

# Alyssa Potter:

She may have been quiet, but made loud noises at key times during the year

By Bruce Smith  
Matchup

The Weber girls basketball team was glad to have a player like Alyssa Potter in the lineup.

At 6-foot-1, she was the team's biggest player and also had the most beautiful brown eyes. Besides that, she had an attitude that every good squad needs.

"She was an enforcer," said coach Rick Stoeckl. "She was such a hard worker. She spent so many hours, outside of practice, either on her own or with someone to work with her, so that she could get better.

"Because she was so quiet and soft-spoken, no one knew or realized how competitive she was," he added. "She wanted to do well and she wanted to win."

Statistically, Potter didn't stand out. She started almost every game, averaging 2.2 points, 2.6 rebounds and 1.1 blocks. However, there were several individual efforts left an impression on her and everyone else.

"I was like the linebacker," she said. "If the other team had a big player, I was supposed to stay there and keep them off the boards."

Her efforts helped teammates like Hanna Buswell and Erin Reichle get easier access to the rim. Potter said she really enjoyed playing with her teammates because they all contributed to making the team better.

"Erin was the strength of our team," Potter said. "She didn't just score. She passed, too, and we depended on her a lot. She was always pushing us and wanted us to do our best."

She began dressing on the varsity team as a sophomore and big plays soon followed.

\* - As a junior, she didn't play much but got



Alyssa Potter didn't say much, but let her play on the court do her talking during her Weber basketball career.

## Potter's highlights

- \* - **FOURTH OF FIVE KIDS** in her family and she appreciated that they went to all of her games.
- \* - **HIGH GAME** was 8 points vs. Syracuse. Had 7 rebounds against Ogden and Northridge.
- \* - **SHE FELT** Weber's best games were vs. Davis, but added that the Darts' Jessica Richardson was the toughest player.



into the 5A championship game against Syracuse. In that contest, she got into the scoring column with a basket over eventual state MVP Britney Martin.

"I scored on a left-handed hook shot over her, and I'm not even left-handed," she recalled.

\* - As a senior, she recalled blocking a shot so

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**TOP LEFT:** Alyssa Potter gets in position for a rebound during Weber's season-opening game against Hunter.

**TOP RIGHT:** Potter towers over a Syracuse player and prepares to block another shot.

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hard that it looked like a volleyball block.

"I don't remember who it was against, but it was really cool," she said. "I went up and swatted it like a volleyball spiker."

\* - Also her senior year, she had six offensive rebounds against Ogden, and a career-high eight points and four blocked shots against Syracuse. However, there was another reason that made playing against the Titans the most memorable.

"I played for the Syracuse girls teams (in the past) and one of their moms said I would never play varsity," she said. "It was great to score some points and I blocked her daughter's shots a few times. I was motivated."

Stoeckl said it was great to see Potter realize

her potential. Potter came from an athletic family. In her career, she competed in soccer, track & field and basketball. Playing basketball was the obvious choice because of her size and the fact her mother was a college basketball player and always pushed her forward.

"She was almost telling me that I had to go to practice," Potter said. "If I didn't, she told me, 'I'd always regret it.'"

In the end, Potter didn't have many regrets, but admitted that her mother was right that she did miss playing basketball. After graduation, she said she was unsure about her future, but was contemplating an LDS Church mission or college, where she planned to major in nutrition.