

Tikigaq places sixth at Alaska Invitational games

The Tikigaq High Harpoonettes from Point Hope, hunting in unfamiliar waters, struck two and landed one as the first division 2A team invited to the Alaska Invitational came away with sixth

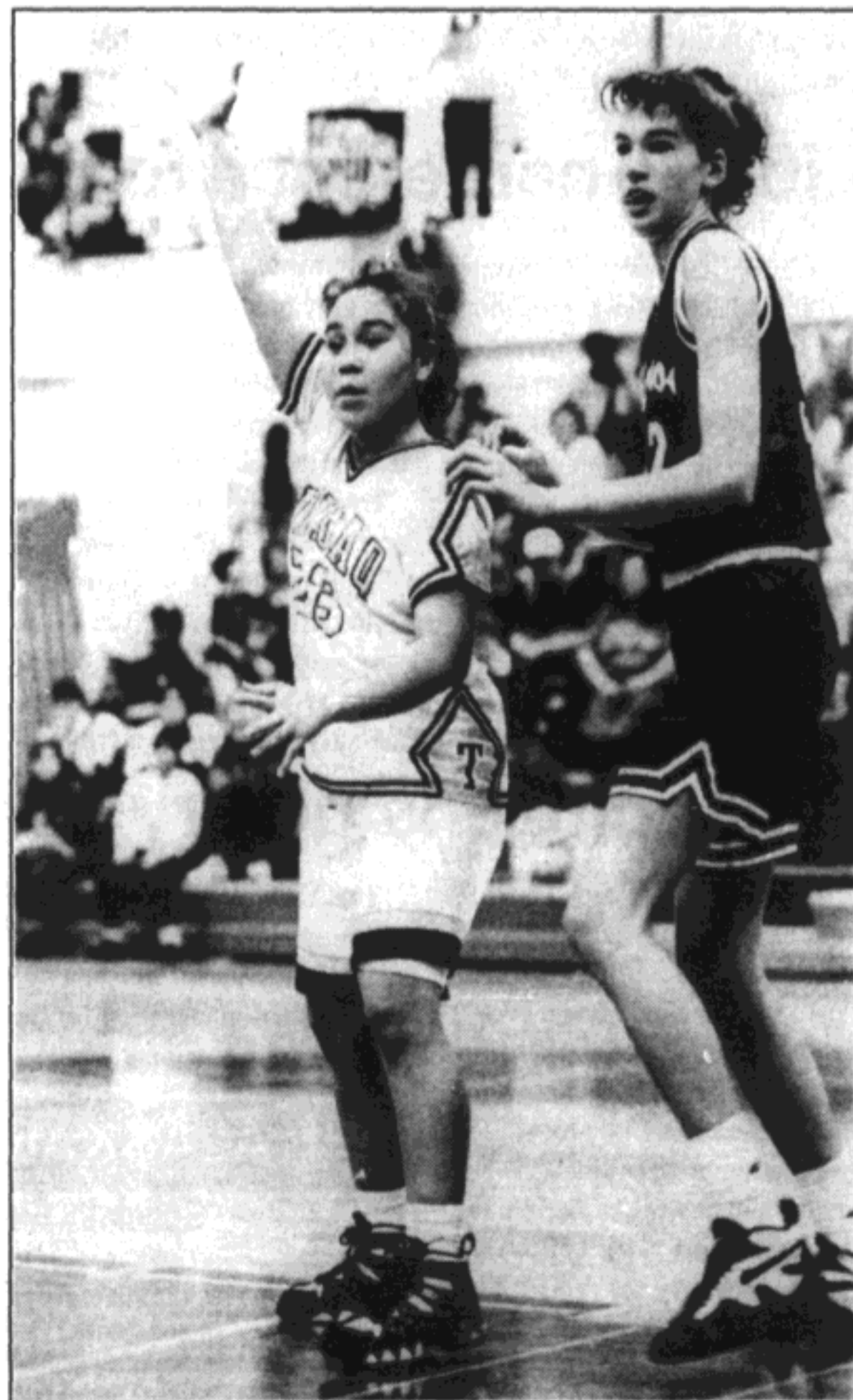
place in the high powered tournament. The Harpoonettes, led by Patricia Stone's 13 points, played the best team in the tournament Glencoe High of Oregon in the opening game losing 71-42.

Tikigaq coach Bill Williams, Alaska's Small School Coach of the Year last season, noted after the game that they didn't match up well against 6 ft. 3 in. All-American Stephanie Block and the Harpoonettes had only three players off the bench to Oregon's seven player bench. Even with the height disadvantage — Point Hope giving up 78 inches in team height to Glencoe — the Tikigaq players only lost by a 29 point margin. Service and West by contrast lost by 43 and 36 point margins in their opening games to the fifth and second place teams. Inupiaqs, many from Point Hope, packed the gym to cheer the visiting Harpoonettes.

Point Hope went on to play the host Service High Lady Cougars in game 6 of the tournament. The gym was again packed with Native fans as the Harpoonettes came out wearing the home team white.

Inupiaq fans cheered, "Hey you that's our ball," when Service had the ball. At the half it was 27-21 Tikigaq as the Service star missed the front end of a "none and none." At the end of the third period Service led 31-30. In the fourth quarter Daisy Lane of Point Hope stole the ball, made a driving lay-up and drew the foul.

Then it was time for the "Mad" show as Madeline Gallahorn, Point Hope #15, took over driving to the basket against the taller Anchorage players. The final score was 44-43 Tikigaq. Point Hope won despite giving up team height to Service, despite being out rebounded 28-37 and despite a limited bench. Tikigaq player



Emma Oenga of Pt. Hope is guarded by Oregon's Glencoe High School All-American, 6'3" Stephanie Block.

Photo by Ray Solomon

Madeline Gallahorn, who led Point Hope with 11 points, saw the tournament as a chance to "show people how good we are." She was very proud of her team's rebounding and very happy that Point Hope was finally invited to

an Anchorage Tournament. Tikigaq played their last game of the tournament against Alaska's top ranked 4A team the Knights of Colony High to place sixth in the tournament.



Daisy Lane of the 2A state champs Pt. Hope Tikigaq shoots a free throw in Pt. Hope's win over Service High School.

Photo by Ray Solomon



Tikigaq High School players Pat Stone, #22, and Daisy Lane, fend off Oregon's Glencoe High School.

Photo by Ray Solomon