
Lady Turks Basketball '22

By Nichole Gaertner



Sitting in the bleachers, the mood buzzing with excitement, the crowd is growing with parents and friends. The week of February 17th was an emotionally draining and uplifting one for the Sultan Turks. The Sultan Highschool women's basketball team made it to the playoffs... for the first time!

Coach Todd Weidman wrote, “This year's team had the most wins in Lady Turk History with 18.”

The second to last playoff game was on a Thursday night, and it was a nail biter. Turks were up against Cedar Park Christian School, known for being a strong private school team. The referees made calls that many of the fans didn't agree with and they were sure to let everyone know! As the night was winding down the teams were neck and neck. The crowd grew louder while the charge in the atmosphere grew electric. With one minute left on the board and the tension thick, the lady Turks pulled ahead. Sultan wins, 44 to 41.

Between team co-captain senior Grace Trichler's amazing scoring, followed by the support of point guard Ranah Rylah, and aggressive defense of co-captain Faith Anderson, Cascadia Yates, Shyann Rylah, and Taylor Cushing, our ladies played in 6 playoff games, including 4 wins.

Trichler, a 2-time Emerald Sound Conference player of the year, scored her 1000th career point this season and finished her career with 1217 points. Being the only senior on the team she led the Turks to a 10-0 record during their in-season games and 18-4 overall!

Taylor Cushing, a freshman forward states, “We had a super strong team, probably the best team Sultan has had for girls basketball in a long time!” She continues saying, “...for being a mainly freshman team, seeing we had 1 senior and 2 juniors, that brought so many amazing opportunities for us freshman!”



One of those opportunities was the sixth and final playoff game on Saturday, February 19th. Kings Christian Private School hosted an entire day of games between both men and women leagues. Sitting across the gym one would think the girls had made it to the Olympics. The support and pride our community has in their young women is thunderous. Every point scored won cheers and chants that made the walls shake and the floors quake. The feeling of camaraderie and satisfaction could be felt by all. Sultan lost to Lynden Christian Private School 69 to 34. The entire Sultan side of the gym stood up and applauded. Our Lady Turks may not have won that last game, but they still made the entire community proud.

"This team never had the mindset that when they stepped on the court that they were going to lose, this was much different then past years, this team was ready for every challenge put in front of them," said Weidman.

"I'm just super excited for what we have ahead of us too, we are just getting started!" Cushing replies with enthusiasm. "...We just all need to keep up the great work and enjoy our high school seasons to come!"