

## Girls Volleyball

# Sweet Home finishes third at competitive tourney

by PATRICK J. NAGY  
Reporter

Sweet Home's varsity girls' volleyball team opened and closed its matches at last Saturday's Eden Tournament with a familiar opponent.

The Lady Panthers defeated Lancaster, 22-25, 25-21, in the first match of pool play en route to a 5-1 record then lost to the Lady Redskins, 22-25, 24-26, in the semifinals of the gold division.

Lancaster is ranked No. 1 among Western New York large schools; Sweet Home is No. 2.

Although both teams split a game in pool play, Sweet Home was awarded the win because they had defeated Lancaster by one more point.

Sweet Home's other pool play wins came over Section V's Pittsford-Sutherland and Section IX's Pine Bush, who had swept the Lady Panthers in the Burnt Hills Tournament in Albany.

"We did awesome," said Sweet Home coach Breann Trampasso. "The girls were on. It was a good start to the day."

In the quarterfinals, Sweet Home trailed Kenmore West, 14-7, in the first game before coming back to win 25-23. The Lady Panthers took the second game, 25-11.

Sweet Home started its second match with Lancaster strong, taking a 17-6 lead before the Lady Redskins tied it up then pulled ahead.

"We should have had that match," said Trampasso. "We had control for a majority of the match and we kind of let our guard down and they took advantage. I took some time outs, gave them a pep talk but nothing was working."

Trampasso said her team opened an early lead to have Lancaster tie it up.

"It would then go point for point," she said.

Eden defeated Lancaster, 28-26, 25-12, in the finals.

Sweet Home's Krista Prentice and Kelsey Maving were named to the all-tournament team.

"Krista was so consistent and getting a lot of kills," Trampasso said. "She led the team in offensive attack, plus her defense and passing were very good too."

"Kelsey quickened our offense," she continued. "She stepped up and was setting the ball faster and running

faster plays. She just took control out there and did a great job. It's not that our offense is slow but it's not as fast as other teams and I told her to speed it up and it was so effective."

Trampasso also lauded the work from Carol Skoney.

"She played incredible defense as well as her serve-ceive," she said. "She was so on. She didn't make the all-tournament team but in my mind was one of the best defensive players there."

In ECIC Division II matches last week, Sweet Home defeated West Seneca East, 25-10, 25-9, 25-23, Williamsville East, 25-9, 25-17, 25-15, and Hamburg, 25-8, 25-9, 25-17 to improve to 7-0 in league, 7-2 overall.

"In all of those matches we took control and played well," Trampasso.

Sweet Home played at Lake Shore Tuesday but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press. A match at North Tonawanda on Wednesday has been rescheduled for 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 24.

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# North meets goals, Amherst takes Starpoint to the limit

by PATRICK J. NAGY  
Reporter

Williamsville North's varsity girls volleyball didn't win a match last year so there was much celebration when the Lady Spartans defeated Orchard Park, 25-22, 16-25, 17-25, 26-24, 26-24, on Sept. 18.

"They were taking pictures after the game," said North coach Tom Sproull. "They were pretty excited."

"Their mentality is starting to change," he added. "Their team goal (this year) was to win a match."

North has actually won two games as of this writing at 2-6. Their other win was a four-game victory over West Seneca West, 25-23, 20-25, 25-21, 25-14, on Monday, Sept. 25. Last Friday, North went five games in a home match with Jamestown, losing 25-17, 26-28, 22-25, 26-24, 20-25. North also competed in the Clarence Tournament.

"Everybody's just improving leaps and bounds," said Sproull.

"We took a game from Jamestown the first time we played them. To go five with them this time shows we're improving more than these other teams. I'm hoping we can get a couple more wins."

Sproull has been impressed with his team's perseverance.

"We've been down in matches by 10 points and have come back and won those games," said Sproull. "That's the big thing. They're not quitting and are leaving everything on the court."

Krista Frieling leads North in kills.

"She hits from the back row and when our front line is not producing, Jackie Fassl will set back row and hit."

Sproull has also liked the serving from Amanda Holden and back row passing from Emily Hoy and Cara Sweeney.

North plays Frontier at 5 p.m. Wednesday.

### Amherst Central

The Lady Tigers have three league losses in ECIC Division III but gave Starpoint its biggest test all season last Friday.

Amherst lost at home to the undefeated Lady Spartans in five games, 25-16, 21-25, 17-25, 25-17, 20-25. It was Starpoint's second win over Amherst and improved their record to 10-0.

Amherst coach Jennifer Loretto said Starpoint coach Sue Rexford told her it was Starpoint's toughest match to date.

"It was the best volleyball I've seen my team play," said Loretto. "We were swinging hard, getting every ball defensively and talking on the court."

Loretto said it was an overall team effort and lauded the play of middle hitters Liz Reid and Jenny Newhouse on Starpoint outside hitter Samantha Palka.

Amherst's week also saw them beat Pioneer, 21-25, 25-15, 25-16, 25-20, on Monday, Sept. 25 and Depew 24-26, 25-16, 25-21, 25-16, last Thursday.

Amherst is 3-5 overall. The Tigers placed third out of eight teams at the Clarence Tournament on Sept. 16. Amherst defeated Nardin, who finished second, Niagara-Wheatfield, Kenmore

East, and Iroquois. Amherst's JV also won four matches. In other action, the varsity team lost non-league matches to Kenmore West and Williamsville East.

Loretto said outside hitter Jodi Battaglia leads the team in most categories.

"She's a team leader all the way around," said Loretto. Every time we need something done she's

out there doing it and getting the girls pumped up."

Loretto has also liked the work shown from libero Shannon McGuire.

Amherst played Tuesday at Cheektowaga but results were unavailable before The Bee went to press.

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# South douses rival East

Williamsville South's girls volleyball team downed rival Williamsville East, 25-19, 19-25, 23-25, 25-17, 25-16, in a convincing performance on Thursday, Sept. 21.

Seniors Jocelyn VanOpdorp and Nicolette Neenos led the Lady Billies' defense and offense with pinpoint passing and awesome hits. Chelsea Plimpton and Katy Kraus added essential firepower and junior KK Schaus combined excellent defense and offense in the team victory.

The Billies sailed to an easy victory over West Seneca East, 25-21, 25-21, 22-25, 25-13 on Sept. 22 in a rescheduled match.

South coach Rick Newton said his team lost to Lake Shore, 22-25, 25-27, 22-25, last Wednesday but fought hard and played as a team.

They also fell at Iroquois, 21-25, 26-24, 21-25, 25-14, 23-25, on Monday, Sept. 25. Newton said regular setter Jilene VanOpdorp did not play so it was not a representative game of them.

South is 4-4 overall also having beaten Williamsville North, 25-19, 24-30, 26-24, 25-23 and Hamburg 25-12, 25-14, 25-12. Other league losses have been to Clarence,

20-25, 17-25, 25-23, 21-25, and Sweet Home, 21-25, 9-25, 24-26.

"Juniors KK Schaus and Grace (Please turn to page 26)

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