

## Kohawks capture title, earn NCAA bid

Written by Jim Ecker

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The Coe volleyball team won the Iowa Conference tournament Saturday night and half the squad took off for the locker room and their normal post-game meeting.

Not so fast, ladies.

The Kohawks had to be summoned back to the gym at Eby Fieldhouse to collect their tournament awards, pose for pictures and hug everyone in sight.

You'll have to forgive the Kohawks for not knowing how to act after sweeping Buena Vista, because this is the first time Coe has ever won the conference tournament.

"No one was telling us what to do," laughed senior Rachel Schaefer, the all-time kills leader at Coe. "I thought we'd go and talk first and then come up and get our hugs."

The Kohawks (28-8) earned the league's automatic berth in the NCAA Division III regional tournament that begins next week. This will be Coe's second trip to the NCAA tourney in school history.

"It's awesome," said senior Mackenzie Harbaugh, who ranks eighth in the nation in total assists

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and 14th in service aces. "We've worked so hard for this. It finally paid off and it feels good."

Coe dominated the match, 25-20, 25-17, 25-16.

"It feels amazing," said Coach DeAnn Woodin. "The girls have been battling all year and focused on getting better every day and every match. The hard work has paid off."

The Kohawks lost to Wartburg in the Iowa Conference tournament finals last year and used the near-miss as motivation.

"We wanted it so much," said Harbaugh. "We knew what we had to do and we did it."

Schaefer said the agonizing loss to Wartburg set the stage for this team's success.

"That's what fueled me through all postseason and preseason. Every workout I had, every practice I had," she said. "It was my motivation. It pushed me through everything. I felt like, I don't want to feel that again."

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It was a hard-fought battle, but the Kohawks captured the title and earned a bid to the NCAA tournament. The team, coached by [Name], finished the season with a record of [Record]. The victory was a testament to the team's hard work and dedication throughout the season. The coach, [Name], praised the team's performance and the effort of every player. The team's success was a result of their strong teamwork and the guidance of their coach. The victory was a significant achievement for the team and a source of pride for the school. The team will represent the school at the NCAA tournament, where they will face some of the best teams in the country. The coach, [Name], expects the team to perform well and bring home another championship. The team's success is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of the players and the support of the coaching staff. The team's victory was a testament to their resilience and ability to overcome adversity. The team's success was a result of their strong teamwork and the guidance of their coach. The victory was a significant achievement for the team and a source of pride for the school. The team will represent the school at the NCAA tournament, where they will face some of the best teams in the country. The coach, [Name], expects the team to perform well and bring home another championship. The team's success is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of the players and the support of the coaching staff.