

Women's Volleyball Edges Eagles in Four Back-and-Forth Sets

By: Morgan Hansel

The Green Knight women's volleyball team took on the Benedictine Eagles on Saturday Nov. 2, 2024. The match was located at the Dan and Ada Rice Center in Lisle, Illinois. The Green Knights prevailed, winning three out of four sets.

The Eagles won the first set 25-21. The Eagles dominated early, jumping out to a 13-6 lead at one point. The Green Knights went on a roll, decreasing the Eagle's lead to 14-10, but the Eagles ran away with it. A series of kills and aces from the Eagles put them up 18-11. Back-and-forth scoring from both teams turned the first set into a close one, but the Eagles prevailed.

The second set started out with back-and-forth scoring. The Green Knights maintained a slight lead until the Eagles battled back to make the score 10-8 in their favor. From this point on, there were multiple lead changes until the score was tied at 20-20. The Green Knights gained momentum and took a 23-20 lead. This slight advantage was enough to help them win the second set 25-22.

The Eagles started the third set strong, gaining a lead as big as 8-3. The Green Knights, however, battled back. They scored four points in a row to go down only 8-7. After allowing the Eagles to score two more points, the Green Knights scored another four in a row to go up 11-10. The Eagles tied it up 11-11, but another big push by the Green Knights put them up 17-12. The Eagle's comeback was not big enough, and the Green Knights dominated the rest of the set, winning 25-17.

The fourth and final set consisted of back-and-forth scoring the entire time as the Eagles fought to force a fifth set and the Green Knights tried to secure the win. There were multiple lead changes in this set, and the largest lead was only three points when the Eagles were up 14-11 at one point. The final score was 26-24 in favor of the Green Knights.

Alyssa Mills ('25) led the Green Knight offense with 19 kills, followed by Casey Vaughan ('28) who had 14. Lauren Borchardt ('25) and Andrianna Volz ('26) each had two aces for the Green Knights. Mari Szews ('26) led the team with four blocks, and Heidi Colburn ('26) led the team with 51 assists and 20 digs. In a close, competitive match, the Green Knights outscored the Eagles 75-68.

With this win, the Green Knights improved their overall record to 18-12 and their conference record to 11-1. The Green Knights returned to practice to prepare for their next match against Concordia Wisconsin on Thursday, Nov. 7.