

GIRLS' BASKETBALL: Waters to play basketball for SIU Carbondale

Posted: Thursday, August 11, 2016 4:28 pm

Makenzie Silvey will not be alone at SIU Carbondale next season.

Senior Criste'on Waters verbally committed to play women's basketball for the Salukis next season.

Waters is Silvey's teammate at Edwardsville High School and on the AAU circuit with Blue Star St. Louis.

The Salukis, who compete in the Missouri Valley Conference, are coming off a 20-13 season and an appearance in the Women's Basketball Invitational. They went 12-6 in league play and advanced to the semifinals of the conference tournament.

Cindy Stein will be entering her fourth season as head coach of the Salukis. She is 42-51 in three years, but that includes a 5-25 season in 2013-2014 when the team had just nine players for conference play. SIUC has won 17 and 20 games the past two seasons, respectively.

As a junior, Waters averaged 10.7 points and 6.9 rebounds for the Tigers. She was named an All-State honorable mention following the year, and she also earned first-team honors at the Springfield Southeast Thanksgiving Tournament.

Waters had perhaps her best performance of the season in Edwardsville's final game of the season. She scored 19 points on 8 of 13 shooting with 10 rebounds against Benet Academy in the IHSA Class 4A Illinois Wesleyan Super-Sectional.

Waters averaged 10.2 points and a team-high 7.7 rebounds during her sophomore season.

A two-time All-Southwestern Conference selection, Waters returns with 780 points and 544 rebounds for her career.

Waters is eighth in program history in rebounding and will likely move into the third spot behind teammate Rachel Pranger and leader Emmonnie Henderson (881 rebounds) by the end of her career.

The Tigers will enter the 2016-17 season with high expectations with the return of Waters, Silvey, Pranger and Kate Martin.



Edwardsville's Criste'on Waters, left, tries to find room

Edwardsville's Criste'on Waters, left, tries to find room for a shot in the paint.

All four will likely leave the program as 1,000-point scorers. Silvey has already surpassed the mark, while Pranger is a basket away.

Edwardsville went 30-2 and advanced to the super-sectional round before losing to Benet.