



# SHOOTING STAR

DALE-MARIE CUMBERBATCH IS THE FIRST ONE ON THE COURT AND THE LAST TO LEAVE – AND THAT DEDICATION IS NETTING RESULTS. THE CAPTAIN OF THE OOKS WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM HAD WHAT WAS ARGUABLY HER GREATEST SEASON LAST YEAR, BREAKING FOUR PROVINCIAL COLLEGE BALL RECORDS, INCLUDING THE CAREER SCORING RECORD.

People describe 21-year-old Dale-Marie Cumberbatch as an evolutionary leap, the kind of player who materializes every few generations in college basketball and makes everybody ecstatic and argumentative at the same time.

Last season was a phenomenal one for the captain of the NAIT women's basketball team. The five-foot-11 Cumberbatch broke several Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference (ACAC) records – total number of points per season, most two-point field goals in a season and most free throws in a season. (She also holds the record for the most successful blocks in a season – an achievement from her rookie year.)

When she broke the career ACAC scoring record last November, sports journalists from the *Edmonton Journal*, *Edmonton Sun* and Global Edmonton gave the hoops player her deserved celebration. "Dale-Marie has a real passion for the game and sees the ball really well. Her positional play is exceptional and, with her talents, it's a great pleasure to watch," says *Journal* sports writer Cam Tait, a 2001 recipient of an honorary diploma in Communications Technology from NAIT.

Last year's buzz drew an increased number of fans to NAIT's 900-seat gymnasium to see Cumberbatch play. Undisputedly, Cumberbatch is on her way to shooting to the top of professional women's basketball.



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Dale-Marie  
Cumberbatch on the  
court at Edmonton's  
McNally High School.