

# Van Goor ready to pass on record to Spears

**It's taken more than 25 years for mark of 2,067 points to fall**

**By Joshua Linden** Camera Sports Writer  
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 03/06/2011 11:00:16 PM MST

Lisa Van Goor didn't understand the magnitude of what she'd accomplished when she set the Colorado women's basketball team's career scoring record in 1983.

She was still only a junior, after all. The CU program was essentially still in its infancy, having just begun intercollegiate play less than a decade earlier. And Jeannie Raikes' mark of 1,331 points had stood as the standard for only three years.

Over time, though, Van Goor -- whose career spanned from 1980-85 -- watched as player after player passed through the Coors Events Center without her mark of 2,067 being threatened. No one came within 500 points until Bridget Turner (1,599) and current CU hoops director of operations Tracy Tripp (1,574) finished their careers in 1989. Not until Jackie McFarland scored 1,957 from 2004-2008 did anyone get within 200.

"It made me realize it was a big deal," Van Goor told the Camera recently.

CU senior forward Brittany Spears' 23-point effort in Saturday's loss to Baylor makes almost certain that Van Goor's reign will finally come to an end, possibly as early as Tuesday when the Buffs face Kansas in the first round of the Big 12 Conference tournament.

Spears now has 2,054 points, just 14 shy of passing Van Goor. Even if she is held to fewer against KU and CU loses, the Buffs (15-14, 6-10 Big 12) are likely in line for a WNIT postseason berth and at least one more game.

"It's not easy," the competitor in Van Goor admits of seeing the sun set on her record. "Obviously I've had it for a long time. It's amazing to me with all the great players who have come through this program and with the 3-point shot that somebody didn't break it earlier. It's time. It's hard, but it's time."

One can only speculate as to how many points Van Goor might have scored had injury not struck early during the 1983-84 season. The 6-foot-4 center from Yankton, S.D., had piled up 610 points as a freshman, 678 as a sophomore and 492 as a junior. She played just four games her fourth year -- scoring 69 points -- before being sidelined for good by a stress fracture in her foot.

Van Goor was granted a fifth year of eligibility for the medical hardship. She returned for the second half of the 1984-85 campaign, playing in 13 games and scoring 218 points. Van Goor played in 115 career games, starting 108.

The 6-1 Spears -- knock on wood -- has been essentially injury-free and started all 122 career games. She is one of two Buffs, along with McFarland, to score 500-plus points in a season three times. And she sits ninth on the Big 12's all-time list since the league formed in 1996 after passing current Oklahoma guard Danielle Robinson (2,047) on Saturday.

Spears, to her credit, has downplayed her shot at the school record all season as she and her classmates have fought desperately to grab one more postseason run following a pair of losing seasons.

"I guess it would be a wonderful accomplishment," Spears conceded recently. "But right now I don't know what to think about breaking the record. Probably 10, 20 years from now I'll be like, 'That's wonderful.'"

"It's not that I don't care. It's just not my main focus. If I break it, I break it. If I don't, then I don't."

Spears' assault on CU's record books won't touch all of Van Goor's marks.

Most notably, Van Goor is first all-time in rebounds (1,145) and blocked shots (289). Spears currently sits fourth (952) and third (148), respectively, on those two lists.

The scoring record, though, is most prominent in any program. And Van Goor, who is a fixture at CU games, simply hopes that Spears stays connected to the program as much as possible if she is to become the school's new scoring queen.

"She is one of the most talented players we've seen come through this program," Van Goor said. "I hope we see Brittany around after she's done playing."

[Close Window](#)[Send To Printer](#)