

By ROY ALLEN

Seward sports information director

Seward County Lady Saints forward Rachel Barnes has been named the NJCAA National Player of the Week as well as Jayhawk Conference Player of the Week after putting together one of the finer weeks of basketball in school history.



On Wednesday against Pratt, the sophomore from Windsor, Conn., scored a career high 34 points and grabbed seven rebounds with six steals in the Lady Saints 99-69 win over the Beavers. Barnes found her way to the charity stripe 17 times, two short of the school record and also banged in four three pointers in the contest.

Last Saturday night in a must-win road match-up for Seward at No. 20 Cloud County, Barnes saved her best for last. She scored just five first-half points as the Lady Saints clinged to a four-point halftime lead but followed that up with one of the most memorable halves by any Seward basketball player. Barnes scored 24 second half points to finish with 29 as well as nine rebounds as Seward blew past the T-Birds to take the inside track to the Jayhawk West title.

For the week, Barnes averaged 31.5 points and 11 rebounds to help push her Lady Saints to 25-2 on the season.

Barnes and her Seward teammates will take on Dodge City at 6 p.m. Saturday night for "Think Pink" and Homecoming nights in the Green House.

