



Midland College Athletics

Lady Chaparral Volleyball Ends Season in Region V Tournament Finals

Lady Chaparral Volleyball
2012 NJCAA Region V West Tournament
October 31-November 1
Lubbock, TX

After claiming their third straight WJCAC title, the Lady Chap volleyball team and coaches fixed their eyes on winning the Region V West championship for the first time since 2010. A regional title would advance MC to the 2012 NJCAA Division I Volleyball Championships in West Plains, MO (November 15-17). Winning regional title is always a daunting task, considering it is a de facto WJCAC tournament. This season the tournament field included all six conference teams instead of the top four finishers. It also was played in a neutral location, Lubbock for the first time.

By winning the conference championship Midland College, along with runner-up Western Texas College, earned first round byes and would only need to win two matches on Thursday to take the Region V West championship. In first round action on Wednesday, October 1 @ 6:00 p.m. #4 seeded New Mexico Military Institute took on #5 seed Frank Phillips College, with NMMI winning the match to advance. @ 8:00 p.m. #3 Odessa College squared off against #6 seed Clarendon College. Clarendon College was the eventual winner of that match-up. The losses ended the seasons of FPC (12-22) and OC (18-14).

Thursday's semifinals matches included a @10:00 a.m. match featuring #1 seeded MC Lady Chaps versus the #4 seed NMMI Broncos. Midland twice defeated NMMI twice previously in 2012, winning at Roswell three sets to two and in Midland three sets to none. In the @12:00 p.m. match #2 seed Western Texas College Lady Westerners took on #6 seeded Clarendon College Lady Bulldogs. WTC also defeated CC twice during conference play winning 3-1 and 3-0. Midland College successfully defeated NMMI 3-1 to advance into the finals against WTC who defeated CC 3-1.

The 4:00 p.m. finals lived up to its promise with the Lady Westerners and the Lady Chaps going toe-to-toe in a thriller of a five-set match. The Lady Westerners successfully suppressed the national tournament ambitions of MC, winning 3-2 to repeat as regional champions. In their two previous meetings during the regular season, Midland defeated WTC 3-2 in both matches.

Western Texas used a much more aggressive offensive attack to take sets one and two. Midland College responded like the champions they are, due in large part to a rousing speech by head coach Tammie Jimenez, winning the third and fourth sets and forcing a fifth and final game. WTC jumped out early in the fifth and eventually won the match with a final score of 15-8 to secure the regional title.

Midland College ends their season with an overall record of 23-7 and with only two sophomores on this year's team, the future looks bright for the Lady Chaps and coaches Jimenez and assistant Darren Taylor. The two departing sophomores are Dragana Cvoric (Guca, Serbia) and Victoria Smith (Odessa, TX) both of whom contributed to back-to-back WJCAC titles and consecutive NJCAA Region V West finals appearances.



Lady Chaps in Region V West Championship Match

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