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GIRLS' BASKETBALL
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INTEGRIS

CLASS 4A
STATE CHAMPION

There's a good reason Anadarko High School girls basketball coach Jeff Zinn describes sophomore guard Lexi Foreman as one of the most versatile players he's ever coached.

Foreman, daughter of Alicia Josh Foreman and Matt Foreman, recently capped off a memorable season in Oklahoma as she played a key role on Anadarko's Class 4A state championship team. Contributions from the 5-foot-9 guard came in just about every aspect of the game and at both ends of the floor: first on the team in rebounds and steals, second in assists and third in scoring.



Lexi Foreman kisses the Oklahoma Class 4A girls basketball state championship trophy after she helped Anadarko High School win the title with a 54-49 win against Muldrow on March 9 in Oklahoma City. Foreman scored a team-high 12 points. (Courtesy photo)

That versatility combined with an increase in confidence and determination can make for long nights for opposing teams. Case in point came in the postseason. Zinn said Foreman entered the Area tournament with a mindset of "we're not going to lose."

Indeed, Anadarko didn't lose thanks to a career-high 33 points, including six 3-pointers, from Foreman, who also snagged six rebounds in a 69-66 win against Classen SAS on March 1.

"We needed every one of her 33 points. She's always had the ability, but the confidence kicked in," Zinn said.

The victory earned Anadarko a spot in the state tournament where the Lady Warriors knocked off Newcastle by 19 points (Foreman had 11 points and six rebounds) and Victory Christian by 14 points (Foreman had nine points and six rebounds) to set up a championship tilt against undefeated Muldrow on March 9 at the Fairgrounds in Oklahoma City. Playing in a state championship game is where Foreman has wanted to be for a long time.

"It's always been a dream since I was little," Foreman said in an email response to The Seminole

Tribune. "I wasn't too nervous because I always say to myself 'No Fear' before games. I went into the championship game knowing I had to seize the moment and if I wanted it I had to take it, that it wasn't just going to be handed to us. Plus the atmosphere and all the support we had was everything."

In 14 of its previous 15 games, Muldrow eclipsed the 50-point plateau, including putting up 60-plus in two state tournament games, but Anadarko's defense, which Foreman said was the biggest reason for the team's success this year, shut down Muldrow.



After scoring a career-high 33 points, she holds the Area championship plaque that Anadarko won March 1. (Courtesy photo)

Anadarko won 55-49. Foreman shined with a team-high 12 points. She also had five steals, five assists and three rebounds.

"The key to our success had to be our defense," Foreman said. "We definitely ain't the biggest team, but our defense causes the other teams to turn it over by speeding them up and getting into their heads. Like everyone always says, 'offense sells tickets, but defense wins championships.' Also, we pride ourselves on having the best defense."

Foreman made the all-tournament team. Her teammate Averii Zinn, one of the coach's three daughters on the team, was named tournament MVP.

The victory wrapped up a 27-3 season for Anadarko. The squad will lose two seniors, but the core of this year's sophomores, including Foreman, will be back to try to defend its title.

"We will still be a contender for another state championship," Foreman said. "We're a young team, only losing three seniors; two of them being starters, but we have a strong bench ready to step up."

With a state championship now on her resume, Foreman will try to add another title in April when she plans to play for the Seminole Tribe when it hosts tribal teams from Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina and New York for the NAYO tournament in Hollywood.

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