North Alabama, the South Central Region champion and Division II national champion, had three players picked for the 2003 Daktronics All-South Central Region volleyball team, selected by members of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA), that was released today.

The Lions, which finished 33-7, had seniors Ashley Moffitt, a setter, and Yana Ninova, an outside hitter, selected for the first team, while senior middle hitter Te’Jaye Redd earned second-team honors.

Moffitt is four-time first-team selection. She averaged 14.35 assists and led the nation in that category, through matches of Nov. 23. Moffitt also averaged 2.13 digs, hit .278 and rang up 78 kills and 57 service aces.

Ninova averaged 6.12 kills and was No. 2 nationally, as of Nov. 23. She also hit .411 and added 0.66 blocks and 1.98 digs per game for UNA.

Joining Ninova at outside hitter on the first team was Truman junior Jessica Sears, who averaged 4.62 kills and 4.18 digs while leading the MIAA champion Bulldogs to a 31-5 overall record. She also hit .284 and racked up 31 aces and 36 total blocks.

Middle hitters picked for the first team include seniors Gloria Ilariogun, of Pittsburg State, and Kristy Krause, of West Florida. Ilariogun helped the Gorillas to a 26-8 overall mark, a runner-up finish in the MIAA and a South Central Regional berth. She averaged 3.68 kills and 1.78 blocks while hitting .297. She ranked in the top five in the nation in blocking, as of Nov. 23.

Krause hit .376 and averaged 5.0 kills per game, to go with 0.79 blocks and 2.03 digs an outing. West Florida finished the 2003 campaign with a 24-7 overall ledger and Krause was seventh nationally in kills, as of Nov. 23.

For the fourth time in as many seasons for the Daktronics South Central Region team, Central Missouri State has a libero (or defensive specialist) on the first team. This time, it’s freshman Katie Tarka, who averaged 5.44 digs and recorded 25 assists and 15 kills on the year. Tarka, fifth in the nation in digs on Nov. 23, helped the Jennies to a 26-11 record and a spot in the South Central Regional final.

Members of the first team now advance to the ballot for Daktronics Division II All-America. This is the fourth year CoSIDA members have selected the team and it’s the only All-America team selected by a vote of the membership. The team is sponsored by Daktronics, Inc., an acknowledged world leader in scoring, timing and programmable display systems for virtually every sport at every level of competition.

UNA’s Redd was named to the second team at middle hitter and was joined by Montevallo senior Alice Persinova. Due to a tie in the voting, three outside hitters were on the second-team, including seniors Carrie Potthast (Central Missouri State), Gabi Raposo (Montevallo) and Dina Wathan (Pittsburg State). Wathan, who ranked second in Division II’s latest statistical report in digs, is a repeat second-team honoree for the team from the 2001 squad.

Truman senior Rachael Shedd was named second-team setter, while Harding’s Amie Morrison, a junior, collected the accolades at libero. Morrison, seventh in the nation in digs through Nov. 23, was also a second-team choice in 2002.

The South Central Region includes teams from the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, the Gulf South Conference and the Southern Intercollegiate Athletics Conference.

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