

By Craig Hoffman
Tri-County News

Plymouth grabbed momentum early and maintained it spelling bad news for the Chilton volleyball team.

The third seeded Panthers came into the Chilton gym last Friday and upset the second seeded Tigers three games to one in a WIAA Division 2 regional semifinal match.

Chilton opened the evening taking a 6-4 lead in game one, but a taller Plymouth squad went on a 20-5 roll putting them up 24-11 before Megan Flood delivered one of her 12 kills giving Plymouth a 25-12 win.

Game two was rather similar.

Abby Sattler served the Tigers to an early 5-1 lead only to have the Panthers go on another spurt midway through the game taking a 19-12 advantage enroute to a 25-17 win and a commanding lead in the match.

Back comes Chilton, but....

Claire Stiefvater and Sattler had tip kills and Kari Koehler put down a spike as the Tigers stormed out to an 11-4 game three lead. Michelle Piepenburg's spike put the finishing touches on a 25-19 lead as Chilton had momentum now down just two games to one.

Game four had the most excitement as it was tied on several occasions, the last at 20-all with Brittany Mirsberger, Celine Diedrick, Ally Dawson, Kelsey Hephner and Hunter Moore trying to keep the Tigers alive.

But Plymouth ended the match with a 5-2 run and a 25-22 win sending them to Saturday's regional final where they lost at top seeded Sheboygan Falls.

"We just couldn't solve their front line," said Tiger coach Candi Chaussee.

"We played them before and knew what they had. It's tough to end a great season like we had but we accomplished a lot of things."

Diedrick led the Tigers with 26 digs and Stiefvater added 18. Sattler had team highs of 21 assists and seven aces.

Piepenburg had 14 kills and Mirsberger eight while Piepenburg had two solo blocks.

Hephner, Sattler, Mirsberger and Piepenburg are all seniors.