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FEATURE STORY

VERSATILE REED LEADS KINGMAN GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

PHOENIX, AZ (Dec. 16, 2009) – Kingman High is expected to challenge for the Class 5A Division II girls basketball championship, and one of the biggest reasons is the all-around play of Lindsey Reed.

The 5-foot-8 ½-inch senior is all over the floor for the Bulldogs, who were 6-1 overall and 1-0 in Northwest Region play entering the week of Dec. 14. Kingman played well in a recent tournament at Glendale Deer Valley and will participate in another tournament at Phoenix Arcadia Dec. 21-23.

"She is about as solid a player as you can get," said Kingman coach Danny Gonzalez.

Reed is the team's primary point guard, but is versatile enough to play other positions.

Entering the week of Dec. 14, she was averaging slightly less than 20 points per game along with 7 rebounds, 5 assists and 3 steals.

Reed is part of an athletic family. Older sisters Tennil and Cindy played at Kingman, and younger brother Levi and younger sister Taylor are coming up through the ranks at Kingman behind Lindsey.

Having a strong competitive drive aids Reed almost as much as her skillset. She wants to win as much when playing against her brothers and sisters on a backyard sport court as she does with the high school team.

Now 18, she has been playing since age 5 and has played for a handful of club teams, including the Vegas Elite traveling team from the summer of 2009. The team traveled to events in Oregon and South Carolina and played in a 64-team event at the University of Indiana, where it placed second.

"I like to be competitive, no matter what sport it is," said Reed, who also plays on Kingman's volleyball team and competes in three events on the track and field team – the 400 (meters) the 800 and the long jump.

She hopes to become a dental hygienist and/or a coach and is working on her leadership skills.

"I enjoy helping the younger players," she said. "They look up to me, just as I looked up to my sisters."

The best way to show leadership is with a strong work ethic, which includes working hard at both ends of the floor, not just on offense.

Reed enjoys being a catalyst on defense.

"You have to be able to stop the other team," she said. "I know that if there is a game where I am not playing well on offense, I can make up for it by playing good defense."

She has been contacted by a few colleges about playing at the next level, but she will wait until after the season to decide her next move.

There still is plenty of time to enjoy hanging out with teammates, such as at a recent team barbecue. She said the team is close-knit, and is working toward a region championship, which likely would secure at least one home game in the state tournament.

"We want to take the region. It is very competitive," she said.

The team receives a lot of support from the school and community, particularly down the stretch.

The people know a good team, and in Reed's case, a good player, when they see them.

"The City of Kingman and Kingman High are proud of her," Gonzalez said.

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