

Varsity Volleyball Begins Season

The Wildcats opened their volleyball season at last Saturday's tournament at Midland. The Cats went 1-2 with Monticello winning the tournament.

The varsity volleyball squad opened their season with a 2-0 loss to Springville in pool play, losing 21-15 and 21-18. Coach Doyle noted, "We got off to a slow start and it hurt us. We were still moving some girls around and it hurt our overall performance." Kara Lechtenberg led the team in kills with three, Lisa Jesenovec and Michelle Boge each added two kills. Krystal Johnson and Carrie Goldsmith each had three assists. Jesenovec led the team in aces with two and Cassie Bawek added one ace. Defensively, Bawek and Sheila Wenthold led the team in digs with five each. Lynn Nefzger added four and Jesenovec three. Jesenovec also led the team in serve receptions with nine.

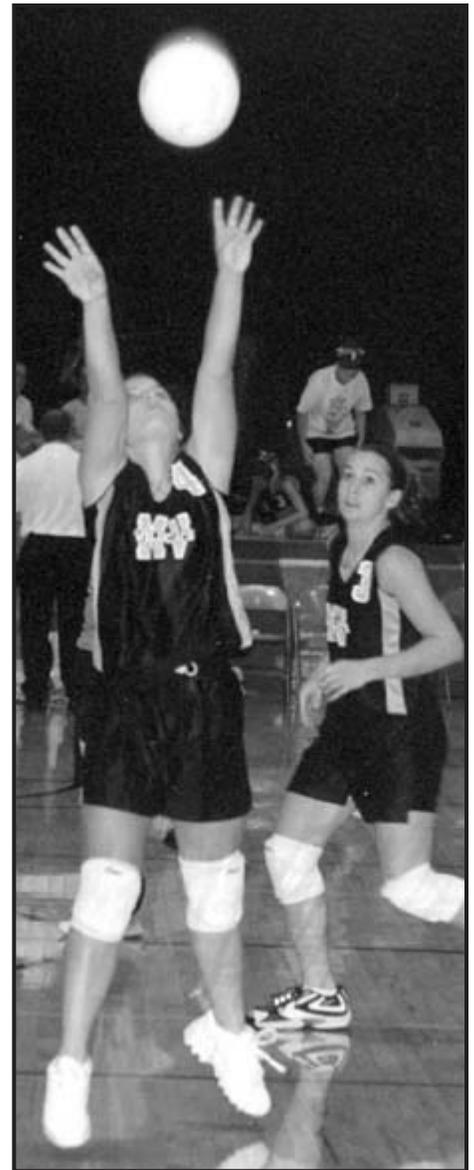
In the second match, the Wildcats fell to Maquoketa 21-8 and 21-12. "Even though we didn't score many points, we played a lot better all-around as a team," stated Coach Doyle. "We got beat by a bigger and better team." Offensively, Lechtenberg led the team in kills with three, Jesenovec had two kills and Nefzger had one. Johnson led the team in assists with two. Jesenovec, Nefzger and Johnson all had one ace serve. Defensively, Lechtenberg and Sara Wenthold each had a block stuff. Jesenovec led the team in digs with five, Nefzger had four and Johnson three.

Jesenovec also led the team in serve receptions with nine, Boge and Bawek had five each.

In the third and final match of the day, the Wildcats held on for a 2-1 win over Andrew 21-12, 15-21 and 16-14. "This was by far the best we played as a team today," stated Coach Doyle. "We got off to a great start in game one and even though we lost game two we were able to win game three. I was really proud to see the girls handle the pressure of a 14-14 score in the final game and to see them come through and win their first match." Offensively, Nefzger and Jesenovec tied for the team lead in kills with five each. Lechtenberg added two kills and Becki Burkle and Boge each added one kill. Johnson led the team in assists with four, Jesenovec and Heather Weber each totaled two assists as well. Johnson led the team in aces with five, Jesenovec had two aces, Nefzger and Jodi Hendricks also added an ace. Defensively, Bawek led the team in digs with six, while Jesenovec and Nefzger added five each. Jesenovec also led the team in serve receptions with seven.

The Cats played Ed-Co at home last night. Results will be in next week's Echo.

Krystal Johnson sets up the ball while Lynn Nefzger watches on. (photo courtesy of Pete Temple)



Cross Country Team at MFL Mar-Mac

by Abby McDonald

The Maquoketa Valley Cross Country team was in for a surprise this past Thursday afternoon. The MFL Mar-Mac Invitational, traditionally held at the school in Monona, had been moved to the country club just outside Luana. The change was made due to construction, and the site switch caused a little confusion.

The new course proved to be a lot more confusing than the old one. Michelle Tumey was quoted as saying, "I hated it, and it was the worst meet ever because it was hillier than Cascade." This seemed to be the sentiment throughout the entire team. Coach Mensen stated that the MFL course being even tougher than Cascade was quite interesting.

"Cascade has a notoriously diffi-

cult course due to two hills (a long one and a steep one), so this race was quite a way to open the season."

Despite the shock of the course, however, the girls' placed third of eight scoring teams, ousted out of first and second by Valley of Elgin and MFL Mar-Mac. Eighty-three runners total ran in the girls' race, and the top twenty of them medaled. Amanda Harris, Amy Conrad, and Kelly Dabroski all medaled for the girls. Amanda's time was 16:59, and she came in at fifth place. In 13th place was Amy Conrad, with a time of 17:29, with Kelly right on her heels at 17:45 and a placing of 14th. Jennifer Nurre, a freshman, placed 32nd, and Michelle Tumey came in at 39th. Jennifer's time was 19:11, and Michelle's was 19:43. Laura Orcutt came in next with a time of 19:48, and she placed 41st out of

the runners. Bonny Jaeger ran a time of 21:57, and Beth Harris ran at 22 minutes and 40 seconds. They came in 67th and 70th respectively. Rachel Rave came next, with a time of 14:11 and a place of 78th. At 80th place was Kelsey Melchert, her time 24:52. Last in was Casi Orr, running a time of 25:23 and placing 82nd.

The boys' race included 95 runners and eight placing teams. The MV boys fell in sixth place with 165 points, just behind Starmont. Two runners medaled: Mark Beatty, with a time of 19:29; and Tyler Willey, with the clock running at 20:04. Mark placed 11th, while Tyler placed 20th. Following Tyler was Adam Ries, who ran a

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