

A Hammond will be on winning side

Oberlin-Clearview game a family affair

By ROGER NEGIN
C-T Sports Writer

It'll be more than a family get-together Friday night when Oberlin travels to Clearview for a Lakeland Conference football game.

On one side will be Rocky Hammond, head coach of the Oberlin Indians. On the other will be Jeff Hammond, Clearview's junior quarterback-defensive back. Jeff Hammond is Rocky's son.

"It's kind of fun around the house this week," Rocky Hammond said. "I try to pump him (for information) every night, but he doesn't tell me a whole lot."

Jeff could play quarterback against his father's team, which is currently unbeaten after six games.

"If not, he'll be in the defensive secondary," Rocky said. "Last year he got into the game and we tackled him for a safety. My wife (Suzie) said we didn't have to do that. She didn't talk to me for a couple of days. "She's in his corner all the way."

Sue Hammond will sit one half on each side Friday night.

Adding to the 'family' fun is the closeness of the two coaching staffs. For the past five years — after every football

game — the Oberlin and Clearview coaches and athletic directors meet at Hammond's house for a party.

"We just talk things over," said Rocky, who was an assistant with Tom Hoch on Wayne Ross' Clearview staff before moving to Oberlin five years ago. "I just kept it up. I worked with Hoch and (Marv) Houglund (Clearview assistant) and our kids like to play each other."

Clearview is having a rough season, winning only one of six games while the Indians are perfect — and fighting Midview and North Ridgeville for the conference lead.



JEFF HAMMOND

North Olmsted booters win tourney opener

NORTH OLMSTED — Led by the play of Tom O'Rourke and Matt Alexander, North Olmsted defeated Lakewood, 5-1, in a Class AAA sectional tournament game Tuesday.

O'Rourke and Alexander scored two goals apiece in the first half to give the Eagles a 4-0 lead at intermission. After Lakewood scored on an Andy Toth goal, Alexander picked up his third goal in the fourth period.

Besides his two goals, O'Rourke had two assists while Alexander, Mark Fusco and John Paul all had one assist.

The Eagles dominated the game, taking 38 shots on goal to Lakewood's seven.

North Olmsted will play the winner of Thursday's St. Edwards-Westlake game Saturday night.

Middies nip Dukes in Lakeland showdown

By LINDA CUDLIN
C-T Sports Writer

GRAFTON — There's no doubt about it — it was the best of the Lakeland Conference on the Midview court Tuesday night.

And when the exciting volleyball shootout was over it was the royal blue towels of the partisan Middie crowd which waved in sweet victory after the hosts downed a determined Wellington team, 15-13, 15-17, 15-9.

The win, the Middies second over the Dukes this season, earned them at least a tie for their fourth Lakeland Conference volleyball championship.

The teams entered the contest knotted in an 11-1 tie on top of the league standings. Wellington's only loss had come at the hands of the Middies (13-15, 9-15) earlier in the season. Midview's lone defeat was to Oberlin.

WHAT RESULTED was the hardest fought volleyball matchup of the season for both teams — and a victory which both coaches, and the large crowd in attendance, felt could have gone either way.

All of the three games were extremely close.

The Middies jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the initial contest. But the Dukes came roaring back to tie the tally at 5-5 before surging to a 9-5 lead. But the serving of Midview's Jenny Smith, combined with several well-placed spikes by Cheryl MacBeth resulted in six straight points to put the eventual winners in the lead for good.

It was Wellington behind the serving of Tracy Shearer who jumped out to a 4-0 advantage in the second game. But the lead was short lived as Midview's Chelee Frabotta and Becky Fox put their serving talents to work for seven consecutive points, giving their team a 7-4 lead.

The Dukes were struck a blow halfway through the contest, as top senior Kelli Shays suffered a knee injury while chasing a wayward hit. She was forced to



MIDVIEW'S CHERYL MACBETH uses her fist to drive home a spike during last night's key Lakeland Conference matchup between the Middies and Wellington. The hit was one of several key spikes by MacBeth which aided Midview to a 15-13, 15-17, 15-9 victory, assuring them of at least a share of the conference crown. (C-T photo by Gene Krebs)

sit out the remainder of the night.

THE BLUE AND WHITE held the led until Alecia Ensign stepped to the serving stripe for the Dukes and pounded out four straight points to give her group a slim 12-11 advantage. But Midview wasn't through yet as Tara McIntyre stymied the opposition with a bevy of hard, flat

serves which, together with the spiking of Smith, put Midview ahead once again, 14-13.

Fans saw the game tied at 14-14 and again at 15-15 in the games final exciting minutes. With the Dukes Mel Ziegler at the line, the Middies committed several hitting mistakes, enabling their foes to pick up three straight points and the win.

The rubber match belonged to

the Middies right from the start. They jumped out to a 2-0 lead and were never headed.

MIDVIEW'S eighth year coach Linda Motznick felt Wellington's downfall was due to a loss of momentum and missed serves at crucial times.

"They (Wellington) would rally on defense, then get an offensive chance to score and lose the serve," she noted of the Duke's lapse in the final game. "We were able to maintain an attack, explosive at times, when they were unable to get their momentum started."

"If they could have gotten their tempo going again the last game could have gone down to the wire."

"We had problems getting our hits in and that's how you score in power volleyball," Wellington coach Marsha Coultrip summed up. "We set everything up and ran our offense pretty well. If those hits would have gone in for us it would have been a different story."

Motznick felt height and a home court crowd went the way of the Middies. "Our serving and our height were our keys to a balanced attack tonight," she related. "When we put the ball straight down at them we were devastating."

"Plus I think we had the psychological advantage tonight on our home court," she added of the very vocal Middie fans.

MacBeth topped Middie attackers, recording 28 of 31 hits and 10 kills. Smith was 14 of 15 and six kills. Fox and McIntyre topped setters.

"Shelly Frabotta and Julie Wallace were able to step in several times and fill in important gaps," Motznick added. "And Kristen Jackson did a fine job off the bench, walking in cold turkey and doing a super job on defense."

Shearer topped Duke scorers, hitting 14 of 18 for 11 points. Stephani Danesi sparkled in the passing department, while Ziegler led hitters with 15 of 18 including two kills.

Both teams close out their Lakeland Conference seasons

Thursday. Midview, now 12-1 in league and 17-3 overall, can wrap up an undisputed title at Clearview while the Dukes, 11-2 in loop action and 16-3 overall, host North Ridgeville.

N.Ridgeville-Clearview NORTH RIDGEVILLE — It was a tough two games but North Ridgeville held on to defeat Clearview, 15-12, 17-15, in a Lakeland Conference match Tuesday.

Cindy Strebig served up nine points while Sue Poling had eight spikes including five kills.

The Rangers won the JV contest, 15-10, 15-12.

North Ridgeville travels to Wellington Thursday.

Amherst-Brookside SHEFFIELD — Led by Julie Titchenell's eight points, Amherst defeated host Brookside, 15-7, 15-3, in a Lakeland Conference match Tuesday.

Kim Telatnik, named Amherst's MVP for the match, had nine hits including four kills.

Cited for hitting 100 percent were Jody Probst, Kelli Kamnikar, Chris Pozniak and Karen Szalkiewicz.

Brookside won the junior varsity contest.

Amherst, 9-8 overall and 7-6 in the Lakeland, travels to Oberlin Thursday.

Oberlin-Vermilion VERMILION — Oberlin and Vermilion battled it out for three games Tuesday before the Indians won the Lakeland Conference match, 9-15, 15-11, 15-9.

Jill Donaldson led the Indians with nine points and she made 20 of 23 spikes including six kills. Racchi Hill connected on 20 of 24 spikes with six kills.

For the Sailors, Debbie Tomaszewski served up 12 points with four aces and had 15 spikes including three kills.

Vermilion won the JV contest in three games, 15-14, 14-16, 15-7.

Oberlin, 10-10 overall and 8-5 in league play, hosts Amherst Thursday while the Sailors, 10-10 overall and 8-5 in Lakeland action, entertains Brookside.

Cross county conference meets held

Lakeland WELLINGTON — Wellington High School Girls' Cross Country Team, coached by former Police Chief Walter H. McGreevy, captured the Lakeland Conference championship Tuesday afternoon at Lorain County Community College.

In addition, a WHS sophomore, Shelly Pleska, placed first in the race and a WHS junior, Lisa Mosher, was third. The group advances to sectional competition at Lorain County Community College Saturday.

Lisa is the daughter of Wellington School Board member Phyllis Mosher, who attended the competition and stayed until it was over, timing it so she arrived at the school board meeting at two minutes before it started at 7 p.m.

Lisa then brought the trophy to the meeting and displayed it to those in attendance. The school board moved to send a

letter of commendation to the team and to their coach.

Wellington's boys took fourth place in the Lakeland Conference in cross country competition, also held after school Tuesday. They are also coached by McGreevy.

There were no other details available on other schools and individuals in the meet.

Southwestern Conference

ELYRIA — Bay and Avon Lake came away the winners in the Southwestern Conference meet at Lorain County Community College Tuesday.

The Rockets won the boys division, edging Rocky River by two points, 56-58. North Olmsted was third with 83 points.

Bay's Joel Aldridge won the race in a time of 15:49, nipping Rocky River's Todd Milenius by one second.

In the girls race, Avon Lake had an easier time, winning with 34 points. Olmsted Falls was next with 52 and Bay finished third with 77.

Michelle Kalikin, Falls' distance standout, took home first place with her time of 19:06. Sister Tammy finished third in 19:38, following Avon Lake's Missy Bailey (19:17).

Boys Standings

Bay 56, Rocky River 58, North Olmsted 83, Fairview 93, Olmsted Falls 105, Westlake 120, Medina 170, Avon Lake 232.

Top Ten Finishers

Joel Aldridge (B) 15:49, Todd Milenius (RR) 15:50, Tom Krollmayer (F) 15:52, Paul Daseak (NO) 16:04, John Nagel (W) 16:35, Tom Celebrezze (OF) 16:51, Mike Boslasky (M) 17:04, Mike Horrigan (RR) 17:11, Bill Kirsop (B) 17:16, Steve Krollmayer (F) 17:17.

Girls Standings

Avon Lake 34, Olmsted Falls 52, Bay 77, Rocky River 98, Fairview 100, Westlake 155, Medina 159, North Olmsted 210.

Top Ten Finishers

Michelle Kalikin (OF) 19:06, Missy Bailey (AL) 19:17, Tammy Kalikin (OF) 19:38, Lisa Niabenska (AL) 20:02, Yvonne Saul (AL) 20:33.

Lisa Cook (AL) 20:34, Kelly Horrigan (RR) 20:37, Lee Furer (RR) 20:42, Kathy Urry (OF) 20:51, Sarah Choudhau (B) 21:02.

Firelands Conference

ASHLAND — New London captured the Firelands Conference title Tuesday despite wet and muddy conditions.

The Wildcats finished with 60 points, ahead of last year's champion Monroeville with 78. Black River placed with third at 80 points.

Norwalk St. Paul's David

Pooler set a course record, winning the race in 17:07. Black River's John Rook crossed the line next in a time of 17:21. Jon Marrow of Monroeville placed third in 17:33.

Team Standings

New London 60, Monroeville 78, Black River 80, South Central 104, Plymouth 116, Western Reserve 123, Crestview 187, Norwalk St. Paul 192, Mapleton 213, Edison 275.

Top Finishers

David Pooler (NSP) 17:07, John Rook (BR) 17:21, Jon Marrow (M) 17:33, Tim Sword (NL) 17:41, Brian Motolik (WR) 17:46, Matthew Wolf (BR) 17:52, Jarmie Beck (P) 17:54, Tony Good (M) 17:55, Joel Hawley (BR) 18:07, Mike Knoll (NL) 18:11.



TONY JACKSON



SHANE CLARK

Wolverines of the week

Tony Jackson and Shane Clark are Elyria West's players of the week for their performances in a big win over Lorain Catholic last week. Jackson, 190-pound junior tailback, rushed for 49 yards in 11 carries — key yards for the Wolverine offense. He also threw a big block on West's first touchdown. Clark, 190-pound senior tackle, made tackles on first down plays six times, shutting down Lorain Catholic's middle running game. (C-T)

Youth hockey

SQUIRTS

NORTH OLMSTED — Elyria edged North Olmsted, 5-4, in a Squirts AA hockey game at the North Olmsted Recreation Complex here Sunday.

Guy Rodgers led the winners with three goals and an assist. Jeff Armitage and Matt Miles also scored for the winners. Rodgers, Armitage and Shaun Holly had assists.

Gus Phillips was in goal for Elyria.

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