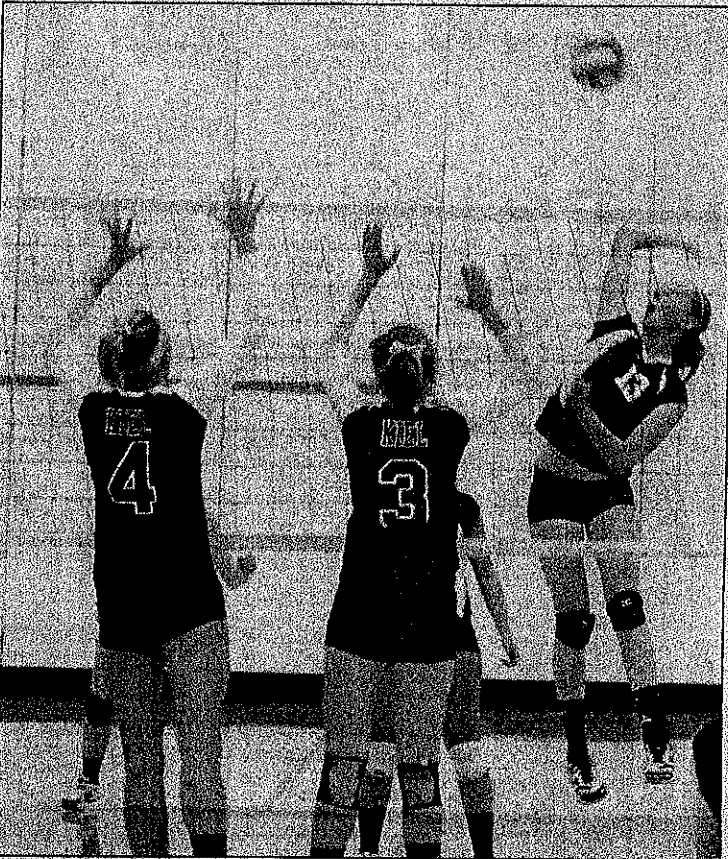


Indians unable to come out on top of five game match



Kayla Bastian goes for a kill in a game against Kiel. It was a hard fought matchup with the winner being decided after five games.

Andrew Kuehl photo

By Mitch Maersch

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Kewaskum played another marathon, five-game Eastern Wisconsin Conference volleyball match on Tuesday night and again came out on the wrong end of the stick.

The Indians lost the first two games at Kiel, then took the next two games before losing the deciding fifth game after blowing two game points.

Scores of the match were 19-25, 23-25, 25-18, 25-19, 14-16. The Indians slipped to 3-7 in the Eastern Wisconsin Conference, 11-19 overall.

"Heartbreaker. Had game point at 14-12 with the serve. They sided out with a kill for 14-13 us. We could have won with a kill but George got blocked and they tied it up," said Coach Joe Moser. They scored two more off their server and ended up winning."

Kayla Bastian and Anna Aycock had 15 kills each, and George Abfall had eight. Heidi Johnson had 13 assists, Britney Wagner 11 and Molly Potter nine. Aycock served 10 aces and Hope Hansen nine.

Bastian had 11 digs, Kelsey Phillips 10, Courtney Krueger and Hansen seven each. Sam Smallish six and Johnson five. Phillips led the team with one error on 22 service receives. Liz Schaller had four blocks.

"Hope Hansen was huge in games 3, 4 and 5 with nine aces on 21 attempts. Anna

helped out with 10 aces of her own," Moser said. "Too many hitting errors in games 1 and 2."

At the Washington County Tournament in West Bend on Saturday, the Indians exacted revenge on Slinger for its season-opening loss, beating the Owls, 25-19, 25-20. Hansen had five kills, Bryana Keller four, and Becca Fahney, Bastian and Aycock three each. Potter and Wagner each had five assists. Smallish had five digs.

"We beat Slinger at the Washington County Tourney but they were missing their best hitter and libero due to injuries, so I'm not reading that much into it. We did play pretty well, but faced a bunch of tough teams," Moser said.

The Indians lost to West Bend East, 16-25, 12-25. Bastian had four kills and Keller three. Wagner had four assists. Smallish had six digs.

Kewaskum lost to Hartford, 12-25, 11-25. Bastian and Aycock each had three kills, Johnson five assists and Raquel Bode four digs.

The Indians lost to West Bend West, 9-25, 21-25. Aycock, Abfall and Bode each had two kills. Potter had five assists. Aycock had three blocks, Phillips had eight digs, Bode six and Bastian five.

Last Thursday, the Indians were swept at home by Waupun on Senior Night, but if

there ever was such a thing as a good sweep, this was it.

The Indians lost the first game, 25-19, and the second, 25-22. Kewaskum

took a 4-0 lead in game 1 and a 10-4 lead in game 2 before the conference leader and perennial powerhouse picked away and got back in the games. Most points were hotly contested with long rallies, big kill attempts and big digs.

Tied at 19-19 in game 1, three hitting errors, an ace, four hits and a tip sent the Indians to a loss. Kewaskum had the lead or the game was tied from going down 7-6 to 19-19.

In game 2, the Indians built a 13-9 lead before the Warriors clawed their way back. The game was tied at 14-14, 15-15, and 16-16. The Warriors took a 19-16 lead before the Indians battled back to take a 22-21 lead, two points from aces from Aycock. One was a sky ball, the other a low liner.

Waupun ended the match on four straight points, the final an ace of their own that hit all floor.

Kewaskum lost steam in game 3, falling 25-12, but the energy and effort of the match wasn't lost on Moser.

"This was nice to see. I don't know how we play so poorly against other teams that are clearly not as good as Waupun," he said. "We were playing tough, we sided out right away."

Bastian had seven kills and Aycock four to go along with six aces. Potter had eight assists.

"Raquel played good, Courtney played good, Kayla Bastian was on fire," Moser said. "It's good to see us start to play. If you're going to get hot it's the right time of the year. Hopefully we can stay motivated and say, hey, we are a good team."

Even the team afterward

was pleased with most of the match.

"They were excited at the end, even though they lost they were excited how they played," Moser said. "It's good to see us finally showing fire."

The Indians on Saturday head to Waupun for the EWC mini tournament before the playoffs start on Tuesday.