Volleyball Tops NCU in Three

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

The volleyball team swept North Central University 3-0 by the scores of 25-21, 25-22, and 25-23 to score its first conference win of the season on March 17.

The Knights were strong on the attack throughout the match, finishing with 49 kills and a .215 attack efficiency. **Kelsey Birschbach** (*Lakeside*) led the Knights with 15 kills and also tied **Kate Aswege** (*KMLHS*) for the team lead with 16 digs.

First-year middle hitter **Abigail Winkel** (*LPS*) had the best showing of her young career with 10 kills against only one error. Winkel also led the Knights with two blocks. **Kylie Wolf** (*FVL*) recorded a team-best 23 assists.



Birschbach goes for the dig

Softball Drops Two in Season Opener



The softball team opened the 2021 season with a pair of defeats against Finlandia on the turf field of Northwestern-St. Paul on March 19. The Knights dropped the opener 8-3 before losing game two 10-2.

Lisa Hoffer (West Lutheran) made her presence known in her MLC debut at second base with six hits (in seven at bats). She finished the day with two doubles, three runs batted in, and one run scored.

Three different pitchers saw action for the Knights in the doubleheader. **Brett Burger** (*Lakeside*) started the first game and pitched all seven innings, while **Megan Pung** (*MLS*) started the second game and struck out four batters in four innings of work. Pung also started game one at shortstop and recorded one hit.

Pung on the mound

Aswege Named Defensive Player of the Week

Junior libero **Kate Aswege** (*KMLHS*) was named UMAC Volleyball Defensive Player of the Week on March 16.

Upcoming Events at MLC

3/25 VB @Minnesota Morris

3/27 TK @UW-La Crosse TN @St. Scholastica VB @Northwestern

3/30 BB v. North Central SB v. Minnesota Morris Aswege averaged 6.83 digs per set in the Knights' two matches the previous week, including a season-best 8.0 digs per set at St. Scholastica on March 13.

Aswege currently leads MLC and ranks second in the UMAC with an average of 5.79 digs per set in four league matches. Aswege now has 924 digs for her career.



Aswege dives for the dig