



By Tim Linscott
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Perkins County's volleyball team was at the Gothenburg triangular on Tuesday, Oct. 1 and faced a bigger hurdle and opponents than the Longhorns and Swedes—themselves.

The Lady Plainsmen first faced Chase County and lost to the Longhorns.

“We were our own worst enemy in this match,” Penny Hite, PCS head volleyball coach, said. “Playing tense and second guessing ourselves played a crucial part with this team and that is our biggest concern right now.”

The Lady Plainsmen lost 7-25, 6-25.

“We didn't have the focus in this game to compete,” Hite said. “Serve receive kept us from doing anything offensive against them.”

A bright spot for the squad was that as a team the team only missed two serves in the match.

Courtney McClenahan led the Lady Plainsmen in kills with six and had two set assists, going 4 for 4 on passes.



“Courtney McClenahan did really well attacking them when in the front row,” Hite said.

“Stephanie (Schrotberger) connected with her well.”

Schrotberger had six set assists to lead PCS.

Rebecca Johnson had two kills and four blocks in the game.

Elizabeth Krajewski had one kill and one ace block against Ogallala.

PCS vs. Gothenburg

Against Gothenburg in the first set, PCS put their nerves aside and nearly pulled off the win in

the first set. PCS lost in two straight sets 22-25, 5-25.

“First set was a lot of fun to watch. The girls played relaxed and started to play as a team,” Hite said. “Our passing and serve receive was really good in the first set, forcing the Swedes to make their own errors. We capitalized on those errors by keeping them scrambling.”

In the second set, however, Tiana Reaves took control with her serves and net play.

McClenahan had four kills, one ace block and three set assists while Lila Konecky had two kills. Johnson had one kills, five blocks (1 ace) and an ace serve.

Schrotberger led the team in set assists with four.

PCS vs. Sedgwick County

It was a true battle on Oct. 3 when the Lady Plainsmen faced Sedgwick County. Never giving in and rallying numerous times, PCS showed terrific heart but came up short in five sets, 24-26, 25-20, 27-25, 15-25, 12-15.

The team had 23 ace serves but timing played a factor in the loss as Hite explained, “We missed some key serves which took the momentum down. But we rallied.”

Coming from behind, PCS won the second set with smart ball placement from the hitters.

“That gave us the focus to take the third set as well,” Hite said.

Hite explained that the fourth set was ‘all about the serve receive.’

“It is difficult to make things happen when we focus on our mistakes instead of believing in ourselves for the next play,” Hite said.

In the fifth set the team was down 1-8 but made a surge to keep pace with Sedgwick County.

“We fell just short of our goal,” Hite said.

PCS vs. Southwest

The Southwest Roughriders rolled into town on Saturday, Oct. 5 and the defense was there for the Lady Plainsmen, however, the offense lacked and the result was a three-set loss, 9-25, 9-25, 7-25.

“Our serve receive struggled today and so we couldn’t get our offense going as quickly as we would have liked,” Hite said. “Our defense and blocking stepped up today and picked up a lot of balls.”

Hite likes how the confidence of her squad in attacking is progressing, however, feels ‘we just need to clean up our game all around and we’ll be alright.’

McClenahan had five kills to lead the team with three blocks and four set assists while Schrotberger had six set assists (team high).

Johnson had five blocks (one ace) and Kiolbasa ended the game with two kills and three blocks.