## Mercy wins volleyball tourney

The Farmington Hills Mercy volleyball team opened 1992-93 Saturday with a championship at the Madonna University Christmas Tournament.

The Marlins, coached by Peggy Spangler, defeated Hanover Horton 15-13, 15-11 for the tijle. Mercy reached the finals by outlasting Rochester Adams 15-13, 15-8 in the semilinal round.

The Marlins finished 6-2 in pool play in front of former Morcy coach Tim DeBelliso, who watched.

watched.
"Probably the greatest compli-

ment was when Tim said the girls looked good — he was a great coach," said Spangler, who was an assistant coach under DeBeliso before he resigned after the 90-91 season. "The girls played real well. The nice thing about this team is they all just pulled together while other teams fell apart and were getting tired."

Senior setter Jill Jarosz was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament after completing 92 percent of her sets, including 96 percent in the last match. "We wouldn't have made it to

the final without her," Spangle said.

Senior middle hitter Angela As-Senior middle hitter Angela As-sad and senior outside hitter Kristina Kudelko joined Jarosz on the all-tournament team. As-sad had seven kills in the final match and Kudelko added six to go with four service aces (10 for the day).

Also earning praise from Span-gler were back-row players Mar-cella DeAgostino, a senior, and Meghan O'Brien, a junior.

# Atchinson from page 1B

to prove to myself, either I could or I couldn't. Really, I had nothing to lose."
So, last fall, she and 12 other non-scholarship players showed up for varsity practice all hoping to win the one open spot on the team. The selection process was grueling, both mentally and physically.
"It was so cray, nobody would "Every day I would check the list for my name. I told myself, if it was there, fine; if not, well, at least i tried."
The list shrank to eight, then to

least I tried."

The list shrank to eight, then to four, then to two — but Atchinson's name was always there.

"One day I showed up to practice and I was the only one there," she said. "The manager started asking me what shoe size I wore and I said, 'Does this mean I made it?' She said, 'Oh, yeah, didn't anybody tell you? Congratulations."

didn't anybody ten you. Compa-tulations."

Atchinson has never been told why she was chosen over the 11 other girls.
"I don't think it had much to do with talent," she said. "I think it had more to do with desire and attitude. I wanted it so bad that I

图 'Sometimes I wake up in the morning and I can't even believe this is happening."

Susie Atchinson

would do anything to make it. I wasn't frightened by the amount of time it took or by all the hard work and I think the coaches nicked use that."

of time it took or you the de-work and I think the coaches picked up on that.

What the Notre Dame coaches saw in Atchinson were the same qualities that Coach Larry Baker for at Mercy.

"She is a terrific self-made player," Baker said. "When we first saw her, we were impressed by her quickness. But she breke her leg and had to sit out her ver-ture freshman season. And the quickness was gone. She had co-create her style of play, as coaches, we really appreciated her sport. And I am sure she im-pressed the Notre Dame coaches with what she will bring to the

What

practices in terms of her talent

practices in terms of her talent and her attitude."

So far, Atchinson has played in two games. She got four minutes against Purdue on Dec. 4 (no shots, one foul, one turnover) and two minutes against Georgia on Monday (no statistics).

"I basically just ran up and down the court," she said. "But it was great. I was ready to play and I was under control. I never though I would get to play when the game was still on the line. But now I figure, hey, I can play an integral part for this team. If they get in trouble, I can help."

Atchinson isn't allowing herself any delusions. She knows nothing is guaranteed. She isn't counting on winning a scholarship and she knows that she will have to win her spot back again next season.

"I just want to help this team be better in any way I can," she said. "If I can help in a game, great. If not, then I will help in practice. I'm not even thinking about next year. I still ean't get over all that's happened this year."

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