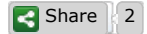


Bob Narang on volleyball | Mother McAuley's Powell out for the year; Payton's Schultz nears records



Bob Narang on Volleyball
5:14 p.m. CDT, October 6, 2011

Mother McAuley volleyball coach **Jen DeJarld** received the bad news that senior libero **Bridget Powell** is out of for the season. The three-year starter was an invaluable player for the No. 2 Mighty Macs.

"Bridget will be missed, and it's going to be tough," DeJarld said. "It feels weird not having a three-year starter at practice. That's pretty unique. The team is so sad because of her injury. We're on a really good path now. This is a hiccup. We have to move forward. I really like this team a lot. I think we have a team that can win a state championship."

Bob Narang on Volleyball



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Powell, who had 522 digs last year, underwent an MRI late Saturday afternoon after injuring her right knee in the middle of the first game against Berkeley Prep (Fla.) in the Gold Bracket semifinals at the Asics Challenge.

Powell was diagnosed with a torn ACL, MCL and meniscus, and now begins a four-to-six month rehab.

"I'm pretty upset about it," Powell said. "I'm going to try and make it back in four months. We've got some pretty good backups, and I'm excited about the rest of the season."

The Purdue-bound Powell immediately sensed the scope of her injury.

"The ground was slippery and I took a quick step and I heard a popping, cracking sound," she said.

The Mighty Macs (17-4) replaced Powell with senior **Mary Kate Mixan** in Saturday's match against Berkeley Prep and Newport Harbor (Calif.). Senior **Jackie Aird** is

expected to help fill the void.

"Mary Kate and Jackie are really good players, and I have a lot of confidence in them," Powell said. "I've had a great experience here, one of the best times in my life. I'll still be around and part of the team."

Schultz set to add more milestones: Payton senior **Michelle Schultz**, who writes a diary for the Chicago Tribune, is inching closer to becoming the school's all-time kills and aces leader. Schultz had 20 kills, 13 digs and three aces against Trinity on Wednesday.

"Michelle is on the outside for us and has anchored our ball handling and attacking out there and from the back row," Payton coach **Joel Anderson** said. "She has really stepped up her game. She averages more than 4 1/2 kills per set and is drilling out aces. I haven't seen many players like her this year. She's an all-around menace for teams. She passes, digs, serves, blocks and attacks. Most of the other outside hitters are two- or three-dimensional."

The Grizzlies play Lake View on Tuesday in the Public League quarterfinals. The finals are slated for Saturday, with an expected rematch between Payton and Young.