Career: Axton enters his senior season with a string of 71-straight starts, having started every game since making the first start of his career against Sacramento State (2/2/02) in his freshman season. He is just 135 points from becoming the 14th player in school history to score 1,000 career points. If he can earn first team All-Big Sky honors for the third-straight season this year, he would duplicate the feat of his former teammate, Alvin Snow. In the 2003-04 season, Snow became the first EWU player and just the 17th in the 41-year history of the Big Sky to accomplish that milestone. Axton has averaged 9.5 points, 4.1 rebounds and 2.1 assists in his 91-game career thus far. His 111 career three-pointers made already ranks third in school history, and his 293 attempts are fourth. He has taken 57 charges in three seasons, including 13 as a freshman and 22 in each of the last two seasons. Axton was a first team All-Big Sky Conference selection in both 2003-04 and 2002-03, and the Big Sky Freshman of the Year the year before that. In the summer of 2004, Axton was selected to play on Canada’s Senior National Team that played in the Four Nations Tournament July 9-16 in China. He was originally one of 25 players invited to the pre-season training camp for Canada, which barely missed qualifying the previous year for the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

2003-04: Axton led the Eagles in scoring seven times, rebounding on nine occasions and assists a team-high 11 times. Axton finished second on the team in scoring (12.9; 12th in the BSC) and 74.0 percent of his free throws (10th in the BSC). He was Eastern’s leading scorer with a total of 40 points in two Big Sky Conference Tournament games, including 21 in the semifinals on 8-of-10 shooting. He scored 19 points in the championship game as he earned All-Tournament honors for the second-straight year. In Eastern’s first-ever NCAA Tournament game against Oklahoma State — a 75-56 loss — he scored 10 points and held OSU standout Joey Graham to just four points. Axton’s three-pointer that bounced three times on the rim before finally falling in gave Eastern its first and only lead of the game at 28-25 with 4:30 left in the first half. The game was then tied at 28, 30, 32, 34 and 36 heading into intermission. Axton was selected as the Big Sky Conference Player of the Week after leading the league-leading Eagles to a home sweep over Idaho State (1/29/04) and Weber State (1/31/04). For the weekend he made 63.6 percent of his shots (14-of-22) and 5-of-7 free throws while averaging 18.5 points, 7.0 rebounds and 3.0 assists as he earned the honor for the second time in his career. He followed that by hitting a go-ahead three-pointer with 40 seconds left that helped give Eastern a 64-61 road win at Montana State (2/5/04). Less than a minute earlier, he hit a basket that kept the Eagles in the game as he finished with 11 points, five rebounds, three assists and a pair of blocked shots. Axton closed January with a career-high 25 points versus defending Big Sky regular season and tournament champion Weber State (1/31/04). Axton hit 10-of-16 shots from the field as he eclipsed his previous career high of 24 set as a sophomore against Idaho State. He also led the Eagles with eight rebounds, and had three assists and no turnovers in 35 minutes of action. His previous season best came at Sacramento State (1/17/04) when he had 22 points, five assists and seven rebounds. Against Montana State (1/10/04) that started Eastern’s 11-game winning streak, he made 7-of-11 shots from the field with a career-high five three-pointers, five assists, a pair...
Marc Axton

of steals and no turnovers in 36 minutes of action. But one game earlier in a
surprising loss at home to Montana (1/8/04), Axton missed all four of his shots
and was scoreless — the first time he failed to score in 62 games dating back
to his freshman season against Indiana.

2002-2003: Earned first team All-Big Sky Conference honors, leading Eastern
with a 13.1 average during league play to go along with a team-high 5.6 rebounds
and 2.7 assists per game. Axton was selected to the Big Sky Conference All-
Tournament team after scoring 24 points with six three-pointers, and added 12
rebounds and five assists. He scored 17 to lead the Eagles in a championship
game loss to Weber State (3/12/03). He also earned Big Sky Conference All-Academic honors for the second-straight season. During Big Sky play he
recorded season highs for points (24), rebounds (nine), assists (seven) and
blocked shots (three) after averaging 5.7 points and 3.1 rebounds in his first
11 games of the season. Axton was rewarded for his efforts in Eastern’s road
sweep in Montana by being selected as the co-Big Sky Conference Player of
the Week. Axton scored 17 points in a 72-62 win at Montana (1/9/03), making
6-of-8 free throws and 4-of-8 shots from the field including all three of his three-
point attempts. He then scored 11 at Montana State (1/11/03), making 5-of-11
shots and another trey as he also added five assists and nine rebounds in the
two games. He followed the Montana sweep by scoring a career-high 20 versus
Northern Arizona (1/16/03) in his next outing, and three games later bettered it
with 24 at Idaho State (1/30/03). After establishing Canadian citizenship, Axton
attended tryouts in the summer of 2002 for the Canadian National Team. He
would have had an outstanding shot at making the Canadian Junior Team, but
was 22 days too old.

2001-2002: Was the Big Sky Freshman of the Year as chosen by Big Sky head
coaches. Named to the Big Sky All-Academic squad. Axton was second in the
Big Sky (conference games only) in three-point field goal percentage (.524) and
10th in field goal percentage (.529). The talented freshman averaged 8.5 points
in conference play after averaging just 3.3 in his first 14 games as an Eagle. He scored in double figures six times, and averaged 19.9 minutes, 5.9 points
and 2.8 rebounds on the season (22.0, 8.5 and 3.6 in the Big Sky). He led the Eagles in scoring once and rebounding three times. Axton paced the Eagles
for a combined 50-10 mark his last two years at the school. Following his senior season, Axton scored 15 points and had seven rebounds
in Washington’s 87-78 loss to Oregon in the Oregonian Northwest Shootout. As a junior, Axton led Foss — coached by John Ruby — to a 25-4 record and
the NCAA Tournament in 2004.

BEFORE EASTERN

High School: Graduated from Foss High School in 2001. He was selected by the Seattle Times as the Player of the Year for the State of Washington (all
classifications) following his senior season. He averaged 21.2 points per game and earned 4A Player of the Year, All-State and All-State Tournament honors.
He averaged 24.1 points in the post-season to lead Foss to a fourth-place finish in the State 4A Tournament. He scored 41 points in an 85-82 first-round victory
over favorite Garfield that was called “one of the greatest games in state tournament history” by the Seattle Times. He made all 10 of his free throws against
the Bulldogs as he went 24-of-25 from the line in the tournament and 44-of-46 in eight tourney games (7-1 record) as a junior and senior. Foss finished 25-6
his senior season for a combined 50-10 mark his last two years at the school. Following his senior season, Axton scored 15 points and had seven rebounds
in Washington’s 87-78 loss to Oregon in the Oregonian Northwest Shootout. As a junior, Axton led Foss — coached by John Ruby — to a 25-4 record and
the State 4A Championship. Current Eagle teammates Khary Nicholas and Rachi Wortham also played on that team. Axton averaged 11.4 points, 4.1 assists
and 4.2 rebounds as a junior, and also played in summer 2000 on the Friends of Hoop AAU team.

PERSONAL

Born Feb. 22, 1983, in Tacoma, Wash. He is the son of Mike and Melody Axton. Has two brothers (Micah, 26; and Morgan, 19). Business management major.
Nickname is “Cheapa” and his fellow players and coaches call him “Ax.”

Honors Won at EWU . . .

2003-04 First Team All-Big Sky Conference
2003-04 Big Sky All-Tournament Team
2003-04 Big Sky Conference Player of the Week
2002-03 First Team All-Big Sky Conference
2002-03 Big Sky All-Tournament Team
2002-03 Big Sky Conference Player of the Week
2002-03 Big Sky All-Academic Team
2001-02 Big Sky Conference Freshman of the Year
2001-02 Big Sky All-Academic Team
2000-01 Seattle Times High School Player of the Year (all clas-
sifications) in the State of Washington

QUICK FACTS:

Axton could become the second player in EWU history and
18th in Big Sky Conference history (42 years) to earn first team
All-Big Sky Conference honors three-straight seasons. Axton’s
former Eagle teammate Alvin Snow was the first EWU player to
accomplish that feat.

Axton has led EWU to 52 victories in the past three seasons,
including a league-best 30-14 record in the Big Sky Conference.
EWU advanced to the National Invitation Tournament in 2003
and the NCAA Tournament in 2004.
EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

2003-04: McCulloch had season highs of seven points and five rebounds in Eastern’s season-opening loss to nationally-ranked Oklahoma (11/21/03). He led the Eagles in rebounding in that game with a season high of five, and for the year, he averaged 8.1 minutes per game.

2002-2003: McCulloch had a career-high 15 points against Portland State (1/25/03) in a 75-51 home win over the Vikings. He played 22 minutes and made 6-of-12 shots from the field and 3-of-5 free throws as his high in 36 previous career games was eight points on three occasions. En route to a 25-2 lead in the first 10 minutes, Eastern made 11-of-13 shots from the field and 3-of-3 free throws while Portland State missed its first eight shots with seven turnovers. McCulloch had four points in the early run. McCulloch attended tryouts in the summer of 2002 for the Canadian National Team.

2001-2002: McCulloch played in six conference games, averaging 2.3 minutes per game and scoring seven points. In a 75-59 win over Saint Martin’s (12/1/01), McCulloch led the Eagles with six rebounds. He made all three of his shots to finish with six points. He had a season-high eight points in back-to-back games against Northwest College (11/19/01) and Minnesota (11/24/01).


BEFORE EASTERN

High School: Graduated from Ladysmith High School in British Columbia in 2000. In the 1999-2000 season, he led his team to a second-place finish in the British Columbia Provincial Championships. He averaged 27 points, 13 rebounds, seven blocked shots and three assists per game while making 60 percent from the field. As a junior, McCulloch averaged 16 points. 11 rebounds and four blocks while shooting 60 percent from the field. In summer 1999, McCulloch competed for the B.C. Provincial Team in the Canadian Junior National Championship Tournament, placing second. In summer 2000, he helped lead his team to a fifth-place finish in the U-19 Provincial National Championships. Coached in high school by Randy Steel.

PERSONAL

Born Jan. 20, 1982, in Chemainus, B.C. Parents are Randy and Lorraine McCulloch. Has two sisters (Jamie, 25; and Thyra, 20). Recreation management major. Interestingly for a 6-foot-11 player, McCulloch was drafted by the Swift Current Broncos of the Western Hockey League, whose teams also include the Spokane Chiefs and the Seattle Thunderbirds. He is no relation to Todd MacCulloch, another huge Canadian who was at the University of Washington with Ray Giacoletti before embarking on his NBA career. Nickname is “J-Rock.”

YEAR G GS MIN AVG FG FGA PCT TP TPA PCT FT TFA PCT DR OR TRB AVG PF DQ AS TO BS ST PTS AVG 2001-02 18 1 118 6.6 16 24 .667 0 0 .000 13 20 .650 6 16 22 1.2 26 0 4 19 3 2 45 2.5 2002-03 29 0 294 10.1 30 60 .500 0 1 .000 15 27 .556 16 38 54 1.9 48 1 7 39 6 4 75 2.6 2003-04 29 3 231 8.0 18 41 .439 0 0 .000 8 18 .444 10 20 30 1.0 44 1 5 26 5 2 44 1.5 TOTAL 76 4 643 8.5 64 125 .512 0 1 .000 36 65 .554 32 74 106 1.4 118 2 16 84 14 8 164 2.2 Career Highs: Points - 15 vs. Portland State 1/25/03. Rebounds - 6 vs. Saint Martin’s 12/1/01. Assists - 2 vs. Northwest College 11/19/01. Blocked Shots - 2 vs. Northwest College 12/2/03
Khary Nicholas

EAGLE BASKETBALL
- NCAA Tournament Participant
- Defending Big Sky Regular Season & Tournament Champions

#44 - F - 6-7 - 220 - Sr. - 1L - Tacoma, Wash. - Foss HS ’00 & Tacoma, Wash., CC

EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

2003-04: Nicholas played in just eight games, with two points and six rebounds in his Eagle debut versus Northwest College (12/2/03).

2002-03: Redshirted.

BEFORE EASTERN

Junior College: Played two seasons at Tacoma, Wash., Community College, including his freshman season alongside former Eastern teammates Brendon Merritt and Josh Barnard. In two seasons at the school, Tacoma was 58-8 and finished first and second at the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges Tournament after winning Western Division titles both seasons. Both squads were excellent defensive teams, with TCC ranking first in the NWAACC in scoring defense in the 2001-2002 season, allowing just 67.8 points per game. A year earlier, the Titans ranked second in the conference in scoring defense with an average of 69.8 per game. As a sophomore, Nicholas averaged 10.1 points and 7.6 rebounds to lead TCC to the NWAACC championship as he made 51 percent of his field goal attempts and 72 percent of his free throws. Tacoma ranked second in the NWAACC at the end of the regular season, then won four tourney games to finish 30-3. Nicholas scored 24 points as Tacoma defeated No. 1-ranked Big Bend 88-78 in the championship game. He made 8-of-9 shots and added seven rebounds, two steals and two blocked shots. In a semifinal victory over Walla Walla, Nicholas had 12 points and 15 rebounds.

As a freshman, Nicholas averaged 6.5 rebounds as TCC finished 28-5 and second at the NWAACC Tournament.

High School: Graduated from Foss High School in 2000. He and current Eagle teammates Marc Axton and Rachi Wortham led the school to a 25-4 record and the State 4A Tournament title. Nicholas was selected to the All-Tournament team after averaging 8.5 rebounds in four games. For the season, he averaged 10.5 points per game.

PERSONAL

Born June 19, 1980, in Trinidad and Tobago. Communications major at Eastern. Son of Anthony and Joanne Nicholas. Has two brothers (Keelah, 21; and Akili, 25). Nickname is “Knick.” His first name is pronounced “Kerry.”

Eagle Extras!

Favorites . . .
Music/Musician: Ragae/Bob Marley
Food: Curry Chicken
Restaurant: Jack in the Box
Athlete: Kevin Garnett
Pro Team: Minnesota Timberwolves
Hobby: Watching Football
Quote: “It’s a foolish dog that laughs at a flying bird.”

What do you like best about EWU? “The basketball gym.”

What’s the best thing about being a Division I basketball player? “You get to be a star.”

What’s your best EWU basketball memory? “NCAA Tournament.”

What’s your best non-EWU basketball memory? “Winning championships in high school and community college.”

Who was your childhood hero? “Bob Marley.”

Whose game do you try to emulate? “Kevin Garnett.”

Khary Nicholas

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Rachi Wortham

#20 - G - 5-10 - Jr. - JC - Tacoma, Wash. - Foss HS ’00 & Tacoma, Wash., CC

EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

2003-04: He played just four games as a walk-on practice squad player.

BEFORE EASTERN

Junior College: Played two seasons at Tacoma, Wash., Community College, including his freshman season alongside Eastern teammate Khary Nicholas. In two seasons at the school, Tacoma was 58-8 and finished first and fifth at the Northwest Athletic Association of Community Colleges Tournament after winning Western Division titles both seasons. As a freshman, he helped lead TCC to the NWAACC title as TCC ranked first in the NWAACC in scoring defense by allowing just 67.8 points per game. Tacoma ranked second in the NWAACC at the end of the regular season, then won four tourney games to finish 30-3. As a sophomore, TCC finished 26-5 and placed fifth at the NWAACC Tournament. He attended the University of Alabama for one year in 2000-01, but did not play basketball.

High School: Graduated from Foss High School in 2000. He and current Eagle teammates Marc Axton and Khary Nicholas led the school to a 25-4 record and the State 4A tournament title.

PERSONAL


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Career Highs: Points - None. Rebounds - 1 vs. Sacramento State 2/12/04. Assists - None.

Eagle Extras!

Favorites . . .
Musician: E-40
Food: Shrimp
Restaurant: Sakura’s
TV Show: 106 & Park
Entertainer: Denzel Washington
Athlete: Marcus Trufant
Pro Team: Detroit Lions
Hobby: Video games
Quote: “Failing to prepare is preparing to fail.”

What do you like best about EWU? “The basketball team.”
What is the best thing about being a Division I basketball player? “Making the fans happy.”
What is your best EWU basketball memory? “The crowd rushing the floor.”
What is your best non-EWU basketball memory? “Winning the state championship at Foss High School.”
Who is the best player you have ever played against? “Tayshaun Prince.”
Who is the best player you have ever emulated? “Jason Kidd.”

WWW.GOEAGS.COM
Career: Pariseau is the hometown favorite of the Eagles, having graduated in 2002 from Shadle Park High School in Spokane, Wash. Thus far in his 61-game career (12 as a starter), Pariseau is averaging 5.7 points, 2.7 assists and 1.9 rebounds per game while making 80.3 percent of his free throw attempts (110-of-137), which currently ranks fifth in school history.

2003-04: Earned Big Sky Conference All-Academic honors for the second-straight season. Pariseau started 11 games, including the last four of the season as an injury replacement for senior Josh Barnard. He led the Eagles in assists nine times while averaging 5.8 points, 2.7 assists and 2.4 rebounds per game and making 80.0 percent of his free throws (52-of-65). In conference play, he averaged 7.4 points, 2.6 assists and 2.6 rebounds, while making 85.1 percent of his free throws (40-of-47) to rank third in the Big Sky. He had a 14-point effort against Idaho State (2/28/04), in which he equaled his career high set a year earlier when the Eagles lost at home to ISU in their regular season finale. With leading scorer Alvin Snow fouling out of the game late in regulation, Pariseau scored nine of Eastern’s last 14 points in the game, including a basket with 18.4 seconds remaining to knot the score at 84 and send the game into a second overtime. Earlier in the season, he equaled his career high with eight assists against Concordia (12/3/02) in just his sixth game.

Eagles lost at home to ISU in their regular season finale. With leading scorer Alvin Snow fouling out of the game late in regulation, Pariseau scored nine of Eastern’s last 14 points in the game, including a basket with 18.4 seconds remaining to knot the score at 84 and send the game into a second overtime. Earlier in the season, he equaled his career high with eight assists against Idaho State (1/29/04). He scored in double figures in six games, including three of the last eight games.

2002-2003: Earned Big Sky Conference All-Academic honors. Late in the season, the true freshman had the best week of his short Eastern career, finishing with 18 points and eight assists in losses to Weber State (2/27/03) and Idaho State (3/1/03). He made 4-of-10 shots from the field and 7-of-9 free throws, and had three steals in a total of 43 minutes of action. He had six assists against Weber State, then had a career-high 14 points versus Idaho State to lead the Eagles in scoring. He scored 13 points versus San Diego State (11/23/02) in just the third game of his career, and had a season-high eight assists against Idaho State (1/29/04). He scored in double figures in six games, including three of the last eight games.

Eagle Extras!
Favorites . . .
- Subject in College: Physics
- Food: My Mom’s
- Restaurant: Fiesta Mexicana
- Movie: Belly
- TV Show: Desperate Housewives & The O.C.
- Entertainer: My brother Johnny
- Athlete: Marc Axton
- Hobby: Playing the Guitar
- Web site: blackboard.ewu.edu

BEFORE EASTERN
High School: Graduated from Shadle Park High School in 2002. He finished his Shadle Park career with 1,355 points, while his former EWU and high school teammate Brett Weisner finished with 1,409. Pariseau was the first freshman from Spokane to play at Eastern since the 1976-77 season. He helped Shadle Park to a 48-11 record his last two seasons, and was coached by Weisner’s father Darcy Weisner. As a senior, Pariseau averaged 18.6 points and made 90 percent of his free throws as he earned first team All-State honors as selected by sportswriters. Pariseau also earned second team All-State honors from the Seattle Times, was selected to the Spokesman-Review All-Area team and was a first team All-Greater Spokane League selection. He was the MVP of the league, winning the honor over Gonzaga’s Sean Mallon from Ferris High School. He helped lead Shadle Park to a fifth-place finish at the State 4A Tournament, earning All-Tournament honors as the Highlanders finished with a 24-6 record. After the end of the season, he scored 17 points as Washington lost to Oregon 78-73 in the Northwest Shootout in Portland, Ore. As a junior, he was also a first team All-GSL selection as Shadle Park finished 24-5. Pariseau also earned Spokesman-Review All-Area honors as he averaged 19.2 points per game. The Highlanders placed third at the State 4A Tournament as they earned All-Tournament accolades that season as well. One of the team’s victories was a 66-60 quarterfinal win over Foss High School and his future Eagle teammate Marc Axton.

PERSONAL
Born April 11, 1983, in Wenatchee, Wash. Chemistry major. Son of John and Cathy Pariseau. He has two brothers (Joey, 19; and Johnny, 17) and two sisters (Annie, 15; and Marie, 8). His father played college basketball at the University of Puget Sound, as well as for the Brewster Heights Packing team that was a national AAU powerhouse in the late 1980s. His great uncle John Pariseau played for the University of Washington in the 1950s. Last name is pronounced “Pare-uh-sew.”

YEAR G GS MIN AVG FG FGA PCT TP TPA PCT FT FTA PCT DR OR TRB AVG PF DG AS TO BS ST PTS PTS AVG
2002-03 31 1 644 20.8 46 129 .357 21 54 .389 58 72 .806 10 34 44 1.4 72 2 82 61 1 22 171 5.5
2003-04 30 11 721 24.0 57 133 .429 12 32 .375 52 65 .800 19 53 72 2.4 81 3 83 55 0 17 178 5.9
TOTAL 61 12 1365 22.4 103 262 .393 33 86 .384 110 137 .803 29 87 116 1.9 153 5 165 116 1 39 349 5.7

Paul Butorac

#34 - F - 6-10 - 215 - So. - 1L - Medical Lake, Wash. - Medical Lake HS ’02

EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

2003-04: Of his 48 field goals made in his freshman season, 13 were dunks as he led the team in that category. He scored in double figures three times, including a season-high 17 points with six rebounds versus Idaho State (1/29/04). He also scored 14 points at Washington (11/29/03) and had 10 points and a season-high eight rebounds in his next game versus Northwest College (12/2/03).


BEFORE EASTERN

High School: Graduated from Medical Lake High School in 2002. He averaged 20.8 points and 12.3 rebounds per game as a senior to earn Great Northern League MVP honors for the second-straight season. He was also a member of the Spokesman-Review All-Area team. He made 61.3 percent of his field goals and 80.4 percent of his free throws as he led the Cardinals to a 15-9 record. In his career, he scored 1,061 points to go along with 638 rebounds and a school-record 247 blocked shots. He closed his career by being selected as the MVP as the State beat the City 124-98 in the State 2A All-Star game, which took place at Reese Court on the EWU campus. He scored 15 points, including six dunks, and added 13 rebounds.

PERSONAL

Born Nov. 25, 1983, in Galveston, Texas. Criminal justice major. Son of Brian Butorac and Susan Butorac. Has one brother (Dylan, 10). His last name is pronounced “Boot-er-ack.” Nickname is “Booty.”

| YEAR | G | GS | MIN | AVG | FG | FGA | PCT | TP | TPA | PCT | FT | FTA | PCT | DR | OR | TRB | AVG | PF | DQ | AS | TO | BS | ST | PTS | AVG |
|------|---|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 2003-04 | 30 | 2 | 369 | 12.3 | 48 | 82 | .585 | 1 | 5 | .200 | 24 | 38 | .632 | 28 | 46 | 74 | 2.5 | 52 | 0 | 16 | 41 | 12 | 7 | 121 | 4.0 |
| TOTAL | 30 | 2 | 369 | 12.3 | 48 | 82 | .585 | 1 | 5 | .200 | 24 | 38 | .632 | 28 | 46 | 74 | 2.5 | 52 | 0 | 16 | 41 | 12 | 7 | 121 | 4.0 |


Eagle Extras!

Favorites . . .
Music: Rap
Food: My Dad’s Chicken, Rice, Broccoli
Restaurant: Tomato Street
Movie: Forrest Gump
TV Show: NBA Inside Stuff
Entertainer: Dave Chapell
Athlete: Andrei Kirilenko, Tayshaun Prince
Pro Team: Denver Nuggets
Hobby: Drawing, Playing NBA Live
Web site: www.nba.com

What’s your best EWU basketball memory? “Idaho State at home — dropped 17 points and had a reverse dunk.”
What’s your best non-EWU basketball memory? “MVP of State 2A All-State Game.”
Who has been most influential in your playing career? “My mom.”
What is the best thing about being a Division I basketball player? “Competition.”
Who is the best player you have ever played against? “Tony Allen.”
Who was your childhood hero? “Michael Jordan.”
What part of basketball do you like best? “Offensive rebounding, scoring, dunking.”

WWW.GOEAGS.COM
EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

2003-04: Earned Big Sky Conference All-Academic honors. Henkel played in all but three games, averaging 7.3 minutes per game. He scored a season-high six points in his hometown of Missoula, Mont., versus Montana (2/7/04).

BEFORE EASTERN

High School: A McDonald’s All-America nominee, as a senior Henkel averaged 23.4 points, 6.5 assists and 2.4 steals per game before suffering an ankle injury in February. He also made 75 percent of his free throw attempts and 39 percent of his three-point shots. Sentinel advanced to the Montana Class AA Tournament, but lost its first two games. Henkel was the Western AA Conference Player of the Year as a junior when he averaged 23.2 points, 6.2 rebounds, 5.5 assists and 1.5 steals. He made 64 percent of his field goal attempts, including 41 percent from three-point range. He had a 3.7 grade point average in high school.

PERSONAL

Born April 9, 1984, in Missoula, Mont. Business administration major. Son of Craig and Rita Henkel. He has one brother (Mark 15) and three sisters (Amy, 25; Jill, 24; and Brynn, 22). His father and sister, Jill, played for the University of Montana. Nickname is “Henks.”

Eagle Extras!

Favorites . . .

Food: Pudding
TV Show: Seinfeld
Entertainer: Jerry Seinfeld
Athlete: C-Moss
Hobby: Singing/Lead Vocalist

What is the best thing about being a Division I basketball player? “Playing basketball all the time.”

What’s your best EWU basketball memory? “Swatting Matt Nelson.”

Who is the best player you ever played against? “The Show.”

Who has been the most influential in your playing career? “My mom & dad.”

Who was your childhood hero? “Dad.”

What part of the game of basketball do you like best? “Shooting three-pointers.”
EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

2003-04: Nelson was “thrown to the wolves” as a freshman, but was rewarded as the Big Sky Conference Freshman of the Year just two seasons after Eagle teammate Marc Axton earned the same honor. He also earned Big Sky Conference All-Academic honors. Nelson made the first start of his career versus Cal State Fullerton (12/13/03) and started every game after that (except for Senior Night when Gregg Smith started). He led the Eagles once in scoring (16 versus Montana State on Feb. 5), rebounding a team-high 10 times and assists once. He averaged 7.9 points and 5.0 rebounds per game for the season, but in conference play, he averaged 9.6 points and 5.3 boards. When Axton won the award two years earlier, he averaged 5.9 points and 2.8 rebounds per game overall (8.5 and 3.6, respectively, in conference play). He made 57.0 percent of his field goal attempts (89-of-156), and would have led the Big Sky had he met the minimum of three field goals made per game (he was four short). However, he did rank first in the league in shooting in conference games only (.635, 47-of-74). He made just 51.3 percent of his free throws (58-of-113) for the season and 52.4 percent in conference play (33-of-63). He scored in double figures 12 times and had three double-figure rebounding performances including one double-double when he had 13 points and 10 rebounds versus Sacramento State (2/12/04).

BEFORE EASTERN

High School: Graduated from Skyline HS in 2003. Averaged 19.9 points and 11.1 rebounds per game as a senior, leading Skyline to a 16-11 record. Nelson finished the 2003 3A Tournament as the leading scorer (26.3 per game in three games) and rebounder (10.7) to earn first team all-tournament honors. He closed his career by scoring a season-high 32 points in a tournament loss to Renton. He scored at least 20 points in 16 of 27 games during the season. Skyline, which opened in 1997, was making its first-ever tournament appearance. A McDonald’s All-America nominee, Nelson went on to play in the Northwest Shootout, scoring 14 points as Washington defeated Oregon 106-98. He scored 16 points as his City team lost to the State team 117-110 in the 3A All-State Game. He scored 14 points in the Emerald City Classic as his “Royal” team lost to “Navy” 118-110. As a junior, Nelson averaged 20.3 points and 11.1 rebounds when he earned All-Kingco 3A Conference honors. He was team captain, and MVP of the Mt. Baker Classic as he led the Spartans to a 12-10 record his junior season. He had a 3.7 grade point average in high school.

PERSONAL

Born May 20, 1985, in Seattle. Business administration major. His parents are Richard and Mary Nelson. He has one brother (Dan, 22). Nickname is “Nelly.”

**Eagle Extras!**

**Favorites . . .**

* Subject in College: Life Skills
* Food: Seafood
* Restaurant: Fiesta Mexicana
* Movie: Count of Monte Christo
* TV Show: Family Guy
* Entertainer: Jerry Seinfeld
* Athlete: Kevin Garnett
* Pro Team: Seahawks
* Web site: blackboard.ewu.edu
* Quote: “If it is to be, it is up to me.”

What’s the best thing about being a Division I player? “The chance to play in the NCAA Tournament.”

What’s your best EWU basketball memory? “Playing in the Washington State Tournament.”

Who has been most influential in your playing career? “Jasen Baskett.”

What part of the game of basketball do you like best? “Rebounding.”

| YEAR | G | GS | MIN | AVG | FG | FGA | PCT | TP | TPA | PCT | FT | FTA | PCT | DR | OR | TRB | AVG | PF | DQ | AS | TO | BS | ST | PTS | AVG |
|------|---|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 2003-04 | 30 | 22 | 648 | 21.6 | 89 | 156 | .571 | 0 | 1000 | .58 | 113 | 513 | .05 | 50 | 99 | 149 | 5.0 | 100 | 6 | 25 | 56 | 3 | 16 | 238 | 7.9 |
| TOTAL | 30 | 22 | 648 | 21.6 | 89 | 156 | .571 | 0 | 1000 | .58 | 113 | 513 | .05 | 50 | 99 | 149 | 5.0 | 100 | 6 | 25 | 56 | 3 | 16 | 238 | 7.9 |

#11 - Henry Bekkering

F - 6-5 - 225 - Fr. - HS
Taber, Alberta - W.R. Myers HS '03

2002-2003 at EWU: Redshirited. His dunking prowess and athletic ability provided him the opportunity to be on the Best Damn Sports Show Period on Fox Sports Net in Spring 2004, and then he spent the summer on Canada's Young Men's (under 20) National Team. He has about a 39-inch vertical jump. When he kicked for the Eagle football team in fall 2003, he became EWU’s first football/basketball player since wide receiver Jerroid Jackson played one minute for the basketball team in a game in the 1995-96 season. Before joining the basketball team, Bekkering handled kickoffs for the Eagles and routinely kicked the ball into the end zone.

High School: Graduated from W.R. Myers HS in 2003. As a senior, Bekkering averaged nearly 35 points, 10 rebounds and five assists per game to earn Alberta Player of the Year honors by Sporting Youth. He was also selected to the 2003 Basketball Jones High School All-Canadian first team. He scored 47 points in the semifinals of the Alberta 4A Provincial Tournament, but his team lost and eventually placed third in the tournament. W.R. Myers finished the year ranked 10th in Canada. At the SuperPages Canadian High School All-Star Game following his senior season, he was selected as his team’s player of the game as he had 39 points, 16 rebounds, three assists and three steals. Although his “West” squad lost to the “East” 115-113 in overtime, he also won the event’s dunk contest. He was one of 19 Canadian players who tried out for the under-19 national basketball team, but he didn’t make the final squad. He once scored 58 points in a game in high school. In the same game he had 11 assists, but didn’t have a dunk even though he averaged more than two per game. As a 16-year old, he started on Canada’s under-18 national basketball team. As a high school football player, he played as a wide receiver, safety, kicker, punter and kick returner. He kicked right-footed and punted left-footed. He kicked a 60-yard field goal in practice, and had a punt in a game even though he averaged more than two per game. As a 16-year old, he started on Canada’s under-18 national basketball team. As a high school football player, he played as a wide receiver, safety, kicker, punter and kick returner. He kicked right-footed and punted left-footed. He kicked a 60-yard field goal in practice, and had a punt in a game that traveled about 70 yards in the air. He was an honor student in high school.

Personal: Born Nov. 26, 1985, in Taber, Alberta. Taber (population 7,671) is located to the North of Great Falls, Mont., about 60 miles from the U.S./Canadian border. Education major with a minor in religious studies. Parents are Simon and Joanne Bekkering. Has one brother (Ross, 17) and three sisters (Janelle, 16; Cory, 22; and Anna, 23). Nickname is “Hen.”

#10 - Kenny “Deuce” Smith

G - 6-3 - 205 - Jr. - JC
Oakland, Calif. - Oakland Tech ’02 & Tyler, Texas., JC

Junior College: As a sophomore at Tyler Junior College in Texas, Smith averaged 11.4 points, 3.6 assists, 3.8 rebounds and 2.8 steals. He made 58.5 percent of his field goal attempts, 36.1 percent of his three-point shots (35-of-97) and 69.0 percent of his free throws. He had season-highs of 22 points, 11 assists, seven rebounds and seven steals (twice). Tyler finished the season 18-9. As a freshman, Tyler finished 20-12 as Smith averaged 8.1 points, 2.5 assists, 3.3 rebounds and 1.6 steals. He made 53.5 percent of his field goals, 37.7 percent of his three-point shots and 62.3 percent of his free throws.

High School: At Oakland Tech, he played on a squad that lost to Westchester in the championship game of the state tournament his senior season. That talented team featured several players who went on to play for or sign letters of intent with NCAA Division I schools. Those players included Leon Powe (California), Armondo Surratt (Miami, Fla.), Demarshay Johnson (Nevada) and Quintin Thomas (North Carolina).

Personal: Born Dec. 28, 1982. Criminal justice major. Son of Junita Butler and Raymond Young. Has four brothers (Kevin, Tony, Calvin and Trayvon) and two sisters (Janelle, 16; Cory, 22; and Anna, 23). Nickname is “Hen.”

Eagle Extras!

Favorites . . .
Subject in College: History
Musicians: Third Day
Food: Steak
Restaurant: The Keg
Movie: Braveheart
TV Show: Seinfeld
Entertainer: Eric Henkel
Pro Team: Perik Jumpers
Hobby: Working Out & Basketball
Quote: “I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6).

What is your best EWU basketball memory?
“NCAA Tourney. Well, the bench at the NCAA Tourney.”

What has been most influential in your playing career?
“My dad.”

What part of the game of basketball do you like best?
“Scoring.”

Eagle Extras!

Favorites . . .
Musician: Yukmouth
Food: Banana Pudding
Restaurant: Everett & Jones
Movie: Bad Boys II
TV Show: Bernie Mac Show
Entertainer: Steve Harvey
Athlete: Jason Kidd
Childhood Hero: My Sisters
Pro Team: Sacramento Kings
Hobby: Writing Poems
Web site: www.oaklandrebels.org

What do you like best about EWU? “The coaching staff.”
What is the best thing about being a Division I basketball player? “The fans.”
What is your best non-EWU basketball memory? “Playing at Arco Arena.”
Whose game do you try to emulate? “Gary Payton.”
High School: Graduated from Lovell HS in 2003. He earned All-State honors twice, and was an All-Big Horn Conference selection three seasons. He was the league’s player of the year his senior season as he led the team to back-to-back state championships. Lovell was 22-2 his junior year and 23-1 his senior year for a collective record of 45-3.

Personal: Born Aug. 6, 1984, in Lovell, Wyo. Physical education major. Parents are Dave and Lori Scheffler. Has a brother (Josh 12) and two sisters (Shelli, 17; and Kristen, 15). Nickname is “Scheff.”

#32 - Jake Beitinger
F - 6-8 - 225 - Fr. - HS
Port Orchard, Wash. - South Kitsap HS ’04

High School: Graduated from South Kitsap HS in 2004. Beitinger earned All-State honors from Associated Press (first team), the Seattle Times (second team) and the Tacoma News Tribune after leading South Kitsap to a runner-up finish in the State 4A Tournament in 2004. He had a game-high 20 points on 6-of-10 shooting and 11 rebounds as the Wolves lost to Kentwood and fellow EWU signee Rodney Stuckey 65-56 in the title game. Beitinger joined tourney MVP Stuckey on the all-tournament team. In four tournament games, Beitinger had 85 points on 57.4 percent shooting from the field, 35 rebounds, nine blocked shots, nine assists and a pair of steals. For the season, he averaged 17.6 points per game as South Kitsap finished 21-9 after a 1-4 start. In the summer of 2004 he had 32 points and 15 rebounds to lead the State to a 135-127 victory over Oregon in the Les Schwab Northwest Shootout in Portland, Ore. Entering his senior season, one recruiting service ranked Beitinger as one of the top seven recruits in the State of Washington. Beitinger also earned All-State 4A Tournament honors as a sophomore, and All-Narrows League Bridge Division honors as a sophomore, junior and senior. Beitinger had double-doubles in all four of his state tournament games as a sophomore when South Kitsap placed eighth. He was selected to the all-tournament team after averaging 20.0 points and 13.3 rebounds in four games. He averaged 13.9 points, 8.8 rebounds, 2.4 blocks and 2.3 assists as a junior when the Wolves finished fifth in the State and won the Narrows League title. He also played as a freshman when South Kitsap made the first of four-straight appearances. A 3.5 student in high school, Beitinger is believed to be the first South Kitsap player to play for an NCAA Division I school since at least the 1950s. He scored more than 1,500 points in his career.

Personal: Born Sept. 4, 1985, in San Diego, Calif. Intends to major in psychology. Parents are Craig Beitinger and Nars and Xealyus Martinez. He has four brothers (James, 25; Jeff, 23; Joseph, 17; and Nars, 10) and two sisters (Kaitlyn, 2; and Emily, 1). Nickname is “Jakky Poo.”
#25 - James Loe
G - 5-10 - 170 - Fr. - HS
Hillsboro, Ore. - Hillsboro HS ’04

High School: Graduated from Hillsboro HS in 2004. The Oregonian selected him to its All-State team after he earned Metro League MVP honors. He averaged 18.6 points as a senior with a high of 41 as Hillsboro finished 16-8. In April 2004, he scored 10 points in a losing effort as Washington beat Oregon 92-79 in the Les Schwab Northwest Shootout in Portland, Ore. As a junior, Loe was a first team All-State 4A selection in Oregon and a unanimous All-State 4A Tournament pick. He led Hillsboro to an 18-13 record and a second-place State 4A Tournament finish after losing to Redmond in the title game. He averaged 20.6 points and 5.7 assists as a junior, and led the state tournament in points (24.3 average in four games) and assists (6.8). Loe was a four-year starter who earned All-Metro League honors all four seasons.

Personal: Born Sept. 18, 1984, in Anchorage, Alaska. Major undecided. Parents are Curt and Sheila Loe. He has two brothers (Chris, 26; and Che, 32). Nickname is “Little Jimmy.”

#5 - Matt Penoncello
G/F - 6-5 - 200 - Fr. - HS
Moscow, Idaho - Moscow HS ’04

High School: Graduated from Moscow HS in 2004. He helped lead Moscow to the State 4A Tournament, where the Bears won once and lost twice. He had 11 points, seven rebounds and six assists in a losing effort as the North fell to the South 109-104 in the Idaho All-State Game. As a junior Penoncello was selected to The Spokesman-Review All-North Idaho team as a junior when he helped the Bears capture the 4A regional title in the state of Idaho. He averaged 14.6 points per game to rank third in the Inland Empire League. He had a 3.4 grade point average in high school.

Personal: Born Oct. 10, 1985. Business major. He is the son of Steve and Jean Penoncello. He has one brother (Nick, 21) and two sisters (Gina, 23; and Stacey, 15). Nickname is “Penn.”