

Volleyball ends season with win

By Kayla Heller
STAFF WRITER

The Illinois Tech Women's Volleyball team ended their regular season last Tuesday with a comfortable win against Roosevelt University (25-16, 25-21, 25-19).

This was the first time the Hawks had faced off against their former head coach, Kelly Fitzgerald, who is now the head volleyball coach at Roosevelt.

Senior Kayla Heller led the team

with 10 kills (and a career high .769 hitting percentage) in the win. Junior Rebecca Bograd had 27 assists and 9 digs while Sophomore Kate Kendall chipped in 8 kills and 2 service aces.

The girls will now start their post season schedule in the CCAC Conference Playoffs. The team's first game is on Tuesday, November 8 at Trinity Christian University.

The Hawks need a win in order to continue on in the conference tournament.



Photo by Melanie Koto

Cross country excels at conference meet

By Melanie Koto
STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, the Illinois Tech Cross Country team traveled to Bourbonnais, IL to compete in the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference Championship meet hosted by Olivet Nazarene University.

The Women's team finished 5th out of 9 teams, while the Men's team also took 5th out of 11.

For the Men's 8K, junior Zach Gates finished in the top spot, finishing 12th overall with a time of 26:07.39. Sophomore Phil Cano took 24th (26:53.63), with sophomore Andrew Montague not far behind him, finishing 8th (27:17.27).

Senior Wes Vilalobos took

30th overall, finishing with a time of 27:31.02, and senior Brock Williams placed 33rd, with a time of 27:45.31.

Sophomore Ethan Montague and senior Kenny Murphy also placed in the top 40 for the team (35th and 37th) with times of 27:51.87 and 27:56.13, respectively.

In the Women's 5K, freshman duo Abby Jahn and Courtney Rouse led the Lady Hawks pack, finishing 9th and 10th overall (18:53.31 and 19:02.25).

Sophomore Jordan Kelch finished 18th with a time of 19:39.16, while senior Madeline Jensen finished 32nd with a 20:32.78.

Junior Kira Vincent (34th, 20:37.88), freshman Anne Crotteau (37th, 20:56.28) and senior Claudia Garcia (40th, 20:59.01) also finished in top spots for the Lady Hawks.

Women's soccer robbed in CCAC Playoffs

By Heather Bickerton
STAFF WRITER

The Illinois Tech Women's Soccer team travelled to face fourth placed Robert Morris on Saturday in the quarterfinals of the CCAC playoffs. In the team's previous meeting this year, the Scarlet Hawks beat the Eagles 1-0, after a stunning performance from the whole team. And this game did not disappoint the fans who travelled to support the girls.

With high intensity and pressure fifteen minutes into the game, freshman Hailey Kunkel lofted a perfect free-kick towards the back post, where senior midfielder goal-machine, Lauren Wissman was on hand to nod the ball into the back of the net. The Hawks were ecstatic, and continued to pressure the Eagles and break down their attacks. Unfortunately, with just ten minutes left in the first half, lax marking from the team let Robert Morris equalize off a corner.

The second half was just as intense as the first. Five minutes in, superstar Norwegian freshman Marit Tundal found herself free against the Eagles keeper. The striker was pulled back and fouled by Robert Morris' last defender, which should have been a straight red card. The referee initially agreed and showed the Robert Morris player a red, but minutes later, after the home team's play-

ers continued to complain and scream about the decision, he bizarrely decided to change his decision to a yellow card, and instead of awarding IIT a penalty, he gave Robert Morris a free-kick. This led to the second half becoming extremely scrappy and there were lots of dirty challenges. Halfway through, the home side gained a corner after a player climbed on Capuano's back.

As the corner came in, a sniper must have been present in the stands, as a Robert Morris player fell to the floor and the referee, who it seems must have been paid off, or just loved screaming, got incredibly excited and pointed to the penalty spot. The Eagles slotted the ball into the bottom corner to make the score 2-1. Nothing seemed to go right for the Hawks on the night, and despite a strong performance from everyone on the field, the girls were robbed from advancing to the second round of the playoffs. Despite an upsetting end to the season, the Lady Hawks haven't let it dampen their spirits. They broke many records this year and can only continue to work and get better. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the seniors for the Scarlet Hawks, who have contributed so much to the Women's Soccer program. The program continues to improve and the team will miss you all greatly. Thank you for all your support this season. We hope to see you all at the games next fall.

Men's swim team destroys Flyers

By Kayla Heller
STAFF WRITER

Friday evening the Illinois Tech swim team was in action again, competing against the Flyers of Lewis University in Romeoville, IL. The women's team lost to the Flyers, but the men's team snuck by to take the win, 100-93 overall. In the first event of the meet, the men's 200-yard medley relay of senior Carlos Tejero, junior Eric Grunden, sophomore Michael Bodzay and senior Max Ramnunger took 1st with a final time of 1:38.96.

In the 200 yard freestyle, senior Melanie Koto took 3rd for the Hawks (2:05.57) while sophomore Abby Maze took 5th (2:12.71) and freshman Nicolette Lewis took 6th (2:41.50). On the men's side, Bodzay finished first (1:49.28), Grunden 3rd (1:51.71) and Maus 6th (2:06.70). Tejero took 1st in the men's 50-yard freestyle (21.88), while senior Morgan Curran took 3rd in the women's 200-yard IM (2:21.69) and Ramnunger took 1st in the men's event with a 2:00.25.

Bergh was not far behind him with a 2:02.98, finishing 3rd, and freshman

Dan Sommerfeld finished 6th with a 2:18.86. Bodzay snagged another 1st-place finish in the 100 yard butterfly (5:41.9) and freshman Igor Gryniv took 4th (1:05.78). In the women's 100-yard freestyle, Koto finished 2nd (58.34) and senior Andrea Zuriga finished 3rd (1:03.00). In the men's event, Ramnunger took 2nd (49.50), Maus finished 4th (51.41), and freshman Billy Bafia finished 5th (52.66).

In the 100-yard backstroke, sophomore Aimee Devante finished 2nd (1:09.35), and Tejero took 1st with a 53.88 for the men's team, while Bergh took 3rd (59.04). In the women's 500-yard freestyle, Maze took 2nd and Lewis took 3rd (5:54.46 and 7:10.06 respectively), and in the men's event, senior Ryan Tapak finished 3rd (5:46.14) and Gryniv took 4th (6:00.24). In the women's 100-yard breaststroke, Curran finished 2nd (1:12.89), and senior Julia Duarte took 3rd (1:14.55), while in the men's event Grunden took 1st (1:02.53) and Bafia took 3rd (1:04.09).

The team's next meet will be on Friday at home against Iowa Lake Community College, starting at 4 p.m.

Men's soccer ends in disappointment

By Ciaran Kohli-Lynch
STAFF WRITER

The Men's Soccer team's season ended in disappointing fashion on Saturday night, after a 2-0 loss to rivals Olivet Nazarene University in the CCAC tournament play-off quarter final. A 54th-minute header by Olivet's Kyle Reopelle put the home side ahead before Logan Engelkes secured victory in the closing minutes.

The match started out fairly evenly, with each side struggling to dominate possession on a poor surface. It was not until the 30th minute that either goalkeeper was called into action.

Senior midfielder Robert Ritchie-Smith threaded a great ball through to Graeme Port, who was denied a goal by a remarkable reflex save from the opposition goalkeeper.

The ball ricocheted back to Liam

Barrett who was unfortunate not to capitalize from a tight angle.

The score remained level until the 54th minute, when Olivet defender Kyle Reopelle was able to get on the end of a Patrick Hoep corner and deal critical blow to the Hawk's title aspirations. The Hawks kept looking for a tying goal however, and were unlucky not to not any of the chances they carved out for themselves.

As the seconds ticked away, the Hawks' efforts to equalize became increasingly frantic as they committed numbers forward. Unfortunately Olivet were able to exploit the defensive vulnerability caused by this pursuit of an equalizing goal.

In the 88th minute a Logan Engelkes header off of a Patrick Hoep corner secured victory for Olivet, knocking the Hawks out of the conference tournament and ending their season.

Athlete Spotlight : Heather Bickerton



Name: Heather Bickerton
Year: 3rd
Major: Biology
Sport: Soccer
Position: Center Midfield/Forward
Favorite thing about your sport:

"Without a doubt, it has to be the fact that it has given me the opportunity to meet the very famous Azkai Robert River. He's a real snake in the grass!"
What you like best about the fans at your games:

"The Wissmans and Mrs. Kuitse, and all the baked goods we receive. Everyone is fantastic, it really spurs us on!"
Favorite thing to do on Campus:

"Reading Diana Otero's story-book"

Best tip for anyone who wants to be great at your sport:

"Watch out for snipers!"