

PREP VOLLEYBALL NOTES

Falcons hoping to soar with ex-Loretto players

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While there were no winners when Loretto High School closed following the 2008-09 academic year, another of Sacramento's private Catholic schools certainly benefited from the dispersal of the school's student-athletes.

Christian Brothers, a Division IV state finalist in volleyball in 2008, picked up seven players from Loretto's program and, in the process, addressed a big need at middle blocker.

Kayla Neto, The Bee's Player of the Year in 2008 now starting at Cal State Fullerton, was the Falcons' lone senior last year, and her graduation left a 6-foot-3 hole.

Enter 6-4 senior Megan Anders, who has started on the varsity since her freshman year at Loretto.

Joining Anders on the Falcons' varsity are setter Sara Biondi, libero Annie Peabody and outside hitter Kim Fazio.

"I was happy when I found out they were coming here," coach Jeff Deter said.

While Anders isn't expected to join the starting lineup until later in the season - she broke two vertebrae in her back playing for a Deter-coached club team in April - it appears the added depth has the Falcons headed to the state tournament again.

"I wanted the best opportunity to win," Biondi said. "I definitely I think I can help them make it back (to state)."

Deter's dilemma is what to do at setter. Returning is last year's first-team All-Metro setter, Kelly Pelz, who has received an equal amount of repetitions with Biondi, a 2008 All-Capital Athletic League selection.

The Falcons have options. Deter could run a 5-1 offense (one setter who sets all the way around the rotation) or a 6-2 (two setters who set only

THE BEE'S TOP 15

(Records through Monday)

School	Rec.	Pvs.
1. Oak Ridge	5-0	2
2. St. Francis	9-1	3
3. Chr. Brothers	4-1	1
4. Nevada Union	7-1	4
5. Del Oro	7-2	5
6. Union Mine	1-0	6
7. Rocklin	6-1	7
8. Ponderosa	0-3	8
9. Granite Bay	0-2	9
10. Rio Americano	3-4	15
11. Placer	0-0	11
12. Roseville	4-0	12
13. Colfax	0-0	13
14. Golden Sierra	2-1	14
15. Davis	1-4	10

when they are in the back row).

A 5-1 would favor Biondi. At 5-10, she is three inches taller than Pelz, and the setter must also block in that scheme. A 6-2 gives the Falcons more options, as there are six eligible hitters at any one time.

"We're still trying to incorporate everyone," Deter said. "We just need to iron out the wrinkles."

Trojans hold home front - Oak Ridge swept through its home tournament, the annual Christine Craft Memorial, on Saturday, winning five matches without dropping a set.

The Trojans beat Sierra Valley Conference rival Christian Brothers in the championship match of the 12-team tournament in a rematch of last year's final, which the Falcons won.

With the win, Oak Ridge reclaimed the top spot in The Bee's Top 15 that it held for the second half of last season.

Troubadours take title - No. 2 St. Francis dominated the High Sierra Invitational in Reno over the weekend, winning nine matches without dropping a set over two days.

The Troubadours avenged their only loss this season by beating Nevada Union on Saturday, and later that day defeated No. 5 Del Oro in the championship match.