

By ROY ALLEN

Seward assistant athletic director

Seward County Lady Saint Fabiana Monte was informed that she was one of 40 NJCAA basketball players from throughout the country that has been selected to participate in the NJCAA All-Star Weekend July 25-28 in Niceville, Fla.



Monte and Butler's Ashlee Ivy were the only two players from the Jayhawk Conference to accept their bids to the event. The group of 40 was chosen by a committee of coaches spread out between Div. 1, 2 and 3.

Monte will not be the only Lady Saint participating in the weekend's events, however she will be the only Seward player on the court during her stay. Former Seward All-American and Saints Athletics Hall of Fame member Kim Ortega will be inducted into the NJCAA Women's Basketball Hall of Fame on the second night of the event, joining Alfreda Harris, Susan Summons, and Gwyn Young as the Class of 2013.

On July 27 and 28, the 40 players will be broken down into teams and will compete in a number of games against one another with a heavy dose of four-year coaches expected to be in attendance.

Monte was a key part of the Lady Saints 20-win season in 2012-2013, averaging 10 points and three rebounds per game for Seward. The freshman from Diadema, Sao Paulo, Brazil played in all 31 games for the gals in green, starting 19 as a rookie. Monte was second on the team in steals with 47 and assists with 68 for the Lady Saints.

“I was so surprised,” Monte said. “I am very excited for the opportunity to play against some of the best players in the country.”