

Athletes Unlimited, Unrivaled are WNBA

BY TERESA M. WALKER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Alysha Clark wants to end the narrative that Athletes Unlimited and Unrivaled pits women’s basketball players against each other or forces them to make an either or decision. She believes the two leagues simply give players more options during the WNBA offseason to play basketball closer to home in order to supplement their WNBA salaries. Clark says the women’s pro basketball leagues addresses years of players sacrificing time with family to play overseas. This is Clark’s first season with Athletes Unlimited, which is in its fourth year overall. Unrivaled is in its first year. Clark says that league is more geared to superstar players while Athletes Unlimited is an opportunity for players to hone their skills for WNBA rosters.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Alysha Clark wants to end the narrative that Athletes Unlimited and Unrivaled pits women’s basketball players against one another. Or that having two pro leagues forces players into an either or decision.

Clark believes the leagues are simply providing more offseason opportunities to play basketball closer to home in order to supplement their WNBA salaries.

“It addresses the issues that we’ve had as players for so many years,” Clark said. “All of us have had to go overseas and sacrifice time away from family and friends to make a living ... But now there are options.”

This is Clark’s first season with Athletes Unlimited, which is in its fourth season overall. The three-time WNBA champ couldn’t be closer to home as a Tennessee high school standout who played first at Belmont, then Middle Tennessee. Unrivaled, in its first year, debuted on Jan. 17 and to Clark, that league gives superstar players an offseason option while Athletes Unlimited provides opportunity for other players wanting to hone skills in hopes of making — or keeping their spots — on WNBA rosters.

Having multiple professional women’s leagues to chose from in the U.S. as WNBA offseason options is more than many women could

even dream about 15 years ago.

“It’s beautiful for our game and I’m excited that I get to be a part of it and help spearhead that here at home and like hopefully create more opportunities,” said Clark, who had to fight her way onto a WNBA roster after being cut her first two seasons. “It’d be amazing that this continues to expand and now players have many options and they’re all invested in the same ways is what I hope it ends up coming down to.”

Differences between Athletes Unlmited and Unrivaled

Players in the four-team AU league will play 24 games of 5-on-5 hoops in Nashville starting Wednesday night over the next month at Municipal Auditorium. Unrivaled is 3-on-3 competition with six teams playing 44 regular-season games in Miami.

Three-time Olympian Kia Nurse chose AU as the better option to help her prepare for the upcoming WNBA season with its full-sized court. The tighter season also fit better into her schedule as a broadcast analyst for the NBA’s Toron-

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Figure skating event to benefit victims of DC plane crash

BY STEPHEN WHYNO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ARLINGTON, Va. — A figure skating tribute will take place in Washington, D.C., in early March to support victims of the midair collision and crash outside Ronald Reagan International Airport.

Organizers on Wednesday announced the “Legacy on Ice” benefit event scheduled for March 2 at Capital One Arena in downtown Washington, home of the NBA’s Wizards and NHL’s Washington Capitals. Twenty-eight members of the figure skating community were among the 67 people killed when an Army helicopter collided with an American Airlines flight and crashed into the Potomac River on Jan. 29.

“This is a platform to be able to let people emote,” Monumental Sports & Entertainment chairman and CEO Ted Leonsis said on a video call with reporters. “This has struck so many different people around Washington, D.C., in a very, very emotional way. We really want to make a platform for the entire extended community to come together.”

Figure skating was so

prominently connected to the tragedy because many aboard had just been to a development camp after the U.S. Figure Skating Championships in Wichita, Kansas. Monumental, U.S. Figure Skating, DC Fire & EMS Foundation and the Greater Washington Community Foundation are putting on the tribute.

“We’re just very grateful to (executive producer Michael Burg) and Ted and everyone at Monumental to get this off the ground,” U.S. Figure Skating interim CEO Samuel Auxier said. “It certainly focuses our entire skating community on the recovery process, and this will be a real highlight of getting this moving forward.”

The event is set to be co-hosted by 1988 Olympic gold medalist Brian Boitano and involve performances by 2024 world champion Ilia Malinin, two-time U.S. champion Amber Glenn and some of the most recognizable members of the sport, including Tara Lipinski, Johnny Weir, Kristi Yamaguchi and Scott Hamilton. Members of the Skating Club of Boston and from those in

Northern Virginia and Washington, organizations who were affected, will also take part.

Burg, who has been connected to figure skating in the past along with benefits for victims of the Southern California fires, said, “It just triggered within me, my gosh, what happened in a different way in LA is now happening in the skating world and overall everybody impacted by this plane crash, and we needed to do something.”

Proceeds from the

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BOOK

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2024, Skaff decided that her class of more than 60 students — mostly juniors and seniors aspiring to work in health care — needed to read Gleason’s book and study it.

“There are ethical questions in there,” Skaff said. “Like, when you have a terminal illness, what are the ethical questions involved when couples decide to have — or not have — children? What are the issues surrounding end-of-life care? What are the daily trials like when you must care for someone 24 hours a day? There’s a lot to discuss.”

So Skaff made the book required reading. And her students responded.

“I didn’t know someone could still have hope while going through such a terrible disease,” Ashcraft said. “That’s what was so inspiring about his story.”

But it wasn’t just Gleason’s optimism and vulnerability that stood out to her. Studying his memoir provided Ashcraft with new perspectives on how she will treat her patients when she becomes a provider in medicine someday.

She recalls reading about one of Gleason’s doctor appointments shortly after he was diagnosed with ALS. His doctor pointed out that Gleason must listen to his body and recognize any new limitations that might appear.

“His doctor told him not to stop doing the regular activities that he loved, but instead that he needed to begin listening to his body,” Ashcraft said. “I reflected on this, and it was a good point to remember as a provider that each patient we have is different, each patient’s body reacts to things differently. It’s so important

to truly listen to them and help them based on where they are at each day.”

Ashcraft also explained how important it is for her as a student to learn about examples of real-life ethical dilemmas.

“One ethical dilemma that takes place in Gleason’s life is when he had to choose if he wanted to go on a ventilator,” Ashcraft said. “Gleason and his family were faced with the decision for him to continue living but losing freedoms, or dying.”

It’s one thing to learn about examples of different ethical dilemmas, but for Ashcraft, it was eye-opening to read about someone’s life and how these decisions impacted a real family.

After the students completed reading the book and submitted their assignments, Skaff began to hear feedback.

“I heard how (the book) was literally changing lives,” Skaff said. “Just as he has his entire life, Gleason is now helping my students.”

So much wisdomIn her final assignment, Ashcraft wrote about how thankful she was that Skaff required Gleason’s memoir as a required reading for the course.

“I would first like to say thank you for bringing this book to our attention,” Ashcraft said. “I was unable to put it down. I feel that it is imperative that future students read this book, there is so much wisdom to be gained.”

Then, Skaff thought the new author may like to hear about how, for the first time, his book had become required in an academic classroom. She offered her class the opportunity to tell Gleason, via email, just how much the book meant to them, and nearly every student participated.

“I want to thank Gleason for his truth behind

a beautiful story,” Ashcraft said. “He and his family have taught me about this disease and I’m thankful for the vulnerability they have shown. This is a story I can apply to my life when taking care of future patients.”

Other students felt the same.

“If I could meet Gleason or his family, I would tell them thank you for being open and honest about their struggles,” said Kamryn Bradshaw, a senior Human Health Sciences major from Louisville. “I would tell them what an inspiration it is to see a family go against the norms of society and truly work through one of the most difficult things anyone could go through in life.”

“Personally, this book has exposed me to aspects of disease I never considered before,” said Mason Breedlove, a senior HHS major, premed, from Mayfield, Kentucky. “As a health care provider, it is easy to only focus on the physiological issues your patient is facing and disregard other aspects of their life that may be influencing their overall well-being. Since reading this book, I have developed a deeper understanding of what those who cannot care for themselves go through mentally and how psychologically damaging it can be to completely depend on someone else for tasks that you used to be able to do without a problem.”

“I think Steve’s outlook on life and his purpose is commendable and his willingness to advocate for others suffering with ALS while he faces his own dilemmas is inspiring,” Breedlove continued. “It made me realize how lucky I am and everything I take for granted in everyday life, and how important it is to cherish the small things because everything can be taken away so easily.”

Over the holidays, Skaff forwarded dozens of the students’ comments and thank-you messages to Gleason’s wife, who then delivered them to him.

His reaction was nothing short of amazed. And he responded with emails of his own.

“It’s incredibly humbling to know that my story is being shared in a classroom setting,” Gleason said via email. “It was especially meaningful that this is coming from Karen’s classroom. My journey has always been about finding purpose in the face of challenges, and knowing that it resonates with others — especially students — reminds me that we all have the power to inspire and learn from one another. If my experiences can spark even a small amount of reflection, understanding or action in someone else’s life, then it reaffirms my belief that no challenge is too great to create a lasting impact.”

“Reading your thoughts and reflections on my story moves me more than words can express,” Gleason continued. “It’s incredibly powerful to know that my experiences have sparked something in some students — whether it’s a new perspective, a deeper understanding of resilience or even a renewed commitment to living with purpose. Health care is so important in today’s world — it’s always good for us to hear that our story renews people’s drive in this industry. Your responses remind me of the importance of sharing our stories. Thank you for allowing my journey to become a part of yours.”

Really empoweringNow, Skaff will be requiring the text in all her future ethics classes.

“It’s just been something that the students have responded to,” she said. “He’s continuing to make a difference, and

as long as people are reading his book, he always will.”

For Ashcraft, she will soon finish undergraduate school and move on to the next steps toward becoming a health care provider. She said Gleason’s journey will always stick with her.

“I think if everyone had Gleason’s attitude the world would be better off,” she said. “His vulnerability really helped me. He’s poured a lot of time into the community and that is really empowering.”



Notice

Fiduciary appointments have been made by the Trigg District Court as follows: Case No. 25-P-00008 appointed Ryan P. Noland as Executor for the Estate of James Michael Noland, deceased on December 9th h, 2024, 149 Phoenix Drive, Apt. 213, Cadiz, KY 42211

Attorney for Estate: Rebecca Reynolds, Hopkins Law Office, 405 Maple Street, Murray, KY 42071

All persons having claims against said estates are notified to present them to the Fiduciary verified according to law not later than six (6) months from date of qualification of personal representative.

This 31st day of January, 2025
/s/ William Clay Stevens, Deputy Clerk
Trigg District Court
41 Main Street
Cadiz, KY 42211
270-522-6270



**COMMISSIONER'S SALE
TRIGG CIRCUIT COURT
CIVIL ACTION
NO. 21-CI-00062
DIVISION I
(Electronically filed)**

**DOT CAPITAL INVESTMENTS, LLC, PLAINTIFF,
against MATTHEW L. BURKEEN ET AL,
DEFENDANTS**

NOTICE OF SALE

By virtue of a Judgment and Order of Sale of the Trigg Circuit Court, rendered on December 19, 2024 in the above action, I shall proceed to offer for sale at the **Trigg County Justice Center, Circuit Courtroom, Third Floor**, in Cadiz, Kentucky, to the highest bidder at public auction on February 14, 2025 at or about the hour of 9:00 a.m., upon a credit of 10% of the sale price on day of sale, balance in 30 days, the following described real estate situated at 969 Old Dover Road, Parcel Identification No.: 30-074, Cadiz, Trigg County, Kentucky.

The judgment in this case is for a total of \$7,067.49; plus interest at the rate of 12% per annum from December 19, 2024. For the balance of the purchase price, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties, having the force and effect of a judgment and bearing interest at the same rate from the date of sale until paid. Provided there are sufficient funds, delinquent ad valorem taxes assessed against the real estate shall be paid from the proceeds of the sale. The property taxes for the year 2025, and later shall be paid by the purchaser.

If the Purchaser does not pay the entire purchase price at the sale, the purchaser must execute bond with approved surety or sureties for the balance of the purchase price. **Application to approve surety must be made to the Master Commissioner before noon, on or before the Tuesday prior to the sale.** Surety must be a resident of this state, must own property worth double the amount to be secured beyond the amount of his or her debts, and have property liable to execution in this state equal to the sum to be secured. Early application and documentation of assets is advised. Approval is at the discretion of the Master Commissioner.

There is a right of redemption for the defendants if the property does not bring two-thirds (2/3) of its appraised value. Bidders will be prepared to comply promptly with these terms. Any announcement made on date of sale take precedence over printed matter contained herein.

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