

Becoming a Tiger

Written by Deb Egenberger

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Max signs on to play volleyball at Doane College.

Gothenburg senior Emily Max is a standout in every sport.

She was the center of the Swede volleyball team this season setting four school statistical records.

Max also served as the go-to girl in basketball, scoring 1,001 points in her career.

And this spring, Max will attempt to qualify a fourth straight time for the state track meet.

Still, volleyball has always been her favorite.

Max will extend her playing days after signing a national letter of intent on Thursday to join the Doane College volleyball team.

"It's a good campus and Coach (Cindy) Meyer is a good fundamentals coach," Max said.

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But making the decision to play for Doane wasn't easy. Max said with lots of options, it came down to comfort.



"I wanted to go to a place where I knew I would feel comfortable no matter what, even if I couldn't play sports," she said.

Max is likely to play at Doane early in her career.

"Emily has a lot of volleyball experience and we're looking for someone who can step in and play right away," Meyer said of her recruit.

Max's speed and jumping ability will be tremendous assets to the Tiger team, Meyer said, along with her attitude.

"Emily has a super team attitude," the coach said. "We have a special kind of team chemistry and I think she will fit in very well."

Max said she is excited to join such a quality program. In her 23 years coaching Doane, Meyer has taken the Tigers to the NAIA national tournament seven times.

Her parents Doug and Crys Max are excited too, having watched older daughter Amanda's progress as a player at Doane beginning in 2002.

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What Max's parents aren't looking forward to is the empty nest.

To help combat those feelings, the Maxes recently got a new puppy. Weston is a 4-month-old Sheltie.

"I think he'll keep us plenty busy," Crys said.

Emily's athletic scholarship will help her pursue a degree in sociology. It's a diverse field, she said, with lots of job options after graduation.