

# TOM TOM SPORTS

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# Antioch snags top spot in NSC

## Sequoits defeat Warren, Lake Forest for a share of first

By Megan Tkacy

The Antioch Community High School girls basketball team is surprising almost everyone this year. They've surprised everyone who didn't expect a lot from the Sequoits: at press time, they are first in conference.

They've surprised everyone, that is, except themselves.

Jennie Dewar, ACHS senior and guard, predicted this from the beginning.

"I think we have a really good chance at coming out on top in the conference. We're surprising a lot of teams," she said.

Head coach Don Zeman agrees. "We're off to a very good start. The whole team is playing really well," he said. Their good start includes a record of 6-3.

Megan Placko, ACHS junior and forward, said their motivation has been key to their success.

"We have focused really well," she said.

Katherine Reynolds, ACHS senior and point guard attributes this success to their hard work.

"We work hard at practice and it shows," she said.

Right now, they are practicing for the McHenry Invitational, which begins tomorrow.

### Girls Basketball

"It's always a tough tournament, because we play right around Christmas," said Reynolds.

However, Dewar is confident about their chances.

"It'll be good competition but I think we have a really good chance of winning because of the way we have been playing," she said.

They will face teams like Cary Grove and McHenry.

Another tough game was yesterday against Libertyville. Results were not available at press time.

This was their third conference game, and will determine whether they will keep the first place title.

"The Libertyville game will be important to show us where we stand in the conference," said Dewar.

Placko predicted that the Sequoits would be successful.

"It will be a close game, but I

think we will come out on top," she said.

One of their three losses was to Carmel last Monday. It was especially disappointing, because they led at halftime.

"We dominated the whole game, but we lost focus in the 4th quarter," said Placko.

"We take each loss as an opportunity to see what we must correct for the next game," Zeman said.

They learned from their loss, bounced back and beat Warren last Thursday 44-36.

According to Reynolds, Warren is one of the toughest teams in the conference.

"It was huge," said Placko.

This was their second conference game, and second conference win. Their first was against Lake Forest.

One main thing that the girls

hope to improve at the McHenry Invitational is their bad habit of throwing the ball away, according to Reynolds.

In other words, the girls throw the ball outside of the court in order to run off time and prevent a steal.

**"If we can correct that, we will be unstoppable"**

-Katherine Reynolds Senior Point Guard

"If we can correct that, we will be unstoppable," said Reynolds.

Another problem the team is working on is rebounds.

"Our team needs to have less turnovers and more rebounds," said Dewar.

As for the rest of the season, the girls want to keep surprising people.

"I want to beat some more tough teams and show everyone that Antioch is not as weak as they think," said Placko.



Photo by Chip Leffelman

Above left is center Jennie Dewar rebounding a basket at conference game against Warren. Dewar scored 19 points helping the team win 44-36. Above right Antioch coach Don Zeman and Sequoit basketball team are sitting at the top of North Suburban Conference, but with 11 games to go the Sequoits know that there is a lot of work to be done before they can lay claim to the North Suburban Conference Crown.

# Dance makes improvements

By Korin Knutson

With the new changes made to the Antioch High School dance team this season, they are working hard to improve their team and their routines.

The girls only have five competitions before Super Sectionals, two of which they have already competed at.

On Sunday Dec. 14 the team competed at Argo High School. The girls placed first in hip-hop with a score of 60.7 and third in kick scoring 64.7. The kick score was after a five point deduction. The received penalty points when a girl fell onto her knees after flipping through the kick line.

"We did well, but we have the potential to do better," said Kaja Milovanovic, ACHS senior and team captain.

On Saturday Nov. 22 the girls competed at Rich Central High School. It was their first competition.

"We didn't know exactly what the judges were looking for, but after listening to the critique tapes, it gave us a better idea what we needed to improve for the Argo competition," said coach Carissa Parker.

They placed second in hip-hop scoring a 58 and second in kick with a score of 62.

"The girls did really well, first isn't that important as long as the girls know they did well. It's not until Super Sectionals that place really matters," said Parker.

Low scoring is not the only problem the team is running into this season. There was a change in one of the categories. It

used to be funk, but is now called hip-hop. Along with the name change came different requirements in the style of the routine. This change has been difficult for all the teams, but Antioch seems to be adapting.

"At Rich Central there were seven teams placed in the hip-hop category and the judges only considered three to be the style they were looking for, Antioch being one of the three," said Parker.

Although the team had an idea of what the judges were looking for they still changed over half of their routine.

"We needed to polish it off some more. The girls are very happy with the changes. It makes the routine a lot more appealing," said Milovanovic.

According to Tiffany Chilcote, ACHS junior and dance team member, "It is a little aggravating at times because the different



judges have

different opinions on what is considered hip-hop. Adapting is fine, it's just easier when so many changes don't have to be made."

The team's next competition will place at Warren High School on Sunday Jan. 11.