

## KDS Seniors Sign Athletic Scholarships

February brings signing days for high school seniors who have excelled in athletics and are offered scholarships in their favorite sport. In addition to the signing of Morgan Newton, who was featured last month, four others have signed scholarships.



*TJ Steele (left) and Dalton Parks are shown here with KDS football coach Bobby Rhoades.*

*The DAR Patriot football team had two members sign college football scholarships on Wednesday, February 6th. Dalton Parks and TJ Steele both signed letters of intent to play football at the college level in front of friends, family and coaches.*

*TJ Steele signed with Alabama Prep Academy in Birmingham. TJ has been the starting quarterback for two years, earning all-county and all region team awards both years.*

*Dalton Parks signed a four-year scholarship with Southern Arkansas University, which is an NCAA Division II Football school. Dalton set several school records at KDS. He rushed for more than 2,000 yards this season and had 35 touchdowns. He was named Marshall County and Regional MVP and was named to the All-State team.*



*Marissa Emery has signed a softball scholarship to Faulkner State University. Marissa is the daughter of Mark and Melissa Emery. Marissa started playing softball when she was four-years-old. Marissa started playing school softball at Monrovia Middle School. She started her high school softball career at Sparkman High School where she was part of a State Championship team during her sophomore year. Marissa has moved to KDS High School for her senior season. Marissa has received several accolades during her softball career such as All-County, and was selected to the All-County tournament team. Marissa has been a great asset to the team since joining last summer. Her work ethic is contagious as is her positive personality. Coach Larry Bolin said, "We are excited to have Marissa join the softball team here at KDS and are looking forward to a great season."*



*Katie Whitaker (center) has signed a volleyball scholarship with Jefferson Davis Community College. Katie leaves KDS DAR as the all-time digs leader with more than 1,000 digs. (A dig in volleyball prevents the ball from hitting the floor after being spiked by the opposing team.) Katie has received several accolades during her tenure at KDS such as All-County, All-Area, and team captain. She has also been a positive influence on the youth of KDS by volunteering at volleyball camps.*