

Bullettes can't get over the hump

by Kent Harshbarger

Mediapolis head coach Dennis Jandrey knew the competition at the Davenport West tournament on September 7 would be tough. What he did not know was that it would be brutal in his team's pool. The Bullettes dropped two matches and split one and did not advance out of pool play.

In the opening match, the Bullettes faced the third ranked class 3A team in the state in Davenport North. They deserved that ranking according to Jandrey. "They are legit. They have athletes every where," Jandrey said.

Still, the Bullettes jumped to 12-6 lead in the first game, but ended up losing 15-12. "We just couldn't stop them," Jandrey said. Still smarting from the loss, the Bullettes were pounded 15-1 in game two.

Jo Kester registered six kills against North and Ashlee Baker four. Ashlee Jandrey had nine assists. Baker, Meta Kramer, Margaret Kuenzler and Sarah Schulte had three digs each to lead the defense.

In the second match, Mepo faced another large school with a high ranking in Moline, Illinois. The Maroons are ranked in the top 10 in Illinois' largest class. "They are as good as North at every po-

sition except maybe at setter," Jandrey noted.

Mepo came out and dropped the first game 15-8, but rebounded to top the Maroons 15-9 in the second game. "We got some key blocks on their middle and played very well," Jandrey said of his team's only win of the day. That win also prevented the Maroons from winning the pool as they split with West in a later match.

Baker also led the offense against the Maroons with seven kills. Kuenzler and Jandrey registered four kills each and Jandrey had three aces serves. Kester had 12 blocks and Baker nine and Kuenzler notched seven digs to lead the defense.

The final match up of the pool pitted the Bullettes, ranked third in class 1A, against the number two ranked team, Des Moines Grandview Baptist. Again the Bullettes dropped the opener 9-15. They rallied to lead 10-4 in the second game, but saw the Baptists fight back to eventually earn the 17-16 win. "They had two big middles who really blocked us," Jandrey said of the tall and talented opposition.

Against Des Moines Grandview, Baker again led in kills with seven. Brenna Nelson and Kester added five each. Jandrey set for 20 kills in the match. Defensively, Krista Wirt had eight blocks and Nelson and Jandrey seven each. Kester led in digs with eight and Baker contributed seven.

Jandrey was disappointed that his team could not "get over the hump" against the talented competition. "We got stuck on nine or 10 a lot. I know these team's

were good, but we just needed to be able to get over the hump in some of those games. I would have been happy if we would have split all three of the matches. We could have done that," Jandrey said.

The coach was pleased with the play of Baker. "Ashlee had another good day hitting the ball. She led us in kills again," Jandrey said. Baker finished the three matches with 18 kills.

Davenport West Tourn.

Vs. Davenport North

Player	serv/ace	k	ast	bk	d
Kuenzler	2-5-0	1	0	1	3
Kramer	6-6-0	0	0	0	3
Jandrey	6-8-1	2	9	0	2
Baker	7-7-0	4	0	1	3
Kester	10-10-0	6	0	1	2
Schulte	3-4-0	0	0	0	3
Nelson	0-0-0	2	0	1	0
Wirt	0-0-0	0	2	1	0
TEAM	34-40-1	15	11	5	16

Vs. Moline

Player	serv/ace	k	ast	bk	d
Kuenzler	5-6-1	3	3	12	6
Kramer	11-11-1	0	1	0	3
Jandrey	10-11-3	4	6	2	3
Baker	6-7-0	7	0	9	5
Kester	4-5-0	3	3	12	1
Schulte	3-3-0	0	0	0	1
Nelson	0-0-0	2	0	1	1
Wirt	0-0-0	0	1	3	2
K.Spanhut	2-2-1	0	0	0	0
TEAM	41-45-6	20	12	28	22

Vs. Des Moines Grandv.

Player	serv/ace	k	ast	bk	d
Kuenzler	7-9-0	3	2	0	4
Kramer	8-9-1	0	0	0	4
Jandrey	9-10-1	2	20	7	5
Baker	8-8-0	7	0	1	7
Kester	9-10-1	5	0	6	8
K.Spanhut	6-6-0	0	0	0	4
Nelson	0-0-0	5	0	7	1
Wirt	0-0-0	1	1	8	0
TEAM	47-52-3	23	23	29	33

Bullettes' Record: All (Matches 1-2-1, Games 4-6), Division (Matches 1-0, Games 3-1).