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## Westlake wrests state title from Lady Lions

By KYP SHILLAM (<mailto:crowleystar@thestargroup.com?subject=The Crowley Star - Crowley, Texas:>)

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Vying for the TCAF state title Friday night, the Lady Lions of Nazarene Christian Academy found themselves in a fight for their lives against Westlake Academy. Despite a valiant effort, the NCA squad lost in three games, 23-25, 16-25, 25-27.

Having to get past Trinity Christian School of Willow Park in the semi-finals, the Lady Lions blew their opponent away in three games 25-10, 25-16 and 25-21.

The Lady Lions served 62 starters over and in and logged 20 kills to put Trinity away. They also added 18 digs, four blocks and 22 perfect passes on serve receive to earn their way into the title match.

Coming out guns blazing in the final contest against Westlake, the Lady Lions took control on offense serving well and hitting even better. Despite their best efforts, the Nazarene squad couldn't convert in the end, losing the first game by two.

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Stunned by the loss, the Lady Lions got behind early in the second game as Westlake rolled over them by nine points. Renewing the cat fight in the third game, Nazarene Christian clawed its way back into the contest, but couldn't surpass Westlake, who took the match.

On offense, the Lady Lions chalked up 51 positive serves with four aces and only nine errors. Delaney Schmidt logged 13 serves, followed by 11 by Makayla Shonamon.

At the net, the Lady Lions logged 30 kills and 19 hitting errors. Marlaina Crossland led the Lady Lions in kills and errors with 12 and 10 respectively. Shonamon's eight kills helped the effort, but was not enough for the win.

On defense, the Lady Lions earned four blocks, two by Shonamon, and 18 digs. On serve receive, Nazarene Christian picked up 22 serves with 14 misses.

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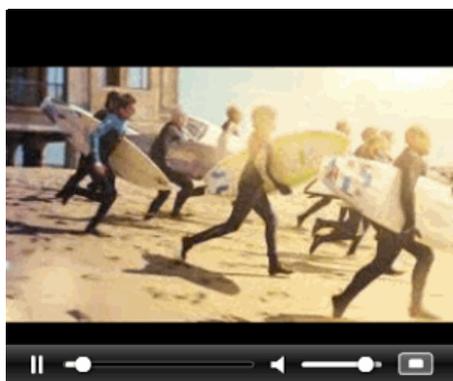
The Lady Lions end the 2014 volleyball season with a record of 24-7-1 overall with a district record of 5-0.

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