

winonapost

sports

Warrior volleyball hits four-game losing streak

by LAUREN LOTT
From The Winonan, WSU's student newspaper

The Winona State women's volleyball team had a tough week on the road losing to Upper Iowa University, University of Minnesota Duluth, and St. Cloud State University.

On Tuesday, the Warriors fell 0-3 in the match against the Upper Iowa Penguins, Winona State only hit .094, which is the fourth time this year they have been under .100. The Warriors had 21 attacking errors in this match, the most they have had in a three-set match since opening weekend of the season.

In the first set they lost 12-25, continuing to struggle throughout the match. The Warriors fought back from a 12-5 hole in set two and made it a one-point game at 21-22. From there, they fought back and forth in points until the Peacocks held on for the win, 25-23. The Warriors were not able to keep up in the third set, as they never got ahead of the Peacocks and lost 17-25.

Although the Warriors did not come out on top, sophomores Bre Maloney and Becca Pagel, as well as senior Taylor Goar, all recorded double-digits in digs in this match.

On Friday, the Warriors were swept once again losing 0-3 against the Minnesota Duluth Bulldogs.

Although the team has had its ups and downs this season, senior Maria Wraga had some positive comments about how it is going. "I think that the team is playing well considering we are such a young team," Wraga said. "It always takes time for a team to get comfortable with one another, especially with so many incoming players."

The Bulldogs are ranked second in NSIC hitting an average of .147, and kept the Warriors to just a .069 in this match.

Winona State only recorded six kills in the first set and five kills in the second. They found some rhythm

as an offense in set three as they had 12 kills and a 33.3 hitting percentage. Although this was an improvement, Duluth had 17 kills and a 57.1 hitting percentage while also recording 59 digs for the match.

Goar was the leading attacker with five kills, while first-year Madison Rizner recorded three kills and a team-high five blocks.

On Saturday, the Warriors were swept yet again, 0-3, against St. Cloud State.

The Huskies recorded 75 digs in this match, while putting Winona in a four-game losing streak, the longest losing streak since 2015, which drops the Warriors' record to 9-13 (6-8 NSIC).

These women fought hard in the first set, but ended up falling at the end with a score of 24-26. St. Cloud went on to get the final two sets winning 25-22 in both.

Winona did have a better hitting percentage in this match at 22.1 to St. Cloud's 20.1.

Wraga had a stand out game matching her season-high 10 kills while hitting a .444 hitting percentage. Goar and Maloney had seven kills apiece, and Maloney also had 30 assists.

"From here on out we have a lot of great competition ahead of us. Playing in this conference is the equivalent of playing all of the best teams in Division II. It pushes us to play our best volleyball which is really exciting for the team," Wraga said.

Coming from this loss, the Warriors hope to keep their confidence up going into two home games this weekend. "Confidence is something that our team really tries to work on," Wraga said. "We spend time every day in practice talking about the mental side of volleyball. It can truly be a game-changing aspect."

The Warriors will face University of Minnesota Crookston at 6 p.m. on Friday, October 19, and Bemidji State University at 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 20, both in Winona.

Dick McNally to be recognized at Softball Hall of Fame Banquet

The 30th Minnesota Softball Hall of Fame Banquet will be held on Friday evening, November 2, at the St. Cloud Convention Center. The hall of fame biennially recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the sport of softball.

Softball is the largest team participant sport in Minnesota and the nation with over 5,000 teams participating in the local program.

A total of 19 individuals in the player, manager, umpire, sponsor, promoter, administrator, organizer, volunteer or media categories have been selected for induction this year.

Dick McNally, of the St. Charles/Ridgeway area, will be recognized in the categories of player, coach, and organizer.

Two thousand sixteen banquet was attended by more than 300 people and an equal or greater number is expected this year.

The cost of the banquet is \$45. Tickets may be obtained from the Minnesota Softball Hall of Fame, 118 12th Avenue North, South St. Paul, Minn., 55075; online at www.msfl.org/?p=14899; or by calling 651-451-3140.

The deadline for tickets is Friday, October 26.

Warriors stomp Crookston 51-31

by CHRIS EDWARDS
From The Winonan, WSU's student newspaper

The Winona State University football team improved its record to 5-2 after defeating the University of Minnesota Crookston 51-13 on Saturday, October 14.

Coming off a dominant 54-13 victory against the University of Mary, spectators saw a similar game this week, though the Warriors had to overcome bad field conditions and a cold and windy day in Crookston, Minn.

The game got off to a slow start with multiple punts from both teams before a short punt by the Golden Eagles allowed Winona State to start with a short field on Crookston's 17.

The Warriors took advantage of the field position with a scoring drive capped off by a three-yard touchdown run by senior running back Eric Birth to score the first points of the game.

On the next drive, Winona forced a fumble on defense and first-year defensive back David Munson came up with the recovery. However, on the very next play, sophomore quarterback Owen Burke lost a fumble giving the ball right back to the Golden Eagles.

The fumbles did not end there, as two plays later another one occurred, this time recovered by sophomore defensive lineman Cole LaLiberty.

The Warriors capitalized going 51-yards in six plays with the drive, ending with another three-yard touchdown run by sophomore running back Sam Santiago-Lloyd, extending their first quarter lead to 14.

Defensively, Winona State continued to make plays, forcing a safety and extending the lead to 16.

At the beginning of the second quarter the Warriors' offense was continuing to drive down the field, managing to get an-



Photo by Derek Dravis

other rushing touchdown with Santiago-Lloyd.

At halftime the lead was 23-0 Winona State.

The Warriors began the second half on offense, and once again, Burke led the players down the field. Taking into account their sloppy field conditions, the Warriors decided to go for it on fourth down. Despite a holding penalty forcing them to overcome an extra 10 yards, the Warriors scored on a 22-yard touchdown pass caught by junior wide receiver Tanner Gran.

Later on in the third quarter the Warriors' defense came up with another turnover, forcing a fumble recovered by first-year linebacker Ben McCabe. Then,

a few drives removed, the Warriors scored on 25-year catcher made by first-year receiver Darryl Williams, pushing the lead to 37-0 heading into the final quarter of play.

In the fourth, Winona State's defense scored a touchdown for the second straight game with junior defensive lineman Alex Evans recovering a fumble for a touchdown.

The Golden Eagles finally got on the board in the fourth, scoring two touchdowns. As the Warriors scored twice as well, the final score ended at 51-13.

Before the game, Owen Burke refused to overlook the challenge on the road.

"It'll be a tough atmosphere this weekend, snowy and far

away. We've got to go in this game ready to go because we can't overlook anybody," Burke said.

Burke believes that the team will need to deal with the changing weather conditions as the season nears its close.

"It feels that the second half of the season gets hard and the weather starts to make more of an impact, but just keep encouraging the guys; the goal is to win out and hopefully make the playoffs," Burke said.

Next week, the Warriors will return home on a three-game win streak to face the No. 6 University of Minnesota Duluth. Kickoff will be at 1 p.m. on Saturday, October 20.

Winhawks read to students during Herkymania



■ Sam Kanne (left) and Sam Nascak (right) read to Mrs. Glicks' first-grade class during Herkymania.

On Tuesday, September 25, Winona Area Public Elementary Schools were filled with students waiting with excitement for the Herkymania event. During Herkymania, Winona Senior High School (WSHS) varsity football players, along with mascot Herky, visit elementary classes to stress the value of being a good student, teach

the Winhawk school song, and read to the younger kids in their homerooms. Terrell Hall, senior at WSHS and wide receiver and defensive back on the Winhawks football team, said, "I love the energy during Herkymania and all the great questions students have asked me after my reading. Their imagination is inspiring and it is a great experience for

everyone."

John Cassellius started the Herkymania tradition in 2008, which takes place each year during Homecoming week. His mission is to connect upperclassmen with elementary students to create a bond and trust. During Herkymania, Cassellius talks to elementary students about listening and respecting their teachers and

how important it is to try hard in school. "Students listen and look up to football players and I am hopeful all elementary students will continue to grow and become successful Winhawks. It is exciting to see their respect and positive connection with the players."

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the Football Predictions **PAY-OFF!**

vikingview

by Mike Marek

The Moss Carter school of wide receiving

The two greatest Minnesota Vikings' wide receivers of all time are unquestionably Randy Moss and Cris Carter. On Sunday, we watched without question the two best Minnesota-born wide receivers in Adam Thielen and Larry Fitzgerald. In true Minnesota fashion, we can tie back much of the success of the latter couple back to the former pair.

Larry Fitzgerald will be a first-ballot hall of famer. His roots stretch back to the Minneapolis area. He started at Richfield's Holy Angels High School, and following graduation took his talents to Pitt in Pennsylvania for his college career. He has famously played his entire professional career in Arizona, including a trip to the Super Bowl following the 2008 regular season. Fitzgerald is known for his ability to out physical and out-jump his opponents for the ball, along with excellent route-running skills. Previous to all of his football glory, Larry actually was a ball boy for the Minnesota Vikings, where he learned the ropes from pro football hall of famers Randy Moss and Cris Carter. It was not an uncommon site to see these two Vikings' greats coming down to Richfield to watch Larry perform.

In Fitzgerald, Moss and Carter's influence is clear. Fitzgerald doesn't typically lose jump-ball situations much like Randy Moss, and his hands are the closest thing the league has seen to Cris Carter since he decided to hang his receiving gloves up. Fitzgerald was the first great wide receiver to graduate from the Moss Carter school of wide receiving, but it was Thielen who stole the show on Sunday.

Adam Thielen took in the



homeschooled version of the Moss Carter school. Growing up in Detroit Lakes, he idolized both Moss and Carter. He was just old enough to fully appreciate the Randy Moss coming out party in 1998, and also to watch and learn from Cris Carter in the waning years of his Vikings' career.

You can see Carter's route running come through in Thielen. Like Carter he at times is uncoverable. He finds the open spaces in the zone, and always seems to be able to get open. On the flip side he has a bit of Moss to him as well, with his acrobatic and improbable catches. He also has a found a knack for making the clutch play at the perfect time for the Vikings, which can be tied back to both Moss and Carter.

It's too early to tell if Thielen will be joining Fitzgerald, Moss, and Carter in the hall of fame someday. This season, however, is off to a record start for the wide receiver. Through six games he has recorded at least 100 yards receiving. This is a feat that has not been matched since before

see **VIKINGS** page 8b



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PLEASE NOTE: You must use the original entry blank for your predictions. No facsimile or copies will be accepted.

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the Football Predictions **PAY-OFF!**

packerperspective by Mark Metzler

A close win, but we need an identity

The Packers were able to air out the offense against the San Francisco 49ers on Monday night and take the game, 33-30. It was great for Mason Crosby with his four field goals after his disaster in Detroit. It was encouraging seeing Aaron Rodgers get the ball to his receivers down the field, especially when he needed it on that last drive. As Packers fans we need to see this continue.



Last week during practice Rodgers said he felt the offense wasn't far off and just a few plays a game really separated a good team from a great team, as evidenced by the second half of the offense put up against the Lions. That continued on Monday night in the first quarter with long passes to Marquez Valdes-Scantling and Jimmy Graham, putting the team up 17-14 at the end of the first 15 minutes. We didn't really see that again until the end of the game.

Those effort almost weren't enough because the injury-riddled 49ers and quarterback C.J. Beathard stepped up big. I thought the defense would have a good game as the 49ers were without Jimmy Garoppolo. But Beathard was more than up to the task, making completions like Joe Montana, and scrambling like Steve Young when he had to. The 49ers' running game was more than adequate. By the end of third quarter, the 49ers were running through the Packers. It looked bleak. I just don't know what to think of the defense, other than a defense like that isn't going far. They have a good deal to fix during the bye week.

So, as we head into our bye week, I have to wonder what the future holds. We are 3-2-1, and the Bears, 3-2, and Vikings, 3-2-1. Our next three games are

with the Rams, the Patriots and Dolphins. It's a tough run, and the Packers haven't done much to inspire consistent confidence to date. If the Packers can go 2-1 over those games, then Rodgers' statement will be true, and the team will be on its way. After the Dolphins, the Packers have the Seahawks and then the Vikings. I do look for the Packers and the Vikings to be tied when that game comes around on November 25.

I think all great teams, even many above-average teams, have a personality, an identity.

I think of the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Steel Curtain defense that was impenetrable. I think of great 49ers' teams of Montana and Young and the West Coast offense.

With the Patriots you see it with the unending quest for perfection of Bill Belichick and Tom Brady.

For the Lombardi Packers, I think of the "Run to Daylight" offense and Nitschke-led defense that limited other teams. I even think of the Packers of Favre (I still can't believe he played for the Vikings), his swagger and how that became the team's personality.

This Packer team doesn't really see **PACKERS** page 8b

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Winstars 12U undefeated at championship

The Winona Winstars 12U girls fast-pitch softball team used its RYFSA Fall Ball record of nine wins, one loss, to get them the number-one seed in the October 7 championship playoff. In the 16-team single-elimination tournament, the Winstars went undefeated by earning wins against the Lake City Heat, Kasson-Mantorville, the Rochester Lions and the Cresco Crushers to capture the championship title.



■ Pictured in front kneeling are Milana Shira, Kaitlyn Bremer, Kenzi Simmons, Jillian Fitzgerald and Gracy Hamernick; standing are Lauren Kreckow, Kaitlyn Ubl, Ethne Lor, Delaney Vaughn, Maddy Hazelton and Claire Miller. Also pictured are coach Ron Simmons, head coach Casey Miller and coach Matt Hazelton.

Vikings

continued from page 6b

the Vikings were born into existence. If he continues on this current pace he will be in spitting distance of Calvin Johnson's single-season receiving record. In addition to this Thielen has been able to find the end-zone four times. He has been a plus player on

special teams this year.

Watching Larry Fitzgerald's career has been special, and it appears to be coming to an end. He was always viewed as the Minnesota son that got away.

In Thielen we get to watch him do great things in purple on every Sunday, and if this native son gets his way, we will be watching him lead touchdown dances in Atlanta this February.

Packers

continued from page 7b

have an identity yet, and it's puzzling to me. I think the team has the chance to be a run-and-shoot whirlwind, but they seem to work against it at times, almost as if they don't want to open up that box and keep it a mystery. I say let the offense go and live with the outcome. Time is wasting.

Jim Taylor passed away this week at 83. It's been noted that he was the first of the Lombardi-era team to be elected to the

Hall of Fame. In a game filled with tough guys, he was probably the toughest, according to reports. I don't have any vivid memories of him running, but my dad liked to tell the story of how on a long run against the Bears that instead of going straight for the end zone, he veered so he could run over the Bears' safety. In looking at film after his passing, I could see where he did that time and again. Among his many accomplishments were the 1962 NFL Most Valuable Player and the first rushing touchdown in Super Bowl history.

Winona Winhawk girls swim and dive struggle in Rochester

The Winhawk girls swim and dive program struggled through illness during a tough loss versus the strongest team in the Big 9, Rochester Century. They began the day down seven athletes due to injury or illness. Unfortunately it didn't end there, and at least six more athletes fell ill during the meet. It was a rough night, but the swimmers who were healthy turned in a most memorable performance. By the end of the night, the girls were so depleted that their final relay entries consisted of only one varsity relay. Those four gave one heck of a performance.

The team started the night with a strong relay and gave the Century girls their best, but finished second to Rochester's 1:58.35, touching in at 2:01.85. That was the relay of Lauren Whyte, Grace Miller, Carolyn Macon, and Mary Hoffman.

The 200 freestyle was a pretty good event for the Winhawks. Leading the charge was Kaylee Niemeyer, who's struggling with a sprained ankle, but she still managed to finish in third in 2:15.92. Placing fifth in the event was Bailey Olson in 2:22.62, a good performance for Olson, considering she was one of the girls who was ill and got progressively worse throughout the meet.

The 200 individual medley saw the team's lack of depth — they only sent up two varsity entries, Anna MacLennan and Emma Hanson. Both girls gave great races but they were no match for Century, finishing fourth and fifth with 2:39.86 and 2:42.30, respectively.

The 50 freestyle came down to hundredths to determine first, second and third. Liana Wiefert of Century finished first in 26.49, Winhawk Mary Hoffman touched second in 26.50, and Megan Bauerle of Century finished third in 26.51. The Winhawks also placed fourth in the event as Grace Miller touched in 27.37.

Issara Schmidt continued her undefeated season to win the diving portion of the meet, scoring 244.70 points. Morgan Walker had a good performance finishing in third place in 192.40, and right behind her in fourth was Anna White with 183.55 points.

Due to illness the 100 butterfly had only two Winhawks the

race. Tara Ziegeweid and Harper Wolner swam fast but finished in fourth and fifth with times of 1:15.94 and 1:24.12.

Another photo finish in the 100 freestyle, although not quite as close as the 50: Rochester's number-one Avery Severson touched first in 57.27 and their number-two Alayna Patten was right behind Mary in 57.67. Winona's Carolyn Macon finished in fourth place with a time of 59.17.

The 500 freestyle had the girls finish third and fifth. Kaylee Niemeyer led the charge again, finishing in 6:00.89. Tara Ziegeweid got just enough rest after that 100 fly and turned in a good performance of 6:13.41.

The 200 free relay had Winona finish third. The Winhawks, consisting of Lauren Whyte, Grace Miller, Mary Hoffman, and Kaylee Niemeyer, finished in 1:50.23 while Century made it in 1:47.38 and 1:49.62.

The 100 backstroke was one shining example of these girls pulling together at the end and trying their best while knowing they were losing with many girls out sick. Lauren Whyte and Carolyn Macon turned in great times of 1:07.78 and 1:08.99, respectively, finishing second and third.

In the 100 breaststroke Olson was pulled from the meet and Ava Calvey moved up to one of her first varsity spots. She shined brilliantly next to senior co-captains Grace Miller and Emma Hanson. Miller finished second in the event with a time of 1:18.35, Hanson in fifth at 1:24.76, and Calvey right behind her in 1:27.21.

When it came time for the 4x100 free relay, the Winhawks were left with four individuals — four girls against three relays full of Century Panther strength.

These four "torch bearers" got up on that block and were shining beacons for Winona, finishing in third. Carolyn Macon, Harper Wolner, Tara Ziegeweid, and Kaylee Niemeyer gave their all for their teammates. Through illness and injury, the original roster of 31 ended up being a team of 17 and those four girls at the end stood for what it's all about to be a part of a team sport — dedication, perseverance, and teamwork. Who could ask for more?

WSU soccer continues winning streak

by SYDNEY MOHR
From The Winonan, WSU's student newspaper

Despite the changing weather conditions that gave the Winona State University women's soccer team cold, rain and snow all in one weekend, the Warriors kept the field warm as they continued their winning streak with two games this weekend.

Winona State hosted the University of Minnesota Duluth on Friday, October 12, and St. Cloud State University on Sunday, October 14.

The first game of the weekend started with the Warriors' constant movement to keep warm on the field. First-year Yanel Ortiz served as the team's goalie.

First period fell silent between Duluth and Winona, as Duluth had seven shots on goal all saved by Ortiz, and Winona

only had one shot on goal which was saved, along with six other shots that could not seem to find their way into the box.

The second period brought more fire to the field, as both teams fought to gain control over the ball, with more shots being made and substitutions coming frequently.

In the 86th minute of the game, senior Abby Bohanski scored her second goal of the season and the first of the game, bringing the Warriors into a 1-0 lead within the last few minutes. The Bulldogs would be unable to respond, and Winona captured the win.

"I am so incredibly proud of how these girls have been performing in these past few games," head coach Matt Kellogg said. "The way these girls are interacting with each other and truly just working as a team is astounding."

The Warriors did not disappoint when it came to Sunday afternoon's game, though the first period started off a bit rocky with two fouls on St. Cloud State, two counts of off sides, and a foul on Winona within the first 10 minutes. Shots were rare at the beginning of the day — St. Cloud managed four with only one on goal, and Winona attempted two shots, neither of which were on goal.

Despite the mixture of rain and snow that started to fall on the turf between period one and two, the Warriors did not falter, as once again Bohanski came in within the second minute of period two and beat the goalie with a dribble, scoring her third goal of the season and the first of the game. St. Cloud tried to make a comeback, but only managed three shots, two of which were on goal, and none scoring.

First-year Yanel Ortiz had a yellow card called on her in the 83rd minute, causing a bristle of anger from the Warriors, but the game ended shortly after with yet another victory for the team, marking it their fifth win in a row.

As the season begins to wind down, Winona continues to pick up more speed together as a team, hoping to continue to do so during the season's final stretch. The team has four more games left before the NSIC tournament first rounds start on October 31.

The Warriors will play next against the University of Mary on Friday, October 19, at 4 p.m. in Bismarck, N.D., and again on Sunday, October 21, against Minot State University in Minot, N.D., at 12 p.m.

Warrior runner Jesse Frank leads the pack

by BARRY ALLEN
From The Winonan, WSU's student newspaper

Being the best, or fastest, member of a team can come with some extra pressure and added responsibility. Senior Jesse Frank is one of the faster runners on Winona State University's cross country team and embraces the extra responsibility that comes with being a leader.

Despite Frank's current standing with the Warriors, he was not the best at every sport he tried growing up. In fact, he said that he was terrible at sports from Tae Kwon Do to tackle football. "I was a bench warmer, and even though I was a running back for four years, the only time I scored was when I outran everyone," Frank said. "That was a significant moment that made me reconsider my choice of sport, especially since

I was easily the smallest kid on the football team."

Frank is a quadruplet and has three sisters. Being very close with his siblings growing up, they did everything together. Even though his sister was faster than him at the time, Frank got a real taste for running in seventh grade when he joined the track team.

After a couple years of track and field, he then went on to run for the cross country team during his freshmen year of high school.

"I saw cross country as an opportunity to do something on my own and as a chance to be an individual for the first time in my life," Frank said. "That first season of cross country was incredibly fun. I met my best friends, I discovered my passion for running and now I have been running ever since."

Off the track, Frank has found success in the classroom,

majoring in pre-medicine and molecular biology. He has been a member of the NSIC all-academic squad for the last two years.

"I am very proud of my academic achievements as a student-athlete. I appreciate the recognition for my hard work both as a student and as an athlete. Earning NSIC all academic is something I will continue to strive for," Frank said.

Frank is the oldest runner on the Warrior cross country team, and with that he says he feels more responsible for how his teammates perform on race days.

"I think that being one of the fastest runners does give me more responsibility, but not nearly as much as me being the oldest member of the team. I think the expectations are there for me to perform well since I typically set the pace for runs,

and some of my teammates base their race goals with relation to where I am in a race," Frank said.

"To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift," the tattoo on Frank's ribs reads.

"I really like the quote because it is applicable to both my role as an athlete and as a student. It serves to push away any of my negative thoughts and reminds me that I need to try my hardest or else I will be throwing away all my hard work," Frank said.

So far, his hard work has paid off as he produced a career-best time of 25:49.0 at last year's conference race in Moorhead.

Frank and the Warrior runners have one more invitational race on Friday, October 19, in Sauk Rapids, Minn. The NSIC championships are after that and take place on Saturday, November 3.

Rambler soccer team lands a win in section quarterfinals

Gardner, Morgan, Baudek, Rubie find the net in Cotter-La Crescent match

"What a game. It has always been a physical battle with La Crescent," said soccer coach Barrientos of Cotter's game against La Crescent in the Section 1A quarterfinals. "Cotter focused the time during pre-game on staying calm, and even though this was the playoffs, it was a game — a game that was the same length as the last two games the Cotter girls played them. Cotter made the same number of goals they have done for every game this

year. The team just needed to focus and go out and get the job done."

Cotter won the match 3-1 after a goal by Olivia Gardner, assisted by Mary Morgan at 7:50, followed by a Cotter goal by Jordan Rubie with a penalty kick at 54:00 and another goal by Gardner with Morgan assisting at 56:30. La Crescent made a goal off a penalty kick at 25:03, with La Crescent's Lola Baudek making the net.

"Winona did very well to

put the ball on the ground and pass," explained Barrientos. "[Their] vision was much better than their last home game of regular season. The midfielders were very strong on the ball and won a great deal of the 50-50 balls. It isn't always who tackles harder or first but who has their foot on the ball last. Rambler defenders continue to stay solid in communication and cover each other seamlessly.

"On top of that, there was added fire with the team's

seniors, who played fantastic soccer," he continued. "Gloria Flanagan and Abbey Allen had some of their best games of the season. Meier came up with the save of her career on a very tough sequence! This team is passionate and committed! It knows how far it has come in six years and the girls aren't ready to be done."

Cotter was set to play on Tuesday at home against Byron in the semi-finals just after press time.

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