

# Oak Grove volleyball standout excels on court, in classroom

By: Amelia Passer  
Staff Reporter

Dana Marx, one of Oak Grove's star athletes, spikes off the volleyball season with a winning record. Marx has been on the team for two years already and has begun her third year with a great season so far.

"The season is going really well," junior Dana Marx said. "We work great as a team helping to keep each other up and motivated."

Marx is well-rounded on the team where she is able to play most positions - her most frequently playing time as hiker and blocker. Not only is Marx versatile on the court, but she's also an active member in clubs such as Beta Club, Red Cross, and Key Club. Although Marx stays busy by taking hip-hop and tap dance classes several days a week and volunteering in school-related functions, she is still able to maintain straight A's.

"I really don't mind doing the work," Marx said when asked how she keeps up with it all. "Volleyball is my favorite time of day. It's a great stress reliever."

Marx mostly enjoys playing volleyball outside and going to summer training camps. "The camps are great," Marx said. "I love meeting girls my age who are also interested in volleyball. We all help each other with learning new techniques, and there's always room for improvement."

Marx began playing volleyball in 2007 during her seventh grade year. Marx was referred to the sport by friend and fellow teammate, Sheridan Dagg, senior. She soon became interested, started training, and tried out for the Lady Warriors.

"It's awesome being on the team with Dana, because we've played together for so long," senior Sheridan Dagg said. "We've made such a connection in our abilities in the game that it's easy to read each other during games."

The pair seems to be working quite well together considering the team hasn't lost many matches thus far. The Lady Warriors went as far as the first round of the playoffs last year and plan to take home the state championship this season.

"We're really off to a great start," Marx said. "The new team has trained hard, is motivated, and has a strong will for a win."

Volleyball is played by two teams of six players who each try to ground a ball on their opponents net.

The game starts after a member of the team serves the ball by hitting it towards the opposing team, and the teams then rally the ball back and forth.

Points are scored by one of two ways - a kill or a fault. A kill is when a team grounds the ball on the opposing team's side, commonly referred to as a spike, making it nearly impossible to save. A fault is when the team either loses the rally, catches the ball, causes the ball to touch the court, makes two or more hits by one team player, or four hits consecutively by one team giving the opposing team a point.

The first team to score 25 points with a two point advantage ends the set. Most high school games consist of three sets, while higher level games have five.

Marx said she's given a lot of thought into whether or not she plans to play in college.

"I'd love to be able to continue volleyball on a higher level," Marx said. "I hope to be a Lady Eagle one day at the University of Southern Mississippi."

"A lot of girls from the previous years at Oak Grove have gone on to play at Southern Miss," she said. "They have a great program, and I'd really like to stay involved."

As a tradition before each game, coach Gary Ivy tells his team, "Watch your thoughts, for they become words. Watch your words, for they become your actions. Watch your actions, for they become habits. Watch your habits for they become your

"Volleyball is my favorite time of day. It's a great stress reliever."  
Dana Marx, junior



PHOTO BY ABBIE SANGUINETTI

character. Watch your character for it becomes your destiny." This is nothing short of Dana Marx's performance on and off the court.

Look for Marx and the Lady Warriors in the first round of the playoffs beginning this Saturday, October 2.

## From hallway TO RUNWAY

By: Sydney Sanders  
Copy Editor

Standing at 5'10" tall, it was no surprise that OGHS junior Andie Arthur might one day seek to become a model. With striking looks and a smile that could stop a clock, she certainly looks the part. What is surprising is that 15-year-old Arthur didn't find fame; it found her... on Facebook.

"Well, it all started off around February," Arthur said. "I got a message on Facebook from an agent in Jackson that works out of Los Angeles." Thinking little of it,

Arthur's first reaction was to ignore the message, thinking it was a scam. "I mean, come on, it's a Facebook message," she said. "But then I thought, why not?" After several phone calls and meetings, Arthur sent some pictures of herself to some of the top agencies in New York. Soon, many of them began calling her, setting up appointments for a face-to-face meeting.

Arthur and her mother made the decision to drive to New York this summer to pursue this life-changing opportunity that Arthur suddenly found lying before her. Soon after hitting the pavement in New York, she began meeting with some of the top modeling agencies in the world. The decision to sign with FORD was one Arthur said is one of the best choices she has ever made. "The agents at FORD are incredible; they do basically everything," she said. Setting up castings, fittings, jobs, etc. are tasks that Arthur would find challenging if left to her own devices. "There's no way any model could get work without an agency. They're the people that get you to meet with designers, casting agents, and other important people in the business."

Life for Arthur took off in full speed soon after signing with FORD. During the early days of this school year, while her classmates were learning logarithms and aldehydes, Arthur was back in New York, preparing for her first runway show...BCBGMAXAZRIA, one of Fashion Week's most popular events. "Backstage is pretty incredible," she said. "It's like controlled chaos. You have three people doing your hair, whether it's slicked back with gel in a bun, or huge messy curls, they always get the job done." But Arthur added that make-up is her favorite part of the pre-show preparations. Some designers want very little or no makeup at all, while others like Rosa Cha wanted Arthur made up in bright blues and oranges on the eyes and bright, orange-red lips. And no matter what she's doing, there's always someone around taking pictures. "Let me tell ya," she quipped, "that doesn't help calm the nerves. When I walked out in my first outfit, I was so nervous. But, then that first step into the lights is just like...whoa," Arthur said describing the experience. "Your mind just becomes empty, silent. It's kind of strange, but one of the best feelings in the



### Arthur struts through New York, Milan, Paris

world." Seeing Ashlee Tisdale on the front row in the audience wasn't a bad bonus, she added.

Other celebrity sightings included Kanye West, Alexa Chung, Phillip Lim, and Olivia Palermo. "While at a casting, Victoria Beckham told me my shoes were cute! I could have fainted!" Arthur exclaimed.

During the remainder of New York's fashion week, Arthur participated in shows for Rosa Cha designed by Alexandre Herchcovitch, Yigal Azrouel, and 3.1 Phillip Lim.

Arthur credits the patience and guidance of a good mother for the success of her first experience in modeling. "I could not be more thankful for such an amazing mom," she said. "Traveling in the City is quite the challenge, and let's just say we finally understood the subway when it was time to go home. But my mom and I are a great team."

Friends back home are excited about Arthur's success. On what it's like dating a model, boyfriend Chris Franovich said, "I may have to hit the gym more often."

So where does school fit in to all this excitement? Her teachers collected some lessons for her, and Arthur said she is doing her best to keep up. She admits that finding time to complete her studies is challenging, and knows she may have to adjust her method of education for at least the short term.

For now, Arthur finds herself across Europe, in Milan and Paris, attending Fashion Week in two of Europe's premiere fashion cities. Where the future takes Andie Arthur only time will tell. But one thing is certain, this opportunity is taking her to some pretty amazing places.

