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Q&A: Rachael Brown, Brownsburg High School senior volleyball player

Get up close and personal with area high school athletes

Question: Ever get anybody asking you, "What's a Saluki?"

Answer: Yes. Many times. And it's an Egyptian dog.

Q: You think that's the coolest nickname out there?

A: Yeah, actually it's the only college that is a Saluki. So it's unique.

Q: So why Southern Illinois?

A: I'm going to be starting as soon as I get there, so that was a big thing. When I got there it just felt comfortable, and I fell in love with the campus and the girls, and so I just felt right. It was a good fit for me.

Q: Carbondale, Ill., is a "college town" -- is that a factor?

A: I think, like, Brownsburg is a sports town. Everybody goes to all the football games, basketball games. We have people that want to come to volleyball games now, so I really like just the environment. Everybody knows you, and all that kind of stuff.

Q: Is there any music that gets you fired up for a game?

A: Um, I like rap music. That gets me fired up; I don't know. Just the beat gets me going.

Q: Anything in particular?

A: No, just in general (laughs).

Q: So what are you like on game day? Is there any difference?

A: Uh, yes. At school I'm always really excited about everything. I can't hardly sit still. And then we have pep talks (led by Brown and fellow senior Bailey Yeager) before the games and I get -- I don't know, I just get kind of crazy.

-- Patrick Dorsey
