

Surry Claims Region X Championship Falls in District Tournament Final



The Lady Knights defeated Pitt Community College, 3-2, to claim the Region X Championship.

Dobson, NC - Surry rallied in dramatic fashion to capture the Region X championship over Pitt Community College, 3-2, on Sunday in the Region X/District P Volleyball Tournament. The Lady Knights took the first set, 25-18 before dropping the next two sets by identical scores, 25-22. Surry then evened the match by taking the fourth set, 25-13. The Lady Knights started strong in the decisive fifth set and never trailed taking down the Bulldogs, 15-12. "We played really well and the girls never gave up," stated Surry coach, Jan Marion-Kiser. "Our players showed a lot of heart and determination after getting down 2-1 in the game."

Offensively, Summer Robertson and Elizabeth Hawkins led Surry with twelve kills each while Brittany Tolbert added eleven kills. Kara Hodges dished out a game high 39 assists while Elizabeth Marshall notched two service aces. For the Lady Knights defensively, Alysha Shelton and Tolbert each recorded twenty digs while Hawkins added 15 digs. Jennifer Coe led Surry with six blocks while Robertson added five. "We received contributions from the entire team," added Marion-Kiser. "We had so many players step up at critical times during the game. We really played a complete game getting good passes to Kara (Hodges) and her doing an outstanding job of distributing the ball to our hitters. It was a great college volleyball game with a lot of momentum changes."

With the win over Pitt, Surry advanced to the District finals against the defending National Champions, Pasco-Hernando Community College from Florida. Surry started out strong leading the Conquistadors, 3-0, before falling in the first set, 25-10. The Lady Knights dropped the second set, 25-14 and the third set, 25-10. "Pasco-Hernando has an outstanding team," added Marion-Kiser. "They are the defending National Champions for a reason. At the same time, I could not be more proud of our team. The amount of passion and pride our players showed during the tournament was incredible. They have nothing to hang their heads about." By capturing the District championship, Pasco-Hernando advances to the National Tournament in Toledo, Ohio starting on November 17.

Offensively for the Lady Knights, Robertson and Tolbert notched three kills while Hodges dished out six assists. Defensively, Shelton led Surry with nine digs while Robertson added two blocks.

Surry opened the tournament on Saturday defeating Brunswick Community College, 3-0. The Lady Knights took the first set, 25-20 before defeating the Dolphins, 25-19 in the second set. Surry wrapped up the game in the third set, 25-13. The Lady Knights were led by Robertson and Tolbert with ten kills each while Kara Hodges notched 26 assists. Alysha Shelton recorded 21 digs for the Surry defense while Hodges added two blocks.

Surry finished the season with an overall record of 23-7, the third consecutive season with over 20 wins. The Lady Knights were Region X Runners-Up in both 2009 and 2010. The loss to Pasco-Hernando also snapped a 32 game consecutive home winning streak for Surry dating back to September 29, 2009. In addition to the Region X title, Surry had a trio of players selected by the league coaches to the All-Region team in Kara Hodges, Summer Robertson, and Brittany Tolbert. Hodges and Robertson were also named to the All-Tournament team.

