For Immediate Release  
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15th Ranked Women's Soccer Preps For Region XVI Tourney

The St. Louis Comm. College - Meramec women's soccer team opens its post season by hosting the five team, Region XVI Tournament Friday and Saturday, Oct. 26-27. The top-seeded Magic, 10-4-1 on the year and ranked fifteenth by the NJCAA, open play at 1:00 Friday against fourth seed Forest Park.

Meramec is hopeful of capturing its fifteenth title in 25 years and advancing to the district round of playoffs in Iowa Nov. 2-3.

"This year we've gotten a lot better with playing the forwards and them playing it back and running off that and hitting good crosses and stuff like that," said sophomore midfielder Angie Rich (DuBourg.) "Hopefully we should keep doing that and that would make it ten times better."

The Magic will face a skilled Forest Park squad for the third time this season. Meramec prevailed 2-0 on Sept. 8. However, their second match on Sept. 23 wound up a 0-0 tie through two overtimes.

"Our ball movement and our general play on the field has to be strong," said head coach Jeff Karl. "Since we played them a second time and we tied in overtime, 0-0, our play has been much better. Our last four games, we ended up 4-0 and we scored 12 goals, we only allowed one. You can't ask for anything more."

Scoring has been a definite strength from several sources: leading scorer Meghan Thomas (Kennedy) has 10 goals and 9 assists; freshman Sarah Sanguinet (Lafayette) has also been a threat with six goals and seven assists; and sophomore Stephanie Godfrey (Marquette) is always around the goal with six goals and three assists.

"If anything, I've been laying the ball off more just because if teams do mark me closer," said Thomas, "that means Sarah's (Sanguinet) going to be more open so I'd just be laying the ball off to her more. We know how each other's going to play because we've had all season to learn each other."

If the Magic win Friday, they would advance to Saturday's championship game at Meramec at 1:00 against the winner of second seed Northern OklahomaTonkawa vs. third seeded Maple Woods (K.C.) Last year in the Region XVI semi-final, the Magic fell to Northern Oklahoma 4-1.

"He's got a good squad, a player from Scotland and two or three players from England," said Karl. "He's got some talent. Northern Oklahoma's going to be awfully tough. It's not going to be easy."