

PREPS STATE TOURNAMENTS

CLASS 3A VOLLEYBALL SEMIFINALS

Kasson-Mantorville prevails

By HEATHER RILEY Special to the Tribune
Kasson-Mantorville was the top seed in the Class 3A volleyball state tournament semifinals against New Prague...

KoMetts made it look easy. They continued their strong spring and managed seven of their 11 service aces in the first set. After New Prague evaded the match at a set point, the KoMetts used a 2-2 tie to take a two-sets-to-one lead. VanOort said his team stepped just positioned enough to not get rattled...

off the ground, which we have to do as a smaller team." Offensively, sophomore Ella Aik had 14 kills and 14 assists of her own. The Trojans (25-10) recorded six service aces and eight team blocks. Senior Anna Molstad had 14 kills and 14 digs. The match was a battle, said Trojans coach Greg Snyak, which he expected for two teams who play relentless defense. The Trojans just ended up on the wrong side of the scoreboard, he added. "I think we started off a little rough," Trojans senior Shelby Bolan said. "We didn't play to our potential."

Grand Rapids' Higs dominated with a 25-8, 25-12 sweep to advance to their 14th state title game in program history in their 30th state tournament trip. Dished in, indeed. "We just started off really confident," Tigers junior outside hitter Leah Jones said. "We know that we could play hard and play fast, and we were also able to spread the ball around."

CLASS 2A VOLLEYBALL SEMIFINALS



Jackson County Central's Peyton Hanson (9) spiked a shot past Mounds Park Academy's Navreen Biring (9) and Kaija Kunze-Hoog (5).

Jackson CC, Sauk Centre reach final

By JIM PAULSEN
Down 12-7 in the third, the Panthers' exceptional hitter, Lola Pilon, landed awkwardly on her right knee and fell to the floor. The injury not only stopped much of the energy built up with their second-set victory, they still had to play in order to beat us and I'm proud of that fact."

"We were still bringing positive energy. They said, 'Hey, we're not going to lay down. They still need to win every single one of their points,'" Kunze-Hoog said. "You saw that. We had a lot of long rallies. They still had to play in order to beat us and I'm proud of that fact."

"This is what I've dreamt of ever since I knew what volleyball was," said Sauk Centre senior Emma Kirtinen, emotion dripping through every word. "Just getting to state has always been my dream. Being in the championship? That doesn't seem real to me."

CLASS 1A VOLLEYBALL SEMIFINALS

Mayer Lutheran, Minnetota both roll into championship

STAFF REPORTS
Mayer Lutheran's sophomore setter with an immediate assist of attention directed at it, and with good reason. The Crusaders have occupied the top spot in the Class 1A volleyball poll all year and have four all-state players dotting their roster. They are accustomed to being the hunted, but it's not always a situation they enjoy.

Mayer Lutheran coach Joelle Grimsley addressed that following a 25-16, 25-19 victory over Bethel Lutheran Academy on Friday in the Class 1A state tournament semifinals. "It's scary to me, having that X on your back," Grimsley said. "It's not easy. Everywhere we go people are out to get us."

Minnetota 1, Walker Hacksenschalk-Akeley 0. Already with a two-set lead, Minnetota was up in the third set against Walker-Hacksenschalk-Akeley. But a service error and an attack error for Minnetota led to three straight points for its opponent and cut Minnetota's lead to 1-0.

points," Truin said. "We just usually were kind of checked out at that point, just needed to regroup." Message received. Minnetota came out of the break with a 6-1 run on the way to finishing off a sweep of Walker-Hacksenschalk-Akeley 25-21, 25-21. In the third set, Kaitane Rullis added four kills during that run after the timeout, turning the momentum back to the Vikings' favor. St. Viktor combined for 23 total kills in the match.

RESULTS

Table listing various sports results including Football, Basketball, Soccer, and Volleyball for different classes and tournaments.