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## SPU Takes 8-Game Streak Into Holidays Falcons Rise To 12th, Begin 7-Game Homestand Dec. 28

**Making themselves at home.** Sit back and prop the feet up because the Falcons plan to make themselves feel at home over the next five weeks. Heading into the holidays on an eight-game win streak, Seattle Pacific University (8-1) has risen to No. 12 in the nation and now plays its next seven men's basketball games at Brougham Pavilion, beginning with the Oak Harbor Freight Lines Holiday Classic Dec. 28-29. Following a 12-day Christmas lull, SPU faces Texas A&M Commerce (4-7) and Lewis-Clark State (8-4). Great Northwest Athletic Conference play resumes Jan. 3 against Northwest Nazarene.

**It all starts with 'D'.** A quick study of the GNAC statistical leaders will help explain Seattle Pacific's strong start. It's fundamentals such as a commitment to playing hard (defense and rebounding), court smarts (sound shooting) and unselfishness which are doing the job. The Falcons lead the conference in both scoring (63.3) and field-goal percentage (.398) defense. They are second in rebounding margin (+5.9) and free throw accuracy (.781) and third in shooting percentage (.476). While several players are performing at all-conference caliber, none ranks among the leaders in any major category.

**Anyone, anywhere.** Brougham Pavilion would be Coach **Ken Bone's** preferred location for all games, but the fact remains that SPU has already demonstrated an ability to beat anyone, anywhere. A week after knocking off a strong Central Washington team on the road, the Falcons earned their first win over a top-10 program in two years. Defense and some clutch plays in the final minute paved the way to a 68-63 defeat of Henderson State (Ar.), ranked No. 8 in last week's NCAA Division II poll, at the High Desert Classic in Las Vegas. A day later came a more comfortable victory over a good Ashland (Oh.) side, 76-63. The two foes were the seventh and eighth in nine games to be held under 69 points and 47 percent shooting.

**Immediate dividends.** Bone's offseason recruiting efforts continue to pay early and sizable dividends. Forward **Yusef Aziz** (Jr., 6-4, Seattle, Wa./Foster-Highline CC), a junior college transfer, shouldered much of the load versus Henderson State. Aziz scored 20 of his season-high 25 points in the second half, including four decisive points in the final 35 seconds. He added 15 points against Ashland and finished the tournament 16-22 from the field, with 10 rebounds and six assists to earn co-GNAC player of the week. A week earlier, transfer point guard **Maurice Cato** (Jr., 6-0, Fairfield, Ca./Fairfield-Skyline JC) poured in 28 in the second half and overtimes of the win over Central. Aziz is the team's top scorer (14.8), shooter (.627), thief (1.7 steals) and No. 2 rebounder (5.8) for the season. Cato is averaging 9.8 points, 2.9 assists and has hit 89 percent of his free throws.

**In the hands of Stone.** Not many college teams can term the role of their high post player as a playmaker, but then **Brannon Stone** (Sr., 6-9, Oak Harbor, Wa.) has never been confused with ordinary. Now in his fourth year as a starter, Stone is leading the team in assists (4.4) once again. In Las Vegas he re-emerged as a scoring threat with 29 points in the two games. Inside, Stone's particularly effective as a shot-blocker (1.2 per game this year, 241 for his career) and defensive rebounder. Offensively, he stretches defense with his shooting range. He connected on 4-6 3-pointers versus Ashland and is hitting 40 percent (15-38) from outside the arc for the first nine games. Overall, Stone's

## 2001-02 MEN'S BASKETBALL

### SPU Quick Facts

2001-02 Season Record—8-1 (2-0 GNAC)

Coach—Ken Bone, 12th year

Coach's SPU Record— 235-93

Coach's Career Record— 242-114

### Upcoming Schedule

*Oak Harbor Freight Lines Holiday Classic*

*Brougham Pavilion, Seattle, Wa.*

*Fri., Dec. 28*

vs. Texas A&M Commerce (4-7), 7 p.m.

Seattle U. vs. Lewis-Clark St., 5 p.m.

*Sat., Dec. 29,*

vs. Lewis-Clark State (8-4), 7 p.m.

Seattle vs. Tx. A&M Commerce, 5 p.m.

*Thr., Jan. 3, 7:30 p.m.*

vs. Northwest Nazarene

*Sat., Jan. 5, 7 p.m.*

vs. Seattle University

### Last Week's Results

SPU 68, Henderson State 63

SPU 76, Ashland 63

### Streaks & Such

Seattle Pacific has won eight in a row and has won 20 consecutive December games dating back to 1998

### Stat de jour

SPU leads the GNAC in scoring (63.3) and field-goal percentage (.398) defense

### NCAA Division II Poll

1. Kentucky Wesleyan
2. Northeastern State (Ok.)

also

6. Cal State San Bernardino
12. **Seattle Pacific**
14. Humboldt State

### GNAC Standings

	W	L	W	L
Humboldt State	2	0	9	0
Seattle Pacific	2	0	8	1
Western Washington	2	0	6	3
Alaska Anchorage	1	0	1	6
Western Oregon	1	1	3	6
Seattle University	1	1	2	6
Alaska Fairbanks	0	1	0	8
Central Washington	0	2	6	2
Northwest Nazarene	0	2	1	6
Saint Martin's	0	2	1	8

field-goal percentage of .494 is some four points higher than his first three seasons. After last week he is now the school's No. 10 career scorer (1182), No. 6 rebounder (703) and No. 2 in steals (163). Stone has held every SPU blocks record since midway through his sophomore season.

**Center of attention.** With center **Eric Sandrin** (Sr., 6-10, Bothell, Wa./Shorecrest-Portland), Aziz and Stone, Seattle Pacific has perhaps the most formidable front line in school history. Sandrin's contributions in Vegas were solid: 25 points and 14 rebounds. For the first nine games he's the top SPU rebounder (5.9) and No. 3 scorer (11.4). His younger brother, **Daniel Sandrin** (Jr., 6-7, Bothell, Wa./Bothell-Portland), is the squad's top-scoring non-starter, averaging 7.6 while shooting 55 percent from the field.

**Put-backs.** The Falcons have now won 20 consecutive December games dating back to 1998...**Nick Johnson** (Sr., 6-3, Burlington, Wa./Burlington-Edison) turned in yet another steady set of games with 24 points (8-15 FGs), 10 rebounds and a key steal with 6 seconds left vs. Henderson State...**Adam Harris** (Jr., 6-0, Fox Island, Wa./Gig Harbor), sidelined by a lacerated thumb then a fractured left ankle, played nine minutes in his first action of the season vs. Ashland...Aziz is third among GNAC leaders in field goal percentage and sixth in steals (1.7). Stone is third in assists and eighth in blocks. Cato is fourth in free throw percentage leaders.

**Opponent & series notes.** The marks the seventh annual Oak Harbor Freight Lines tournament, and SPU enters this edition with a record of 9-1 in past years...Texas A&M Commerce won the only previous meeting with the Falcons in the Final Four season of 1999-00. The Lions, who will have been idle since Dec. 8, lost four of their last five going into the break...Seattle Pacific defeated Lewis-Clark State for the seventh time in eight meetings last season at Lewiston, Id. The Warriors have won four in a row...Northwest Nazarene has lost four straight to SPU and six in a row overall this season after opening with a win over Lock Haven (Pa.) at Brougham Nov. 16...SPU has beaten Seattle U. 10 consecutive times since 1995, including a 64-49 nonconference win at Connolly Center Nov. 24. The Redhawks will complete the four-team OHFL field and play the 5 p.m. game each night.

**Tickets, please.** Reserved tickets for all SPU home games are priced \$7 and \$6. General admission is \$5 with youth, students and senior citizens \$3 with proper identification. Groups or teams can qualify for discounts by calling (206) 281-2085 in advance.

## 2001-02 Men's Basketball Roster

No.	Name	Pos	Hgt	Yr	Exp	Hometown (High School/Last Coll.)
1	Jordan Lee	G	6-2	Fr	RS	Tacoma, Wa. (Life Christian)
3	Maurice Cato	G	6-0	Jr	TR	Fairfield, Ca (Fairfield/Skyline)
4	Mike Bushmaker	F	6-7	Fr	HS	Yakima, Wa (Eisenhower)
10	Adam Harris	G	6-0	Sr	3V	Fox Island, Wa. (Gig Harbor)
11	Aaron Bellessa	G	6-2	Jr	2V	Federal Way, Wa. (Decatur)
15	Jeff Knudson	F	6-6	Fr	HS	Mukilteo, Wa (Kamiak)
20	Yusef Aziz	F	6-4	Jr	TR	Tukwila, Wa (Foster/Highline)
21	Brannon Stone	F	6-9	Sr	3V	Oak Harbor, Wa. (Oak Harbor)
22	Jesse Keely	F/C	6-7	Jr	1V	Fircrest, Wa. (Bellarmine/Portland)
23	Nick Johnson	G	6-3	Sr	3V	Burlington, Wa. (Burlington-Edison)
30	Gene Woodard	F	6-4	Jr	2V	Edmonds, Wa. (O'Dea)
32	Joe Sundberg	G	6-1	Jr	TR	Longview, Wa (M. Morris/Skagit Valley)
34	Eric Sandrin	C	6-10	Sr	1V	Bothell, Wa. (Shorecrest/Portland)
40	Daniel Sandrin	F	6-7	Jr	1V	Bothell, Wa. (Bothell/Portland)
42	Chris Cohen	F	6-8	So	1V	Saint Helens, Or. (Saint Helens)

Head Coach: Ken Bone

Associate Head Coach: Jeff Hironaka

Assistant Coaches: Jarrett Mentink, George Parker, Reggie Paul

## 2001-02 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 6	BLUE ANGELS (ex.)	W, 86-67
Nov. 9	NW ALL-STARS (ex.)	W, 90-68
Nov. 16-17	VITAMILK TIP-OFF CLASSIC	
Nov. 16	SPU v INDIANAPOLIS	L, 67-68
Nov. 17	SPU v LOCK HAVEN	W, 87-59
Nov. 24	at Seattle University	W, 64-49
Nov. 27	NORTHWEST COLL.	W, 103-66
Dec. 1	HAWAII PACIFIC	W, 86-56
Dec. 6	at Central Washington*W,	101-100 ot
Dec. 8	at Saint Martin's*	W, 73-46
Dec. 15	Henderson St. (at Las Vegas)W,	68-63
Dec. 16	Ashland, Oh. (at Las Vegas)W,	76-63
Dec. 28-29	OAK HARBOR F'LINES CLASSIC	
Dec. 28	Seattle University v L-C St.	5:00
	SPU v TEXZ. A&M COMMERCE	7:00
Dec. 29	Seattle v Tex. A&M Commerce	5:00
	SPU v LEWIS-CLARK ST.	7:00
Jan. 3	NORTHWEST NAZARENE*	7:30
Jan. 5	SEATTLE UNIVERSITY*	7:00
Jan. 12	WESTERN WASHINGTON*	7:00
Jan. 17	ALASKA FAIRBANKS*	7:30
Jan. 19	ALASKA ANCHORAGE*	7:00
Jan. 24	at Humboldt State*	8:00
Jan. 26	at Western Oregon*	7:00
Jan. 31	SAINT MARTIN'S*	7:30
Feb. 2	CENTRAL WASHINGTON*	3:30
Feb. 7	at Seattle University*	8:00
Feb. 9	at Northwest Nazarene*	7:30
Feb. 16	at Western Washington*	7:00
Feb. 21	at Alaska Anchorage*	8:05
Feb. 23	at Alaska Fairbanks*	4:00
Feb. 28	WESTERN OREGON*	7:00
Mar. 2	HUMBOLDT STATE*	7:00

\*Great Northwest Athletic Conference games  
All times are Pacific

## 2001-02 Season Leaders

### Scoring

Yusef Aziz	14.8
Nick Johnson	12.9
Eric Sandrin	11.4
Brannon Stone	10.4

### Rebounds

Eric Sandrin	5.9
Yusef Aziz	5.8
Nick Johnson	5.7

### Assists

Brannon Stone	4.4
Maurice Cato	2.6

### Field Goal Percentage

Yusef Aziz	.627
Nick Johnson	.544

### Three Point Percentage

Brannon Stone	(15-38) .395
Maurice Cato	(13-38) .342

### Free Throw Percentage

Maurice Cato	(25-28) .893
Nick Johnson	(22-26) .846

Team	Pts.	Reb	FG%	FT%	3P%
SPU	80.6	38.3	.476	.781	.346
Opp.	63.3	32.4	.398	.653	.335

Seattle Pacific University  
2001-02 Men's Basketball Statistics  
Record: 8- 1/ 2- 0 GNAC

Date	Opponent	Score	Site	Attend	Record	Leading Scorer	Leading Rebounder
11/16	Indianapolis	67- 68 L	H Seattle ,Wa.	675	0- 1	17- Nick Johnson	8- Nick Johnson
11/17	Lock Haven	W 87- 59	H Seattle, Wa.	565	1- 1	17- Yusef Aziz	9- Yusef Aziz
11/24	Seattle University	W 64- 49	A Seattle, Wa.	310	2- 1	12- Eric Sandrin	5- 4 Players Tied
11/27	Northwest College	W 103- 66	H Seattle, Wa.	575	3- 1	19- Nick Johnson	8- 2 Players Tied
12/ 1	Hawaii Pacific	W 86- 56	H Seattle, Wa.	425	4- 1	15- Yusef Aziz	8- Yusef Aziz
12/ 6	* Central Washington	W 101-100 (OT)	A Ellensburg, Wa.	2100	5- 1	28- Maurice Gato	12- Eric Sandrin
12/ 8	* Saint Martin's	W 73- 46	A Lacey, Wa.	662	6- 1	11- Nick Johnson	9- Nick Johnson
12/15	Henderson State	W 68- 63	N Las Vegas, Nv.	106	7- 1	25- Yusef Aziz	7- Eric Sandrin
12/16	Ashland	W 76- 63	N Las Vegas, Nv.	200	8- 1	18- Brannon Stone	8- Brannon Stone

\* - GNAC Game

	GP-GS	— All FG —			— 3 Pt FG —			— FT —			— Rebounds —								Min-	Avg	Pts	Avg	
		M-	A	Pct	M-	A	Pct	M-	A	Pct	Off	Def	Tot	Avg	A	TO	BLK	STL					PF
Seattle Pacific	9- 7	52-	83	62.7	4- 11	36.4	25- 33	75.8	18	34	52	5.8	13	11	3	16	12-	1	227-	25.2	133	14.8	
Yusef Aziz	9- 0	5-	10	50.0	1-	11	00.0	2- 3	66.7	3	8	11	1.2	17	11	0	5	15-	0	147-	16.3	13	1.4
Aaron Bellessa	9- 9	25-	71	35.2	13- 38	34.2	25- 28	89.3	1	13	14	1.6	23	23	0	13	24-	0	206-	22.9	88	9.8	
Maurice Gato	7- 0	4-	9	44.4	0- 0	0.0	2-	21	00.0	4	5	9	1.3	4	1	0	2	4-	0	37-	5.3	10	1.4
Chris Cohen	1- 0	0-	0	0.0	0- 0	0.0	0-	0	0.0	0	1	1	1.0	2	0	0	1	2-	0	9-	9.0	0	0.0
Adam Harris	9- 9	43-	79	54.4	8- 19	42.1	22- 26	84.6	21	30	51	5.7	16	15	1	7	9-	0	272-	30.2	116	12.9	
Nick Johnson	8- 0	4-	20	20.0	0- 1	0.0	5-	51	00.0	8	9	17	2.1	4	8	3	3	13-	0	79-	9.9	13	1.6
Jesse Keely	9- 0	11-	25	44.0	6- 17	35.3	3- 5	60.0	1	4	5	0.6	3	6	0	4	7-	0	94-	10.4	31	3.4	
Jordan Lee	9- 1	24-	44	54.5	2- 9	22.2	18- 25	72.0	8	16	24	2.7	8	13	2	4	18-	0	167-	18.6	68	7.6	
Daniel Sandrin	9- 7	35-	80	43.8	5- 19	26.3	28- 37	75.7	21	32	53	5.9	13	20	5	5	28-	2	206-	22.9	103	11.4	
Eric Sandrin	9- 9	35-	71	49.3	15- 38	39.5	9- 10	90.0	12	36	48	5.3	40	20	11	15	17-	1	242-	26.9	94	10.4	
Brannon Stone	5- 0	0-	4	0.0	0- 1	0.0	2-	3	66.7	2	1	3	0.6	1	2	0	0	2-	0	25-	5.0	2	0.4
Joe Sundberg	9- 2	18-	42	42.9	2- 8	25.0	16- 24	66.7	9	20	29	3.2	2	11	1	5	11-	0	139-	15.4	54	6.0	
Gene Woodard	Team									15	13	28			0							0	
Seattle Pacific	9- 9	256-	538	47.6	56-162	34.6	157-201	78.1	123	222	345	38.3	146	141	26	80	162-	4			725	80.6	
Opponents	9- 9	206-	518	39.8	60-179	33.5	98-150	65.3	111	181	292	32.4	115	161	18	66	183-	10			570	63.3	

	— First Half —			— Second Half —			— Game —		
All FG	132-	271	48.7%	124-	267	46.4%	256-	538	47.6%
3 Pt FG	32-	93	34.4%	24-	69	34.8%	56-	162	34.6%
FT	47-	59	79.7%	110-	142	77.5%	157-	201	78.1%

Deadball Rebounds: Seattle Pacific 37, Opponents 16  
Opponent Team Rebounds: 34 — (Offense: 19 Defense: 15)  
Technical Fouls: Seattle Pacific 1 — Bench 1; Opponents 0

All Games	8	1	.889	Home	4	2240	560
GNAC	2	0	1.000	Away	3	3072	1024
Home	3	1	.750	Neutral	2	306	153
Away	3	0	1.000				
Neutral	2	0	1.000				
Leading at Half	6	0	1.000				
Trailing at Half	2	1	.500				
Tied at Half	0	0	.000				