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**Volleyball**  
**Good Counsel Shows Who's Boss in Montgomery County**

By *Katie Carrera*  
 Washington Post Staff Writer  
 Friday, October 24, 2008; Page E07

When Good Counsel setter Brigid Casey stepped to the baseline last night with her top-ranked Falcons trailing 18-14 in the second game against No. 5 Magruder, a few mantras coursed through her mind as she readied to serve.

"Serve tough," she thought. "Make them move. Get them off guard."

She bounced the ball off the floor a few times, then recorded two straight aces to kick off a six-point run for the Falcons that helped them win that game and swing the match's momentum back in their favor.

The game two deficit was Good Counsel's only hiccup of the night as Casey and All-Met outside hitter Becky West led the Falcons to a decisive 25-16, 25-21, 25-17 sweep of the Colonels (17-1).

Casey led the Falcons (22-0) with seven aces and, in addition to sparking the crucial comeback run, played a key role in disrupting Magruder's passing rhythm.

"We struggled passing [Casey's] serves all night," Colonels Coach Scott Zanni said. "We'd get a point and then we'd miss a serve. You can't give up so many aces and beat a team with that many serves. They're one of the best serving teams I've seen in the area this year."

But the other dilemma for Magruder, as it has been for Good Counsel's opponents all season, was finding a way to neutralize West, who recorded 13 kills. She wasn't involved on every point, but each time the Falcons needed to end a Magruder comeback rally, it was West who hammered the ball away in thunderous fashion.

"I could tell at that point she was just confident," Falcons Coach Karen Kart said. "Becky's really come into her own this year. I'm not sure that I thought she'd be that person who's just ravenous about volleyball and wanting to pound everything away."



Becky West (13 kills, 11 digs), left, rises to block a shot for Good Counsel, which swept host Magruder in a matchup of unbeaten teams. (By Jonathan Newton -- The Washington Post)

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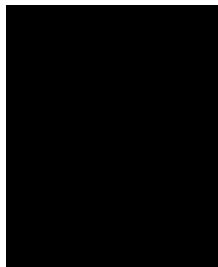
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As the match went on, West grew more confident. She began asking Casey to set her the ball if the play was available and before the final point she made the request one more time, wanting to

### Good Counsel Beats Magruder in Clas...



request one more time, wanting to personally silence any doubters of the Falcons' prowess.

"This felt amazing," West said. "Because we're a private school sometimes people don't think we're as good as other teams. So it's really great to show up -- they're undefeated and we're undefeated -- and win and show that we are the best team in [Montgomery County.](#)"

*No. 1 Good Counsel 3, No. 5 Magruder 0 Block City:* Good Counsel's Brigid Casey praised the team's corps of sophomore middle blockers, who foiled the Colonels' strong middle attack. Meagan Donohoe led the team with four blocks. *She's Everywhere:* In addition to her powerful offensive game, Becky West has been spending more time on the Falcons' back row with just as much success. She recorded 11 digs against Magruder.

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