

### By Christy Sheets

*Sports Writer*

The Wallace Wildcats competed in the RPAC Conference on Monday, Oct. 17 in Paxton. Their first opponent was the Cardinals of Hayes Center. This match was a battle from the start, neither team wanting to relinquish the lead. Once the Lady Cats settled down and played, the Cats won the match in four sets, 25-23, 13-25, 25-22, and 25-19.

In the first set, the Cardinals were tough, and the Cats seemed to be battling nerves, as the set went back and forth with neither team allowing the other to really dominate the set. The Cats were methodical, and slowly started to settle down and build a lead, but Hayes Center refused to let them run away with the set. The Lady Cats were able to close a very tight set 25 to 23.



In the second set, the Cards started out with the early lead. The Wildcats clawed their way back into the set, but the Cardinals started to build confidence and momentum, and they denied the lead from the Wildcats. The Cardinals took the set 13 to 25.

In the third, both teams were ready for battle, but the Cats worked hard to regain their momentum from the first set. The Lady Cats took turns pounding the ball to the court and refusing to let the ball fall on their side. The Wildcats took a tough third set 25 to 22.

In the fourth set the Lady Cats were out for blood. The Cats dominated the court, as a tired Cardinal team slowly conceded the set. The match came to a close with the Lady Cats leading 25 to 19.

When asked about the game, Coach Rohde said, "Once we relaxed and started passing, we played well."

Leading the team offensively against the Paxton Tigers was senior Brooke Hochstetler (one ace) with 13 points, followed closely by sophomore Sara Hubbard with 11 points. Junior Chelsea Sowle (one ace), junior Katelynn Melton, junior Anna Griffiths, and senior Emily Hasenauer each had four points. Leading the team with set assists was Griffiths with 20, followed by Hasenauer with 14, and freshman Morgan Messersmith with one.

Defensively, Sowle led the team with 11 kills and five blocks, followed closely by Hochstetler with 11 kills, and Hubbard with nine kills and one block. Melton had five kills and two blocks, Griffiths had four kills, and Hasenauer had two kills.

Because the ladies won the first round, they had to turn right around and play the number one seeded Paxton Tigers. The Lady Cats played well, but lost to the hard hitting Tigers in straight sets 16-25, 14-25, and 17-25.

When asked about the game, Coach Rohde said, "We played well at times, much better than

the last time we faced the Tigers.” He added, “We just didn’t play well enough.”

Leading the team offensively against Paxton was Hubbard with six points, followed by Griffiths with five points (one ace). Sowle had two points, and Hasenauer had one point. Leading the team with set assists was Griffiths with 12, followed closely by Hasenauer with 10.

Defensively, Sowle led the team with eight kills and four blocks, followed closely by Hochstetler who had nine kills and two blocks. Melton had four kills, Hubbard had two kills, and setters Hasenauer and Griffiths each had one kill.

### **Eustis-Farnam**

On Thursday, the Lady Cats played host to Eustis-Farnam. The Lady Cats were ready to play and won in four sets 16-25, 25-11, 25-22, and 25-12.

When asked about the game, Coach Rohde said, “The girls played really well tonight. We passed the ball and that made the rest of our game click.”

Leading the team offensively against Eustis-Farnam was Hubbard with 11 points (3 aces), followed closely by Griffiths with 10 points (one ace), and Sowle (one ace) and Hasenauer each with nine points. Hochstetler had seven points, and Melton had five points. Leading the team with set assists was Griffiths with 13, followed by Hasenauer with 12.

Defensively, Hochstetler led the team with 12 kills and four blocks, followed by Sowle with six kills and six blocks. Melton had six kills and one block, Hubbard had five kills, Griffiths had two kills, and Hasenauer had one kill.

### **Next Action**

The Lady Cats faced the Broncos of Wauneta/Palisade at home on Tuesday, Oct. 25. Results will appear in next week’s issue.