

Ma Nature robs Wandzel

By Brad Emons
staff writer

Old Mother Nature may have prevented Northwood Institute tight end Ron Wandzel from becoming the school's single season pass catching leader.

The Livonia native and Redford Catholic Central High School product missed Lloyd Slabaugh's mark of 40, set in 1983, by just two receptions.

The sophomore, recently named to the All-Great Lakes Intercollegiate Conference's second team, caught 38 passes for 473 yards. He was second in the GLIAC behind Saginaw Valley's Kurt Priemer with 21 catches for 247 yards.

In Northwood's final game of the season against Hillsdale, Wandzel needed only three catches to surpass Slabaugh, but because of double coverage, quarterback Paul Tripp was only able to complete one pass to his favorite target.

"IT SEEMED the whole (Hillsdale) defensive backlit. I was on me," said Wandzel. "The coach (Jack Finn) didn't say much, but the team made a big deal about it, like a major countdown or something. They were kind of upset. They wanted me to get it."

Wandzel probably would have broken the record had it not been for the September floods in central Michigan. With the Northmen's home field under water, their Sept. 13 game with the University of Indianapolis

was cancelled.

"So I was called off and I went home for a day," said Wandzel. "We came back and practiced. Our practice field was OK, but our game field was unplayable."

Despite a 1-8 season and rumors that he might transfer, Wandzel's future at Northwood appears bright with two seasons remaining.

After 18 seasons, Finn is stepping down as head coach to become the school's full-time athletic director. His hand-picked successor is Lou Ferrari, who spent this season as the No. 1 assistant after coaching the defensive line at Columbia University in 1985.

Wandzel said he figures highly in Ferrari's plans.

"HE (FERRARI) is going to make

some changes and he wants me back," said the 6-foot-5, 210-pounder. "I plan to get up to about 230 next year."

Lossing was difficult for Wandzel, but he kept his composure.

"It was really different because when I was at CC we never lost," he said. "But we were in every game this year through at least the half. The losing didn't bother me as much because we really had a lot of young players. I knew going in that we weren't going to be winning as much. We had only eight seniors."

"Even though we lost, coach Finn said he enjoyed coaching us. We never quit and our attitude was great."

As a freshman, Wandzel was used primarily at wide receiver. He had eight receptions.

S'craft spikers advance in NJCAA tourney

For the second straight season, Schoolcraft Community College has advanced to the final eight in the Na-

tional Junior College Athletic Association volleyball tournament. The Ocelots, coached by Tom

Teeters, won two of three matches in pool play Monday at Miami's Dade Community College to advance to the final eight. The championship will be decided tonight.

In its match Monday, Schoolcraft knocked off New York Genesee Community College 15-2, 15-8, 15-7. The Ocelots then defeated North Carolina Chowan CC 15-11, 15-5, 15-5.

Barton County CC of Missouri knocked off Schoolcraft in the third match, 15-5, 12-15, 15-13.

KIM RELYEA, a Livonia Stevenson product, was standout both at

the net and on defense. She led the team with 120 attacks (43 kills and only five errors). She also led the team in digs. Sue Cyrus of Garden City was also strong at the net with 97 attacks, 23 kills and five errors.

Against Barton, Schoolcraft got a big lift from its bench. Tina Osantowski delivered 19 attacks, five kills and four solo blocks in limited action. North Farmington graduate Donna Konjarevich played superb from the back row. She didn't make an error in the match against Barton.

Schoolcraft was ranked No. 5 in the nation entering the tournament.

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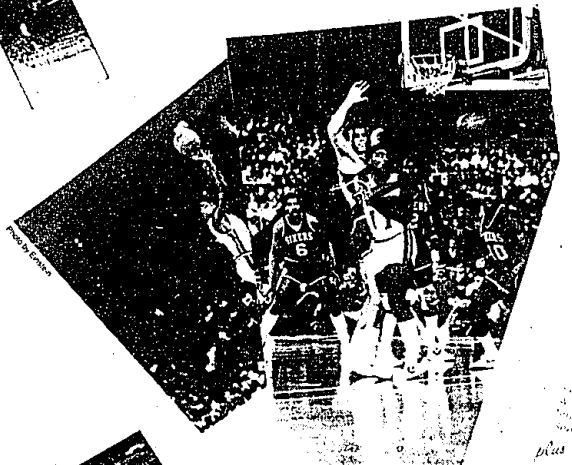
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