

3 area teams head for prep volleyball finals

This season was expected to be a good one for most area volleyball teams, but probably few if any coaches would have predicted before the campaign began that area teams would have had the success they did. Three squads advanced to the final rounds of the state tournament.

Livonia Churchill, Westland John Glenn and Clarenceville, all league champions, won regional titles at the state tournament last weekend and now move on to the finals this weekend at Grand Rapids Junior College.

Churchill, Western Six League champ, finished first at the Dearborn Regional and will square off against Warren Cousino at 5 p.m. tomorrow in a Class A quarterfinal.

Glenn, Northwest Suburban League titlist, won the Trenton Regional and will contend with Lansing Everett at 7 p.m. in another Class A quarterfinal.

Clarenceville, Metro West Conference kingpin and undefeated in dual competition this winter, secured the Birmingham Marian Regional crown and will face the Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher Regional winner at 5 p.m. in a Class B quarterfinal.

All games will be played in the Gerald R. Ford Building on the Grand Rapids Junior College campus. Semifinals and finals are slated for Saturday.

To get to the tournament site, take I-96 west to I-196 and exit at the college exit. Proceed south on College until you reach Lyon, then turn right.

Tickets will be available at the door for \$2 all day Friday and \$4 all day Saturday, according to C.R. Smith, tournament director.

Churchill passed all three of its tests at the Dearborn Regional in the minimum two games. The Chargers first bettered Plymouth Salem, 15-3 and 15-8, then clipped Livonia Bentley, 15-4 and 15-6, then dumped Dearborn in the final, 15-9 and 15-13.

"We served very tough all day long and made very few mental mistakes," said Churchill coach Mike Hughes.

"We figure we can win if we make less than five mental mistakes. We averaged two per game."

Hughes said that the serving of Linda Mix and Sue Rich kept Salem off balance during the first game, as did the overall play of Karen

Kowalski.

"Against Bentley, Julia Brubaker played her best game of the year," said Hughes. "She hit, she blocked—she did everything for us. Stacey O'Toole also served very well."

Bentley coach Dana Hardwidge said her crew didn't look very good during either its first-round win over Plymouth Canton or its loss to Churchill.

"My team was not playing up to par. We were not playing together as a team. It's disappointing to end the season like that," said Hardwidge.

The Chargers put together an all-around good performance to get past Dearborn in the finals.

Linda Mix hit extremely well, our setters, Gail Oljace and Sue Rich set everything, absolutely everything," said Hughes.

At Trenton, Glenn matched Churchill's accomplishment and swept past three opponents in two games each to win a trip to Grand Rapids. Sharon Terlinger, coach of the Rockets, said her team played the best it has all season long in a day-long tourney.

Glenn, which had been beaten by Wayne twice during the season, clumped the Zebras in the first round of the regional, 15-6 and 15-10, and used the momentum to follow with wins over Taylor Center and Monroe.

The Rockets defeated Taylor Center, 15-12 and 15-9, after trailing 10-3 in the

first game and downed Monroe in the regional final, 15-1 and 15-12.

The girls worked really hard against Wayne and after that one, they were ready to go all the way," said Terlinger. "It was a total team effort, which they have done all season long."

Joanne Pachiva, who has missed only one serve all year, again led the Rockets in that department along with Mary Crechiolo and Jo Barriack, said Terlinger.

The Rockets' coach also raved about Pachiva's setting and the spiking of Sylvia Roberts, Nancy Jimenez, Pachiva, Crechiolo and Barriack.

"They were hitting and they were not," said Terlinger.

Clarenceville met its toughest competition of the season at its regional, said coach Tom Teeters, and managed to record three victories once the team got untracked and adjusted to the crowd noise.

The Trojans dropped Southgate Aquinas in their opener, 15-4 and 15-12, nipped Madison Heights Bishop Foley, 15-4, 7-15, 20-18, and downed host Marian for the regional championship, 15-9, 6-15 and 15-4.

"We had trouble getting our momentum early in the day," said Teeters, adding that his girls had trouble with their signals due in large part to spectator noise.

Clarenceville had some serving trouble against Bishop Foley, espe-

cially late in the third game, but managed to score the deciding point when Maureen Higgins dinked the ball over the net after faking a spike.

That was probably the biggest point of the season for the Trojans.

"Kris Klamik came through hitting from the left side of the net," Teeters summarized. "Maureen Higgins was good spiking and dinking from center and Lisa Redford's spiking and blocking throughout the day was excellent."

Soccer, lacrosse clinics planned

The Official Sports Center will sponsor a free clinic for soccer and lacrosse coaches from 8:30 a.m. to noon on March 18 at the center's Southfield offices.

Featured speakers include Mick Lakatos, head soccer coach at Macomb Community College; Larry Christoff, head soccer coach at Schoolcraft College; Van Dimitriou, head

soccer coach at the University of Michigan-Dearborn; and Gene Reilly, head lacrosse coach at Detroit Country Day School.

Interested coaches may register at 8:30 a.m. Saturday. The Official Sports Center is located at 20990 Bridge, one block west of Telegraph and one-half block north of Eight Mile Road.

Former Raider helps OU tankers

Jordan Hatch, who was an outstanding swimmer during his high school days at North Farmington, played a big part in Oakland University's first-place finishes in the simultaneously-run Motor City Invitational and Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference meets held March 2-4 at Wayne State.

Hatch scored in three freestyle events, taking second place in the 200-yard free with a 2:45.9 clocking, posting a third in the 500 free with a time of 4:54.0, and finishing sixth in the 100 free with a :49.3 clocking.

Nine teams competed in the Motor City meet including Notre Dame, Chi-

cago State, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Buffalo State and Valparaiso University. The teams competing in both the MCI and the GLIAC meets were Oakland, Ferris State, Northern Michigan and Wayne State.

Recreation cage standings

Following are the win-loss records of the teams in the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department's Men's Basketball League. Standings reflect games played through March 9.

MEN'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE

STANDINGS — Diamonds—5-2 win-loss record; Oakland Farmers Market 4-2; Browns—4-2; King's Union 1-4-5; East Farm—4-4; Alameda's Lounge—4-4; Richard's Lounge—0-7. RECENT GAMES (MARCH 9) — Alameda's Lounge 80, Richard's Lounge 54; Oakland Farmers Market 90, Browns 74.

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