

Lady Chiefs swept by Sam Houston in second round of playoffs

NATCHITOCHES, La. - The 12th-ranked Natchitoches Central Lady Chiefs' volleyball team had their season come to an end Saturday afternoon in the second round of the LHSAA Division I Playoffs falling to the fifth-ranked Sam Houston Broncos in three sets 25-19, 25-20 and 25-22.

The Lady Chiefs (27-5) had their moments in all three sets. In the opening set, NCHS opened the match on a 6-0 run with Ainsley Weeks on the service line. However, the Broncos (35-7) quickly rallied to tie the match at 9-9 and took control of the first set, 23-16, before closing it out 25-19.

In the second set, NCHS again, had the lead midway through as they held a 16-15 advantage before Sam Houston finished the set off at 25-20.

Natchitoches Central's best chance was in the third and final set. The Lady Chiefs, under third-year head coach Kerri Kiracofe, led 17-12, with the Broncos back peddling. However, Sam Houston went on a 10-4 run to take a 22-21 lead and would hold on for a 25-22 set three win to clinch the match.

NCHS seniors Maggie Dunn, Sidney Hicks and Lora Cole played their final matches for the Lady Chiefs but helped guide the team to the second round of the post season for the second straight season.

Sam Houston punches their ticket to the State Tournament in Lafayette, Louisiana at the Cajundone which begins Thursday, Nov. 9.