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226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601
E-mail: kcsr@chadrad.com

(Neb.)-CSC volleyball welcoming three student athletes

By: Andrew Lacy Posted at: 12/11/2012 11:19 AM

CHADRON – Chadron State College interim volleyball coach Janel Baily has signed two high school seniors to National Letters of Intent and a junior college transfer will also be joining the Eagles, she said Tuesday.

The two high school seniors are Alia Brennan, a 5-foot-11 middle hitter from Chadron, and Shelby Gardner, a setter from Colby, Kan. Both recruits have a CSC heritage. Brennan will be the third generation from her family to attend the college and Gardner's father, Chris, played football for the Eagles.

Also joining the Eagles at the start of the spring semester is Hanna Flaming, a 5-foot-11 All-American outside hitter from Butler Community College.

"We are excited," Baily said. "Alia and Shelby are both great students and extremely athletic and ready for the challenge of competing collegiately. Both of these girls were raised cheering for CSC and I'm pleased they have decided to become part of the Eagle family."

In the fall, Brennan, who earned three letters in volleyball, helped guide the Cardinals to a 27-4 record and an appearance at the Nebraska State Volleyball Tournament in November. She was a two-time honorable mention all-state selection and all-conference as a junior and senior.

"Alia is a great grab for us because I know she will love Chadron but also because she is extremely athletic, competitive and loves to be coached," Baily said.

Gardner, a four-year starter and three-time captain at Colby High, played on teams that compiled a record of 90-57 during her career. She was a three-time all-league selection and the Liberal Tournament MVP in 2011.

She is also a talented thrower for the Colby track and field team and has been her high school's Female Thrower of the Year twice.

"Shelby is a well-trained setter capable of running a quick 5-1 offense and will be fighting for playing time right away," Baily said.

Flaming, a native of Benton, Kan., was recently named to the NJCAA Division II All-American volleyball team. She led the Butler Grizzlies to a 31-7 record and finished the season with 292 kills and hit .274, while adding 223 digs and 55 blocks.

“I’m excited to have a player of Hanna’s caliber come in and she’s going to help us out a lot,” Baily said.

She was also an all-conference and academic all-conference choice at Butler.

In high school she was a three-time all-state selection and she also earned all-conference honors in basketball and softball.

Baily said she expects to sign more student-athletes on April 17, the national signing date.