

Washington State Volleyball Championship

Match 1 - Bellevue played Seattle Prep again today, this time at the Yakima SunDome. The two teams met just 5 days prior when the Wolverines beat the Panthers in 4 sets. This match wasn't easy, but Bellevue held strong and got the win, 3-1.

Match 2 - Bellevue played against the Peninsula Seahawks, who are ranked no. 2 in the state. The match wasn't Bellevue's best and they struggled to get their baring in the first set. But they stepped it up the final 2 sets and had some great volleys but the Seahawks had a strong back line and some agile hitters. Bellevue lost 0-3.

Match 1: Bellevue vs. Seattle Prep

Set 1: The Panthers served and Junior Maile Sugamura picked up the dig to Senior/Captain Izzy Koo then to Junior/Captain Brooke Huard who put the ball down easily in their mid court. Koo grabbed a dig to Junior Nyah Taylor who saved it by reaching and sending it to Huard for the kill. Then Huard hit a cross court kill from the right side. Senior Jada Cho got off a block and then tipped another block for the point. Taylor tipped the ball over for a point and then dug up the next ball to Koo and to Senior/Captain Kaitlyn Watson who put it away for a point. Huard hit a line drive and then hit at the line again where it was touched and went out. Sugamura, Koo, Taylor, Junior Halle Adam and Watson were working hard and sent up digs to Koo and Sugamura. Cho tapped over the block that was touched and out. Huard hit more line drives from the left and right side of the net. Huard then slammed the ball down on the Panther's back row for Bellevue's last scoring point, at 22-11. Bellevue jumped to 24 points from Panther errors but then struggled to put the set away. The Panthers came from behind with 9 more points until they hit out and lost the set. Score, 25-20.

Set 2: Bellevue started with the serve and hit into the net. Sugamura picked up the first dig to Koo and then to Huard who hammered it for a kill, 4-3. The teams began to volley more this set. Koo dove for the pass to Sugamura and Huard hit it deep into the Panther's court where it was touched on the way out. Taylor dug to Koo and Huard hit from the back row for a kill. Senior Anastasiya Polyakova served an ace then Taylor hit at the feet of the Panther's back row for a kill, 10-7. Bellevue fell behind with errors and aces from the Panthers, 10-15. Watson got a tip over the block for a point and Taylor served an ace. Then Huard slammed a kill, hit a line drive and followed with a hit into the block that dropped. Cho was all over the front net with blocks and tipped one over for a point. Taylor hit a kill from the back row, 18-18. Sugamura was digging for balls left and right to Koo. Taylor got a block and a line drive. Polyakova served another ace, 23-23. The Panthers had an error, but then Bellevue had 3 errors, losing the match 24-26.

Set 3: The Panthers served an ace to start off the set. Huard hit 2 kills and then Taylor hit high and the ball was touched before it went out. Koo saved a tough dig to Sugamura and Huard put it away. Huard hit again from the right side for a kill. Cho got a dig to Koo then up to Taylor who hit into the block and dropped, 8-3. The Panther's got a kill and Bellevue had 4 errors. Sugamura dug to Koo and Taylor hit the ball at a Panther player and it bounced out, 9-8. While Sugamura was serving the Panthers made 5 errors in a row, giving the Wolverines a nice lead. Taylor hit into the block and it dropped for a point. Watson saw an overpass and pounded it down. Huard dug up and Adam took the set to Taylor for the kill. Huard hit 2 more kills. Bellevue was playing better and working for the points. Taylor and Cho went to pass the ball and it popped over the net for a point. Huard hit from the back row for a kill. Sugamura dove for a pass to Koo who set high to Taylor who tipped the ball over the block, point Bellevue. Sugamura served an ace and the set ended with an error by the Panthers. Score, 25-20.

Set 4: The Wolverines served and Adam got a pass up to Koo then to Watson for a right side kill. Bellevue erred and Huard followed it with a tip over the block and down. The Panthers served a few aces and was called for a double, then they hit the net and couldn't return Koo's serve. Cho got a great block but Bellevue couldn't put it away. Taylor dug up to Koo who set to the right side for Polyakova's high touch and in. Taylor hit a line drive and a tip over the block for points. Polyakova served an ace and Watson slammed a kill from the right side. Taylor got off another kill, Huard hit 3 more then jumped for a block. Junior Jordan Condie joined the court and helped stave off shots from the Panthers. Huard served 3 aces and Sugamura served an ace, 24-16. Bellevue got too comfortable again making more errors, until Huard passed the ball to Koo who set to Taylor for the hit into the block and dropped to finish the match. Score, 25-21.

*** Congratulations to Senior Jada Cho who was given the Sportsmanship award for Bellevue at the end of the match!**

Match 2 - vs. Peninsula High School

Set 1: Bellevue served, made an error, were blocked and then caught a break when the Seahawks hit out. Taylor picked up a pass to Koo who set to Huard for a hit into the block and then out for a point. Bellevue fell behind with errors and kills from the Seahawks, but almost won a tough volley. Huard picked up a dig to Koo and then to Taylor who hit down the line on the right side. Huard dug again to Koo and Watson hit into the block and ricocheted out, 5 - 16. The Seahawks made more kills and the Wolverines made more errors. Bellevue just wasn't playing their normal game, they were struggling with communication and effort. Huard and Cho went up for a great block but it went out. The set ended with an error by the Wolverines. Score, 8-25.

Set 2: Peninsula started with a serve that Huard dug up to Koo who set back to Huard for a hit into the block and dropped, point Bellevue. Adam dug up a ball to Koo then Huard hit a short ball for a point. It was a good start until the Wolverines made a few errors. Huard dug again to Koo who returned it to Huard for a point. Bellevue looked like they were back in the game and ready to do some damage. Taylor hit a line drive on the left side, Bellevue had another great volley but ended in the Seahawks favor. Taylor dug to Koo and set back to Taylor for a tip over the block. The teams had more volleys. Watson got off 2 saves at the net and then put it away with a block. Sugamura served an ace. Watson tipped over a block for another point, 10-13. Bellevue lost more points to kills and errors. At 11-17, Taylor got the pass to Koo and then Huard hammered at the line. Taylor received a serve from Peninsula with a pass that popped back over the net and scored, 13-19. More kills and errors against Bellevue. Huard dug up 2 more passes to Koo who set one to Taylor for a hit into the block and dropped, then another to Watson who hit into the block and went out. Polyakova served an ace, 19-24. Bellevue finished much stronger this set, but the Seahawks put it away with a kill. Score, 19-25.

Set 3: Bellevue served and the Seahawks took the kill. Huard hit from the left side and the antenna suddenly fell, making the Up-Ref think that Huard knocked it down. But it appeared that it fell on its own, so the ref called for a redo. Taylor picked up a pass to Koo and then Huard hit at the back line and in. Sugamura was working hard for digs and got them up to Koo then Huard for two more kills that were tipped over the block or a cross court kill from the right side. Polyakova swung from the right side and slammed the ball down into the far left corner, 4-7. Watson got a touch over the block and scored. The Seahawks hit a few times into their net for lost points. Watson hit into the block for a kill and Taylor hit from the back row into the Seahawks back line. Koo served an ace, 11-12. Bellevue was looking good and putting up a strong effort until the Seahawks jumped ahead with an ace, a kill and some errors by Bellevue.

Taylor hit into the block for a point. The teams swapped errors and Sugamura dug up to Koo who set to Watson for a sweet kill. Huard hammered another kill, 17-20. The teams were volleying for the point and Huard went up for a hit at the net when a Seahawk reached over and tapped the ball down. Huard questioned the Up-Ref about the reach over, to no avail. Peninsula had net errors and a couple of kills bringing them ahead, 20-23. Huard passed the ball to Koo who set to Taylor who shot between the block for a point. The teams volleyed and Bellevue hustled but lost the point. Koo set to Taylor who hit a kill from the back row for Bellevue's final point, 22-24. Bellevue ended up losing. Score, 22-25.

*** Congratulations to Brooke Huard who earned the Sportsmanship award for the Bellevue team!**