



By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

Chase County's varsity, JV and C teams swept Wray, Colo., in matches in Wray Sept. 4.

All three wins came on straight sets, as Chase County's varsity upped its season record to 4-1 as it entered this week of action.

Both the Chase County JV and C teams are undefeated at 2-0 each.

Coach Jodie Schuller said she saw some good improvement in her varsity team's hitting, serve receive and defense as the Lady Longhorns moved into a busy two weeks of play.

"We are getting into the tough part of our schedule with lots of matches and on the road," Schuller said Monday.

"It will be a true test on how we can handle it mentally," she said.

After hosting Holyoke, Colo., for their home opener Tuesday this week, the Lady Longhorns will play at Wauneta/Palisade tonight (Thursday), play three matches in Saturday's varsity McCook tournament then travel to Sidney on Tuesday, Sept. 18.

Wauneta/Palisade, competing in Class D2, was 3-3 early this week. They opened their season with three straight wins, but lost three at Saturday's Hitchcock County tournament. Action at Wauneta will start at 5 p.m. with a C match, followed by JV and varsity.

Sidney will be Chase County's first opponent on Saturday at the McCook Tournament. That match gets underway at 10 a.m. MT in the junior high gym. Chase County will face either McCook or Decatur Community in their second match.

Coach Schuller expects a good tournament as always in McCook. Last year, the Lady Longhorns finished second there, losing to Minden in the finals.

On Tuesday, Chase County goes on the road to meet Sidney again, which was 2-2 this week. Sidney has wins against Mitchell and Sutherland, and losses to North Platte and Ogallala.

Matches at Sidney start at 5 p.m. with the JV game, followed by varsity.

Wray matches

Scores in the varsity contest at Wray last week were 25-15, 25-16 and 25-13.

Coach Schuller said she was happy with her team's performance, especially at the net with two hitters in double figures. Paige Spady had 15 kills and MaKenna Ketter racked up 10 to lead the Lady Longhorns. Kristen Jussel added eight.

In all, Chase County tallied 38 kills, countered by 15 errors, for a .223 hitting efficiency. Wray had 13 kills and 13 errors for zero hitting efficiency.

Schuller was also happy with the team's 13 ace serves, five from Kaycee Bubak and four from Mindy Castle.

At the line, the team was 64-73 for 88 percent.

Setter Bethany Sorensen was credited with 31 assists and eight digs. Libero Morgan Fisher led the team on defense with 13 digs.

JV, C team matches

Chase County's JV team won in two straight games, 25-12 and 25-10.

Chase County finished with a hitting efficiency of .429 after amassing a total of 30 kills and nine errors.

Leading the Lady Longhorn attack was Valeria Cervantes with 11 kills. Bridget Langin added six, while Makala Bartels and Makenna Wallin each had five.

Wray had 18 kills with nine errors for a .200 hitting efficiency.

On serves, Chase County was 44-48 for 92 percent. Cheyanne Kuhlmann scored six aces serves of the team's 10 total.

The Lady Longhorn C team won in two, 25-14 and 25-12.

The team served 94 percent (44 of 47) and tallied 16 aces, again led by Kuhlmann with six. Bartels had four aces and Janessa Haarberg, three.

At the net, Kuhlmann had five kills and Shaylee Dorn scored three of the team's 12 kills in the match.