WHITE Controls the

SYDNEY

by Kylie Bennett

It's hard to imagine Arapahoe basketball without Sydney White. Through being a crucial piece of the team's final four appearance last year as a junior, and starting off her senior season strong as a team captain, White has proven herself to be a certified force on the court.

"Basketball can bring people together." ~ Sydney White

However, she wasn't always a staple of the Arapahoe team, only moving to Colorado from Provo, Utah the summer before her junior year. But joining late hasn't stopped White from making her impact on Arapahoe, and finding her place within the basketball community. "Had I moved here and not played basketball, It would have been really hard for me to make friends and feel like a part of the community like I do now. I just love it." said White.

And besides just community, the Arapahoe team has been a great place for White to continue to grow as a player and a teammate. Saying that her experience on the team has been "all positive" and that "the team is super close and we're all best friends. My coach puts a lot of effort into it," It's clear to see that Arapahoe basketball has been a fitting place for White to continue her high school career.

Basketball has been a part of her life for as long as she can remember, having played since third grade, and watched her older siblings play in the years before. Since the beginning, White has had her sights set on continuing her basketball career post high school. With her recent commitment to play Division I at Cal Baptist University in Riverside, California, White's dream of collegiate basketball is within her grasp. "I met their coaching staff and their team and I just really felt like that was where I needed to be. And also the school is beautiful, and I love the sun and the warm weather. So it was right." said White.

Photos courtesy of Sydney White

However, she's still got one season left with AHS, and based on their performances in the season thus far, the girls are ready to take on the '22-23 season stronger than ever.

Like many who play sports, or get involved with an extracurricular they're passionate about, basketball has become a part of White's life that means more to her than just wins and losses.

"It connects me with people," she says of the sport. "Basketball can bring people together, and sports in general can bring people together." While White will be missed next year, the legacy she's left, and will continue to leave, on Arapahoe basketball will be remembered long past her time on the AHS court.