

Spikers gain national status

By Brad Emmons
staff writer

Schoolcraft College continued to beat the odds en route to a fifth-place finish last weekend in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) women's volleyball tournament at Miami (Fla.) Dade South Community College.

Scottsdale (Ariz.) CC won the title for the second consecutive year, beating Charles County (Md.), 15-13, 15-13, 15-11.

"I think we earned a lot of respect," Schoolcraft first-year coach Tom Teeters said. "We were the only team to break the top eight that started among the bottom eight (teams)."

The unheralded Lady Ocelots, the smallest among the 18 teams, were seeded ninth.

They opened pool play by knocking off No. 8 seed Utah Tech, 15-6, 8-15, 15-11, erasing an 8-0 deficit in the final game. Schoolcraft was sparked by the strong hitting of Ann Bennett.

In the second round of pool play, Scottsdale hammered the Lady Ocelots, 15-6, 15-6, 15-1.

"Scottsdale had a well-balanced team," Teeters said. "They didn't have any weaknesses. You had to play well to beat them."

SCHOOLCRAFT rebounded from its loss to Scottsdale by tipping Bergen (N.J.), 15-2, 15-6. The Lady Ocelots got strong hitting from North Farmington grad Donna Konjarovich and Wayne Memorial product Kathy McIntosh. Serving specialist Amy Lacro (Livonia Franklin) also contributed to the win, which qualified Schoolcraft to play among the final eight teams in the double-elimination event.

In the first round of the winner's bracket, Schoolcraft upset No. 6 seed

Schoolcraft sports

Penn Valley (Mo.) CC, 15-5, 17-15, 16-14. The Lady Ocelots rallied to win the match, overcoming a 14-0 deficit in the final game as Patti Kozicki (North Farmington) served seven straight points. Kim Relyea (Livonia Stevenson) and Sue Cyrus (Garden City) provided timely hitting in the win.

But in the second round, Schoolcraft ran into Scottsdale again. The Ocelots put up a fight before losing 15-5, 16-14, 15-7. In the second game, Stevenson product Linda Leffler served three aces to thwart the strong Scottsdale defense.

PLACED in the loser's bracket, Schoolcraft lost a hard-fought match to No. 4 seed Barton (Kan.) CC, 15-9, 5-15, 15-13, to settle for a fifth-place tie in the tourney with San Jacinto (Texas) JC.

"We were supposed to be beaten — that's what we heard all year," the Schoolcraft coach said. "The nationals are in Miami next year, and we hope to be back."

"We'll prepare in the off-season with more practice and tourneys, and we'll do some recruiting. My hope is that we'll have some bigger people, and we hope to be as strong at this time next year."

"We were a hard-working team that played a tough schedule. We played a lot of four-year schools this year and that helped in the long-run."

Relyea, who returns next season, was named to the All-Tournament team.



Patti Kozicki, a North Farmington graduate, played a key role in the Schoolcraft volleyball team's impressive run through the NJCAA national tournament in Miami.

Falcons pin N'ville, 42-33

Farmington collected enough falls Tuesday to fill a pin cushion in the Falcons' season-opening wrestling victory.

All seven of Farmington's wins came on pins as visiting Northville had its collective back to the mat, losing 42-33.

In five of the Falcon wins, pins were applied in less than two minutes. Farmington's Steve Lee (114) needed only 57 seconds to collect his victory. T.J. Armstrong (98) took 1:02 to suppress his opponent and Bill Critcher's heavyweight triumph consumed only 1:14 before it was decided. Others with pins in two minutes or less included Darryll Tharnish (145) and John Augustin (185).

wrestling

Mike Cody (138) and Dan Parilo (198) also posted wins for the Falcons, who travel to Livonia Franklin today.

W.L. WESTERN 83, N. FARMINGTON 3: On Tuesday, the Raiders came away with only two matches in their season-opening setback to Walled Lake Western in a Western Lakes dual meet.

CC grapplers open with a trio of victories

Redford Catholic Central ordered a hat trick minus the ice.

The Shamrock wrestlers had their three wins straight up on the mat instead with victories over Lansing Eastern, Garden City and Milford Lakeland Tuesday in a season-opening quad meet.

CC (3-0) downed Eastern 36-28, GC 56-13, and Lakeland 60-12 in a busy night of wrestling. In all, the Shamrocks had five grapplers with three wins.

Brendan Rock (105) garnered his three wins on two pins and a decision. Jason Welbeck (119) also had two pins and a decision for a trio of victories.

Matt Helm (126) scored all three of his wins on pins.

Chris Lemanski (132), Mitch Quint (138) and Chris Rodriguez (145) all had

two wins each for CC.

For the Cougars, Bob Hancock (112), Tim Howell (137) and Pat Giese (185) provided wins in GC's match with the Shamrocks.

CHURCHILL 42, STEVENSON 20: The Chargers collected wins in eight of 13 matches as host Livonia Churchill downed the Spartans Tuesday in a Western Lakes season-opening dual meet.

Livonia Stevenson (0-1) took five matches but it wasn't enough to overpower the Chargers, who earned six of their wins on pins.

Churchill grapplers who won on falls included Darren Dudek (98), Mike Krause (132), Brian Clemens (167), David Zenas (185) and Tracy Scott (heavyweight). Scott Priede (138) and Bob Stepp (155) both won on decisions.

Thursday, Churchill travels to North Farmington.

Lady Ocelots take tourney

The Schoolcraft College women's basketball team took a page out of Yogi Berra's notebook last weekend, winning the Muskegon CC Tournament.

The Lady Ocelots, off to a 3-0 start, learned in their first round game that "it's never over until it's over," upsetting last year's state playoff champions, Muskegon, 81-60. Schoolcraft then defeated Shawnee State (Ohio), 76-66, to win the championship.

Colleen McKay, who was fouled with only one second left after grabbing a loose ball, made the tying and winning free throws to give Schoolcraft the victory over Muskegon. The host school appeared to have the game wrapped up, leading 80-79. But Muskegon failed to convert a free throw with just four seconds remaining before committing the costly foul.

The lead see-sawed much of the night. Muskegon, who got a game-

high 24 points from Karen Campen, led 34-27 at the half. Schoolcraft then jumped out to a 12-point lead before losing it in the final three minutes after four Lady Ocelots fouled out.

SUE LUBBE, a Dearborn Divine Child product, led the winners with 23 points. McKay, a Romulus High graduate, added 15. Kim Chandler and Almee Frye added 12 and 10, respectively.

In the championship game, Schoolcraft turned in a strong second half defensive effort, overcoming a three-point halftime deficit for the victory. Lubbe and Chandler, leading a potent inside attack, scored 22 and 21 points, respectively.

Frye, a Walled Lake Central product, added 14.

The Lady Ocelots return to action Monday at home to face Southwestern CC. Game time is 6 p.m.

the week ahead

BOYS BASKETBALL Friday, Dec. 6	STATE REGIONAL GIRLS BASKETBALL PAIRINGS
Dearborn at Liv. Church, 7:30 p.m. Beeville at Liv. Stevenson, 7:30 p.m. Wald. John Glenn at Wayne Mem., 7:30 p.m. Ply. Canton at Brighton, 7:30 p.m. Trenton at Ply. Salem, 7:30 p.m. Farm. Harrison at Kettering, 7:30 p.m. N. Farmington at E.P. Lathrup, 7:30 p.m. Redford Union at Farmington, 7:30 p.m. Garden City at Cherry Hill, 7:30 p.m. M.L. Lakeland at Red. Thornton, 7:30 p.m. Clermont at Taylor Baptist, 7:30 p.m. Milan at Bishop Borgess, 7:30 p.m. Redford Catholic Central vs. Cokenton at Waterford Township High, 7:30 p.m.	CLASS A at PLYMOUTH SALEM Thursday, Dec. 5: Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Waterford Kettering, 7:30 p.m. (winner advances to the Waterford Most Class A quarterfinals vs. Bay City Western regional champ.)
PREP HOCKEY Friday, Dec. 6	CLASS B at HARPER WOOD, LUTHERAN EAST Thursday, Dec. 5: River Rouge vs. Livonia Ladywood, 7 p.m. (winner advances to the Warren Fitzgerald Class B quarterfinals.)
Liv. Church vs. Livonia Franklin at Livonia's Edgar Aeneas, 6 p.m.	STATE REGIONAL GIRLS BASKETBALL PAIRINGS
Liv. Church at Milford Lakeland, 7 p.m.	CLASS A at PLYMOUTH SALEM Thursday, Dec. 5: Farmington Hills Mercy vs. Waterford Kettering, 7:30 p.m. (winner advances to the Waterford Most Class A quarterfinals vs. Bay City Western regional champ.)
COLLEGE BASKETBALL Friday, Dec. 6	
Catholic Cent. vs. Fraser (Redford), 6 p.m. Liv. Church at Milford Lakeland, 7 p.m.	
Glen Oaks at Schoolcraft (men), 8 p.m.	

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