

# SAM LINDQUIST

pitched in the Seattle Mariners system after wrapping up his career at Stanford, and brother Jeff was a quarterback and captain for the University of Washington Huskies.

That's a whole lot of talent in one Mercer Island, Wash., family but, as they say on TV, wait, there's more.

Following in her brothers' athletic footsteps, Sara Lindquist is a talented outside hitter for the Dartmouth volleyball team.

"My brother Jeff and I joke that we're lucky (Sara) is the youngest because if she was the oldest, we'd be living in her shadow," Sam told the Mercer Island reporter a couple of years ago.

Sara Lindquist missed the Dartmouth volleyball season last fall due to injury, but even if the Big Green sophomore were never to lace up a pair of sneakers again Jeff and Sam could end up in her shadow. And not just because she's a two-time member of the Washington all-state volleyball first team who helped Mercer Island High School to its first state championship.

She also happens to be a promising singer with an EP on the Skyville label. Featuring six songs, the smooth and upbeat "It's a Good Day for a Good Day," was released just about a year ago and has sold several thousand copies via iTunes and Amazon.

An EP is an extended play recording featuring several songs but not enough to be referred to as the more familiar LP, or long play album. Lindquist recorded hers while still in high school during two, week-long sessions. While she recorded it in Nashville and is a huge fan of the Zac Brown Band as well as Eric Church and Carrie Underwood, she wasn't laser-focused on following in their footsteps growing up.

"I have dabbled in different genres but I would say I am really enjoying country music so far," she said. "Obviously, it's a little different being from Seattle versus being from the South, but I just love the energy of country music. It's positive. It's fun. It's summery. I'm liking how that has been going so far. At this point, that is the direction that is most appealing to me."

While her dual passions of music

and volleyball keep her busy, Lindquist appreciates the opportunity Dartmouth has given her to go ahead with both.

"The criteria I had when I was looking at schools was it had to be a very good academic school and it had to be a place where I could play volleyball but also pursue other interests," she said. "It was important to be able to be involved in groups on campus, to be able to go abroad and to continue with my singing."

Lindquist, who spent the winter term in Barcelona, found all of that in Hanover. And on those few occasions when a music obligation conflicted with volleyball it hasn't been a problem.

"After I released the EP I had to go to Nashville for a quick weekend and my coaches were totally flexible," she said. "They said to go for it. I had to miss a practice but they have been really encouraging of me pursuing that passion, which has been really incredible."

As a 6-foot-2 freshman, Lindquist started nine games, but back pain that began last summer and was eventually diagnosed as Spondylolysis caused her to sit out last season. "It was a bummer not to be a part of that but still being able to support on the sidelines and see how far we are coming has been amazing," she said. "I absolutely love the team. The girls are really, really great. It's like coming in and having a family automatically."

Lindquist is looking forward to rejoining that family – on the court – soon.

"It is feeling a lot better," she said of her back. "It took the summer and the fall to



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kind of calm things down, doing PT and resting it. I am hoping to be back training soon and to be ready for next season."

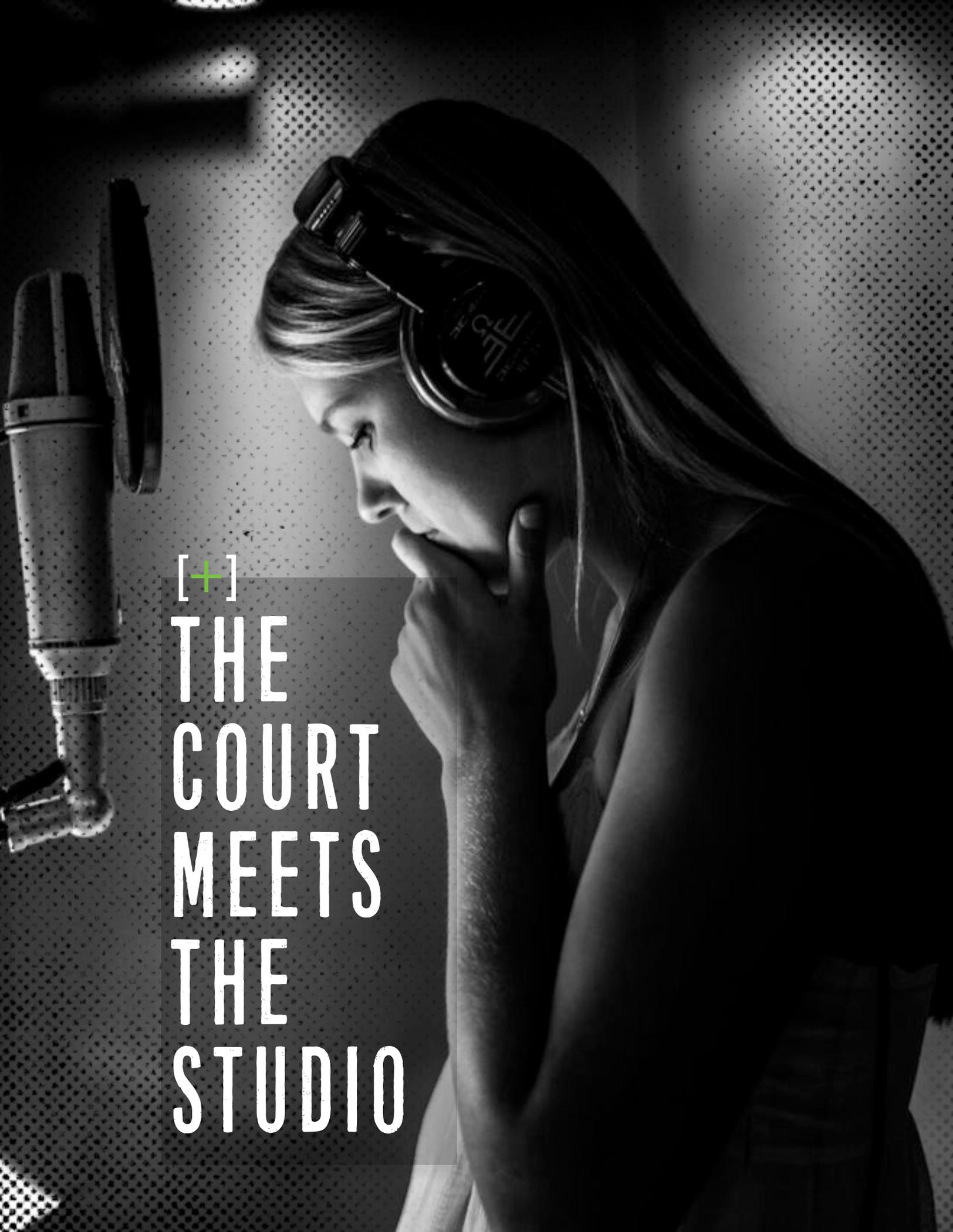
Not surprisingly, one of Lindquist's other activities at Dartmouth is singing with the a capella Decibelles. Perhaps surprisingly, she's leaning toward majoring in human geography modified with economics, with the business and marketing angles holding a special appeal.

"The part I find really interesting is the people part," she said. "Understanding how people work and function."

Combining Division I athletics, Ivy League academics and a budding music career keeps Lindquist busy, but she wouldn't have it any other way. While she's pretty sure she'll head off to Nashville after graduation she is in no rush to focus entirely on her budding recording career.

"Dartmouth of course is an amazing place and I am really thankful to be here," she said. "Everyone is so involved in so many different things that it makes it really fun. We are all part of this big family together with all these interwoven passions and don't have to pick just one. We can pursue a lot of things that make us happy." **DP**

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