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SPU Hoop Fans To Get Sneak Peek Of New Era 2 Preseason Games Prior Tip-Off Tourney; Falcons Picked 4th Just around the corner.

A new era of Seattle Pacific University men's basketball is about to begin and the Falcons' faithful will get a sneak peek at two upcoming preseason exhibitions in Brougham Pavilion. Coming off a 24-5 record, a No. 9 final ranking and with a new coach at the helm for the first time in 12 years, SPU hosts the Northwest All-Stars Friday night (Nov. 8) and The Son's Blue Angels Nov. 15. The regular season begins Nov. 22-23 with the Vitamilk Tip-Off Classic. In fact, the first four games will be at home before hitting the road for all five December contests.

All we need is a Hiro. For the past 11 years he was the quiet, unassuming man behind the scenes of so many successes. Now **Jeff Hironaka** is the head coach of one of the top programs in NCAA Division II for the past 10 years. A career assistant at Idaho State, The Masters' and then associate head coach at SPU since 1991, Hironaka succeeded Ken Bone last spring following Bone's move to the University of Washington. With Hironaka on Bone's staff, the Falcons won 236 of 323 games, won five outright or shared conference championships and earned NCAA tournament berths eight of the past nine years. Hironaka becomes only the second Japanese-American head coach of a four-year collegiate program.

Tough schedule to start. Hironaka did not fluff his schedule with any patsies. Seattle Pacific's opening regular season game features Minnesota Duluth, another 2002 playoff participant, in the first round of the Vitamilk Tip-Off Classic. The next night the Falcons face an arch-nemesis, Central Washington. The non-conference slate also includes the program's first swing through Texas—the River Walk Shootout in San Antonio. There, SPU faces perennial power Pittsburg State (Ks.) plus Missouri Western, still another NCAA tournament team. On the way home for Christmas, there's a stop in Reno to face Nevada, the first Division I opponent in five years. Great Northwest Athletic Conference play begins Dec. 5 at Central Washington. Humboldt State, the defending GNAC champion along with SPU and Western Washington, is the only preseason nationally-ranked team on the schedule. The Lumberjacks, who begin at No. 5, host the Falcons Jan. 25 and visit the pavilion Feb. 22.

Fighting through the pick. Seattle Pacific's path to another GNAC championship will be arduous. Three starters were lost to graduation while Humboldt State, which eliminated SPU in the second round of the playoffs, returns its lineup virtually intact. As expected, Humboldt was installed as the clear preseason favorite by the GNAC coaches, earning nine of 10 first-place votes. The Falcons finished fourth in the poll, behind Western Washington and Central Washington.

A solid start. Hironaka must replace two all-conference performers in Nick Johnson and Brannon Stone, plus center Eric Sandrin, who is now playing professionally in Europe. Still, Hironaka's already got a fairly solid foundation on which to build. **Yusef Aziz** (Sr., 6-4, Seattle, Wa./Foster-Highline CC) was the newcomer of the year in the GNAC and the Falcons' leader in scoring (16.2), steals (1.7) and field goal percentage (.548). Point guard **Maurice Cato** (Sr., 6-0, Fairfield, Ca.) is also back after averaging 10.4 points, 2.8 assists and hitting 51 three-pointers. Forwards **Daniel Sandrin** (Sr., 6-7, Bothell, Wa./Bothell) and **Gene Woodard** (Sr., 6-4, Edmonds, Wa./O'Dea), together, averaged 12.3 points, 5.5 rebounds and shot 55 percent as the top two reserves a year ago. Rounding out the senior class are fifth-year guard **Adam Harris** (Sr., 6-1, Fox Island, Wa./Gig Harbor) and post **Jesse Keely** (Sr., 6-7, Fircrest, Wa./Bellarmine). Harris is a solid shooter but, more importantly, a steadying influence in the backcourt.

2002-03 MEN'S BASKETBALL

SPU Quick Facts

2001-02 Final Record—24-5

Final Ranking—No. 9, NCAA Div. II

Coach—Jeff Hironaka, 1st year

Coach's Career Record—0-0

Upcoming Exhibition Schedule

Fri., Nov. 8, 7 p.m.

vs. Northwest All-Stars

Brougham Pavilion, Seattle, Wa.

Fri., Nov. 15, 7 p.m.

vs. The Son's Blue Angels

Brougham Pavilion, Seattle, Wa.

Coming Up

National Letter of Intent Signing Period

Nov. 13-20

2002 Vitamilk Tip-Off Classic

Nov. 22-23, 2002

Fri., Nov. 22

5 p.m.—NW Nazarene v Central Wash.

7 p.m.—SPU v Minnesota Duluth

Brougham Pavilion, Seattle, Wa.

Sat., Nov. 23

5 p.m.—NW Nazarene v Minnesota Duluth

7 p.m.—SPU v Central Washington

Brougham Pavilion, Seattle, Wa.

Last Season's Highlights

•NCAA tournament, second round

•Co-champions of GNAC

•Fourth straight 20-win season

GNAC Preseason Poll

1. Humboldt State (9)
2. Western Washington
3. Central Washington (1)
4. Seattle Pacific
5. Alaska Anchorage
6. Seattle University
7. Western Oregon
8. Saint Martin's
9. Northwest Nazarene
10. Alaska Fairbanks

Note: First-place votes in parentheses

Keely's a strong rebounder, particularly on the offensive glass. **Chris Cohen** (Jr., 6-8, Saint Helens, Or.), the sole junior, will see increased minutes inside.

Fine fresh faces. The roster is heavily weighted toward seniors (6) and freshmen (6), yet the only two sophomores are making a bid to start. **Jason Chivers** (So., 6-8, Palmdale, Ca./Highland-L.A. Trade Tech) would provide a huge presence inside. In his freshman season Chivers, the only transfer brought in among five recruits, led all California junior college players by averaging 15.6 rebounds. He also averaged 14.1 points and 3.4 blocked shots in a season cut short by a knee injury. Chivers had spent the previous four years as a minor league prospect in the New York Mets farm system. **Jordan Lee** (So., 6-0, University Place, Wa./Life Christian) is competing for the second guard spot. Among the freshmen, **Tony Binetti** (Fr., 6-1, Enumclaw, Wa./Enumclaw), an all-state point guard, will get plenty of minutes as Cato's understudy and redshirt **Jeff Knudson** (Fr., 6-7, Mukilteo, Wa./Kamiak) is considered an excellent perimeter shooter to bring off the bench.

Put-backs. In addition to Binetti and Knudson, two other freshmen will see action. **Dustin Bremerman** (Fr., 6-4, Yakima, Wa./Eisenhower), like Knudson, is a long-range shooter. He attended junior college classes but did not play last year. **Mike Bushmaker** (Fr., 6-7, Yakima, Wa./Eisenhower), a high school teammate of Bremerman, was a redshirt last season...The early signing period for national letters of intent is Nov. 13-20. Last year both Binetti and Bremerman committed at that time...Hironaka plans to redshirt two freshmen: guard **Jordan Beede** (Fr., 6-1, Bellingham, Wa./Squalicum) and forward **Tim Gabelein** (Fr., 6-6, Langley, Wa./South Whidbey).

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.

SPU Coaches. The longest-serving assistant in program history, **Jeff Hironaka** was selected to succeed Ken Bone as head coach Apr. 30, 2002. A former aide at Idaho State and The Master's, Hironaka joined Bone in 1991 and from there the Falcons won 236 of 253 games, claimed five outright or shared conference championships and qualified for the NCAA tournament eight of the last nine years, including a Final Four advancement in 2000. Hironaka is the second Japanese-American head coach of a four-year collegiate program. **Keith Cooper**, an alumnus of Seattle Pacific, is the staff's top assistant. Cooper previously was an assistant at Central Washington and Pacific Lutheran, and head coach at Federal Way's Decatur High School. **George Parker** who first served as an assistant in 1986, returns for his 14th year on the staff. Others who are new to the staff are **Rich King**, former Nebraska and Seattle SuperSonics center, and **Michael Johnson**, an all-state selection from nearby Ballard and four-year letterman at Washington.

2002-03 Men's Basketball Roster

No.	Name	Pos	Hgt	Yr	Exp	Hometown (High School/Last Coll.)
1	Jordan Lee	G	6-2	So	1V	Tacoma, Wa. (Life Christian)
3	Maurice Cato	G	6-0	Sr	1V	Fairfield, Ca (Fairfield/Skyline)
4	Mike Bushmaker	F	6-7	Fr	RS	Yakima, Wa (Eisenhower)
10	Adam Harris	G	6-0	Sr	3V	Fox Island, Wa. (Gig Harbor)
11	Tony Binetti	G	6-1	Fr	HS	Enumclaw, Wa. (Enumclaw)
15	Jeff Knudson	F	6-7	Fr	RS	Mukilteo, Wa (Kamiak)
20	Jordan Beede	G	6-1	Fr	HS	Bellingham, Wa. (Squalicum)
21	Yusef Aziz	F	6-4	Sr	1V	Tukwila, Wa (Foster/Highline)
22	Jesse Keely	F/C	6-7	Sr	2V	Fircrest, Wa. (Bellarmine/Portland)
23	Tim Gabelein	F	6-6	Fr	HS	Langley, Wa. (South Whidbey)
30	Gene Woodard	F	6-4	Sr	3V	Edmonds, Wa. (O'Dea)
32	Dustin Bremerman	F	6-4	Fr	HS	Yakima, Wa. (Eisenhower)
34	Jason Chivers	C	6-8	So	TR	Palmdale, Ca. (Highland/LA Trade)
40	Daniel Sandrin	F	6-7	Sr	2V	Bothell, Wa. (Bothell/Portland)
50	Chris Cohen	C	6-8	Jr	2V	Saint Helens, Or. (Saint Helens)

Head Coach: Jeff Hironaka

Assistant Coaches: Keith Cooper, George Parker, Rich King, Michael Johnson

2002-03 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 8	NW ALL-STARS (Ex.)	7:00
Nov. 15	SON'S BLUE ANGELS (Ex.)	7:00
Nov. 22-23	VITAMILK TIP-OFF CLASSIC	
Nov. 22	NW Nazarene v Central Wash.	5:00
	SPU v MINN. DULUTH	7:00
Nov. 23	NNU Nazarene v Minn. Duluth	5:00
	SPU v CENTRAL WASH.	7:00
Nov. 25	WARNER PACIFIC	7:00
Nov. 30	SEATTLE UNIVERSITY	2:00
Dec. 5	at Central Washington*	7:00
Dec. 7	at Saint Martin's*	7:00
Dec. 16-17	River City Shootout (at San Antonio)	
Dec. 16	SPU v Missouri Western	3:00
Dec. 17	Seattle Pacific v Pittsburg State	3:00
Dec. 19	at Nevada	7:05
Jan. 3-4	OAK HARBOR FREIGHTLINES CL.	
Jan. 3	Seattle Univ. v Rocky Mountain	5:00
	SPU v UC SANTA CRUZ	7:00
Jan. 4	Seattle Univ. v UC Santa Cruz	2:00
	SPU v ROCKY MOUNTAIN	7:00
Jan. 11	WESTERN WASHINGTON*	7:00
Jan. 16	ALASKA ANCHORAGE*	7:00
Jan. 18	ALASKA FAIRBANKS*	7:00
Jan. 23	at Western Oregon*	7:00
Jan. 25	at Humboldt State*	7:00
Jan. 30	SEATTLE UNIVERSITY*	7:30
Feb. 1	NORTHWEST NAZARENE*	3:30
Feb. 8	at Western Washington*	7:00
Feb. 13	at Alaska Fairbanks*	8:00
Feb. 15	at Alaska Anchorage*	9:05
Feb. 20	HUMBOLDT STATE*	7:30
Feb. 22	WESTERN OREGON*	7:00
Feb. 27	at Northwest Nazarene*	6:00
Mar. 1	at Seattle University*	7:00
Mar. 6	SAINT MARTIN'S*	7:30
Mar. 8	CENTRAL WASHINGTON*	7:00
Mar. 15-18	NCAA West Regional	
Mar. 28-31	NCAA Elite Eight (at Lakeland, Fl.)	

*Great Northwest Athletic Conference games
All times are Pacific

2001-02 Season Leaders

Scoring

√Yusef Aziz	16.2
Nick Johnson	13.9
Eric Sandrin	10.9
Brannon Stone	10.6
√Maurice Cato	10.4

Rebounds

Brannon Stone	6.4
√Yusef Aziz	6.0
Eric Sandrin	5.7

Assists

Brannon Stone	4.7
√Maurice Cato	2.8

Steals

√Yusef Aziz	1.69
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Blocked Shots

Brannon Stone	1.45
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Field Goal Percentage

√Yusef Aziz	.548
Nick Johnson	.538

Three Point Percentage

Nick Johnson	(26-65) .400
√Maurice Cato	(51-141) .362

Free Throw Percentage

Nick Johnson	(90-101) .891
√Maurice Cato	(66-79) .835

√ returning player

Seattle Pacific University
2001-02 Men's Basketball Statistics
Record: 24- 5/ 15- 3 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	at Seattle Univ.	W 64- 49	A Seattle, Wa.	310	2- 1	12- Eric Sandrin	5-Stn/E. San./Kly/John.
11/27	Northwest College	W 103- 66	H Seattle, Wa.	575	3- 1	19- Nick Johnson	8- Aziz/Johnson
12/ 1	Hawaii Pacific	W 86- 56	H Seattle, Wa.	425	4- 1	15- Yusef Aziz	8- Yusef Aziz
12/ 6 *	at Central Wash.	W 101-100 (OT)	A Ellensburg, Wa.	2100	5- 1	28- Maurice Cato	12- Eric Sandrin
12/ 8 *	at 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
12/28	Tx. A&M Commerce	W 78- 62	H Seattle, Wa.	325	9- 1	18- Yusef Aziz	8- Yusef Aziz
12/29	Lewis-Clark St.	W 80- 64	H Seattle ,Wa.	475	10- 1	19- Yusef Aziz	8- Stone/Johnson
1/ 3 *	Northwest Nazarene	W 85- 64	H Seattle, Wa.	675	11- 1	21- Yusef Aziz	7- Eric Sandrin
1/ 5 *	Seattle University	W 72- 67	H Seattle, Wa.	1275	12- 1	18- Yusef Aziz	11- Yusef Aziz
1/12 *	Western Wash.	W 96- 89	H Seattle, Wa.	1875	13- 1	28- Nick Johnson	6- Nick Johnson
1/17 *	Alaska Fairbanks	W 81- 56	H Seattle, Wa.	550	14- 1	17- Brannon Stone	10- Brannon Stone
1/19 *	Alaska Anchorage	W 95- 64	H Seattle, Wa.	1150	15- 1	17- Yusef Aziz	8- Eric Sandrin
1/24 *	at Humboldt St.	78- 84 L	A Arcata, Ca.	1632	15- 2	23- Nick Johnson	8- Yusef Aziz
1/26 *	at Western Oregon	W 73- 57	H Monmouth, Or.	650	16- 2	25- Yusef Aziz	7- Yusef Aziz
1/31 *	Saint Martin's	W 74- 59	H Seattle, Wa.	775	17- 2	19- Maurice Cato	11- Brannon Stone
2/ 2 *	Central Washington	W 84- 59	H Seattle, Wa.	2675	18- 2	16- Maurice Cato	16- Brannon Stone
2/ 7 *	at Seattle Univ.	W 72- 46	A Seattle, Wa.	540	19- 2	16- Cato/Stone	11- Eric Sandrin
2/ 9 *	at N'west Nazarene	W 86- 83	A Nampa, Id.	763	20- 2	19- Nick Johnson	10- Brannon Stone
2/16 *	at Western Wash.	80- 88 L	A Bellingham, Wa.	2222	20- 3	16- Brannon Stone	11- Yusef Aziz
2/21 *	at Ak. Anchorage	W 95- 86 (OT)	A Anchorage, Ak.	792	21- 3	26- Yusef Aziz	12- Eric Sandrin
2/23 *	at Ak. Fairbanks	W 97- 62	A Fairbanks, Ak.	350	22- 3	22- Brannon Stone	6- Yusef Aziz
2/28 *	Western Oregon	74- 77 L	H Seattle, Wa.	625	22- 4	25- Nick Johnson	11- Brannon Stone
3/ 2 *	Humboldt State	W 81- 78	H Seattle, Wa.	1975	23- 4	21- Yusef Aziz	11- Yusef Aziz
3/ 7	BYU Hawaii (NCAA)	W 82- 57	N San Bernardino, Ca.	667	24- 4	27- Nick Johnson	8-Aziz/Stone
3/ 8	Humboldt St. (NCAA)	82- 89 L	N San Bernardino, Ca.	1337	24- 5	23- Eric Sandrin	10- Eric Sandrin

* - GNAC Game

	GP-GS	— All FG —			— 3 Pt FG —			— FT —			— Rebounds —													
		M-	A	Pct	M-	A	Pct	M-	A	Pct	Off	Def	Tot	Avg	A	TOBLK	STL	PF-D	Min-	Avg	Pts	Avg		
Seattle Pacific	29-29	830	1688	49.7	219	352	61.1	113	154	73.4	70	103	173	6.0	56	40	13	49	55-2	834	28.8	471	16.2	
Yusef Aziz	29-26	172	314	54.8	14	45	31.1	113	154	73.4	70	103	173	6.0	56	40	13	49	55-2	834	28.8	471	16.2	
Aaron Bellessa	25- 0	8-	17	47.1	1-	2	50.0	8-	12	66.7	4	19	23	0.9	32	21	0	7	24-0	264	10.6	25	1.0	
Maurice Cato	29-27	92-	233	39.5	51-	141	36.2	66-	79	83.5	7	40	47	1.6	81	65	0	38	70-1	690	23.8	301	10.4	
Chris Cohen	20- 0	12-	23	52.2	0-	0	0.0	7-	10	70.0	10	16	26	1.3	7	7	0	2	7-0	75-	3.8	31	1.5	
Adam Harris	21- 2	9-	18	50.0	8-	15	53.3	17-	18	94.4	6	12	18	0.9	15	18	1	11	24-0	215-	10.2	43	2.0	
Nick Johnson	29-29	143-	266	53.8	26-	65	40.0	90-	101	89.1	47	80	127	4.4	73	34	2	27	49-2	879-	30.3	402	13.9	
Jesse Keely	27- 0	20-	50	40.0	1-	2	50.0	12-	15	80.0	22	22	44	1.6	9	21	5	8	30-0	199-	7.4	53	2.0	
Jordan Lee	29- 0	27-	63	42.9	13-	38	34.2	3-	7	42.9	5	10	15	0.5	14	15	0	9	21-0	266-	9.2	70	2.4	
Daniel Sandrin	28- 2	66-	114	57.9	9-	26	34.6	52-	68	76.5	22	61	83	3.0	32	33	7	14	57-0	491-	17.5	193	6.9	
Eric Sandrin	28-26	115-	221	52.0	8-	39	20.5	67-	88	76.1	52	108	160	5.7	46	63	18	15	88-4	622-	22.2	305	10.9	
Brannon Stone	29-29	105-	246	42.7	57-	158	36.1	39-	49	79.6	36	149	185	6.4	136	63	42	43	65-1	881-	30.4	306	10.6	
Joe Sundberg	16- 0	4-	12	33.3	2-	4	50.0	2-	6	33.3	3	5	8	0.5	4	3	2	4	4-0	54-	3.4	12	0.8	
Gene Woodard	29- 2	57-	111	51.4	3-	14	21.4	41-	62	66.1	32	40	72	2.5	17	26	3	23	28-0	405-	14.0	158	5.4	
Team											36	22	58			0							0	
Seattle Pacific	29-29	830	1688	49.7	219	352	61.1	113	154	73.4	70	103	173	6.0	56	40	13	49	55-2	834	28.8	471	16.2	
Opponents	29-29	683	1646	41.5	203	578	35.1	139	266	74.5	324	579	903	31.1	406	471	72	207	577-25			1961	67.6	

Deadball Rebounds: Seattle Pacific 98, Opponents 67

Opponent Team Rebounds: 74 — (Offense: 34 Defense: 40)

Technical Fouls: Seattle Pacific 1 — Bench 1; Opponents 5Bench 2