By Shari Friedel
Tribune Staff

Perkins County Lady Plainsmen traveled to the Gothenburg Invitational on Saturday, Oct. 3 where they met with Holdrege, Ord and Gothenburg, and finished as runner-up in the contest.

Gothenburg Invite

In their first game against Holdrege, the ladies took a while to find their rhythm in the first set, losing 18-25. They were able to come back in the second and third sets, winning 25-16 and 25-21.

Senior Jenni Sis, with 11 kills and nine defensive digs, read the court well, said Coach Penny Hite. “She did a great job of finding the holes.”

In game two, the ladies saw action against a tough Ord team, who would eventually win the tournament. The Plainsmen lost to Ord in three sets, 21-25, 25-19 and 13-25.

“It was definitely not our game today,” said Hite. “They were just glad to put that one behind them.”

Costly to the team were defensive mistakes, especially in the third set in which they were down 1-9 at one point.

“Our blocking was not what it has been and Ord took it to us, making our back row work hard.”

The frustrated team rallied back, finding new life in the third game against Gothenburg, and after a loss in the first set (18-25) won the second two 25-16 and 25-18.

Tanya Metcalf had a strong day on offense, and Jessica Day put up double figures in kills and defensive digs.

“It was good to be able to finish what we knew we had to do,” said Hite. “We struggled defensively today and intend to improve on that when we see Chase County on Thursday.”

PC vs. Holdrege

18-25 25-16, 25-21

Kills: J. Sis 11, J. Day 8, M. Humphrey 4, G. Patrick 3, M. Hite 3, T. Metcalf 3, L. Burge 1. Blocks: G. Patrick 9 (4 ace), M. Humphrey 5 (2 ace), M. Hite 1, J. Day 1 ace, T. Metcalf 1. Set assists: M. Hite 24, J. Sis 1, J. Day 1, T. Metcalf 1. Ace serves: M. Hite 5, J. Sis 2, J. Day 1, T. Metcalf 1. Defensive digs: J. Day 16, T. Metcalf 16, M. Hite 10, J. Sis 9, L. Burge 6, C. Lee 6, K. Beck 1.

PC vs. Ord

21-25, 25-19, 13-25

Kills: T. Metcalf 9, J. Day 5, G. Patrick 4, J. Sis 4, M. Hite 1, M. Humphrey 1. Blocks: T. Metcalf 13 (4 ace), M. Hite 6 (3 ace), M. Humphrey 6 (2 ace) G. Patrick 5 (1 ace), L. Burge 1 ace. Set assists: M. Hite 20, J. Sis 2. Ace serves: M. Hite 4, J. Sis 2, T. Metcalf 1. Defensive digs: M. Hite 15, J. Day 13, J. Sis 9, C. Lee 6, T. Metcalf 5, K. Beck 3, L. Burge 3, M. Humphrey 1.

PC vs. Gothenburg

18-25, 25-16, 25-18

Kills: J. Day 10, J. Sis 9, T. Metcalf 5, M. Hite 4, G. Patrick 3, M. Humphrey 3, L. Burge 1. Blocks: G. Patrick 5 (1 ace), J. Sis 5, T. Metcalf 5 (1 ace), M. Humphrey 1. Set assists: M. Hite 25, J. Day 4, J. Sis 3, T. Metcalf 1, L. Burge 1. Ace serves: M. Hite 5, T. Metcalf 2. Defensive digs: M. Hite 11, J. Day 10, J. Sis 7, T. Metcalf 5, L. Burge 4, C. Lee 4, G. Patrick 1, K. Beck 1, M. Humphrey 1.

Triangular at Home

The Lady Plainsmen finished on top in their home triangular on Tuesday, Sept. 29, winning against Chase County and Gothenburg.

Still working on fine tuning fundamentals and taking one game at a time, the Plainsmen are approaching the mid point in the 2009 season, and continue to stay focused.

Their first match against Chase County was over in two sets, 25-14 and 25-18.

“I am very pleased with where we are in the season,” said Coach Penny Hite. “The Chase County game was a chance to put everything together and have two great sets.”

Tough serving by Tanya Metcalf (13 for 13 with four aces) was key in the Plainsmen victory.

“Tanya had a very solid game tonight offensively as well as defensively,” said Hite.

Trailing in the first set against Gothenburg, the Plainsmen struggled to find their rhythm. They fought back hard and won in overtime 26-24. The second set followed the same pattern, the girls rallied back late in the game, but not enough to overcome.

A successful set three was led by extremely aggressive serving by Candace Lee, who also contributed good defense, said Coach Hite.

“Matisyn Humphrey and Jenni Sis did a great job in the front row, attacking the ball. I was pleased that we were able to finish the game like we did,” said Hite.

PC vs. Chase County

25-14, 25-18

Kills: J. Sis 5, J. Day 5, T. Metcalf 4, G. Patrick 3, M. Humphrey 3, M. Hite 2. Blocks: T. Metcalf 5 (3 ace), G. Patrick 2 (2 ace), J. Day 2 (2 ace), M. Hite 1. Set assists: M. Hite 20, J. Day 1, L. Burge 1. Ace serves: T. Metcalf 4, J. Day 3, J. Sis 2. Defensive digs: M. Hite 10, J. Day 9, J. Sis 8, T. Metcalf 7, K. Beck 5, L. Burge 4, M. Humphrey 1.

PC vs.Gothenburg

26-24, 20-25, 25-15

Kills: M. Humphrey 8, J. Sis 7, J. Day 5, G. Patrick 3, M. Hite 2, T. Metcalf 2, L. Burge 1. Blocks: T. Metcalf 13 (5 ace), G. Patrick 8 (2 ace), M. Humphrey 5 (2 ace), M. Hite 2, J. Sis 2, J. Day 2, L. Burge 1. Set assists: M. Hite 21, J. Sis 2, J. Day 1, T. Metcalf 1, L. Burge 1. Ace serves: C. Lee 4, M. Hite 2, T. Metcalf 1. Defensive digs: J. Day 20, M. Hite 14, J. Sis 13, C. Lee 10, L. Burge 6, T. Metcalf 5, K. Beck 3, M. Humphrey 2.

Next Action

With their record standing at 12-5, the Lady Plainsmen will meet the Chase County Lady Longhorns in a home dual Thursday, Oct. 8 (today).