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HUSKY ATHLETICS
Athletic Media Relations

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Husky Men's Basketball Announces Signing of Tom Shirley

St. Cloud, Minn. -- St. Cloud State University head men's basketball coach Kevin Schlagel has announced the signing of Tom Shirley of Grantville, Kansas to a Letter of Intent.

Shirley is a 6'7", 215 lb., forward who spent last season playing power forward on the Hutchinson Community College (Kansas) basketball team. A starter as a freshman at HCC, Shirley helped his team to a 20-12 overall record in one of the toughest junior college conferences in the country. Shirley averaged eight points and five rebounds per game. He also shot 45 percent from the field, 40 percent from three point range, and 70 percent from the free throw line.

Shirley played his prep basketball at Jefferson West High School where he averaged 15.5 points and eight rebound per game his senior season. Shirley was a three-year selection to the Big 7 All-League team and a three-time 4A Honorable Mention All-State team pick.

"Tom is an excellent player who brings an awful lot to our team," said Schlagel. "Not only does he have the skills to play either forward position, he also has had the experience of playing against great competition in the Jayhawk Community College Conference. A player with a great feel for the game, we look for Tom to make an immediate impact in our program."

An excellent student, Shirley will pursue a degree in physical therapy at St. Cloud State, and will have three years of playing eligibility with the Huskies.

Of note, older brother Paul played with Martin Rancik, the brother of former Husky Rado Rancik, at Iowa State before playing professionally in the NBA.

St. Cloud State posted a 22-9 overall record and finished third in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference (NSIC) with a 14-6 league mark. The Huskies won the 2009 Sanford Health/NSIC Tournament and advanced to the NCAA Division II Central Region Tournament, making St. Cloud State's 11th NCAA appearance.

GO HUSKIES!