

# Hawks from page 1B

The 5-foot-0 Snow is the top returning scorer (nine points) and rebounder (seven) and can play any position. She also excels in volleyball and track and will likely end her prep career with 12 letters.

"At times she'll be a low post player and other times a perimeter post," Mantyla said, adding Snow missed just one game in three years (sprained ankle). "I've been able to count on Krista game after game for points, rebounds, hustle and effort."

Kelly LaCosse (5-8), who averaged five points and three assists, will start again at point guard, but the development of sophomore Monique Anderson gives the Hawks more flexibility and will enable LaCosse to play the No. 2 guard more often.

"This year I'd like to take full advantage of her skills," Mantyla said, adding LaCosse is a good outside shooter. "She runs the floor well and opens us up in transition, and she attacks the basket as well or better than anybody we have."

Erin LaCosse (5-8) provides a lot of offense from her wing position where she scored 8½ points and had four rebounds per game. She was the leading three-point shooter with 18 field goals, two more than Snow.

"But she's not just a perimeter scorer," Mantyla said. "She can take the ball to the basket, and she has real good post skills for a guard."

Myrsiniaki (5-8) begins her third season on the varsity and first as a full starter, having averaged three points, four rebounds and two steals. She can play the perimeter but will focus on the post, and her forte is defense.

"She's strong enough to defend bigger players and quick enough to defend smaller players," Mantyla said. "She creates a lot of energy with her style of play and the team feeds off that."

Greene (5-11) is the fifth starter and follows in the footsteps of two all-area post players — Heather Hopkins (1992) and Carey Perkins (1993), who now play at Lake Superior State and Niagara, re-

spectively.

"It's been a great opportunity for her the past two seasons to play against two elite post players," Mantyla said. "The time has come for her to establish her own identity as a post player."

"What we need from her is to run the floor hard, defend the big tough girls on the other team, rebound and be a finisher inside. For this year, I want her to be the best she can be. I'd rather have the seniors carrying the load, and I think they will."

Schnelder (5-8) was twice the most valuable player on the JV team, and the Hawks have added three juniors: 5-10 Ami Patel, 5-9 Sarah Rauch and 5-2 Cicely Dowdell.

The Hawks, who start Sept. 1, at Waterford Kettering, were 8-3 in the league but lost their first playoff game and finished seventh overall. They hope for a better ending this time.

# Schoolcraft names soccer coach

BY STEVE KOWALEKI STAFF WRITER

Nikki Johnson, a 1990 Livonia Churchill graduate, is the new women's soccer coach at Schoolcraft College.

Johnson takes over for Nick O'Shea, who resigned this summer to become the first coach of the Oakland University women's soccer team. Johnson played for O'Shea, first at Churchill and then at Schoolcraft, before finishing her playing career at Siena Heights last fall.

Johnson, 22, looks forward to the challenge of taking over for her former coach. O'Shea led the Ocelots to the 1987 National Junior College Athletic Association national championship.

Johnson doesn't have any head coaching experience but has learned a lot coaching with O'Shea in the summer at camps.

## COLLEGES

"They're going to be hard steps to follow but I'm ready for it," said Johnson, who found out about the appointment on Tuesday and was planning to hold her first practice 24 hours later.

"As soon as Nick told me he was resigning, I said 'Let (athletic director) Ed (Kavanaugh) know, let everyone know I'm interested.' After talking to the girls today they were excited and that boosted me even more. We have a great roster and I think we can do well if everyone's heart is in it," Johnson said.

Johnson, an honorable mention All-Observer choice as a senior in 1990 at Churchill, was the first Siena Heights player ever to play in the Umbro Sen-

ior Bowl all-star game last spring.

She has taken pride in being a leader on every team she's played for.

"Generally, when I was on a team, I was a captain so that shows my leadership," she said.

Several of O'Shea's former players have become coaches, including Garden City head coach Dawn Gabriel and her assistant Lori Place, Churchill assistant coach Fran Priebe, Michigan Hawks coach Jennifer Mueggli-Wilkins and Mary Kay Hussey, who coaches the Livonia Franklin boys and the Stevenson girls.

This is the first time one of his players has replaced him. Before O'Shea resigned from SC, he signed a big recruiting class that is expected to make up the bulk of the team.

Kavanaugh said Johnson was one of 10 applicants.



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