OU kickers cement Central Regional status

The march continued for Oakland University's soccer team, the final objective — a No. 1 seeding in the Central Region and the first-round bye to the NGAA Division II tournament that accompanies it — now clearly in sight.

The last major burdle separating the Ploneers from that goal was cleared Saturday with two second-half goals in a 2:22 span that carried them to a 2-0 friumph at Lewis University in Romeoville, III.

On Thesday, OU improved to 15-2-3 with a 2-0 win over Eastern Michigana to U.

gan at OU.

The victories comented OU's position as the top team in the Central
Region. But there was more, Sentite
Pacific lost last weeken one.
Versity of Portland. The detact combined with OU's wins, allowed the
Plancers to supplant SP as the second-ranked team in the national
ceaches' poll, the highest ranking
ever for OU.

GOING INTO Saturday's game, the Ploncers had been plagued by problems, particularly at the scoring end of the field. First the right lineup had to be assembled; then a mid-sesson scoring slump had to be endured. And just when those lils seemed cured, injuries sidelined four of OU's ton flux scores.

cured, injuries suchnea four of Go-top five scorers.

Those problems started to melt away against Lewis. Earl Parris continued his fine play, but the best news came from Paul Phillips, who led the Pioneers in scoring last year

but has struggled most of this sea-son. Phillips ended a 13-game score-less streak at the 55:37 mark when be loited a shot past Lewis keeper Jeff Baren, with Parris and Mikael Carlstrom assisting. Lewis had no time to regroup. At 57:59, Alan Stewart — who had been sidelined with an injured ankle — drilled a shot into the right side of the net. Parris started the scoring play 25 yards from the net. He chipped a pass to Phillips in the pen-ally area, and Phillips headed the ball to Stewart.

AGAINST EMU, the Ploncers dominated, John Stowart converted diter a corner kick by his brother Alan before the match was six minutes old. Dan Weinerth also assisted. At 29:23, Parris scored with John Stewart and Phillips assisting. The two shutouits raised keeper Talph Torre's total to 16 for the season. It also stretched OU's unbeaten streak to 10 games, and gave the Ploncers their ninth-straight 14-win season.

They have one regular-season game remaining, at 3 p.m. Friday at Central Michigan.

OU VOLLEYBALL: The Lady Ploneers are within striking distance of their first Great Lakes Confer-ence volleyball title after beating Lake Superio State 5-15, 15-10, 15-6, 15-10 in their final GLIAC road match of the season Saturday, OU improved to 11-1 in the confer-

OU sports

ence with four matches remaining, all at home. Grand Valley State, in second place, fell 2½ games behind by losing to Northern Michigan Saturday. GVSU is 94. Defending champion Ferris State is 8-4 and Wayne State, which lost to LSSU Friday. is 8-5.

Wayne State, whiten tost to take 1, 18-5.

Tracey Jones had 14 kills in 31 attacks with seven errors (226), one solo block and four block assists against the Lakers (6-5 in the GLI-AC, 14-10 overall).

On Friday, OU lost at Northwood

Institute 15-9, 15-10, 13-15, 15-13. Jones had 13 kills in 30 attacks with live errors (.257), two solos, 11 block assists and eight digs. Anne Harrison added 10 kills in 20 attacks with two errors (.400), nine block assists and eight digs.

OU is 17-7 overall.

On Friday and Saturday, the Lady Ploneers play at the Ashland (Ohio) College Tournament.

EMU was third with 256.

Hilton Woods, Dave Rogowski and
Scott Harris each swam on three
first-place relays. All three were on
the winning 200-yard (1:24.99) and
500-yard (1:03.75) freestyle relays.
Harris and Rogowski were also
members of the 400 free relay
(3:10.5) and Woods was on the 300
backstroke relay (1:42.33).

For the Lady Ploneers, two

their seasons Saturday with secondplace finishes at the Bowling Green
State Relays.
The mens team was edged by the
host Falcons, 280-277. Eastern Michigan was third (270) in the six-team
field. In the three-team womens
meet, BGSU edged OU 297-285.
EMU was third with 286.

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Freshman Katle III led off the 300 butterfly relay with a 100-yard time of 59.15, also an NCAA qualifler.

Another freshman, Kerry Leavoy, was on three winning relays: the 500 free (4:43.91), the 400 free (3:35.58) and the 200 free. The 400 free relay which included Lynn Schermer, Lisa



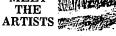
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