

Injury bug bites Broncos, W-P loses in first round of RPAC

Written by Wauneta Breeze

Thursday, 24 October 2013 18:27 -



Abbie Fanning (7) leaps to attack the ball. (Diane Stamm | The Wauneta Breeze)

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By Diane Stamm

The Wauneta Breeze

Coming off a 12-day break the Wauneta-Palisade volleyball team picked up a three-set sweep over Medicine Valley.

This Monday, with Lesley Towery still out and Tailor Lee slowed by a sprained ankle, the team opened RPAC action with a three-set loss to Dundy County-Stratton.

Medicine Valley no match for W-P

The Broncos came out of the gate hot against the Raiders, winning the first set 25-6. Tied at three, Leiauna Alberts went to the service line and reeled off 14 straight points, including four aces. From there the Broncos got two kills from Abbie Fanning and one each from Cassidy Rathe and Sydnee Harchelroad down the stretch.

Down 2-3 in set two, Fanning pulled the Broncos ahead 8-3 with the help of two service aces. Tailor Lee had two kills over the run.

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Gaining the lead, W-P continued to pull ahead, winning 25-16. Lee had seven kills in the set.

W-P wrapped up the match with a 25-19 game three win.

Tied at eight, then trailing 9-14, Coach Michelle Harchelroad went to the bench. With five straight points behind the serving of Ellie Lee, the Broncos tied the game at 14.

Tied at 17, the Broncos pulled ahead 24-17 with Fanning serving and won on a T. Lee kill.

RPAC Tourney

Playing at Wauneta, Dundy County-Stratton defeated Hayes Center 3-0 in the first round and advanced to play the Broncos.

W-P has played without Towery since she suffered a knee injury Sept. 28.

Lee was injured during a recent practice.

With the hometown crowd behind it, W-P jumped out to a

11-6 lead in set one.

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DCS was able to nibble away at the lead, tying the game at 13. The teams kept the score close, until tied at 22, DCS scored the final three points to win game one 25-22.

Game two started off close with ties at 3-3, 5-5 and 7-7. Lee came in to try and provide a lift for the Broncos, but DCS went on to take control with an 11-0 run.

Trailing 7-18, W-P fought back. The Broncos outscored the Tigers 13-7 down the stretch, but couldn't overcome the deficit, losing 20-25.

The Broncos were never able to gain traction in set three. Tied at three, DCS opened up a 13-6 lead. W-P was able to get within five points, but couldn't erase the margin, losing 17-25.

With the win DCS (10-13) advanced to face Paxton in the RPAC semifinals Tuesday night. The winner faced the Bertrand/Southwest winner for the championship. The loser played for third and fourth.

W-P (15-4) will travel to Axtell (14-7) Saturday for the Axtell Invite. Also at the event will be Class C2's Archbishop Bergan (7-15), Elwood (4-17), St. Mary's (19-1) and Alma (8-12).