



The following articles appeared in the Grand Forks Herald and the Crookston Times. Brooke Heggie played during the 2012 Grand Forks Fastbreak Club spring basketball season. From her participation, Brooke was invited to play in further tournaments.

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## **Crookston native claims national title in AAU girls basketball tourney**

11:29 a.m. EST, July 18, 2012|Greg DeVillers, Grand Forks Herald, N.D.



CROOKSTON — Brooke Heggie had one of her best basketball tournaments of the offseason in the Twin Cities in late May. Little did she know at the time, but that performance led her to a national championship.

The Crookston High School sophomore-to-be last week played on the Minnesota North Tartan team that won the AAU girls basketball 14-and-under national tournament in Florida.

"It was amazing, incredible," Heggie said. "I never thought I could be a part of something that big."

She almost wasn't.

Heggie spent April and May playing with an AAU team from Grand Forks. But circumstances beyond her control led her to the North Tartan team, whose roster is comprised primarily of players from the Twin Cities.

"Our Grand Forks team was in a tournament (in the Twin Cities)," Heggie said. "The North Tartan team had a guy scouting the tournament. They had two players who were injured and they were looking to fill their roster. I had one of my better tournaments there. I was scoring a lot and doing pretty well on the boards.

"I had no idea they were watching."

Consequently, Heggie was invited to join the North Tartan team. Would she have played as well had she known the North Tartan program was there looking for players? "Probably not," Heggie said.

But Heggie did wind up as a part of the North Tartan team, a program that in the past has included such area standouts as Crookston's Kamille Wahlin and Fosston's Kelly Roysland.

Heggie played in two tournaments in the Twin Cities with North Tartan, then two in Florida, where the team went 13-0 in winning both the AAU nationals and the Nike Freshman Super Showcase tournament.

Heggie was primarily a reserve with the team. "I'm not disappointed that I didn't get to start more," Heggie said. "I just wanted to play. I was only with them for a month. I didn't expect to start."

The 6-foot-1 Heggie averaged 8.4 points for Crookston as a freshman. She's a post player who could match up with most high school opponents the Pirates played. That has been different with North Tartan, which played teams from across the country.

"I actually felt pretty short in some games," Heggie said. "The girls (in the Florida tournaments) were so tall on some of those teams, and they were good athletes. I had to learn to play more physical because of that."

Heggie looks for the experience of playing in national tournaments as something that will make her a better player.

"I saw that I had to be more aggressive," Heggie said. "And I have to get way, way, way better on defense. I'm not the strongest player on defense. That's what I have to really work on."

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## **Heggie selected to North Tartan AAU 15U team for next spring**

Heggie competed with the North Tartan 14U team last spring and won a national championship.

**By Times Report** Oct. 31, 2012 10:34 a.m.

**CROOKSTON** -- Pirate sophomore girls' basketball player Brooke Heggie has been selected to compete with the North Tartan AAU 15U team next spring. Heggie, a 6-foot-1 center, and the Pirates are set to open the 2012-13 season Nov. 27 at home against Moorhead. Heggie's first practice with North Tartan 15U will be March 30, 2013. Heggie competed with the North Tartan 14U team last spring and won a national championship.