By Craig Hoffman

Tri-County News

New Holstein got an important road win and Kiel is hoping that despite a tough loss, they have turned the corner on their season.

The Huskies needed five games to beat their arch rivals in an Eastern Wisconsin Conference volleyball match Thursday night in the Kiel gym. Scores were 23-25, 25-11, 14-25, 25-18, 15-13.

"We changed our lineup a bit tonight and we got a win, so we'll take it," said Husky coach Jon Weir. Kiel rallied from down 23-22 to take the opening game as the Huskies could not finish off two spike attempts.

In game two, the Huskies broke away from a 7-7 tie behind the serving of Crystal Reese to take an 11-7 lead and NH pulled away from their using the spiking of Tara Zipperer and Sara Steffen.

It was the Raiders who pulled away in game three. Leading 6-5, Stacy Hartman led a Kiel uprising getting eight service points to put them up 14-5. Katie Mueller and Brooke Goehring had kills in that run. Hartman's tip kill was the game ender.

New Holstein controlled most of game four opening up a 9-1 advantage with kills from Reese, Steffen and Aubrey Voelker. Zipperer and Amelia Mirsberger were the servers in that spurt.

Kiel got back to within four at 17-13 but consecutive spikes by Steffen ended the threat and the Huskies forced a decisive fifth game.

It was close all the way as a Katelyn Nielsen spike broke a 9-9 tie for NH. A Mueller spike off a Mikayla Preissner assist tied the match for Kiel at 13. A Reese tip kill gave NH the lead back and a spike error by Kiel ended the game and gave the match to the Huskies.

"We played with more intensity tonight than we have all season," said first year Kiel coach Tori Gries. "We were right there and the match could have gone either way."

New Holstein won the JV match 25-17, 25-21, 22-25. Coach Ben Zoelle credited Caitlin Guell and Devin Schneider with solid all around play. Shannon Diederichs and Erin Diederichs led the team in assists. Kiel swept the Huskies in the freshmen match.