

Hook, Line and Sinker

With Tony Hooker

Aliya Holloman is a woman for all seasons, as long as the season in question involves athletic competition.

I recently got the Heritage HS junior, who recently qualified for the state 3-point shooting finals, to slow down long enough to answer a few questions.

1. Is it Ah Lee Ah or Ah Lie Ah?

It's Uh Lee Uh! LOL!
2. You scored your 1000th point this season. What was that like at the time? Did you have time to think about it?

It was very exciting to reach my 1000th point this season. I didn't know when it was going to happen, so I didn't really have time to think about it. I was pretty lucky to have it happen on my home court! After it happened, I still tried to stay focused during the game.

3. You had a good season, but came up just short of winning a regional title, playing even with Sullivan except for one quarter. Have you had time to reflect back on that game? What are your thoughts?

I wish we had taken home the regional title, especially for the seniors, but the third quarter was what hurt us the most on the offensive side. After going back and looking at Krossover, I feel that we needed to improve our offensive rebounding and ball control.

4. How many sports do you play? Which is your favorite and why?

Right now, I currently play basketball, volleyball, bass fishing, travel softball and high school softball. I love every sport I play, just because of my competitive nature. If I had to choose, a favorite, it would be between softball and basketball!

5. Have you thought about your future? Are you planning on playing sports in college? Which one? All of them? In my future career, I want to do something in nursing, especially in NICU. If I had an opportunity to play sports in college, I would with no doubt! It wouldn't matter which sport, I would do it!

6. Are colleges starting to reach out to you?
So far, I've had a few colleges reach out to me for softball and basketball.

7. How much work do you put in during your offseason? How do you find time while you're playing other sports?
I put a lot of time and effort into each of my sports. My dad and I work year-round on all of them, from footwork with fielding, ball handling and shooting, spiking and digging, to strength training. I find time for all of my sports because of my passion and dedication.

8. What will it take for your basketball team to take the next step and go to sectionals or beyond next year?

I would love for more Heritage girls to go out for basketball because right now we only have two. I know we can advance to next level by keep-

ing our aggressive attitude and the will to win.

9. You were very young when the McGee sisters were tearing it up on the court for Heritage. Have you heard any stories?

I have heard a few stories about the McGee twins and their ability to run the court. From what I've heard, they were a very athletic and determined pair!

10. What are your goals for softball this season?

My goals this season for softball are to always improve as an individual and to help the team any way I can. I am also excited for a new coach and what she has planned for our team's future.

11. What's the biggest bass you've ever caught? Where?
The biggest bass I ever caught was 8.5 pounds. I caught it at Homer Lake in a kayak.

<vgnews> Wow!
From hauling in lunkers to splashing three pointers, success seems to follow Holloman, and with a strong nucleus of underclassmen returning, Coach Dan Sappenfield's charges are in a position to make some noise after this year's 21-win campaign, and you can bet that Holloman will be in the thick of things.

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WEEKLY SPORTS WRAP-UP

Boys' basketball
Scuttle Pirates

The Hawks needed every one of Jared Stevens 21 points as they had to go overtime to defeat Cumberland on February 12. Evan Wilson chipped in with 16 points and Will Wilson added 12 for Villa Grove Heritage.

Clean Streaks
VGH raced out to a 30-0 first quarter lead before cruising to a 65-23 win over Martinsville on February 15. Will Wilson and Jake Eversole each had 11 points, and Gavyn Reinhart added 6 for the Hawks, who clinched an outright LOVC SE conference title with the win.

Junior High Volleyball
The seventh graders won the Junior High Okaw Conference Tournament in Tuscola on February 14. The Blue Devils swept LSA and Arcola before taking a 2-1 win over Okaw Valley in the tourney championship game.



The Villa Grove Scholastic Bowl team won the 2019 Masonic Academic Bowl regional tournament, held at Arcola on February 16. Photo courtesy of VG302.

Scholastic Bowl
The Villa Grove high school scholastic bowl squad captured first place at the annual Masonic competition, held in Arcola. With the win, the team advanced to the Illi-

nois Masonic Academic Bowl state tournament, to be held at Bloomington High School on March 2.



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2018-19 VILLA GROVE/HERITAGE HAWKS BOYS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE				record
Nov 19-24	@CGB tourney	(3rd)		3-1
Nov 27	@ Uni High	W 70-32		4-1
Nov 30	@ Schlarman	W 62-38		5-1
Dec 04	Westville	W 67-37		6-1
Dec 08	@ Sullivan OV	W 67-30		7-1
Dec 11	Tuscola	L 48-52		7-2
Dec 14	@ Arthur OC	W 74-60		8-2
Dec 18	@ STM	L 55-76		8-3
Dec 27-29	BSN Tourney	CHAMPS		13-3
Jan 04	LSA	L 62-64		13-4
Jan 08	@ SJO	L 52-58		13-5
Jan 11	Cerro Gordo	W 64-43		14-5
Jan 15	Chrisman	W 63-29		15-5
Jan 19-26	@ LOVC tourney	3rd place		17-6
Jan 31	@ Judah	L 59-71		17-7
Feb 01	@ Oblong	W 63-51		18-7
Feb 05	Tri-County	W 68-48		19-7
Feb 08	Hut-Pal	W 62-58		20-7
Feb 12	@ C'land	W 66-63		21-7
Feb 15	Martinsville	W 65-23		22-7
Feb 18-22	@ IHSA regionals			

HEAD COACH Corey White

2018-19 VILLA GROVE/HERITAGE Blue Devils GIRLS BASKETBALL SCHEDULE				record
Nov 11-16	@Falcon/Bunny Classic	(2nd)		3-1
Nov 20	Tuscola	L 35-39		3-2
Nov 26	@ Westville	W 62-36		4-2
Nov 27	Salt Fork	W 55-49		5-2
Nov 29	Uni High	W 60-32		6-2
Dec 03	@ Judah	W 59-45		7-2
Dec 05	ALAH	W 58-47		8-2
Dec 11	@ Unity	W 47-39		9-2
Dec 13	Cerro Gordo	W 65-41		10-2
Dec 27-29	@ Bismrk trny	4th Place		12-5
Jan 03	Arcola	W 56-29		13-5
Jan 08	@ Chrisman	W 65-36		14-5
Jan 10	@ Hut-Pal	W 56-25		15-5
Jan 12-19	@ LOVC trny	3rd Place		17-6
Jan 21	@ Cmbrind	W 48-26		18-6
Jan 22	@ GRF	W 55-16		19-6
Jan 24	Oblong	W 57-33		20-6
Jan 28	Tri County	L 25-55		20-7
Jan 31	@ M'ville	W 58-25		21-7
Feb 04-08	@ IHSA reg	W, L		22-8

HEAD COACH Dan Sappenfield

2018-19 Villa Grove Devilettes Schedule		
Dec 15	Villa Grove Competition	1st in IDTA
Jan 05	Charleston Competition	2nd in IDTA
Jan 12	Clinton Competition	postponed
Jan 19	IHSA Sectionals	1st place
Jan 25-26	IHSA State Finals	12th place
Feb 02	Tuscola Competition	1st in IDTA
Feb 09	IDTA State Finals Jr High	1st, HS 2nd

HEAD COACH Sarah Bouton

HERITAGE

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