

Dixon to leave Kansas State and transfer to Missouri



In her first season at the collegiate level, Anna Dixon saw herself grow in several different areas on the volleyball court at Kansas State.

The Louisburg High School graduate shined in many matches throughout the season, earned all-conference honors for her efforts and enjoyed the comradery with her teammates. As difficult as freshman seasons are, it became even harder for Dixon after it was over.

Dixon had some tough choices to make following the 2019 campaign and made a decision that will lead her to a different destination in 2020.

On a Twitter post on New Year's Day, Dixon announced that she was transferring from Kansas State and will make the move to the University of Missouri volleyball program beginning next season.

Dixon will join a Missouri program that finished with a 22-8 record last season and made the NCAA Tournament, before falling in the second round to No. 5-ranked Nebraska in a 3-1 loss.

"Going through my second recruiting process, I knew where I belonged and that was Mizzou," Dixon said. "They have a great nursing program that

works well with student athletes, an awesome new coaching staff who was very welcoming, and great connections for post-college. I'm really excited for the opportunity."

Leaving the K-State program wasn't easy one. Dixon committed to the Wildcats as a sophomore in high school after receiving several Division 1 offers and eventually signed two years later.

Dixon's freshman season began in the summer as she joined the Wildcats on a trip to Brazil and eventually earned a starting role later in the season where she played all six rotations.

"The decision to leave K-State was one of the hardest decisions I've had to make," Dixon said. "The people there will forever have a place in my heart. I was given a lot of amazing opportunities and experiences that helped me grow this last year and I'm thankful for that."

Dixon was selected to the All-Big 12 Rookie Team in a year that saw her turn in 292 kills with a team-best 2.89 kills per set. Her 3.14 kills a set during conference play ranked seventh in the Big 12 and her overall and league kills-per-set averages were tops among Big 12 freshmen.

She also turned in 84 digs, 47 blocks and nine aces in her first collegiate season. Nine times she led the Wildcats in kills, including a stretch seven straight matches and had double figure kill numbers in 12 consecutive

outings. Dixon had career high 21 kills in back-to-back outings against Oklahoma and West Virginia.

Still

with all that success, Dixon realizes there is still a lot more growth to come and she hopes to become a better player in the years ahead.

“This

season was a huge growing experience for me,” she said. “Being a young player,

I was expected to make mistakes on the court. I think my biggest growth was in

my consistency and understanding that it is okay to make mistakes and learn

from them. This is an area I can still greatly improve in and I’m hoping to get

better at with more experience.

“I was

so grateful to earn postseason honors. There are so many amazing young players

in the Big 12, so to be named apart of the All-Rookie team was a huge honor.”