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From obscurity to superstar to the record books; a relatively unknown athlete two years ago has left a lasting impression on her basketball program.

On Saturday, Notre Dame senior Brooke Pierron became the second player in program history to score 1,000-career points. Pierron joins former teammate Jen Arnzen (2013 class) as the only two players to reach the milestone.

As the Titans were preparing to play the Green Bobcats Saturday, Pierron didn't know she would be achieving the milestone but she had a pretty good idea. Pierron had many family members and friends in attendance for a "regular" game.

Needing 15 points to reach the mark, Pierron finished with 20 on the afternoon. "I was really excited," Pierron said. "I didn't think I was going to get it."

At the beginning of the season, Notre Dame Head Coach JD McKenzie told Pierron she had an outside shot to reach the 1,000-point mark, but she would have to have a tremendous season as well as the team. Not wanting to focus on individual accolades, McKenzie never told Pierron how many points she would need to score during her senior campaign.

"The way he said that, I thought it was out of reach, something I wasn't going to be able to do," Pierron said. "I never thought I would accomplish that."

Before she became a superstar, Pierron found herself vying for playing time, often playing mop-up minutes during her freshman campaign. The lack of playing time never bother Pierron as she knew her role, which was to push the older girls everyday in practice.

Pierron only scored 39 points during her first year of varsity action. Despite the limited success, there was one moment during her freshman year that instilled confidence in her abilities.

Notre Dame was playing at New Boston. Early in the game, Pierron was filling up water bottles, which was a part of her typical freshman duties. McKenzie yelled down his bench, looking to substitute his young freshman into the game. Pierron was startled by the coaches' actions.

"But it's the first half," Pierron replied in amazement.

After her initial reaction, Pierron was eager to enter the contest and prove she belonged on the varsity level. She always had confidence in herself; now her coach did as well.

“When he put me in then, I sensed the confidence and the faith he had in me. I knew I had a lot of work to do because the pace was faster but I knew if I worked hard, I would be able to play this game.” Pierron said.

Pierron’s efforts were quickly rewarded as she started her first-career game on opening night of her sophomore season. McKenzie had seven players capable of assuming starting roles and hadn’t decided until the day of the game that Pierron was going to get the opening-night nod.

“We joke about this all the time,” Pierron said. “He pulled me aside that day at school and said, ‘you’re starting tonight, don’t pee down your leg.’”

Despite being nervous and trying to adhere to her coaches’ advice earlier in the day, Pierron had her best game of the season. She made five threes and scored 22 points. Despite her strong opening-game performance, Pierron once again found herself in a situational role. She became a spot starter the rest of her sophomore year.

The Titans lost six seniors after Pierron’s sophomore campaign, which included Arnzen. Coming off back-to-back conference championships, Pierron knew she was going to have to step up her game on and off the court.

Fellow classmate Maggie Hoover and Pierron spent a great deal of time working with McKenzie in the gym prior to the duo’s junior campaign.

“We worked a lot during the offseason that year,” Pierron said. “Going into my junior year, I knew I was going to have to take more of a leadership role. We had a lot of youth on our team and we knew we were going to have to teach them a lot about the varsity game.”

Despite her new role and lack of starting experience, Pierron embraced the challenge.

“I knew his (McKenzie) expectations for me,” Pierron said. “That raised my own expectations for myself. It never freaked me out, I was ready.”

After competing for the conference title her junior year and falling short at the end, Pierron’s confidence in herself and her team has been supremely confident this year.

With one last shot at a district championship, Pierron’s main focus is on winning the SOC championship by beating Eastern in a winner-take-all game Thursday night. However, this season has seen its share of adversity.

The Titans lost an early home contest to the Western Indians. While losing is always difficult, Pierron believes that loss helped Notre Dame.

“It was a reality check,” Pierron said. “We have to show up every night because the conference is a lot more balanced this year than it has been in the past.”

With the individual accolades piling up and the team goals still a reality, Pierron is elated when she reflects on her high-school career.

“I’m definitely excited about it and it’s something I’m definitely proud of because I’ve seen how much I’ve grown in the past year, and how much I’ve grown since my freshman and sophomore years,” Pierron said.

McKenzie asked Pierron earlier in the season if she had to choose between scoring a 1,000-career points or guiding her team to a conference championship, which would the senior choose? Without hesitation, Pierron quickly erased any doubts about her top priorities.

“I would still much rather win the conference,” Pierron said. “I think that is such a terrific accomplishment and it’s something for the entire school to be proud of for a long time.

“I’m excited about the things that I’ve achieved but I’d much rather our team be successful.”