By Shari Friedel
Tribune Staff

The scrappy North Platte St. Pat's Lady Irish got the best of Perkins County in five sets at the volleyball season opener Thursday, Sept. 3 at St. Pat's.

Perkins County took the first two sets, 25-23, 26-24, but fell in the next three 18-25, 25-27 and 10-15.

"Serving was probably our biggest issue tonight," said Coach Penny Hite of the season's debut contest.

She commended the girls on their intensity and ability to hang in there in sets one and two.

"We saw the court extremely well. Mackenzie Hite and Jenni Sis did a great job of finding the holes and keeping St. Pat's moving."

However, the Lady Irish covered the court well and were able to capitalize on the offense better in the last two sets.

Defensively, sophomore Kristin Beck stepped up as a consistent player. "I'm proud of Kistin's defensive play," said Hite. "She was eight for 10 on serve reception."

Tough serving by Leslie Burge and four kills by Jessica Day inspired a brief rally in the third set, but the Lady Plainsmen were unable to hold their ground.

The Lady Irish momentum continued as they took the final two sets in the match.

Stats

Kills: J. Sis 16, J. Day 10, M. Hite 5, G. Patrick 4, S. Pollard 3, T. Metcalf 3. Blocks: T. Metcalf 18 (2 ace), G. Patrick 14 (1 ace) M. Hite 8, J. Sis 9 (1 ace), S. Pollard 5 (2 ace). Set assists: M. Hite 30, J. Sis 4, T. Metcalf 3, G. Patrick 1, L. Burge 1, S. Pollard 1. Ace serves: M. Hite 4, L. Burge 1. Defensive digs: J. Day 14, M. Hite 8, J. Sis 7, L. Burge 7, C. Lee 7, T. Metcalf 4, S. Pollard 4, K. Beck 1.

Next Action

The Lady Plainsmen hosted a triangular with Hitchcock County and Wallace on Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 4:30 p.m. and will take on Holyoke on Thursday, Sept. 10, 6:30 p.m. at home.