

# Conference Championship Not Out of the Question for Comet Football Team

by Jason Wolter

The Concordia football team split its last two games, beating conference opponent Northwestern (WI) after a loss to Lakeland College. The Comets have now won two games and lost two games, but could easily be 4-0.

The Comet's victory over Northwestern put them back into the conference championship race. In addition to playing much-improved football, the team's defense has gained national respect. They are currently ranked fourth nationally in the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) against the run, and sixth overall.

In the first of the two games, the Comets traveled to the shores of Lake Michigan to play the Lakeland Muskies.

The Comets learned a lot about Lakeland College, as well as a lot about themselves.

Lakeland, without question, is a school with no class. Neither their players, nor fans have any. Case in point: players in the Lakeland offensive line deliberately and maliciously attempted to injure the Concordia players by taking "cheap" and illegal shots at their knees. And they succeeded.

Numerous Comet players had to leave the game temporarily to get "patched up" before returning to action. Senior defensive tackle Brad "Big Dog" Hopkins was not as fortunate. While

one player held his upper-body stable, another drove his helmet through the side of Big Dog's knee, ending his day, and probably his football career.

As Hopkins was being carried off the field on a stretcher, the Lakeland band led the fans in a

field goal and a punt return added another 10 to their final score.

The Muskies scored with just over a minute left in the game, but the Comets still had a little time left for a magical comeback. However, the game-winning touchdown pass fell just out of the reach of

Holleman doing most of the damage while the defense continued to play superbly.

The offense scored the go-ahead touchdown with over 10 minutes to play. They were driving for another score late in the game, but Coach Cross decided to down the ball on the Northwestern two yard-line, and let time run out rather than rub it in.

The victory raised the Comets to 1-1 in the UMAC, and increased the Comet's chances of a conference championship. Only one team, Mt. Scenario, remains undefeated in the conference and Concordia plays them in their Homecoming game on Oct. 15.

Coming up big for the Comets in the past two weeks, other than those previously mentioned are: Steve Mudgett—named Hardee's player of the week after terrorizing the Northwestern backfield; Treco Coggins (named Hardee's player of the week after the Lakeland game) who has two touchdowns in two weeks, one coming on a 60 yard run after the catch; The entire offense, which set a school record for plays run in a game (94) versus Lakeland; and the Comet defense which is ranked sixth in the nation.

This Saturday, the Comets travel to Watertown, Wisconsin to take on Maranatha in an UMAC game. †



Photo by -- Jason Lucey

Comet Football -- Two Comet defenders sack (and flip) Northwestern's quarterback late in the fourth quarter to help the Comets seal a big conference victory.

serenade to Brad that went something like this: "NA - NA - NA - HEY - HEY - HEY... Goodbye!"

The game was actually good. The Comets, led by steadily improving freshman quarterback Craig Moyer, who threw for over 200 yards, were able to put 21 points on the board.

The Muskies found a way to tally 23. The defense held the Muskies to 13 points, but a

freshman receiver Chad Coburn.

In their home-opener, the Comets defeated UMAC opponent, Northwestern (WI) in the mud puddle known as Griffin Stadium.

The game went back and forth until the fourth quarter, when Concordia took control. The offense began to grind it out on the ground, with sophomore Chris Henning and freshman Carlo

## Volleyball Team Crushes DMLC

by Jason Wolter

Members of the Concordia College volleyball team are marching their way to a conference championship, as well as getting themselves ready to make a run at the NAIA playoffs.

Currently the Comets are 17-7, 7-0 in the UMAC.

They've had to deal with some adversity and some inconsistent play, but have turned it around and are playing some very good volleyball.

The Comets have combined a powerful offensive attack with a solid defense to blow-out a lot of teams. Among those teams was previously undefeated DMLC. The Comets knew that the DMLC game was a very important game—one that could decide the conference championship.

Concordia traveled to New Ulm and won 3 games to 1. It was not really that close.

After that game, first-year coach Liz Golnitz commented, "This is the most consistent that we've played. We will do very well if we can maintain this level of play."

As Golnitz sees it, the team's strength is its defense. She worries about the offense, however,

for its lack of depth. If one of the big hitters went down with an injury, it would leave a pretty big hole in the team's offensive attack. Honestly, she need not worry about either, since her players lead the conference in almost every statistical category.

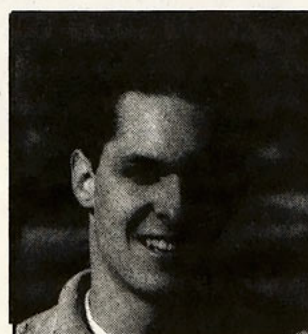
On both offense and defense, the conference leader plays for Concordia. Junior captain and middle-hitter Marla Garbers leads the UMAC in kills (247), and blocks (108). Sophomore middle-hitter, Theresa Gratz is second in kills (118), and in blocks (90). Junior Heather Miller is third in kills (115) and leads the team in digs (222). Sophomore setter Karen Koegel leads the conference in assists (447). Serving well for the Comets are freshmen Karen Fitzgerald and Mary Roepke (94%), Gratz (95.2%) and junior Jennifer Anderson (96.8%).

The Comets are about halfway through their regular season schedule, and are getting ready for a run at the playoffs.

Check the schedule for their next home game, and come watch the UMAC's best volleyball players and probable conference champs! †



## Use of Gangelfhoff Center Sways from its Original Purpose



by Ryan Smith

Our campus facilities were greatly improved last year with the addition of Gangelfhoff center on the corner of Hamline and Marshall.

The remarkable structure was to replace the aged LMC as our campus's center for health, wellness and physical education. The building was also to serve as the new home of Comet athletics, a beautiful, beautiful thing.

Recently, however, it seems as if Gangelfhoff

Center has become more of a home for community events, as public recreational leagues, political conventions and rock concerts have become a priority.

Ideally, Gangelfhoff Center should be a place where CSP does interact with its larger neighboring community, but not at the expense of CSP students. Admittedly, sponsoring these community activities is necessary for the Gangelfhoff Center financially.

Many student, though, have become frustrated with their inability to gain use of the facility; furthermore, the misuse of the building has left its hardwood courts with scrapes and scars, the tartan surface soiled, and the indoor track with a number of permanent puncture wounds.

The Ron Gangelfhoff family has given Concordia's campus and its neighboring community a precious gift. In thanks for this gift, CSP should use the center for its intended purpose—the promotion of health and wellness! †

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