

By ROY ALLEN

Seward assistant athletic director

After an All-Conference season for the Seward County Lady Saints in which she led the Jayhawk Conference in blocks by a wide margin, Seward sophomore Morgan Riley has signed her National Letter of Intent to play at Friends University next season.



Starring for the Lady Saints the past two seasons, Riley racked up 289 blocks in her Seward career, placing her sixth in school history.

This season Riley was dominant in the middle, finishing the season with more block assists than any other player in the conference had total blocks. Her 162 total blocks as a sophomore easily led the Jayhawk Conference, with the next closest player finishing with 101. Riley's block total was good for sixth in the nation this season.

Also productive on the offensive side of the net, Riley finished third on the team with 256 total kills and 1.78 kills per set this season. Her .234 hitting percentage was tops on the team, and fourth in the Jayhawk West.

Riley will reunite with former teammate Aubree Young on a Friends University squad that will enter the 2014 season with high hopes after a 26 win campaign in 2013. The Falcons finished 14-4 in the KCAC, and reached the conference tournament semi-finals where they lost a five set

thriller to Kansas Wesleyan in the round of four.

Friends loses six seniors off of this year's squad and will have as many as 17 players back next season. The Falcons and head coach Martin Ayin have relied heavily on the Jayhawk Conference for their success in recent years, as their roster was dotted with six former KJCCC players in 2013.

"I just knew it was the right place as soon as I got there," Riley said. "The campus was beautiful, the girls on the team were so welcoming and I had a good feeling while I was there that this was the place that I wanted to be for the next two seasons."

Riley will leave Seward County to join the Falcons in January after the holiday break to get a jump on the 2014 season with her new teammates.