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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Trojans Snap Five Game Losing Streak with Victory vs. St. Francis

Upland, Ind. – The Trojans (7-12) volleyball team took a commanding bounce back from a five-game losing streak against the University of Saint Francis Cougars (7-12), handing them their eighth straight loss on Wednesday evening in Odle Arena.

Ava Kraft (14), Grace Ieremia (6), and Shaye Watson (6) lead the Trojans in kills, while McKaylah Flagle, Suzanne Storey, and Lindsay Springer contributed two aces each which were crucial to the Trojan's win.

Head Coach Erin Luthy said the win would boost team moral after the losing streak and added, "It's been hard because we've been so close in so many different matches and these girls are just hungry to be better, to grow, and to continue to work hard."

The Trojans took a commanding 25-17 lead in the first set, but had to come back from behind in the second. Consistently 3-4 points behind, the Trojans did not lead during the second set until the score of 17-18, and then were able to finish it off 25-21.

During the third set, the Trojans fell behind as Saint Francis took a 10-point lead, and were unable to rebound. The Cougars took the set 25-17. However, Taylor was able to make adjustments.

"We have a lot of young girls stepping up and filling in different positions, and we have a lot of interchangeability from a standpoint of different gifts or abilities throughout the team, so we are able to utilize different players at different moments in the game," said Coach Luthy.

The team bounced back and dominated the fourth and final set with 12 kills, finishing 25-16 and taking three out of four.

Coach Luthy said the team has been working on "finding that balance of mental toughness but also playing loose and working on the mindset game while doing tangible things that help boost our confidence."

Next, the Trojans will prepare for their match against Indiana Wesleyan University on Saturday, Sept. 28 at 3:00 p.m. in Odle Arena.

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