren

Assistant Coach

Coach Hannah Warren is an Oregon native who grew up in Corvallis. A former Division I player in the Big Sky conference, Hannah has spent many years on the court. As an undergraduate student, she studied biochemistry at University of Montana and played under coach Robin Selvig for the Lady Grizz. During her five-year career, Montana made the NCAA tournament twice and the National Invitation Tournament once.

After graduating, she attended Oregon State University to achieve her master's degree in Science Education. This is Hannah's seventh season with the Lady Panthers.



MAKING HER STORY

23-24 South Medford Lady Panther Basketball



SWC UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS 2011	SWC UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS 2012	SWC UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS 2013	SWC UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS 2014	SWC UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS 2015	SWC UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS 2016	SWC UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS 2017	SWC UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS 2020	SWC UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS 2021	SWC UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS 2022	SWC UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS 2023	OREGON 6A STATE CHAMPIONS 2012	OREGON 6A STATE CHAMPIONS 2020	OREGON 6A STATE CHAMPIONS 2021
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Team dinner and beach sunset on the road in SoCal.



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JV SCHEDULE

2023 - 2024 SOUTH MEDFORD BASKETBALL

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1/9/2024	Roseburg	5:15 PM
1/12/2024	@ Sheldon	5:15 PM
1/16/2024	Grants Pass	5:15 PM
1/19/2024	Tualatin	4:30 PM
1/20/2024	Crater	10:00 AM
1/20/2024	Grants Pass	1:00 PM
1/23/2024	@ North Medford	5:15 PM
1/26/2024	Willamette	5:15 PM
1/30/2024	@ South Eugene	5:15 PM
2/2/2024	Sheldon	5:15 PM
2/6/2024	@ Roseburg	5:15 PM
2/13/2024	@ Grants Pass	5:15 PM
2/16/2024	@ Willamette	5:15 PM
2/17/2024	@ North Medford	11:30 AM
2/17/2024	@ Grants Pass	1:00 PM
2/19/2024	North Medford	5:15 PM
2/23/2024	South Eugene	5:15 PM

HOME GAMES

Check www.osaa.org/teams/53845 for the latest schedule and updates

JV ROSTER



1st row (kneeling left to right): Keilie Martos G 9th, Caitlyn Brassell G 9th
 Payton Woolf G 10th, Riley Kezer G 9th, Meg Bell G 9th
2nd row (standing left to right): Kyleigh Bear G 9th
 Gwen Mulhollen G 10th, Alyssa Gutierrez C 9th
 Kaelynn Brock G 9th, **Not Pictured:** Piper Cardinal G 11th



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Alumni	Class	Division	Location
Alana Stevens	2008	II	Santa Cruz
Brittney Newcomb	2009	I	Webber State, UT
Hannah Curtis	2011	II	Chaminade University, HI
Leilani Morris	2012	J/C	Umpqua
Tess Picknell	2012	I	Stanford University
Lupita Vargas	2012	III	Bates College
Yaremi Mejia	2013	I	Portland State University
Luisa Tago	2013	II	Metro State University, Denver, CO
Kylie Towry	2013	III	Willamette University
Ashley Bolston	2014	I	Washington-Portland State
Andee Ritter	2015	I	UC Irvine
Keyari Sleezer	2015	I	Pepperdine University
Julissa Tago	2016	I	University of Hawaii
Jasmin Falls	2016	I	Portland State University
Hannah Washington	2017	II	Chico State University CA
Lauren Orndoff	2017	I	Northern Arizona University
Jonnay Foote	2017		JUCO College of Siskiyous CA
Ula Chamberlin	2019	I	Webber State University
Bella Pedrojetti	2020	I	Eastern Washington University
Kaili Chamberlin	2021	I	McNeese State, Louisiana
Toni Coleman	2021	II	Chico State University
Bella Stone	2021	II	Eastern New Mexico State
Emma Schmerbach	2021	III	Southern Oregon University
Shakia Teague Perry	2021	NAIA	Southern Oregon University
Laini Dahlin	2021	JUCO	Lane Community College
Sierra Logue	2022	I	University California Riverside
Donovyn Hunter	2023	I	Oregon State University
Tatum Schmerbach	2023	NAIA	Oregon Institute of Technology
Kendall Fealey	2023	NAIA	Oregon Institute of Technology



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Seniors Janaya Bullock and Kim Cerón

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