

Ocelot spikers set for region tourney

By C.J. Risk staff writer

How well Schoolcraft College's volleyball team fares in the NJCAA Region 12 Championships this weekend will depend largely on its ability to reach a level of play it has been able to attain only on occasion this season.

In short, the Ocelots have to be good — consistently.

"I'm sure not counting us out," said Schoolcraft coach Joe Jandasek. "We're going to have to play steady. We've got the capability to play anybody if we play aggressively enough consistently."

"By aggressive, I mean we have to take charge at the net and keep pressing on our opponents. We've been playing too conservatively, a kind of 'see if you can do the job without pressing to the limit' attitude. We can't do that because it gives our opponent the opportunity to come back."

SCHOOLCRAFT WILL OPEN the 14-team, double-elimination tournament at 9 a.m. Friday at Schoolcraft, which is hosting the tournament.

The Friday morning match is against Grand Rapids Community College. Cuyahoga East Community College from Cleveland will play Kalamazoo Valley CC in the other 9 a.m. contest.

The Schoolcraft/Grand Rapids winner will play Lakeland (Ohio) at 1:30 p.m. Friday. Jandasek figured Lake Michigan, a nationally-ranked

team, to be one of the favorites. Other community college teams competing are Henry Ford, the Eastern Conference champion; Muskegon, Lansing, Southwestern Michigan, Vincennes (Ind.), Kellogg, Sinclair (Ohio) and Mott.

Saturday the tournament resumes at 9 a.m., with the championship match slated for 8 p.m. and, if another match is needed, 10 p.m.

SCHOOLCRAFT TUNED UP for the regionals by playing in the 16-team Can-Am Tournament at the University of Windsor last weekend.

It was not one of Ocelots' better performances. They won just two of eight pool play games, splitting with Brock (Ont.) University and Lake Superior State.

In the consolation tournament, Schoolcraft topped Lansing, 15-11, 15-11, then played well for the first nine points. Jandasek said against Waterloo (Ont.) College before "really letting up" and losing, 15-9, 15-1. Oakland University eventually won the championship, beating Grand Valley.

Jandasek singled out the performances of setters Beth Westman of Livonia Churchill and Tina Boil of Ida for consistently solid performances.

On Tuesday (Nov. 1), Schoolcraft wound up its Eastern Conference season with a tight, five-game victory over Mott, 15-14, 18-18, 15-13, 13-15, 15-11, at Mott. The victory assured the Ocelots at least a tie for second place behind undefeated Henry Ford (6-0) with a 5-3 mark.

By C.J. Risk staff writer

Good things happen when a team wins.

Like awards and honors and post-season tournament berths. All of which started rolling toward Schoolcraft College's men's soccer team this week.

Ocelot coach Larry Christoff was voted Region 12 Coach of the Year for the second-straight season and for the third time in the six years such an honor has been awarded. The balloting was completed Monday night at a meeting of region coaches.

In addition, Schoolcraft sophomore Jim King was the top vote-getter in a coaches' ballot for region players to be submitted for All-American accolades. King and teammates Doug Marshall and Manny Muria were named to the All-Region first team, while Hashim Alidadi and Dan O'Shea were chosen to the second squad.

Kickers get respect

Three straight losses in national tournament play may not sound like anything to be proud of.

Yet consider that Schoolcraft College's women's soccer squad is in its first season, that it is the only two-year college team of its kind in the region (which is why the Ocelots earned a berth in the NJCAA tournament — by default), and that the roster and practices fluctuated much of the season — and just surviving through nationals is good reason for optimism.

Schoolcraft, which finished its regular season with a 3-3-1 mark, absorbed a 7-1 pasting in its first game at the nationals to Morrisville (N.Y.), top-ranked nationally among junior colleges.

The eight-team tourney was played at Essex Community College in Baltimore last weekend.

"After that game some opposing coaches felt, 'Should they be in the tournament?'" Schoolcraft coach Ed Dudek said.

SCHOOLCRAFT SHOWED its detractors it did belong by staying close to its next two foes. The Ocelots lost to Nassau (N.Y.) in their second game, 2-0, and to Florissant (St. Louis) in their third by a narrow, 2-1 margin.

"That last game could have gone either way," Dudek said. "Before the game, people were saying maybe we should be dropped, that the selection process should be changed."

"After that (Florissant) game, they decided to keep the format for another year. I think we impressed them, showed them that players from this area do have good skills."

Dudek is hoping the sport will transcend from its present club level to varsity next year. "I can really recruit if we do (go varsity)," Dudek said.

SCHOOLCRAFT, WHICH won the region title with a 7-1 mark, will play in the NJCAA Inter-Regional tournament against Lewis and Clark College, the Region 24 (southern Illinois) representative, at 1 p.m. Saturday at Triton College in River Grove, Ill.

The winner plays in Sunday's 11 a.m. championship contest against the Bethany Lutheran of Minnesota-DuPage winner.

Victory in the Inter-Regional means a trip to the NJCAA national tournament in Trenton, N.J., Thanksgiving weekend. Eight teams will vie for the title in the double-elimination nationals.

Lewis and Clark was the region champ a year ago, beating Macomb CC in the finals. I.O. Christoff called his first-round opponents "basically a good passing team. That's their style."

AS FAR AS SCOUTING Lewis and Clark, Christoff explained that wasn't his style.

"I'll watch a game but rarely will I base my strategy on that," the Schoolcraft coach said. "You never know if a kid is having a good game or if he'll even play against you. You could aim your practices at stopping one player and he might not even play. That would ruin a whole week's worth of work."

Christoff's strategy is formed in the first three to five minutes of the game, a span he called "critical. I determine weaknesses and strengths and then make the necessary adjustments."

"Few coaches are outcoached. Players and how well they're coached in team concept determine the outcome."

Christoff is entering the tournament with high hopes, partially based on strong practices during the last week. The game will be played on Triton's artificial turf, a surface Schoolcraft's players have not played a game on this season. However, they did get some practice time on the much faster surface at an indoor arena in Farmington last week.

Christoff called his selection as Coach of the Year "a great honor, not so much for me but for the whole program. For the program to be successful, it needs support like I get from (athletic director) Marv Gatz."

Christoff called King, a Livonia Franklin grad who played fullback-midfield for Schoolcraft, as the one who "initiated the attack for us and had to play back on defense, too." King and Marshall, who was the team's top goal-scorer with 18, are two of only three sophomores on the squad.

girls basketball

GIRLS BASKETBALL LEADERS

The following girls basketball statistics are compiled weekly by North Farmington basketball coach Greg Grodzicki. Coaches should call Grodzicki Sunday and Monday evenings between 7 and 10 to report your team's stats. His phone number is 464-8830.

Player	HS	G	P	Av.
Julia Marchand	RJ	16	212	13.2
Carolyn Smith	LF	18	222	12.3
Mary Kay Hussey	LS	16	177	11.0
Kelma Shaw	NF	16	175	10.9
Alisa Leitch	LF	16	167	9.3
Suzanne Howley	NF	16	141	8.8
Kelley Kennedy	RJ	17	139	8.1

REBOUNDING

Player	HS	G	Reb.	Av.
Julia Marchand	RJ	16	220	13.7
Carolyn Smith	LF	18	187	11.0
Kelma Shaw	RJ	17	187	11.0
Alisa Leitch	NF	16	156	9.8
Suzanne Howley	Farm	16	147	8.6
Kelley Kennedy	Lady	17	123	7.6
Alisa Leitch	LS	16	134	7.4
Julia Marchand	LS	16	130	7.2
Mary Kay Hussey	LS	16	114	7.1
Suzanne Howley	NF	16	109	6.8

swimming rankings

The following high school swimming statistics are compiled weekly by Plymouth Salem swim coach Chuck Olson. Coaches should call Olson weekdays between 8:30-11:30 a.m. or between 2:15-4 p.m. at 453-3100 ext. 294, to update their stats.

Team	200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY
Stevenson	1:54.3
Farm. Mercy	1:57.1
N. Farmington	1:57.2
Plymouth Canton	2:02.3
Plymouth Salem	2:01.6
Churchill	2:02.2
John Glenn	2:00.4
Garden City	2:05.8
Harrison	2:07.1
Bentley	2:07.2

Team	200-FREESTYLE
Kim Dorsey (N. Farmington)	1:51.9
Mary Schorle (Stevenson)	1:58.3
Sherrille Sudek (Stevenson)	1:58.0
Kim Dorsey (N. Farmington)	1:58.2
Sheila Taormina (Stevenson)	1:58.0
Kim Dorsey (N. Farmington)	2:01.4
Birta Brookes (Mercy)	2:02.6
Kathy Sullivan (Stevenson)	2:02.6
Connie Johnson (Canton)	2:10.0
Melissa Joy (Harrison)	2:04.4
Julie Quinn (Stevenson)	2:04.4

Team	200-INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY
Mary Schorle (Stevenson)	2:11.6
Sherrille Sudek (Stevenson)	2:11.8
Connie Johnson (N. Farmington)	2:16.9
Sheila Taormina (Stevenson)	2:18.2
John Glenn (Stevenson)	2:18.5
Jill Andries (Mercy)	2:18.5
Gaye Gorgas (Churchill)	2:19.3
Jennifer Rowe (N. Farmington)	2:19.3
Kathy Sullivan (Stevenson)	2:20.0
Margie Kramer (N. Farmington)	2:20.5
Connie Johnson (Canton)	2:20.6

Team	50-FREESTYLE
Mary Schorle (Stevenson)	24.7
Margie Kramer (N. Farmington)	25.3
Sheila Taormina (Stevenson)	25.5
Marilee Konczal (Mercy)	25.7
Maureen Kay (Mercy)	25.7
Mary Manderfield (N. Farmington)	25.8
Sherrille Sudek (Stevenson)	25.9
Lynn Massey (Canton)	26.3
Kim Dorsey (Garden City)	26.3
Kathy Johnson (Mercy)	26.4

Team	100-BUTTERFLY
Sheila Taormina (Stevenson)	1:00.4
Mary Schorle (Stevenson)	1:02.1
Gina Johnson (Canton)	1:02.3
Pat McCarthy (Mercy)	1:02.7
Nancy Holt (Mercy)	1:02.8
Robin Lautz (Bentley)	1:03.5
Kim Dorsey (Garden City)	1:03.6
Kendra James (Churchill)	1:04.1
Laura Shaffer (Salem)	1:04.4
Sherrille Sudek (Stevenson)	1:04.9

Team	100-FREESTYLE RELAY
Stevenson	3:44.2
N. Farmington	3:51.3
Mercy	3:48.0
Bentley	3:58.7
Garden City	3:59.2
Harrison	4:00.7
Salem	4:01.3
John Glenn	4:07.6
Churchill	4:14.9

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