Nikki Tresch was the first player to commit to the Gillette College women’s basketball team. Earlier this week, she became just the second woman’s player to sign with a university to extend her college career.

The 5-foot-5 guard joined fellow sophomore Katie Strandholm of Sheridan as Pronghorns moving on to four-year teams when she signed with Montana State University-Northern on Wednesday.

Tresch, 20, was the second recruit to commit to the Skylights this offseason and will receive a little less than a full-ride scholarship, coach Chris Mouat said.

“I’m way excited to continue to move on and play,” Tresch said. “I’m definitely not ready to be done playing. I think I have a lot to learn and a lot to bring to the team.”

A Glenrock native, the daughter of Roger and Lori Tresch, had the numbers to draw attention from college coaches.

In 29 games for Gillette (19-11 overall) this season, Tresch averaged 15.7 points, 2.6 assists, and 2.4 steals per game.

A lot of the sophomore’s points came from beyond the 3-point arc, where she connected 109 attempts while shooting 44 percent from deep.

Tresch’s 3-point shooting was among the best in Division I junior college ball. She finished 27th in the nation for 3-point percentage and second in conversions. She also was just four 3-pointers shy of the nation’s top 3-point shooter, Inga Orekhova of Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, who made 111.

“She’s an outstanding shooter, a leader and a hard worker,” said Pronghorns coach Will Rider, who also played at MSU-Northern when it was Northern Montana.

“She was the type of kid we based our program around for two years and we greatly benefited from her skills, leadership and work ethic.”

Tresch won’t soon be forgotten in Gillette.

She made the first 3-pointer and passed for the first assist in the Pronghorns’ two-year history. She also owns several records for the program.

In a single game, Tresch holds the highest point tally (31) and 3-pointers made (9). For a full season, Tresch owns the records for 3-point field goals made (109), and steals (75).

She has three career records for 3-point fields goals made (173), steals (127) and assists (158).
“Nikki is as pure a shooter as we’ve signed here in a long time,” Mouat said. “She put up some incredible numbers at Gillette College, and that’s saying a lot, given the caliber of competition she was seeing every night.”

In high school, Tresch was also highly decorated. She played shortstop and was a leadoff hitter in traveling softball and earned all-state honors on a state championship team.

In volleyball, Tresch was a three-year letter winner and holds the school record for assists. In track and field, she was a four-year letter winner and two-time all-state selection. She holds the Glenrock High School record in the 100-meter dash, 300-and helped the 4x100 relay break a record. For those efforts, Tresch was picked to run in the Wyoming Classic Track Meet for the top athletes from all classifications in the Cowboy state.

On the high school hardwood, Tresch was a four-year letter winner at Glenrock, where she helped lead her team to a school record for wins during her senior season. She was a three-time all-conference pick and a unanimous all-state selection that same year. She played in the annual Montana-Wyoming, Wyoming-South Dakota, and Wyoming Coaches all-star games.

Tresch, who had four other schools recruit her, also excelled in the classroom. She had a grade average of 3.85 and earned an Academic All-American nod for her efforts. She plans to major in elementary education at MSU-Northern.