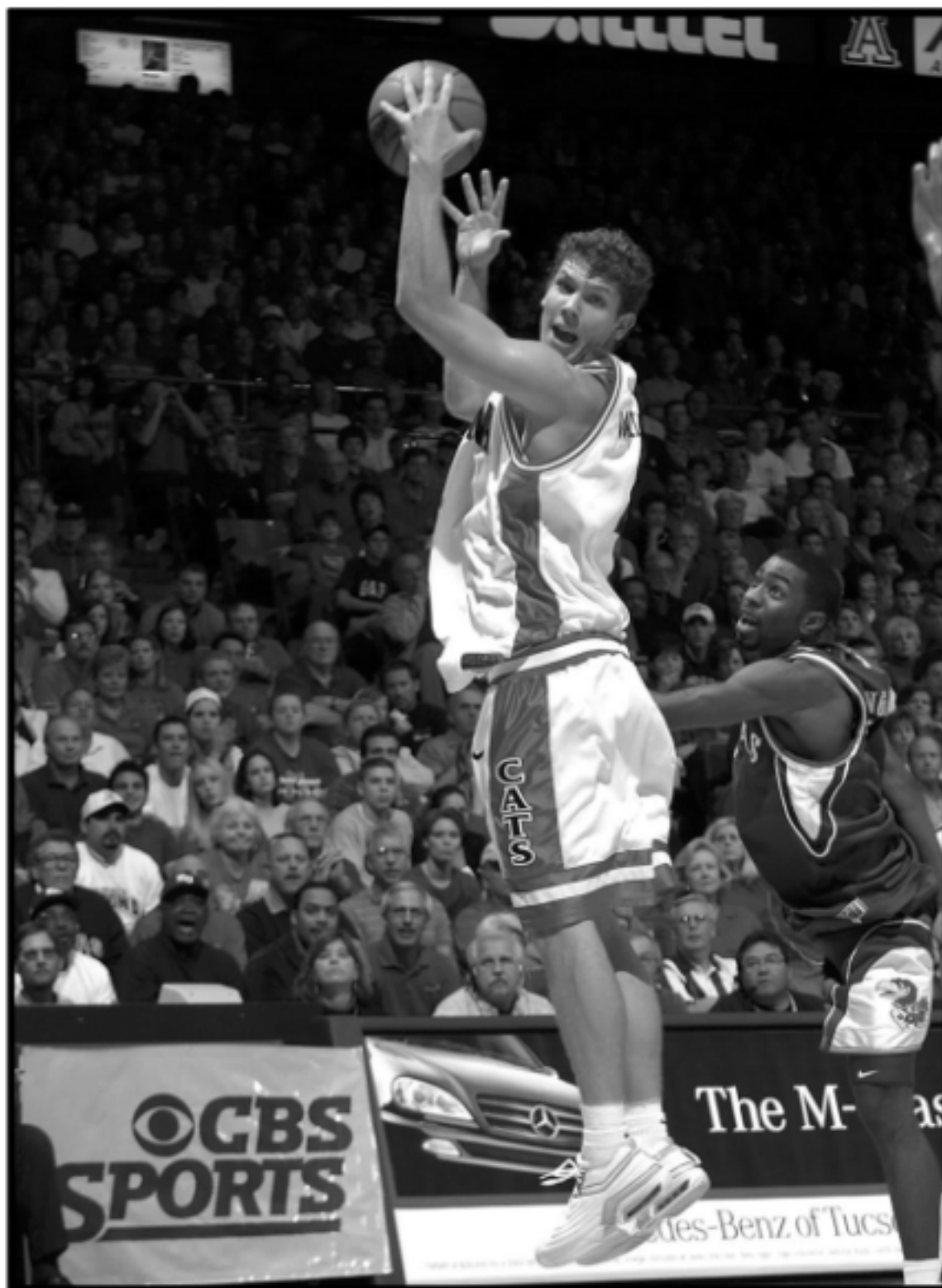


Preseason Notes



ARIZONA BASKETBALL™

Down Under

After 21 days in country, Arizona's 2002 Tour of Australia ended after covering more than 21,000 miles, visiting six cities, playing 10 games, collecting eight wins and earning a lifetime of memories.

The Cats' 8-2 record on the tour is the program's second-best mark on an international tour. Only the 1993 squad's 9-1 record in Australia topped the effort.

To try to pin down one memorable moment is difficult, but Channing Frye put it best when he said, "It's hard to come up with just one memorable moment. Every day was a lot of fun. The whole trip was a memorable moment."

A few of the more memorable moments taken from the "G'Day Diary" are included below. If you want to relive the entire trip, look for the "Australian Adventures" button in the right menu bar on the men's basketball home page at www.arizonaathletics.com.

Canberra, May 14

The guys have adjusted very quickly to the comforts of life in Australia. To be honest, could there be many places that are as travel friendly to a group of college-aged Americans?

The only major hurdle seems to be that Australians drive on the left (or "wrong" as is so often heard on the team bus) side of the road and the metric system. Leave it to veteran Rick Anderson to get caught up in both in just one taxi ride.

After a dinner in town with managers Tony Mikla and John Castles, the trio was attempting to catch a taxi back to the hotel when Rick fell behind. Tony and John grabbed a cab and were waiting for Rick in the back seat. Suddenly, Rick comes running around the corner and approaches



Channing Frye managed to make a new friend at the Carrumbin Wildlife Sanctuary on Australia's Gold Coast. Frye found the island continent to his liking, as he led the team with per game averages of 19.2 points and 11.9 rebounds.

the car on the left side and shouts, "Hey, we're going to have to get the next one guys. Someone already has this cab."

To which John replies, "Rick, that's the driver. Get in."

The comedy didn't stop there. The metric system would be Anderson's next attempt at his own unique brand of humor.

Speed limit signs in Australia are white with a red circle that features the posted limit in the middle. Admittedly, you do a bit of a double-take when you see one for the first time.

On the ride back, Anderson looked up and saw that the driver was doing about 80 k.p.h. and exclaimed, "Man, you can do 80 on this road!! Wow!"

This time it was Mikla's turn to play the straight man. "Rick," he said, "that's kilometers. We're going about 50 miles per hour."

"Yeah," Anderson replied quickly to save face, "it feels like 50. That's what I thought."

Adelaide, May 17

The diplomacy of sport was the order of the day Friday as the Wildcats visited an Australian Rules Football practice, marking the team's first scheduled non-basketball event.

The team visited the practice grounds of the Adelaide Crows, South Australia's football franchise. The Cats received a tour of the facilities and a quick introduction to the sport. For most, it was an introduction to the sport known as "Footy," which is an interesting mixture of American football, rugby and soccer. It's nonstop action with survival of the fittest written all over it.

First impressions were definitely positive.

"That Australian Rules Football thing is cool, really cool," said Channing Frye. "I think I could get into it if I understood it a little more."

"Oh yeah, that was cool," said Isaiah Fox when asked about his thoughts on the sport, "but it is a lot of running."

Most footy players resemble the stereotypical Australian athlete: rugged, strong and definitely fit. When asked who on the team would make the best footy player, Jason Ranne replied, "I don't know. You'd need the competitiveness of Jason Gardner mixed with Will Bynum's speed and leaping ability with a lot of Dennis Latimore's size and strength."

Sydney, May 24

If Australians were asked to pick a favorite Wildcat after watching the team play on this tour, the pick right now could be Will Bynum. At every venue, fans have marveled at the Cats' athletic abilities (especially the dunks), but nothing brings them out of their seats like a Will Bynum slash to the basket for a dunk or layup.

One fan marveled after watching Will put down a dunk last week in Adelaide, "I have never seen a human being of Bynum's size leap like that. He is utterly amazing. I can't believe he can dunk the ball so easily."

The 5-foot-10 Bynum certainly put on a show in Sydney on Friday, scoring 24 points (21 in the second half) with most of them coming on drives to the basket.



Jason Gardner scored 25 points and added eight boards in the 114-96 win over the Cairns Marlins on May 30.

2002 Tour of Australia Results

May 14	Canberra All-Stars	W	101-99
May 16	Sturt Sabres	W	109-98
May 20	Dandenong Rangers	W	107-89
May 22	Knox Raiders	L	95-97
May 23	Sydney Kings	W	113-84
May 24	Sydney Kings	L	116-123
May 26	Brisbane Bullets	W	98-90
May 29	Kuiyam Pride	W	95-84
May 30	Cairns Marlins	W	114-96
June 1	Sydney Kings (ot)	W	115-113



Luke Walton pauses for a photo before his scuba diving adventure at The Great Barrier Reef on May 31.

When asked if he likes all of the attention he's been getting "Down Under," he replied with a big smile, "Yeah, it's been nice, real nice. This trip has been a great experience for me."

The Great Barrier Reef, May 31

The Wildcats got up close and personal with one of the world's most stunning sights, as the team enjoyed a day on Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

The guys had their choice of scuba diving or snorkeling at two different locations visited during the day. Each provides a unique view of one of nature's most unbelievable displays of creativity. On the 90-minute trip from Cairns to the reef at daybreak, the team was certified to scuba dive in the waters that measured about 10 meters.

One doesn't realize just how different life is under water, especially at the Great Barrier Reef, until you just look beneath the surface. A flurry of color and activity greets you, as thousands of living organisms are just inches away.

Not just the coral, which is almost overpowering in its beauty, but the variety of marine life that lives within it is amazing in its scope. It really becomes hard to describe the beauty of what you see under water.

While snorkeling give one a broad overview of the Reef's activities, diving seemed to be the players' preference. It allowed each member to see, touch and interact with the Reef itself.

"Snorkeling was nice, but it doesn't even come close to diving," explained Channing Frye. "Diving allows you to get so much closer to be able to see and touch things. It was amazing."

Dennis Latimore agreed, saying, "Diving is so much better. It's just such a different world when you're down there on the ocean floor."

Every member of the team genuinely enjoyed himself during the entire trip. Members of the charter crew commented that they were amazed that the guys showed so much respect for the Reef and how it functions. The day was so enjoyable that even Jason Gardner put on a wet suit and took a turn snorkeling near the boat.

"Do you think this team had a good time today?," asked assistant coach Rodney Tention rhetorically as the players celebrated their maiden voyage under the sea with leaps into the water from the observation deck on the back of the boat. "You know it's a good time when Jason Gardner gets in the water."

Sydney, June 1

Arizona's best play of the day may actually have happened before Saturday's tour finale, as UA Coordinator of Basketball Operations Ryan Hansen sang the Star Spangled Banner before the game...and he sang it well.

It seems as though the only copy of the Star Spangled Banner at the Sutherland Basketball Stadium somehow disappeared prior to the game, leaving the public address announcer to actually ask if there were any volunteers willing to sing the U.S. national anthem. That's when Ryan stepped forward and knocked it down cold.

"That's a hard song to sing in the first place," Hansen said. "And I was really worried to step up and sing it cold."

He sang it so well that he received a standing ovation from the standing-room-only crowd of 554 (Well, it was the national anthem...they were



Rick Anderson (left) and Isaiah Fox get first-hand experience with the wildlife as they pet a kangaroo at the Carrumbin Wildlife Sanctuary.

standing already, but it really was much deserved). After receiving congratulations from the team and staff, Hansen quietly took his place on the UA bench.

Mass chaos was the only way to describe the scene at the Sutherland Basketball Stadium Saturday. That doesn't even include the action during the game. In another interesting taste of Australia, children like to come out and shoot baskets on the court whenever possible.

Not just after the game, but during pregame warm-ups (some actually shot baskets with the players), halftime, quarter breaks, and even timeouts. There was never a time when the court was empty.

"This is unbelievable," said video manager John Castles. "It looks like an elementary school recess. 'It's a madhouse out there.'"

While every stoppage of play brought out someone, it reached its zenith at halftime when what seemed like hundreds of kids swarmed the floor to get in a few shots. It was a sight to behold.

2002 Arizona Basketball Tour of Arustralia Statistics (Won 8, Lost 2)

2002-2003 Arizona basketball team statistics (2002-2003)																								
Player	GP-GS	Min	Avg	TOTAL		3-PTS			REBOUNDS														Pts	Avg
				FG	FGA	Pct	3FG	FGA	Pct	FT	FTA	Pct	Off	Def	Tot	Avg	PF	FO	A	TO	Blk	Stl		
45 Channing Frye	10-5	259	25.9	78	139	.561	0	2	.000	36	43	.837	47	72	119	11.9	34	2	11	21	27	5	192	19.2
22 Jason Gardner	10-9	382	38.2	63	154	.409	31	86	.360	29	37	.784	12	37	49	4.9	19	0	40	40	2	10	186	18.6
20 Salim Stoudamire	9-5	266	29.6	49	111	.441	25	64	.391	24	32	.750	4	18	22	2.4	22	0	16	30	0	5	147	16.3
04 Luke Walton	10-9	362	36.2	55	137	.401	9	29	.310	19	31	.613	20	78	98	9.8	28	0	66	41	10	18	138	13.8
34 Dennis Latimore	10-4	273	27.3	48	88	.545	0	0	.000	12	18	.667	25	49	74	7.4	18	0	6	22	1	5	108	10.8
52 Isaiah Fox	10-7	238	23.8	32	62	.516	0	0	.000	17	31	.548	28	37	65	6.5	40	2	6	22	10	2	81	8.1
03 Will Bynum	6-3	156	26.0	26	74	.351	6	29	.207	19	22	.864	4	13	17	2.8	15	0	12	15	0	2	77	12.8
13 Andrew Zahn	10-4	171	17.1	22	52	.423	3	4	.750	10	13	.769	13	32	45	4.5	29	1	2	9	4	4	57	5.7
11 Jason Ranne	10-3	236	23.6	13	43	.302	10	32	.313	7	7	1.000	6	19	25	2.5	17	0	11	8	0	4	43	4.3
33 Rick Anderson	4-1	82	20.5	15	33	.455	2	10	.200	2	2	1.000	10	17	27	6.8	11	0	5	8	3	3	34	8.5
TEAM													22	48	70	7.0								
Total	10	2425		401	893	.449	86	256	.336	175	236	.742	191	420	611	61.1	233	5	175	216	57	58	1063	106.3
Opponents	10	2425		349	895	.390	89	285	.312	186	285	.653	167	335	502	50.2	228	4	153	158	30	78	973	97.3
Score by Periods:	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	Total																		
Arizona	235	276	260	276	16	1063																		
Opponents	261	192	275	231	14	973																		

2002-03 Preseason Notebook



Leading the Nation

Since 1987-88, no team in college basketball has been as successful as the University of Arizona. In those 15 seasons, the Wildcats have the nation's best winning percentage at .805.

UA has a 401-97 record in that span, and along the way has won a national championship, made four trips to the Final Four, captured eight Pac-10 titles and won at least 20 games in each of those seasons.

As further testimony to the program's outstanding accomplishments, Arizona has earned 18 consecutive NCAA Tournament berths, the longest active streak in NCAA history.

Another Streak of Note

With its 15th consecutive 20-win season last year, Arizona also vaulted in to the nation's lead in another statistical category. The Cats now have the most consecutive 20-win seasons in NCAA Division I basketball, dating back to the 1987-88 season.

It's also worth noting that the Pacific-10 Conference boasts the two longest streaks in the nation.

A Pair of Hall of Famers

Arizona takes to the court in 2002-03 with 10 returning lettermen and two Hall of Fame coaches. Yes, two. Head coach Lute Olson and associate head coach Jim Rosborough were each inducted into a basketball hall of fame this year.

A native of Mayville, N.D., Olson earned his piece of basketball immortality with a coaching career that spans 43 seasons and includes nearly 1,000 career victories. A success at every stop along his career, Olson has won more than 70 percent of his games on the high school, junior college and NCAA Division I level. He was a finalist for enshrinement in 2000 and 2001 and is joined in the Class of 2002 by players Earvin "Magic" Johnson and Drazen Petrovic, coaches Larry Brown and Kay Yow, and the Harlem

Globetrotters. The Hall of Fame Class of 2002 received induction on Sept. 27, 2002.

A native of Davenport, Iowa, Rosborough was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame following a standout playing career at Moline (Ill.) High School from 1960-62. He averaged 13.0 points and 9.0 rebounds per game as a senior to all-conference, all-metro and all-state honors. His induction ceremonies were held April 27, 2002, in Normal, Ill.

It's rather fitting that the pair should receive such honors in the same year, as Olson and Rosborough have spent 22 of the last 28 seasons side-by-side on the Iowa and Arizona benches.



Olson's Career at a Glance

	Years	W	L	Pct.
High School	11	180	76	.703
Junior College	3	104	20	.839
Long Beach State	1	24	2	.923
Iowa	9	168	90	.651
Arizona	19	471	143	.767
NCAA D-I Totals	29	663	235	.738
Career Totals	43	947	331	.741

Head coach Lute Olson and associate head coach Jim Rosborough were each inducted into a basketball hall of fame this year.

2002-03 Preseason Notebook

Dropping Fast

Last year it was his weight. This year it's his jersey number. Either way, sophomore Isaiah Fox has a knack for number changes. The center (right) from Santa Monica, Calif., quickly shed 21 pounds after reporting to school last season and ended up being a key contributor by averaging 4.4 points and 4.0 rebounds in 33 games.

He's more than doubled his losses this season, as he switched from jersey No. 52 to No. 2. When asked about the switch, Fox explained, "I've always admired the way Moses Malone played. I want to be able to control the boards and play the middle like he did. That's the reason he's in the Hall of Fame."

A three-time NBA Most Valuable Player and 12-time all-star is not a bad choice for a 6-foot-9, 269-pound forward whose measurements are remarkably similar to Malone's 6-foot-10, 260-pound frame.



Winningest Men's Basketball Programs By Percentage (1988-2002)

Team	W	L	Pct.
1. ARIZONA	401	97	.805
2. Kansas	415	104	.800
3. Duke	422	106	.799
4. Kentucky	389	117	.769
5. Connecticut	369	131	.738
6. Cincinnati	357	130	.733
7. North Carolina	362	134	.730
8. Syracuse	362	137	.725

Current Consecutive 20-win Seasons Division I Men's Basketball

Team	No.	Years
1. ARIZONA	15	1988-2002
2. UCLA	14	1989-2002
3. Kansas	13	1990-2002
4. Kentucky	12	1991-2002
5. Cincinnati	11	1992-2002



World Travelers

The Wildcats spent the summer traveling abroad, as the team completed a lengthy tour of Australia. It was the program's third visit "Down Under" in the last nine years (1993 and 1997). After 21 days in country, Arizona's 2002 Tour of Australia covered more than 21,000 miles, included visits to six cities and a lifetime of memories.

The squad posted an 8-2 record on the trip, the program's second-best record on an international tour. Sophomore Channing Frye led all players by averaging 19.2 points and 11.9 rebounds while shooting 56.1 percent from the field. Said Frye of the trip, "It's hard to come up with just one memorable moment.

Every day was a lot of fun. The whole trip was a memorable moment."

For those interested in Arizona's Australian adventures, point your web browser to <http://arizonaathletics.ocsn.com/sports/m-baskbl/spec-rel/ariz-australia.html> for trip diaries, game stats and photos.

Frye and teammate Dennis Latimore (above) took their travels a step further as each participated in NYC Hoops' summer tour of Turkey and Italy. The five-game trip featured two games in Istanbul and three games in an under-20 tournament in Caspoggio, Italy.

Frye ranked second on the team in scoring (13.0 ppg) and rebounding (6.3 rpg) as the team went 2-3. Latimore chipped in with averages of 5.6 points and 4.5 rebounds.



2002-03 Preseason Notebook

All-American Already

Ranked as one of the top recruiting classes in the country, Arizona's freshman class of 2003 certainly comes to Tucson with its share of accolades. Guard Hassan Adams enters as a McDonald's All-American, the 11th player of such distinction to play at Arizona. He tallied 13 points, four rebounds and two assists in the 2002 game played in Madison Square Garden. A complete list is featured below.

Not to be outdone, fellow freshman Andre Iguodala (right) was a member of the U.S. Junior National Team that earned a bronze medal at the Men's Junior World Championship Qualifying Tournament in Venezuela. Iguodala, a native of Springfield, Ill., averaged 3.8 points and 4.0 rebounds in Team USA's five games.



Arizona's McDonald's All-Americans

Name	Year
Hassan Adams	2002
Mike Bibby	1996
Ben Davis	1991
Sean Elliott	1985
Jason Gardner	1999
Richard Jefferson	1998
Craig McMillan	1984
Chris Mills	1986
Khalid Reeves	1990
Brian Williams	1987
Loren Woods	1996

In the Rankings

The Wildcats enter the 2002-03 campaign riding a streak of 253 consecutive regular season appearances in the *Associated Press* Top-25 Poll. Not counting the initial preseason poll, Arizona has been ranked in the AP's Top 25 since Nov. 30, 1987.

NCAA's All-Time Winningest Programs

Arizona enters the 2002-03 campaign ranked 20th among the NCAA's all-time winningest programs. Since Lute Olson's arrival in Tucson for the 1983-84 season, no Division I basketball program has made a larger move up the NCAA's listing of the nation's winningest programs. In those 19 seasons, Arizona has moved up more than 10 slots in the rankings, three more than the next-closest program.

Due to Olson's efforts in building a national power in Tucson, Arizona is one of only three schools to break into this top 25 since 1984. All told, Arizona's 471 wins in that span ranks fifth nationally.

No.	School	First	Yrs.	Won	Lost	Tied	Pct.
		Season					
1.	Kentucky	1903	99	1,817	568	1	.762
2.	North Carolina	1911	92	1,789	650	0	.733
3.	Kansas	1899	104	1,771	745	0	.704
4.	Duke	1906	97	1,680	768	0	.686
5.	St. John's (N.Y.)	1908	95	1,641	750	0	.686
6.	Temple	1895	106	1,590	858	0	.650
7.	Syracuse	1901	101	1,572	732	0	.682
8.	Pennsylvania	1897	102	1,533	870	2	.638
9.	Indiana	1901	102	1,519	812	0	.652
10.	UCLA	1920	83	1,510	653	0	.698
11.	Notre Dame	1898	97	1,505	828	1	.645
12.	Oregon State	1902	101	1,504	1,052	0	.588
13.	Utah	1909	94	1,467	767	0	.657
14.	Princeton	1901	102	1,459	885	0	.622
15.	Western Kentucky	1915	83	1,442	714	0	.669
16.	Purdue	1897	104	1,434	838	0	.631
	Washington	1896	100	1,434	963	0	.598
18.	Illinois	1906	97	1,433	791	0	.644
19.	Cincinnati	1902	101	1,423	823	0	.634
20.	ARIZONA	1905	97	1,410	784	0	.643
21.	Louisville	1912	88	1,406	771	0	.646
22.	North Carolina State	1913	90	1,401	833	0	.627
23.	West Virginia	1904	93	1,398	886	0	.612
24.	Bradley	1903	98	1,397	892	0	.610
25.	Texas	1906	96	1,386	874	0	.613

02-03 Outlook



ARIZONA BASKETBALL™

02-03 Outlook

"Jason is first and foremost a tremendous competitor," said Olson. "He has been a winner at every level in which he has played. His competitiveness is obvious to everybody that he plays with. You better be playing hard if you're playing alongside Jason Gardner, or he will be in your face."

— Lute Olson

What a difference a year makes...

Heading into the 2001-02 basketball season, the best representation of the Arizona Wildcats may have been a question mark. There were many questions, but no time to wait for answers.

"A year ago at this point, we had only two players who had even played the previous season," explained Arizona head coach Lute Olson. "We just did not know how the freshmen were going to react."

Those freshmen, combined with great performances from a trio of juniors, certainly put forth an effort that made Wildcat fans proud. Not only did the freshmen come through by tallying 42 percent of the offense and 44 percent of the rebounding, but also helped the 2002 Cats win 24 games, capture the 2002 Pac-10 Tournament championship and advance to the NCAA Tournament's "Sweet Sixteen." Not bad for a group of unproven cagers.

Fast forward one year, and oh how things have changed. With the questions from a year ago long since answered, some college basketball pundits are tabbing the 2002-03 edition of the Wildcats as the nation's best team. Olson may not completely agree with that assessment, but he will agree that preparations for this season are moving ahead at a much smoother pace. If only because the 10 letterwinners that return have one thing that last season's roster did not: experience.

"It's certainly is much less stressful knowing what is returning," quipped Olson. "This year, the good thing is that we've got eight guys who participated a year ago, five of them were starters and three were key reserves, along with what we feel is a very outstanding freshman class."

What hasn't changed is Olson's bewilderment with those preseason prognosticators. "It doesn't make sense to me that we surprised a whole lot of people last year, but at the same time, we're probably a little overrated from that standpoint this year," he said. "To be realistic, we have 13 scholarship players in the program and nine of them are freshmen and sophomores. I don't know how realistic it is for people to pick us No. 1 when you look at the fact that we are really very young."

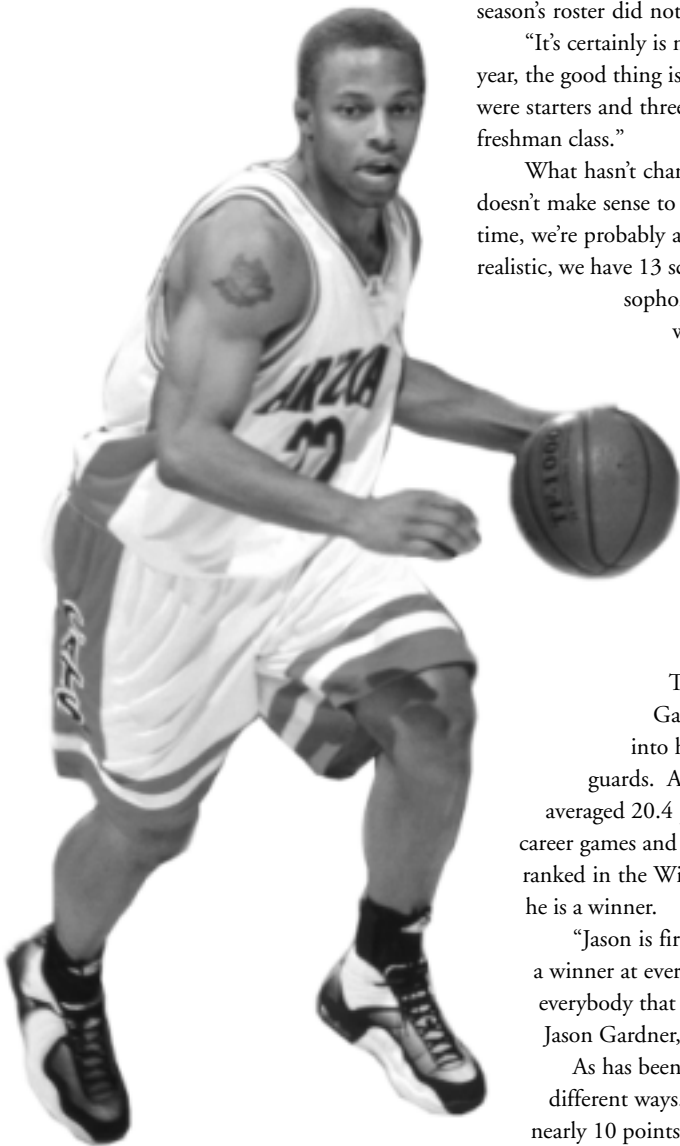
Despite the team's relative youth, what does return for the 2002-03 campaign is an experienced roster loaded with depth, ability and, perhaps most valuable of all, leadership. That valued commodity comes courtesy of seniors Jason Gardner, Rick Anderson and Luke Walton. It is the one thing that separates 2003 from 2002.

"I have no concern about our leadership capabilities with the three seniors, two are fifth-year seniors and Jason has started every game since he's been here," said the Hall of Fame head coach. A They did a great job last year. That leadership is more of a given than it was last year. The senior leadership will be outstanding for us."

That senior leadership starts with the team's point guard, Jason Gardner. The 5-foot-10, 191-pound Indianapolis, Ind., product heads into his final year of college basketball as one of the nation's finest point guards. A third-team Associated Press All-American a year ago, Gardner averaged 20.4 points and 4.6 assists in 34 games. He has made 103 starts in 104 career games and has certainly left his mark on the Arizona record book. Gardner is ranked in the Wildcat career top 10 in 10 different statistical categories. Simply put, he is a winner.

"Jason is first and foremost a tremendous competitor," said Olson. "He has been a winner at every level in which he has played. His competitiveness is obvious to everybody that he plays with. You better be playing hard if you're playing alongside Jason Gardner, or he will be in your face."

As has been the case in previous seasons, Gardner is being asked to contribute in different ways. Last year the team needed a scorer, so Gardner upped his average by nearly 10 points per game. Two years ago, the team need a calming influence and a point guard that could keep the ball moving, so he posted a career-best assist:turnover



ratio of 2.33:1 and led the team to the 2001 National Championship game. This year, the focus is defense.

"This year, he needs to be more of a factor defensively," explained Olson. "He's got the quickness, he's got the ability, and he's got the strength. How effective you are as a team defensively starts with the point guard being able to stop the ball further out on the court. We know what he can do offensively, we just need him to be more of a factor on defense similar to what Jason Kidd was at California or Gary Payton at Oregon State. Those guards were great guards in



college and have been great professionally because they affect the game at both ends of the court. Jason needs to affect the game at both ends of the court."

2001-02 was a breakout season for Luke Walton. The 6-foot-8, 245-pound senior forward posted career-high per game averages of 15.7 points, 7.3 rebounds and 6.3 assists and earned a place on four All-America teams. He became the first frontcourt player to lead the Pacific-10 Conference in assists and passed out more helpers than any other non-guard in the nation. Walton collected the first triple-double of his career Jan. 17 vs. USC and cemented his reputation as one of the best all-around players in the country after earning the Pac-10

2001-02 was a breakout season for Luke Walton. The 6-foot-8, 245-pound senior forward posted career-high per game averages of 15.7 points, 7.3 rebounds and 6.3 assists and earned a place on four All-America teams.

Tournament's Most Outstanding Player honors. In those three games in early March, Walton averaged 22.7 points, 5.7 rebounds and 5.3 assists in leading the Wildcats to its fourth consecutive conference tournament title. Even the great ones need room for improvement, and the San Diego native is no different.

"Luke needs to improve his assist:turnover ratio," explained Olson. "He is the first non-guard to lead the Pac-10 in assists, but he needs to make the good passes and not try to make the great passes. Luke is the kind of guy that wants to make the great assist and sometimes needs to be more patient in letting that opportunity come to him. He also needs to be more of a

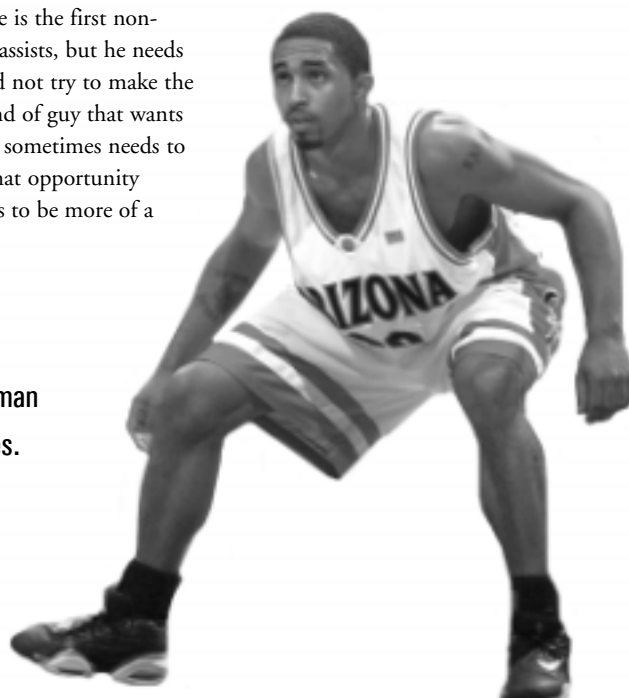
factor on the boards, especially offensively. He has good timing, instincts and anticipation, and needs to put that into play."

The third member of UA's senior class is forward Rick Anderson. The 6-foot-9, 225-pound forward shined in his first year as a starter, averaging 12.8 points and 7.2 rebounds. A factor on the boards, Anderson led the Cats in both offensive (99) and total rebounds (245) a year ago. A deadly outside shooter, the Long Beach, Calif., product showed a knack for hitting big shots last year, as he drained the game-clinching free throws in the season-opening win over No. 2 Maryland and followed that up two nights later with UA's last six points in the win over No. 5 Florida.

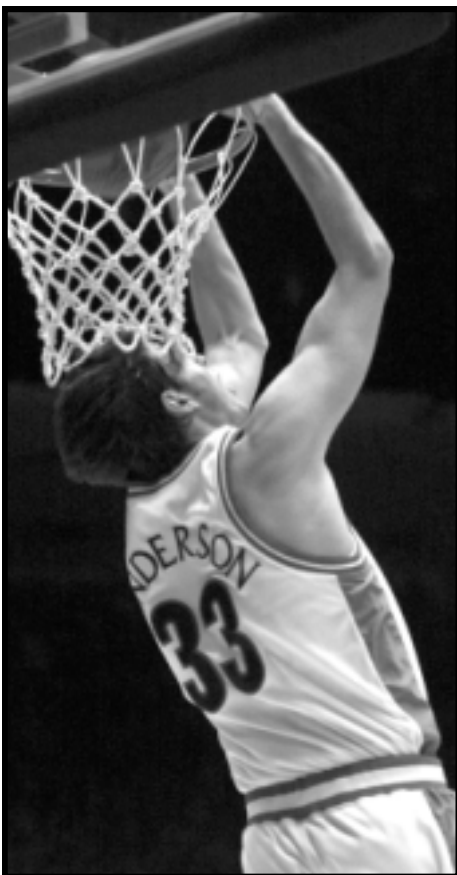
Anderson spent the majority of the offseason working on getting stronger to make himself a more imposing defensive presence. That would give him the ability to be influential at both ends of the court.

"Going into the year, Rick's strengths are his shooting and his offensive board work," Olson said. "We need to have a more consistent defensive effort out of him. In the offseason, he has worked very hard on his strength to where he now needs to put a more solid defensive effort on the opposing power forward."

Joining those three is a quintet of talented sophomores helped to propel the Wildcats from enigma to the nation's elite last season. Those five players comprise a quick and versatile bunch with skills at every position. Unique circumstances tested this



Stoudamire answered any doubts about his abilities with a freshman season that saw him earn Pac-10 Freshman-of-the-Year accolades.



crew early and often last season. The group combined to average 20 minutes per game in 2001-02, and that experience alone is beneficial.

"Our freshman class from last year is now a year older," said the 30-year head coach. "Salim Stoudamire ended up being the Freshman of the Year in the conference, and Channing Frye made the all-freshman team. In addition to that, we've got Isaiah Fox, who started a number of key games for us last year, Dennis Latimore and Will Bynum, who each gave us important minutes, which makes it a sophomore class that got a lot of playing time last year because of our circumstances. That will only help us this season."

Will Bynum averaged 6.4 points and 1.5 rebounds in 31 games last year and improved those numbers to 12.8 points and 2.8 rebounds in the summer tour of Australia.

No one was more surprising than Frye. The 6-foot-10 center from Phoenix blossomed into one of the Pac-10's most consistent and most accurate performers. He averaged 9.5 points and 6.3 rebounds while starting 25 of 34 games. Frye finished the season as the league leader in field goal

A deadly outside shooter, the Long Beach, Calif., product showed a knack for hitting big shots last year, as he drained the game-clinching free throws in the season-opening win over No. 2 Maryland and followed that up two nights later with UA's last six points in the win over No. 5 Florida.

percentage (59.5) and was the only UA player to shoot better than 50 percent a year ago.

He trumpeted his arrival in his first league game with an 18-point, 16-rebound effort in a win at Oregon State on Dec. 20 and took off from there. Frye ranked as UA's second-leading scorer (14.3 ppg) and leading rebounder (7.7 rpg) in the NCAA Tournament and led the team in both categories (19.2 ppg/11.9 rpg) on its 10-game summer tour of Australia. He has also added 13 pounds of muscle to his nearly-seven-foot frame.

"Channing surprised everyone last year," Olson explained. "As a freshman, he probably played more like what we thought he would be later in his sophomore season. Channing has worked very hard on increasing his strength. After being bounced around by people, it was obvious what he needed to do. He's put on

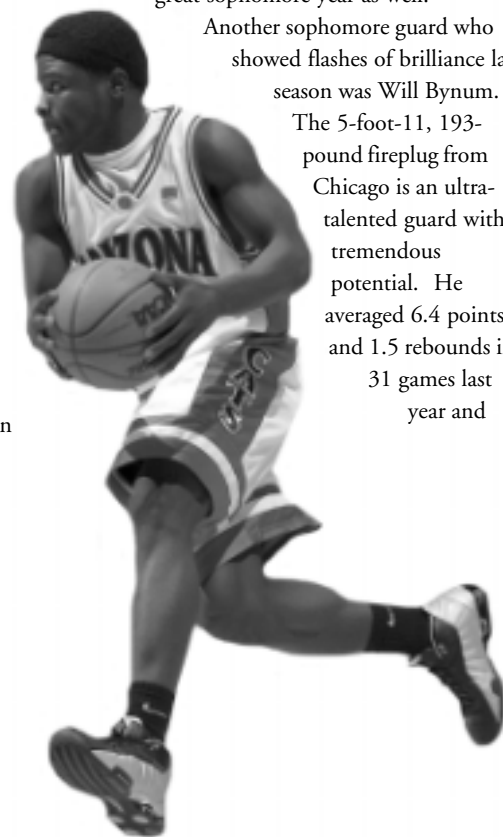
weight, and he is a lot stronger than he was last season. He will be a much more confident player this year."

Stoudamire answered any doubts about his abilities with a freshman season that saw him earn Pac-10 Freshman-of-the-Year accolades. The 6-foot-1, 176-pound guard from Portland, Ore., averaged 12.8 points and tallied 434 points in his debut season, the sixth-highest freshman total in school history. He set school records with 39 consecutive free throws made and a 90.4 free throw percentage, which ranked fourth nationally, and shot 45.3 percent from three-point range.

Often overlooked in Stoudamire is a tenaciousness that caused his teammates to name him UA's best defensive player in 2002. That's high praise for any freshman. "Salim's teammates picked him as our best defender last year, which is really unusual for a freshman," Olson said. "Salim is an outstanding shooter. Last spring in our practices leading up to the Australia trip, he shot the ball as well as anyone we've had here since Steve Kerr. He needs to get his assist:turnover ratio more in line with what it needs to be, and that will come with experience. He had a great freshman year, and we need to make sure that he has a great sophomore year as well."

Another sophomore guard who showed flashes of brilliance last season was Will Bynum.

The 5-foot-11, 193-pound fireplug from Chicago is an ultra-talented guard with tremendous potential. He averaged 6.4 points and 1.5 rebounds in 31 games last year and



improved those numbers to 12.8 points and 2.8 rebounds in the summer tour of Australia. Improved consistency will go a long way towards helping Bynum reach his potential.

"Will had some really outstanding games for us a year ago," commented Olson. "The important thing with Will is the consistency. When a player has been a huge scorer, as he was in high school, the toughest thing to adjust to is the fact that there are four other really good players on the floor at the same time. He made great strides last year in moving without the ball and on defense. If that keeps up, he will be even better for us this year."

Arizona's most underrated performer last season may have been center Isaiah Fox. The 6-foot-9, 259-pound center averaged 4.4 points and 4.0 rebounds in 2001-02 and earned valuable time as both a starter (nine times) and reserve. The Santa Monica, Calif., product averaged 7.0 points and 5.4 boards in the Cats' key five-game stretch to open the season and was equally as impressive in the postseason. Fox has great hands and a strong work ethic.

"Isaiah continues to work very hard for us," said Olson. "He has such great hands and a big body. With the added year of experience, I see him becoming an even better rebounder and an improved offensive force. Isaiah gives us quite a bit of flexibility at the center position"

Perhaps no Arizona player works harder than forward Dennis Latimore. The 6-foot-7, 238-pound, native of Halstead, Kan., hopes that 2002-03 is his breakout season. After averaging 1.9 points and 2.5 rebounds a year ago, he went about losing 16 pounds and improving his strength and quickness. Latimore may have benefitted more from the Australian trip than any other player. In those 10 games Down Under, Latimore averaged 10.8 points and 7.4 rebounds, while shooting 54.5 percent from the floor.

"Dennis is one of the hardest-working guys on the team," quipped Olson. "He's always focused and works very hard every day in practice. He's stronger than he was last year, and he's cut his weight back more than 10 pounds. He needs to be quicker, and I think we'll see that this season."

Two other returning players who make key contributions daily are guards Jason Ranne and Fil Torres. Ranne, a 6-foot-4, 195-pound, native of Tulsa, Okla., has seen his hard work pay off, as the former walk-on earned a scholarship for 2002-03. After not



seeing much playing time in his first two seasons, Ranne averaged 4.3 points and 2.5 rebounds on UA's tour of Australia and was one of just three players to post a positive assist:turnover ratio on the trip. He also proved to be active on the glass and a solid defender.

"Jason played very well in Australia," Olson said. "The great thing about Jason Ranne is that he knows his role. He is a great team player, and he really helps us in practice situations. He hasn't seen much playing time, but we know he will perform well when asked."

Torres, a 6-foot-2, 195-pound walk-on, has proven to be another valuable practice player. He saw action in two games last season and launched one field goal attempt. "Fil is another guy who really understands his role," said Olson.

"Most people don't see his contributions, but we wouldn't have been successful without his play in practice last season."

The freshman class of 2003 definitely fits the description of quick and athletic. The four players in this group give Arizona the ability to handle the responsibilities on the perimeter, especially defensively, while also controlling the glass.

"In looking back at areas that were a problem for us a year ago, when we hit teams with three quick perimeter players, we either had to go with three guards to try to match up with the quickness at which time we'd get hurt on the boards, or we'd have trouble guarding that third quick guy," explained Olson. "The newcomers give us the flexibility of defensive quickness and some size where the boards should not be a

Frye averaged 9.5 points and 6.3 rebounds while starting 25 of 34 games. Frye finished the season as the league leader in field goal percentage (59.5) and was the only UA player to shoot better than 50 percent a year ago.

problem when we try to get better matchups. We didn't have the experience and as much quickness as we're going to have this year."

While Arizona's depth won't make it a necessity for the freshman class to step in and contribute immediately, Olson sees it as a positive that these student-athletes will fight for playing time right away. "The good thing with this freshman class is that they can come in without having the kind of pressure that last year's freshman class had," he said. "Yet, they are the kind of guys who want that pressure."

Hassan Adams, a 6-foot-4, 201-pound guard from Westchester High School in Los Angeles averaged 18.3 points, 5.4 rebounds and 3.1 assists as a senior in leading his team to the 2002 California state championship. The Los Angeles Times Player of the Year, Adams also became the first guard since Baron Davis in 1997 to earn California Mr. Basketball honors. He is a powerful and athletic player who is a force at both ends of the court.

"Hassan won the state championship at Westchester," said Olson. "He's all about team... a tremendous athlete with a great attitude and work ethic. He's the kind of guy that is going to work as hard as he can for the good of the team."

Chris Dunn, a 6-foot-6, 170-pound forward from Hobbs, N.M., could be called a diamond in the rough. The first New Mexico prep product on the UA roster since A.J.

Bramlett, Dunn comes to Tucson from the basketball powerhouse known as Hobbs High School. As a senior, Dunn averaged 17.4 points, 12.3 rebounds and 4.0 blocked shots to earn New Mexico Player-of-the-Year honors.

"Playing in a successful program is nothing new for Chris Dunn," Olson said. "The commitment the kids make to basketball at Hobbs High School is second to none. He is a hard worker and an outstanding athlete, who is very quick off the floor."

Andre Iguodala, a 6-foot-6, 200-pound forward from Springfield, Ill., is a multidimensional player that can play at both ends of the floor. A second-team Parade All-American, Iguodala averaged 23.5 points, 7.9 rebounds and 4.2 assists as a senior. The Chicago Sun-Times Player of the Year, Iguodala was a member of the bronze-medal-winning 2002 U.S. Men's Junior National team.

"Andre really impressed people when he went to the U.S. Junior National team trials in Colorado Springs and eventually made that team," said Olson. "He opened a lot of eyes. He has tremendous amount of ability and is a great competitor."

Chris Rodgers, a 6-foot-3, 203-pound guard from Portland, Ore., averaged a state-best 26.6 points, 5.2 rebounds and 3.0 assists last season. The No. 4 point guard in the

country by one recruiting service, Rodgers possesses the ability to play either guard position. He was the Portland Interscholastic

Isiah Fox, the 6-foot-9, 259-pound center averaged 4.4 points and 4.0 rebounds in 2001-02 and earned valuable time as both a starter (nine times) and reserve.

League Player of the Year and played in the Jordan Brand Capital Classic in Washington, D.C.

"Chris is an outstanding athlete with a lot of versatility," said Olson. "He's played all three wing spots. He has a good handle and feel for the game."

Not only does this group of four freshmen help Arizona become a quicker and more versatile unit, but the improved depth could pay the biggest dividends. Being able to have strong competition every day in practice was something that was sorely missed last season. The only time the team was really tested came on game day. That will certainly change this season.

"The lack of depth in practice was a real problem for us last year," said Olson. The



competition in practice this year will be more of what our guys are accustomed to. The ability to match our best players against each other will really benefit us from a practice standpoint."

All in all, Olson likes the makeup of his 2002-03 Wildcats. A deep and athletic team with strong leadership heads into a 27-game regular-season schedule featuring strong non-conference opposition and the always-challenging Pac-10 slate. Beginning his 20th season in Tucson, Olson has a quick and well-balanced squad.

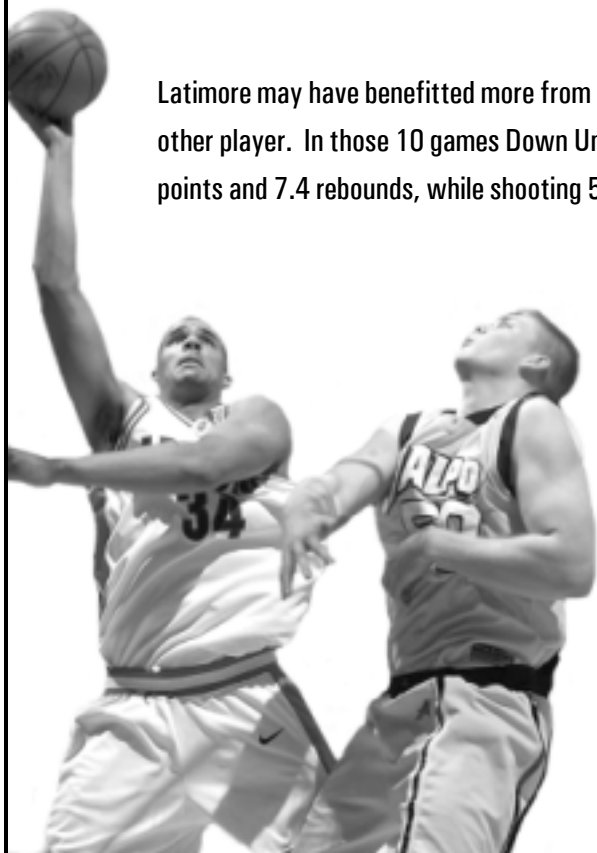
"I think quickness will be our strength, as will shooting ability," said Olson. "When I talk about shooting ability, I mean at all five positions. I think that we're going to be a good shooting team, and a very well-balanced team. I don't think we'll have to rely on one guy to put up big numbers. The key will be to make sure we're getting a good shot regardless of who's taking it."

While Olson himself heads into the 2002-03 with the new title of Hall of Famer, he knows that the moniker won't be responsible for any victories. "The individual honor of being inducted into the Hall of Fame will not have an impact on us," he explained.

"I appreciate the honor tremendously. It's reaching the pinnacle of your profession...the greatest thing that can happen to a coach, but it's not going to put more wins on the ledger.

My job is to do the best job that I can in coaching this team. I feel good about our staff and players, and about this season, but we're going to have to work hard to be successful."

Latimore may have benefitted more from the Australian trip than any other player. In those 10 games Down Under, Latimore averaged 10.8 points and 7.4 rebounds, while shooting 54.5 percent from the floor.



2002-03 Roster

NUMERICAL

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.-Exp.	DOB	Hometown (Last School)
2	Isaiah Fox	C	6-9	269	So.-1L	3-29-83	Santa Monica, Calif. (Crossroads HS)
3	Will Bynum	G	5-11	193	So.-1L	1-4-83	Chicago, Ill. (Crane Tech Prep HS)
4	Luke Walton	F	6-8	245	Sr.-3L+	3-28-80	San Diego, Calif. (University HS)
11	Jason Ranne	G	6-4	195	Jr.-2L>	8-15-81	Tulsa, Okla. (Bishop Kelly HS)
12	Fil Torres	G	6-2	195	Sr.-1L>	12-10-80	Lisle, Ill. (Naperville North HS)
13	Chris Rodgers	G	6-3	203	Fr.-HS	1-10-84	Portland, Ore. (Woodrow Wilson HS)
20	Salim Stoudamire	G	6-1	176	So.-1L	10-11-82	Portland, Ore. (Lake Oswego HS)
21	Hassan Adams	G	6-4	201	Fr.-HS	6-20-84	Los Angeles, Calif. (Westchester HS)
22	Jason Gardner	G	5-10	191	Sr.-3L	11-14-80	Indianapolis, Ind. (North Central HS)
24	Andre Iguodala	F	6-6	200	Fr.-HS	1-28-84	Springfield, Ill. (Lanphier HS)
33	Rick Anderson	F	6-9	225	Sr.-3L+	8-10-79	Long Beach, Calif. (Long Beach Poly HS)
34	Dennis Latimore	F	6-8	238	So.-1L	8-19-82	Halstead, Kan. (Halstead HS)
44	Chris Dunn	F	6-6	170	Fr.-HS	11-16-83	Hobbs, N.M. (Hobbs HS)
45	Channing Frye	C	6-10	235	So.-1L	5-17-83	Phoenix, Ariz. (St. Mary's HS)

ALPHABETICAL

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.-Exp.	DOB	Hometown (Last School)
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4	Luke Walton	F	6-8	245	Sr.-3L+	3-28-80	San Diego, Calif. (University HS)

+ Has used redshirt year

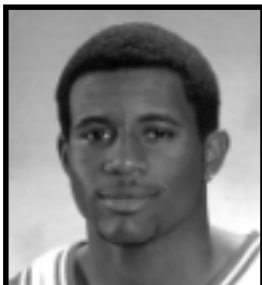
> Walk-on

Head Coach: Lute Olson (Augsburg College, '56; 20th year at Arizona, 30th overall)

Associate Head Coach: Jim Rosborough (Iowa '66; 14th Year)

Assistant Coaches: Rodney Tention (San Francisco, '88; Sixth Year); Josh Pastner (Arizona, '98; First Year)

2002-03 Photo Roster

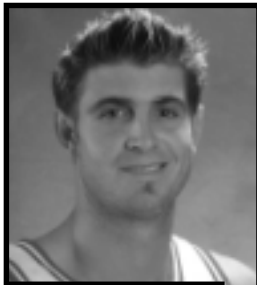


Hassan Adams

G • 6-4, 201 • Fr.

Los Angeles, Calif.
(Westchester)

21



Rick Anderson

F • 6-9, 225 • Sr.

Long Beach, Calif.
(Long Beach Poly)

33



Will Bynum

G • 5-11, 193 • So.

Chicago, Ill.
(Crane Tech Prep)

3



Chris Dunn

F • 6-6, 170 • Fr.

Hobbs, N.M.
(Hobbs)

44

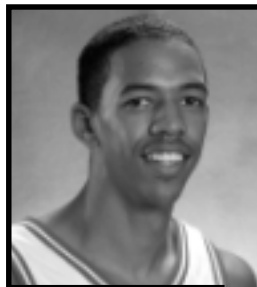


Isaiah Fox

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Santa Monica, Calif.
(Crossroads)

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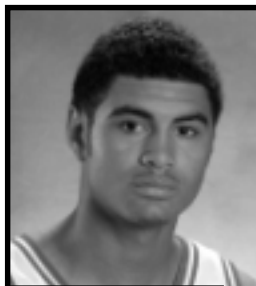


Jason Ranne

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(University)

4



Lute Olson

Head Coach

20th Year at Arizona



Player Bios



ARIZONA BASKETBALL™