

Wyndan hopes to place Pioneers in fast lane

By C.J. Risek
staff writer

So far, Mary Ellen Wyndan likes it. The new Oakland University girls' swim coach isn't making any rash predictions for the coming season — "I just got out here last Thursday, and I haven't met all the women on the team yet" — but so far all systems are go.

And, as far as OU's women's swimmers are concerned, that goes means go fast. The Lady Pioneers finished third at the Division II nationals in 1981 and were fifth in 1982, accumulating nine wins in 10 dual meets.

So Wyndan isn't coming into a program in disarray. True, some of OU's

top swimmers are gone, but two-time NCAA Division II breaststroke champion Karen Enneking returns. The junior holds the national record of 2:25.6 in the 200.

THAT'S NOT a bad position to start from.

Not only that, Wyndan likes Rochester, comparing the town to her home of Lansdale, a suburb of Philadelphia. The new coach had never been to Detroit before.

She made her first trip to town to interview for the job Mark Johnston resigned from this summer. OU athletic director Paul Hartman was fishing for

swimming

another coach and landed the 23-year-old Wyndan.

A year ago, she was an assistant for the University of North Carolina's women's swim team, concentrating on the distance freestyle and individual medley events.

NORTH CAROLINA's women placed sixth in the Division I nationals last year. One of Wyndan's swimmers,

She Walsh, captured three NCAA titles. So it was easy for Hartman to choose the young coach. Success breeds success, and Wyndan has enjoyed her share.

She was a high school star at North Penn High in Lansdale, earning prep All-America honors three times. Before transferring to Delaware in 1979, Wyndan was a national qualifier on Penn State's 400-yard freestyle relay team. Coaching swimming has gone far beyond planning workouts for top-level performances. The mental edge is all-important, especially, Wyndan feels, on a team basis.

"I WANT to get the team to communicate well on a consistent basis," she said. "Those kind of things are what make championship teams."

"When you work together, you generate energy. When you work only for yourself, it can tear the team apart."

Since swimming is such an individualized sport, developing teamwork can be a problem. But, as Wyndan said, it is important for team members to support each other because that can help develop self-confidence.

"You have to deal with that mental aspect," the new coach said. "There's so much research being conducted on sports psychology all the time. I've heard reports that say swimming is anywhere from 75 to 90 percent mental."

"I believe you've got to use that to your advantage. Coaches that don't will lose out."

WYNDAN KNOWS she is fortunate to hold such a position at her age. She's part of a new, expanding breed of women who are interested in coaching. "The reason for that is the boom in women's sports," she said. "Now there are more women getting into (coaching)."

It'll be a challenge for me, yes. My age can be a hindrance. If the girls choose not to respect me. But I can also identify with some of their problems, since I'm from the same generation. It can work both ways.

"I believe my background will help me deal with it successfully."

FOR WYNDAN, success is "to be able to take us to the top three nationally." She had not established her timetable for that yet. After all, she's only been on the job a week.

"I'm going to have a meeting and set up both short- and long-range goals for them, from preseason to post-season to the championships. I'm hoping the new freshmen will develop and fill in at needed spots."

Developing her swimmers' talents and refining their mental attitudes are Wyndan's short-term goals. Her success in those areas will help determine her long-range plans.

the week ahead

FOOTBALL
Friday, Sept. 9
Liv. Bentley at Liv. Canton, 7:30 p.m.
Liv. Stevenson at Redford Union, 7:30 p.m.
Bishop Borgosa at Riverline, 7:30 p.m.
Belleville at Wald. John Glen, 7:30 p.m.
Garden City vs. Wayne Memorial at CC Junior High (Old West), 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 10
W. Bloomfield at Farm. Harrison, 2 p.m.
Liv. Salem at N. Farmington, 2 p.m.
Farmington at Southfield, 2 p.m.
Liv. Churchill at Liv. Franklin, 3 p.m.
Northville at Redford Thurston, 3 p.m.
St. Agatha vs. Dearborn St. Alphonsus at Dearborn Fordson H.S., 3:30 p.m.
Catholic Central vs. Traverse City at Pontiac Silverdome, 8 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Tuesday, Sept. 6
Liv. Bentley at Redford Union, 7:45 p.m.
Liv. Churchill at Liv. Franklin, 7:45 p.m.
Red. Thurston at Liv. Stevenson, 7:45 p.m.
Wald. John Glen at Farmington, 7:45 p.m.

Ply. Canton at Ply. Salem, 7:45 p.m.
Farm. Harrison at Novi, 7:45 p.m.
N. Farmington at Novi, 7:45 p.m.
(opponent to be announced)
Wednesday, Sept. 7
Bishop Borgosa vs. Dearborn Divine Child at Wyandotte Mt. Carmel Tournament, 6 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 8
Northville at Farmington, 7:45 p.m.
Farm. Harrison at Ply. Salem, 7:45 p.m.
Farm. Mercy at Farmington, 7:45 p.m.
N. Farmington at home, 7:45 p.m.
(opponent to be announced)
Friday, Sept. 9
Ply. Canton at Liv. Franklin, 7:45 p.m.
Liv. Churchill at Liv. Bentley, 7:45 p.m.
Liv. Salem at Liv. Stevenson, 7:45 p.m.
Wald. John Glen at Wyandotte, 7:45 p.m.
Garden City at River Rouge, 8 p.m.
Liv. Ladywood at Waterford Mott, 7:30 p.m.
Dearborn at Redford Thurston, 7:45 p.m.
St. Agatha at R.O. Shrine Tour, 8 p.m.
Bish. Borgosa at Mt. Carmel Tour, 8 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 9
Jackson Baptist at Temp. Christian, 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 10
St. Agatha at R.O. Shrine Tour, 2 p.m.
BOYS' SOCCER
Tuesday, Sept. 6
Temple Christian at Flat Christian, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 7
Liv. Franklin at Liv. Stevenson, 7 p.m.
Liv. Bentley at Farmington, 7 p.m.
Farm. Harrison at Ply. Salem, 4 p.m.
Ply. Canton at N. Farmington, 4 p.m.
Northville at Farmington, 4 p.m.
Garden City at Dear. Edsel Ford, 4 p.m.
Liv. Churchill at Liv. Bentley, 4 p.m.
Bishop Borgosa vs. Catholic Central at Redford's Mason Field, 4 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 9
Farmington at Novi, 4 p.m.
N. Farmington at Liv. Stevenson, 4 p.m.
Springfield Ch. at Temple Christian, 5 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 10
Catholic Central vs. Traverse City at Redford's Bell Creek Park, 3 p.m.
Toledo St. Francis at Liv. Bentley, 7 p.m.

Coaches dislike new rules

Continued from Page 1

"The end of the game will not be as exciting with the lack of timeouts," Thomsen said. "Timeouts give a coach the chance to plan strategy, they allow the tension to build and the fans to get excited. And I can see a lot of coaches calling timeouts in the first half where they wouldn't before."

Apparently, referees became perturbed during the course of last season

by coaches abusing timeout privileges. In one game, a Western Lakes coach, trailing by more than 20 points, called five timeouts in the final minute of the game.

"I DON'T buy that argument," Baker said. "Coaches use timeouts to educate their players. I know that many times I've called timeouts with my second and third stringers in the game. That may have angered some fans and

coaches, but I did it to help the kids."

The rule changes have been made, and, like them or not, the coaches realize that they have to live with them. But as Baker said:

"In some ways, I guess I feel like American League baseball managers did when the designated hitter rule was put in. They eliminated some of the strategy from the game, and for a coach, that's what's fun."

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