



SAINT MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1013 Eastwood Road • Wilmington, North Carolina 28403

Phone (910) 452-2800 • www.stmarkcatholicsschool.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

St. Mark Girls Volleyball Head Coach, Alicia Whitlock (910) 612-9630

ST. MARK MIDDLE SCHOOL LADY LIONS FINISH VOLLEYBALL SEASON UNDEFEATED & TAKE HOME TOURNAMENT TROPHY

Wilmington, NC—The St. Mark Catholic School middle school girls volleyball team capped off the perfect season last week with a 10-0 record and trophy in the Southeastern Middle School League (SMSL) round-robin tourney championship against Harrells Christian Academy.

The tournament was held at Cape Fear Academy October 5-6 and featured bouts between SMSL teams including St. Mary Catholic School, Cape Fear Academy, Myrtle Grove Christian School, and Harrells Christian Academy.

“Last year, this (St. Mark varsity volleyball) team only lost to Harrells and we were determined to win this year,” said head coach Alicia Whitlock. “The game at Harrells was stiff competition with our girls coming back to win two out of three,” Whitlock continued.

This season marks just the second consecutive for St. Mark girls SMSL volleyball since the inception of St. Mark Catholic School in 2001. “These players deserve special recognition for their achievements—their hard work, extra practice, and strong athletic ability have really made a difference in this championship season,” Coach Whitlock commented.

The 15-member team includes seven (7) eighth graders, six (6) seventh graders, and two (2) sixth graders. “Some of our top players will be graduating this year, but our entire team is very strong and I believe they will rise to the occasion next year with the same hard work and sense of team play,” said Coach Whitlock. This year's varsity top six team included eighth graders Gabrielle Whitlock (Team Captain), Nicole Leitz (Co-Captain), Isabella Farley, Madison Stoudemire, Erica VohWinkel, and seventh grader Stella Johnson.

The Lady Lions volleyball undefeated season and tournament trophy win is the second of its kind in St. Mark Catholic School history with the Lady Lions basketball team earning season/league champion status in the 2008-09 year.