

OSU Women's Basketball Secures 2nd International Commit



After the Ohio State women's basketball team added two graduate transfers earlier in the week, the Buckeyes continued their roster reload Wednesday with another commitment in the 2018 recruiting class.

But this time it came from an incoming freshman.

Barcelona, Spain, four-star Aixa Wone chose OSU over Missouri after she visited both schools in the last week of April.

Rated by ProspectsNation.com as the No. 15 international recruit, Wone will join Ohio State after she plays within the Spanish national team system at the FIBA U18 Women's European Championship from Aug. 4-12 in Udine, Italy.

In the pipeline for Spain over the past couple of years, the 6-2 forward averaged 7.3 points and 20.0 minutes across seven games at the 2017 FIBA U18 Women's European Championship from Aug. 5-13 in Sopron, Hungary.

Wone is the Buckeyes' fourth incoming freshman and second international prospect in the class of 2018. She joins signees such as Lombard (Ill.) Montini Catholic three-star post Aaliyah Patty, Barrington (R.I.) St. Andrew's four-star guard Janai Crooms and Pecs, Hungary, four-star forward Dorka Juhász. The combination of Juhász, rated by ProspectsNation.com the No. 12 international recruit, and Wone gives OSU two prospects in the cycle's top 15 overall.

With the graduation of five seniors — guard Kelsey Mitchell, forward Stephanie Mavunga, guard Linnae Harper, forward Alexa Hart and guard Asia Doss — Ohio State's search for immediate replacements led to the addition of four graduate transfers.

The Buckeyes secured commitments on the graduate-transfer market from Pacific guard Najah Queenland, Bowling Green guard Carly Santoro, LaSalle guard Adreana Miller and Cleveland State forward Ashanti Abshaw.

Between the influx of graduate transfers and incoming freshmen, OSU's roster for the 2018-19 season currently projects to feature eight new players.

Fifth-year senior guard Sierra Calhoun, fifth-year senior forward Makayla Waterman and junior guard Jensen Caretti return the most experience as members of Ohio State's rotation from the 2017-18 campaign. Two former walk-ons, junior guard Karlie Cronin and sophomore forward Savitha Jayaraman, round out the roster after head coach Kevin McGuff placed them on scholarships midway through last year.

Assuming the Buckeyes keep Cronin and Jayaraman on scholarships, they have 13 scholarship players for next season. The NCAA-mandated limit of 15 scholarships means OSU has two more open.

One of those could go to Chelsea Mitchell, who would be a fifth-year senior, but her status for next year remains unclear. A team spokesperson told BSB in March that the forward mutually left the team early last season due to academic reasons.

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