Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc.

9150 North Meridian Street, Box 40650, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240-0650 Phone: 317-846-6601�� Fax: 317-575-4244 � Website: www.ihsaa.org Blake Ress, Commissioner

November 4, 2006

MICHIGAN CITY MARQUETTE CLAIMS CLASS A TITLE

In a rematch of the 2005 championship, Michigan City Marquette (29-9) defeated the Loogootee Lions (33-5) to claim the IHSAA Class A volleyball championship at Hinkle Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. The Blazers earned their sixth state title in eight years and third in a row in a thrilling five-game showdown 22-25, 25-20, 20-25, 26-24, 15-8.

Head coach Troy Campbell s Blazers went back and forth with the Lions for the entire match before forcing a decisive fifth game. Freshman outside hitter Brianna Gannon led Marquette with a double-double, posting 22 kills to go along with 17 digs. Junior middle blocker Kathryn Krueger added 15 kills, finishing with a .293 hitting percentage. The Blazers were led defensively by senior libero Rachel Konrady, as she notched 22 digs in the victory.

Loogootee senior middle hitter Taylor Wittmer finished with a match-high 32 kills on a .314 hitting percentage, while also adding a team-high 17 digs. Seniors Katie Mattingly and Blair Dearwester paced the Lions on the defensive side, posting 15 digs apiece.

The Blazers advanced to their eighth consecutive championship match with a sweep of Northeast Dubois (32-4) in the second semifinal. Loogootee reached the final by topping Cowan (29-8) in a five-game thriller.

LOOGOOTEE S TAYLOR WITTMER NAMED MENTAL ATTITUDE WINNER

Loogootee senior middle blocker Taylor Wittmer was named winner of the 2006 Mental Attitude Award for Class A Volleyball by members of the IHSAA Executive Committee.

Wittmer helped the Lions to a 33-5 record and their second-straight state finals appearance. She is a three-time all-state selection.

Wittmer maintains a 3.634 cumulative grade point average on a 4.0 scale. She is a high honors student and also a member of the BETA honor society. Wittmer plans on attending Indiana University on a volleyball scholarship.

Taylor is the daughter of Nancy and Bob Butcher and Terry and Susan Wittmer.

Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance, the IHSAA s corporate partner, presented a scholarship check for \$1,000.00 to Loogootee High School in the name of Taylor Wittmer. Since 1989, more than \$551,000 in college scholarships has been presented by Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance to deserving high school students in Indiana.

VSN MEANS ACTION PHOTOGRAPHY

Visit our friends at <u>Visual Sports Network</u>, the IHSAA s official photographer for all state championship events and one of the leading action photographers in the Midwest. VSN, which was on site, has captured thousands of images from this year s State Finals and will have them ready for viewing within a couple days of the state finals.

STATE FINALS PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

Couldn to be at state finals? You can still purchase a copy of the official souvenir program while supplies last! Programs are \$3.00 if you purchase in person at the IHSAA Office (9150 N. Meridian Street in Indianapolis) or \$5.00 by mail (postage included). To order, have your Visa or MasterCard ready and call us at 317-846-6601 during business hours (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. EDT).