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O'Dowd is 12-1 since inserting Brown into the starting lineup

Senior center [Breanna Brown](#) from nationally-ranked Bishop O'Dowd plays in a rather unique position for the Dragons as she is one of a trio of 6-foot-3 players on the squad. In the fall, over offers from 10 Pac-12 schools, Louisville and Georgia Tech, the region's No. 5-ranked prospect committed to Virginia Tech of the ACC where she will compete against one of her aforementioned teammates, Oderah Chidom (heading to Duke).

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Why Virginia Tech? "It has the academic standing that I was looking for," said Brown.

Coach Malik McCord had Breanna providing punch off of the bench earlier in the season for the defending Div. III state champs, but he took a shot at the trifecta by starting all three of his post stars after the team's 3-2 start and their return from the Nike TOC. The result has been a 12-1 run since that change, including a current nine-game win streak.

"They are all learning to play together and it is going well," said McCord.

Brown's AAU coach, Leroy Hurt, echoed the same sentiments as McCord when he stated, "Breanna is the consummate team player who is very coachable."

The need to shore up her offensive post skills is one thing Brown is tirelessly working at and although she is excellent around the rim on put backs, Breanna, who possesses a frame that will allow her to get the position she needs whenever she wants it, has been looking to score more often when she gets opportunities when she receives the ball in the paint.

"I have been working a lot on my back-to-the basket moves, but defense is where I want to be dominant," says Brown. Nimble for her size, Breanna is very adept at getting great defensive position, but her comments do in fact duplicate those of McCord. "I want her to have that attitude that lets opponents know it will be very difficult to score if they come inside," said McCord.

Nothing could be more accurate as the insertion of the aspiring Engineering major into the starting lineup has been a key ingredient in the Dragons' current run.

As the saying goes, defense win championships, and if a points allowed average dropping from 43 points in the first five games to a meager 33 points in the current run is any indication, Brown may finish her prep career with another state title.

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