



By Christy Sheets
Sports Writer

The Wallace Wildcats traveled to face the D1 Broncos of Wauneta-Palisade on Tuesday, Oct. 27. The Lady Cats, fresh from their conference win, were ready to face the hard-hitting Broncos.

Although the Lady Cats won the match in straight sets, 25-20, 25-22, and 25-22, every set was a battle.

In the first set the Wildcats struck first, taking a five to nothing lead on a four point service run by Laura O'Brien.

The Cats continued to maintain the lead, but the Broncos refused to let them get too far in front cutting the lead to four at 23 to 19.

Senior Tarassa Swedberg helped change the momentum with a kill to bring the Cats within one, but the Broncos scored again.

Finally it was a well-placed tip by senior Katie West that gave the Cats the set 25 to 20.

In the second set, the Broncos took the early lead five to nothing, before a kill from junior Shanice stopped the run.

The Broncos regained possession, but the Cats refused to let the lead get away. Again Miss Harris changed the momentum, this time with a nine-point service run to bring the Cats to the lead 13 to 6.

Junior Katelynn Hild added to this gain with a four-point service run to put the Cats ahead 18 to 8.

Senior Jena Aylward brought the score to 20 to 10 on an ace, prompting coach Rohde to sub in for some of his starters.

Unfortunately for the Cats, the tide turned, and it was the Broncos turn to gain on a six-point service run of sophomore Shayla Christner.

The Cats clawed their way back to win the set 25 to 22.

In the third set, the Cats started out slow falling behind the Broncos 7 to 13, but a five-point service run by junior Whitney Smith tied the Broncos at 13.

The Broncos once again took the lead, but the Cats again managed to tie it up at 18 behind a two-point service run made by junior Katelynn Hild. It was then that the Cats took the first lead of the game 20 to 19 on a kill made by Smith.

Another kill by senior Jena Aylward forced the Broncos to take a time out. The Broncos rallied to tie the game at 22, but the Cats closed the set 25 to 22 on a three-point service run by Hild.

Leading the team offensively against Wauneta-Palisade was Hild with 13 points (1 ace),

followed closely by Harris with 12 points. West (1 ace) and O'Brien each had 7 points, Smith had 5 points(1 ace), and Aylward had 2 points (2 aces) Leading the team with set assists was O'Brien with 19, followed by Hild with 17.

Defensively, Aylward led the team with 11 kills and 4 blocks, followed by West with 8 kills and 3 blocks. Harris had 5 kills, and Smith had 3 kills 1 block.

The Lady Cats began their battle for a state bid at North Platte Saint Pats on Monday, Nov. 2. The Lady Cats are set to play the winners of the Hayes Center/Maywood match. The Cats are currently ranked number two in the state for the D2 teams.

