



PHOTOS BY NED HICKSON/SIUSLAW NEWS

From left: Viking senior Elyssa Rose celebrates Siuslaw's win against North Bend with seniors Claire Waggoner and Brittany Long.

Viks from 1B

And the Vikings had a lot to smile about, particularly seniors

Brittany Long, Elyssa Rose, Abby Watkins and Claire Waggoner, all of whom will see their season continue after defeating the visiting Bulldogs in four

sets Thursday.

"We knew we just needed to play our game," said Waggoner, who served up 3 aces in the match. "Even after losing the second game, we were still confident. About halfway through the fourth game I could feel the momentum turning in our favor."

At middle blocker, Rose fired a team-high 12 kills over the net for Siuslaw, with Long scoring 7 kills and claiming 21 assists as a setter. Watkins had 28 assists, helping the Vikings keep North Bend's defense off balance most of the evening.



Senior Abby Watkins works to keep the ball in play.

And just when the Bulldogs would start to figure things out,

Hornung would rotate from the bench without losing a beat.

"We have got some great underclassmen who we can either bring in or even put in our starting lineup," said Hornung. "That allows us to mix it up and plug people in almost at will."

"That's pretty great." In fact, in addition to the Viks' four seniors, Hornung has also started sophomore Jordan Long — Brittany's younger sister — juniors Maci Wells and Emma Collins, as well as sophomore power hitter Makenzie York this season.

Factor in solid play from sophomore McKenzie Colton and freshman Mia Collins — each of whom saw time Thursday night — and the reason for Siuslaw's many smiles are easy to see.

The advantage of being able to rotate players from the bench to change or control the tempo of games was evident Thursday night, particularly in the first two sets as the Lady Viks battled against a scrappy North Bend defense.

In the first set, Siuslaw lost a 19-10 advantage after the Bulldogs managed to tie things up at 20-20, then take a 25-24 lead. Siuslaw rallied to take the set on a thunderous kill from York, 27-25.

The Bulldogs came back again to tie the match at 1-1 with a 25-23 win in the second set.

"By the third game, we were able to make the adjustments we needed against what North Bend was doing," said Hornung. "After that, we were able to rotate in who we needed in order to spread our offense around."

Siuslaw won the next two sets easily, 25-14 and 25-16.

The win guarantees Siuslaw at least a share of the Far West League title, which won't be determined until Douglas and Marshfield face each other this Monday for a game that was rescheduled from Thursday due to weather conditions.

A win for the Pirates would clinch sole possession of first place for Siuslaw; a win by Douglas would create a tie for first place with the Vikings and force a playoff game Tuesday night to determine the league's top seed heading into the post season.

In the event of a playoff game, the site would have to be neutral territory, likely in Reedsport.

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Proper tooth brushing takes at least two minutes. The best technique for cleaning your teeth is to angle your toothbrush toward the gum line and move it in a circular motion with light pressure, taking care to clean all surfaces.

FLOSSING TIPS

The best time to floss is right before you go to bed. Floss teeth in a gentle zig-zag motion. Contour the floss around the side of each tooth and slide it up and down against the tooth surface and under the gum line. Be sure to floss each tooth with a clean section of floss.

HELPFUL HINTS

- As much as 50% of the bacteria in your mouth is present on your tongue, so be sure to brush it.
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