

Hill to study biology, awarded \$120,000 scholarship

By Payton Romans

The reflective surface of a high school basketball court sees a lot of feet in its days, but one of the most notable steps it sees is growth. The maturing of senior **Sadie Hill** is to no exception.

Starting her career in the sport in 7th grade, it was soon clear to the then 13 year old that she had what it took to compete. She continued playing every season since then, from middle school up to now, her senior year of high school. Through these five years of learning and growing as a person, Hill admits to overcoming who she once was, someone she described as a basket case.

"I used to be a big hot head. I was really aggressive towards everybody including my teammates and the referees. My IQ level for each sport was not as high as it is now because I kept playing and getting better at my craft."

As well as her time on the basketball court, Hill has also participated in varsity volleyball and track where she leads by example for the younger players.

Hill was placed on the varsity basketball team as a freshman. She remained there, and felt herself start to mature with her age. A lot, she says, is because of her teammates.

"I've always been a good player; that wasn't the problem. Physically I had the skill all along but it took my friends



Senior Sadie Hill defends the Falcons' basket against the Franklin Central Flashes (Photo by Alexis Lee).

on the team and the constant practice and drilling to get my head in the right place."

Her teammates noticed a change in Hill as well. Senior **Taylor Hooton**, who has also played on the team for all four years of high school, says that the change in her friend is because of her maturing with time.

"I think she came into a new headspace over the years, Hill said. After she realized that small defeats and little details weren't as career ending as she thought, she really grew as a person."

Junior **Molly Armstrong** appreciates Hill as not only a friend but a teacher.

"She is always helping the younger players now. She's completely herself, and that's nice to see. It's great because she can yell at someone on the court all she wants, but we all know that she could never be mad at us once the game ends. She does everything for the good of the team," Armstrong says.

After high school, Hill has ensured a full ride to Murray State University, where she will continue to play basketball and major in biology and minor in exercise science and ultimately become a physical therapist. She says that the years at Perry have really taught her how to become a better person and a better leader overall.

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Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Senior Sadie Hill spends a day getting to familiarizing herself with the courts and coaches of Murray State University. Hill was awarded a four-year, \$120,000 scholarship to the far-western Kentucky university, only seven smiles from Tennessee.