

Volleyball inks five during early period

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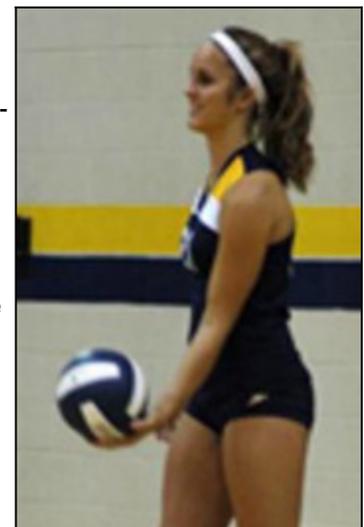
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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -

The Middle Tennessee volleyball program has inked five student-athletes in the early signing period as announced by head coach Matt Peck. "I am extremely happy with our recruiting class for the 2009 season. We got a great mix of super athletes, well-skilled players and disciplined kids to add to our program. As we only graduate one player this year we do have to prepare for the future because we will have four seniors in 2009," Peck said. "This class is a perfect compliment to what we have now and is very much in line with the classes we have recruited in the last couple of years." Three of the five signees hail from the state of Tennessee in Morgan Peterson (Seymour), Stephanie Daniels (Nashville) and Halie Vannoy (Morristown).



Peterson played for the SMJVC club volleyball team under head coach Michael Robinson and at Seymour High School for head coach Ed Irvin. At Seymour High School, Peterson, a 6-0 setter, was awarded All-District Player of the Year, District Tournament MVP, All-Region and Prep Xtra team as a junior. This season, Peterson has received All-District Player of the Year, District Tournament MVP, All-Region and All-State honors. "She is going to be a great fit for our program. The first time I saw Morgan play was at our camp this summer and we were so impressed with her as a setter and an attacker. Some of the other coaches who worked camp, very good Division I programs, offered her and we feel very fortunate to have her sign with us. Morgan will be one of the best setters ever in our conference. She is a very aggressive player, is an outstanding athlete, and valedictorian of her class which



makes her a great fit for our program. Daniels, a 5-10 middle blocker, is a four-year letterwinner at Hunter's Lane High School and for the club team WC Select. Daniels received All-District honors as a junior and also played basketball and ran track at Hunter's Lane.



"Stephanie is an outstanding student-athlete and is virtually a carbon copy of Quanshell Scott, who graduated from the program in 2007. She is extremely explosive and tremendously athletic with a dynamic fast arm swing. Stephanie plays very high at the net." Peck said. Vannoy, a 5-9 libero, has been named All-Region, All-State, All-District, All-Conference, All-Northeast Tennessee and Knoxville Prep Xtra. As a senior, Vannoy received All-District MVP and IMAC Player of the Year honors. "Halie is another athlete I saw play for the first time at camp this summer. She plays for her mother who is her high school coach. She is a very tough dedicated player and a very skilled attacker at the net. We are going to have a lot of uses for Halie in our program. Halie will also be valedictorian of her class, so we have yet another very smart player," Peck said.



Vannoy broke eight school records at Morristown East High School including kills in a season, blocks in a match, most aces in a career and season and most digs in a season just to name a few. A native of New Albany, Ind., Brandi Waller will join the Blue Raiders after playing at New Albany High School and for the club team Union. Waller, a 6-0 middle blocker, has received First Team All-State honors this season and Hoosier Hills Conference First Team as a junior and senior. "In Brandi we get a copy of Ashley Asberry at 6-0. We are very excited about Brandi. In the past year since we started recruiting her, she has improved tremendously as a player. She is an absolute animal at the net and will be one of our most premiere players ever." Peck said. "It is going to be hard to keep her off the court next year, and I think that is going to present challenges for some of our current players next year."



Ashley Adams, a native of San Luis Obispo, Calif., a 6-2 outside hitter will become a Blue Raider after being ranked 36th on PrepVolleyball.com in 2006 in its top-100 list. Adams was also a Volleyball Magazine "FAB 50" selection the same year. "Ashley is the most highly recruited player we have ever had come into our program. She was recruited by many of the top programs in the country at the time she was a senior in high school. She had some issues to take care of in order to be eligible - she has taken care of those issues and we are so excited to have her join us," Peck said. "She will be our highest jump-reach player ever and is a skilled outside hitter and middle blocker. I am just so excited to have her as a Blue Raider."



Playing for the club team SLO Jr.'s, Adams received a number of awards as a high school athlete including MVP of the league, All-County and First Team All-CIF. "I believe all five of these young ladies will contribute immediately to our success next year and will have great careers here at Middle Tennessee," Peck said. The Blue Raiders will be back in action on Friday, Nov. 14 when it faces Troy at 7 p.m. in the AMG. Admission to all home volleyball matches is free.



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