Shelton State Players Moving On

Four players from this year’s record-setting 42-13 squad will be moving on to play at four-year schools in the fall. Courtney Wilson (University of Arkansas-Monticello), Hannah Pendley (University of Arkansas-Monticello), Mollie Hanson (Samford University), and Kristina Kelly (Stillman College) all received scholarships to play softball at the next level. Head Softball Coach Buddy Boyle understands the impact these four players made this year. “The players we have going to four-year schools next year helped us achieve the success our team had,” he said. “We broke many school records and finished second at the ACCC/NJCAA Region XXII Tournament.”

Courtney Wilson, a sophomore pitcher from Inverness, Mississippi, leaves as the all-time wins leader at Shelton State with 30. In 2012, she finished 14-6 with a 1.77 ERA. She added 92 strikeouts on the year. Wilson ranks #2 on the all-time ERA with a 1.63. “Courtney had a great career here and shows what hard work can do,” commented Coach Boyle. “She is from a very small school and had to adjust to the college game. Courtney has turned into a power pitcher and has learned to control new pitches that should help her at Arkansas-Monticello.” Wilson was named to the ACCC/All-Region XXII Second Team All-Northwest Division Team this year and the ACCC/Region XXII All-Tournament Team.

Hannah Pendley, a sophomore outfielder from Oakman, Alabama, broke the career record at Shelton State with 144 hits and 42 stolen bases. In 2012, she hit .419 and stole 34 bases, which is second all-time for a single season. She is third all-time with 9 career triples and 69 runs scored. Coach Boyle realizes the impact that Hannah made on the Shelton State softball program. “Hannah helped us upgrade our team with speed,” said Boyle. “She added that element of surprise and allowed us to do so many things on offense.” Pendley was named to the ACCC/All-Region XXII Second Team, ACCC First Team All-Northwest Division, and the ACCC/Region XXII All-Tournament Team.

Mollie Hanson, a freshman pitcher/shortstop from Dothan, Alabama, set new single season records for wins with 19 and ERA with a 0.97. Hanson also struck out 154 batters this year which is second all-time in a single season. She moves on after her freshman year to Samford University. “Mollie received a great deal of attention after her solid fall, and Samford had a need immediately in the pitching circle,” commented Boyle. “You hate to lose a player after their freshman year, but it was an incredible
opportunity for her. Even though we only had her for a year, she made her mark on the program.” Hanson was named First Team ACCC/Region XXII, First Team ACCC Northwest Division, and ACCC/Region XXII All-Tournament team.

Kristina Kelly, a sophomore pitcher from Tuscaloosa, takes her talents to Stillman College next year. She was 7-0 this year with 7 saves and a 1.58 ERA. She is the all-time career leader with 11 saves and ranks fourth in career ERA with a 1.87. Her ERA this year ranks as the fifth best in a single season. Boyle was quick to mention the flexibility that Kelly added to the pitching staff. “Kristina filled many roles for our pitching staff,” said Boyle. “She was a starter and was also able to come in and close games for us. Her versatility was a great asset for our team. Her ability to change speeds will help her next year.”