

Women's soccer still searching for first win

By Heather Bickerton
STAFF WRITER

The start of the 2012 season has been rather frustrating for the Scarlet Hawks. Along with niggling injuries, a small roster of girls has led to the team defending during all the games with no real attacking threat.

The transition to NCAA Division III was always going to cause a hard blow to the current team's style and intent. Despite a few good signings with newcomers Adrianna Maron - a forward from Elmwood Park, IL, Kristen Barrett - a midfielder from Orland Park, IL and Ana Salgado - a midfielder transfer from Morton College, the team has failed to make their mark and get a win on the record.

The first game of the season was on the road at Grace College. The Scarlet Hawks controlled the possession but could not capitalize on their limited opportunities. Grace tallied a goal off a corner kick and converted a controversial penalty kick in the first half to make it 2-0, and then later added another two goals before Veronica Torres (So.) found the back of the net to make the final score 4-1.

For their home opener, Illinois Tech faced the Indiana Institute of Technology. Despite battling back from an early 1-0 deficit, the Hawks conceded a goal with only 50 seconds remaining on the clock. Once again, Veronica Torres contributed a great solo effort in the 75th minute to tie the game, but a lax effort in the defence allowed Indiana Tech to

clinch a late winner. Despite the 2-1 loss to the Warriors, the score could have been much different if senior Amy Arnhart hadn't made some spectacular stops in the Hawks net.

On September 2nd, the women's soccer team held visitors St. Mary's college to a 0-0 tie after 110 minutes. Unfortunately for the vocal crowds that turned out to watch the match in the pouring rain, it was not a very enthralling encounter. Each team struggled to create notable chances and possession was lost easily on numerous occasions.

Next on the schedule was a trip to Phoenix, AZ where the girls were delighted after a full day of rain permitted the weather to cool down slightly. The Hawks kicked off their trip against Arizona Christian and despite strong intentions, the effort was not

there as poor concentration caused the Hawks to continually concede possession.

The team then headed on the road to Prescott, Arizona where they would face Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. This happened to be a good game for the Hawks, with better communication and better shape. Unfortunately, the ladies conceded once again on set plays and the game finished as a 3-0 loss. The IIT side finally had a decent amount of chances on goal, so in time, a win will come.

The Lady Hawks next home games are on Wednesday, the 19th of September vs. Taylor College and then Holy Cross on September 22nd for Homecoming/Senior day, and their first conference game. Come out and support the girls!

Volleyball pushes through pre-season, prepares for post-tournament season

By Ciaran Kohli-Lynch
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After a busy pre-season which saw the introduction of three freshmen to the squad, the women's volleyball team started playing once again on the 23rd of August. Defensive specialists Chelsea Badiola and Adriane

Walther have joined the roster from Glenbrook and North College Preparatory High School respectively, while outside hitter Elizabeth Woltman has joined from Green Bay Southwest in Wisconsin.

Coach Jacqui Gatt, along with her newly appointed assistant, and ex-Scarlet Hawk, Kayla Heller will be looking to make a genuine impact in the CCAC post-season tournament this year with a strong roster full of experienced players.

The team currently has a .429 record, after a few recent difficult away matches against nationally ranked programs. The season commenced with a disappointing 3-0 loss to Davenport University on August 23rd. This was followed directly by an impressive display at the Illinois Tech Kickoff tournament, where the team won 3 of their 4 matches against tricky opposition.

A run of losses followed, but 2 recent

victories against the University of Windsor and Rochester University at the Julie Martin Invitational in Michigan have built some momentum around the team going into a long run of conference matches.

The girls next play Cardinal Stritch at home on the 13th of September, starting at 7 p.m. Be sure to come down and support the team as they battle to compete in this year's CCAC Tournament.

Image courtesy of IIT Athletics Department



Barclay's Premier League: Chelsea winning, Manchester defending title

By Nathan McMahon
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After the first three weeks of games, Chelsea sits atop of the Barclay's Premier League with nine points and looks like a force to be reckoned with after signing Belgian prodigy Eden Hazard from Lille over the summer.

Title defenders, Manchester City, are placed in second with seven points. After going AWOL last season, Argentinean forward Carlos Tevez has come back strongly with three goals and an assist. Mario Balotelli, with his ever-changing Mohawk, has also been performing well for City after performing for Italy over the summer in the European Championships. City has had some dramatic

finishes already in a 3-2 comeback win in Week One over Premier League newcomers, Southampton.

Last year's newbies, Swansea City, have made a strong start this season, thanks in part to the goal-scoring of Spaniard Michu who has four goals in three games. However, The Swans lost a key defender in Neil Taylor who broke his ankle in their 2-2 draw with Sunderland in Week Three and has been declared out-of-action for the season.

Southampton is the only team with no points through the first three weeks, although they have come agonizingly close in matches against Manchester United and Manchester City. Joining them in the relegation zone are Queens Park Rangers and Liverpool, each with one point from nine. Liverpool fans

everywhere are in agony over their poor performances at the start of this season. One of the few bright spots for the struggling side has been the play of the 17 year-old Raheem Sterling. Also, after a highly criticized campaign last year for Liverpool, Andy Carroll has signed a full season loan to West Ham United, performing well so far.

Tottenham Hotspur is another club struggling under new management. Andres Villas-Boas has taken the reins at White Hart Lane, and is looking for redemption after being sacked by Chelsea late last year. He will be looking to inject creativity into his midfield following the transfer of Luca Modric to last year's La Liga champions, Real Madrid. Unfortunately, he was not able to sign American attacking midfielder Clint

Dempsey on the last day of the transfer window

The biggest transfer story of the summer was undoubtedly Robert van Persie's controversial move from Arsenal to Manchester United. Having spent the best part of his career at the Gunners, the Dutch forward has set about attempting to justify his \$38M move to United. Initial impressions would suggest he is able to do just that, with four goals in three matches for last year's runners up.

Following an international break last weekend, The Premier League will be back in action next Saturday with Southampton looking to earn their first points against Arsenal and Chelsea facing up against a struggling Queens Park Rangers.