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Despite Estacada setback

V-ballers still hunting for district berth

by Keith Klippstein
sports editor

The end of the regular season road falls Tuesday for the Sandy High volleyball team as it travels to Molalla for a 5 p.m. skirmish.

From there the Pioneer netters hope the season carries on with district play Nov. 6.

From coach Ron Grant's recollections of the League standings Molalla is the last team that the Pioneers have to reckon with for second place in the Valley Division and a district berth.

The Indians must battle Sandy and also Estacada in a makeup date before their season ends. A loss anywhere down the line should ice the Pioneers' district slot.

The Sandy varsity and JV

squads are both 7-2 in league play (losses to Estacada) and 8-3 overall while the Pioneer freshmen are 8-1 in league and 9-1 overall.

Estacada tops the division for varsity and JV play while Sandy leads the freshmen list.

In last Thursday play the varsity stomped Canby 15-11, 15-8 while the JV squad also won 15-2, 15-8. The frosh collected a 15-11, 13-15, 15-6 win.

The big challenge came Tuesday when Estacada invaded the Pioneer lair, but the varsity fell to the Rangers 8-15, 13-15 and the JV team also lost 5-15, 7-15. The freshmen tipped the Estacada six, 15-9, 8-15, 15-10.

"Both teams knew what they were doing out there," said Grant of the varsity contest. "Hopefully we'll get another

shot at Estacada at districts. If we're going to do it I'd just as soon have us do it at districts.

"I thought we played pretty well. If we play as well against

Molalla as we did against Estacada we'll have it sewed up. But we'll have to watch out because we don't have it wrapped up yet."

Grant took time to praise Nancy Perkins and Linda Stone for their steady play on the courts. But the coach also noted problems with consistency in

covering the court and with serving.

"We haven't had to cover a court like we should have against Estacada," said Grant. "We haven't had to all season. It only takes a couple of matches for the players to see the reasoning behind covering the court well."

"We also had serving difficulties. It's tough to win when the other team is serving all the time."

Grant said he thought Estacada might have been a better and more natural volleyball team, but noted the Ranger program has been in existence for around five years

while Sandy has been playing power volleyball for only two years.

"I think the reason we're winning and playing so well is because we're working hard, even if we don't have the naturally gifted players that Estacada has," Grant said.

He noted that the three best Ranger players are all juniors but pointed out the youth of his own varsity squad. Only three of the 10-girl varsity units are seniors (Lori Oldenburg, Sarah Koepke, Jennifer McCoy) while four are juniors (Stone, Perkins, Jenny Johns and Rebecca Koepke) and three sophomores (Jeanne Duff, Julie Colt, Karen Hashagen).

Saint volleyballers place 2nd at meet

The Mt. Hood Community College women's volleyballers dropped their first game of the season.

But that loss and four wins for a second place finish in the Willamette Invitational Friday and Saturday put a smile on coach Dorian Harris' face.

"They were the best games of the season," beamed the Saint coach, whose team is now 10-1, including wins over Lewis & Clark JV and Umpqua CC last Thursday.

The upcoming slate pits MHCC against Central Oregon Friday at 2:30 p.m. on the Saint courts. MHCC will also hit the Lewis & Clark Invitational Saturday and a three-way meet

with Clark CC and Linn-Benton CC in Vancouver Tuesday at 8 p.m.

Results from the three-way match with George Fox and University of Portland in Newberg Wednesday were not available due to press deadline.

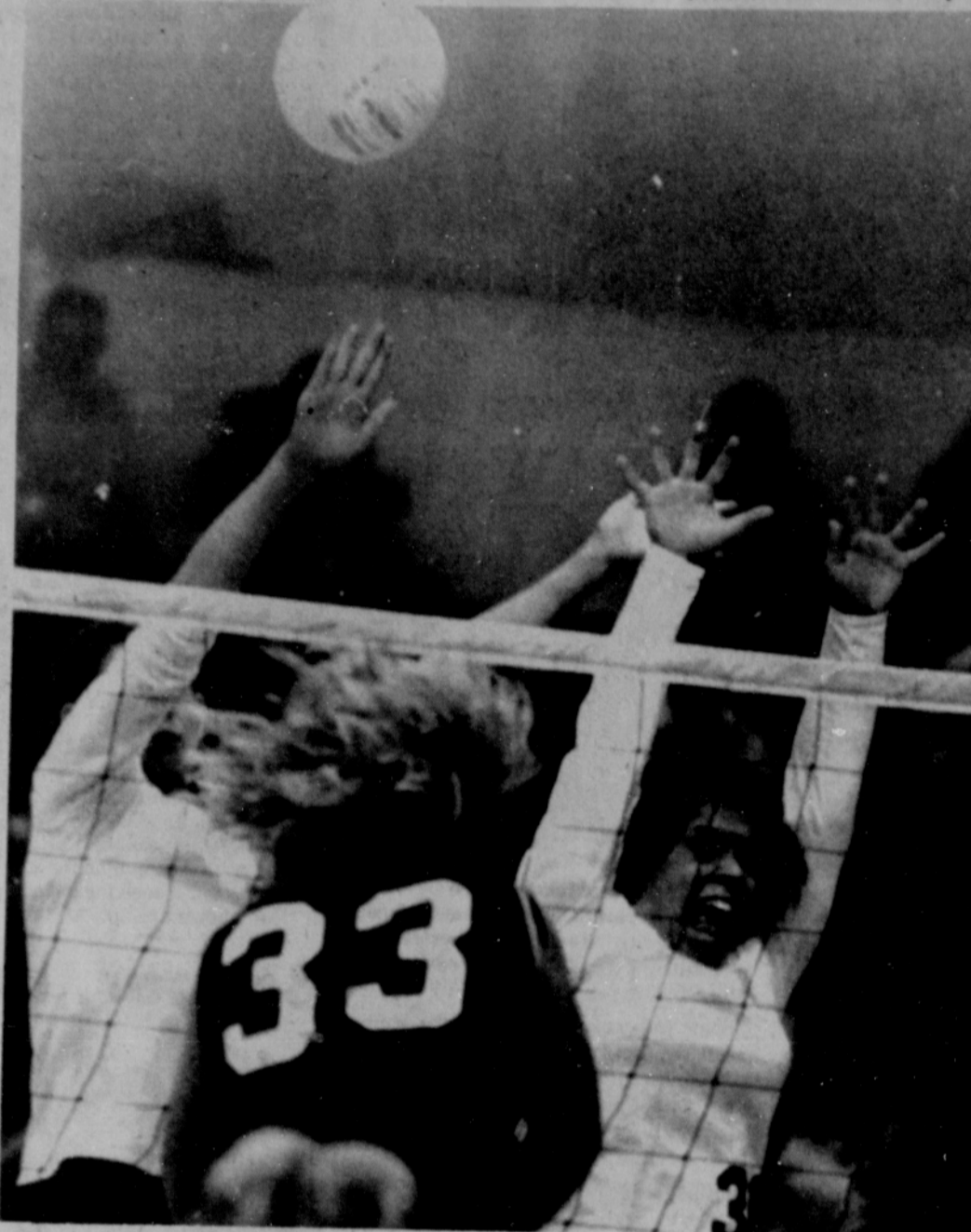
The four wins came fast and pretty much easy for the Saint volleyballers at the Willamette Invitational.

MHCC blitzed Linfield (15-3, 11-15, 15-9), Oregon College of Education JV (15-1, 15-2), Willamette (15-2, 15-11) and University of Oregon JV (15-6, 15-7) in rapid succession. In the championship match the Saints dropped a 14-16, 16-14, 11-15 decision to the Lewis & Clark varsity.

In that final test the Saints had to come back from a 12-3 deficit in the second game to earn a final bid.

"I don't have any comments that fault any of the players' abilities," said Harris, who started a six-man squad with five freshmen, including second-stringers Teresa Alexander and Donna Yamashita, who filled in for sidelined sophomores Diane Harmon and Marion Anacker. She added she was pleased with the adjustments made by the squad with the newcomers.

Harris praised the setting of Gail Wetherbee and the team's hitters.



SANDY VOLLEYBALLERS Lori Oldenburg (partially visible) and Linda Stone (right) go for the block of a Estacada player's (33) shot at the net. The Pioneers dropped the match to Estacada but should be able to gain district play with a win over Molalla next Tuesday.

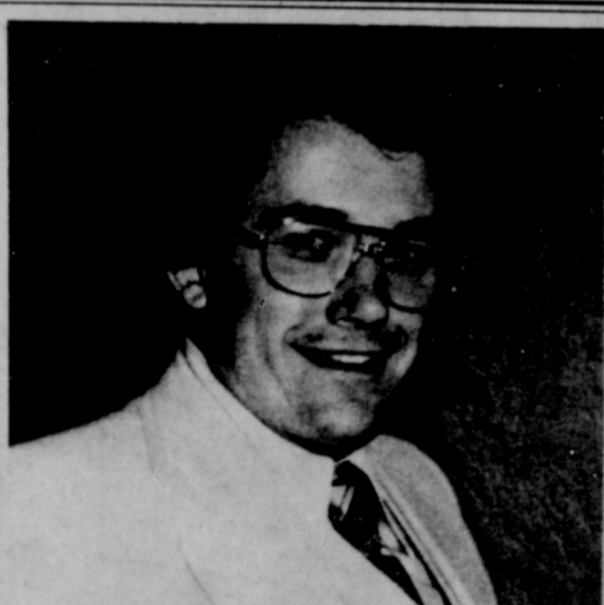
(Post photo)

Mt. Hood Men's Pool League

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DON GARDNER, leader of the Explorer Post, pauses near the top of Elliot Glacier.

Explorers survey out-of-doors

Inspiring young people from 14-21 years-old to work together is one of the goals of Don Gardner, leader of High Adventure Explorer Post 662. The coed scouting program includes a variety of year-

round sports, including backpacking; cross country, alpine and water skiing; and snow and rock climbing. Other activities include canoeing, snowshoeing, and winter and summer survival techniques.

"We're trying to give young people as many activities as possible that they normally wouldn't get to do," said Gardner.

Some of the past trips of the Explorer Post include a cross-country ski trip over the McKenzie Pass, a 15-day canoe trip on Bow-Run in British Columbia, a backpack in the Three Sisters Wilderness area and taking a 48-foot cruiser up the Columbia River.

"It provides a person with a chance to achieve self-respect, self-reliance and independence," said member Gretchen Denhart, a student at Sandy Union High School.

"We're trying to give them an awareness of the outdoors," explained Gardner, "and the ability to be self-sufficient."

Gardner said his greatest reward comes when "the kids pull together without being told to do things."

He doesn't believe in a duty roster.

"Everybody gets to do a little of everything."

The High Adventure group raises funds for their activities and equipment by projects such as a trap shoot, selling firewood and doing odd jobs.

The group is presently collecting newspapers. Those wishing to donate papers may contact Jeff Bailey (668-4636) or Gretchen Denhart (668-4669).

The Explorer Post will hold their annual "Firstnighter" meeting on Oct. 26 at the home of William Knapp.

Anyone interested in joining the group may call Knapp at 668-4835. The meeting will feature a guest speaker and a slide show of post activities.

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