

Mount Mercy spikes No. 1 Grand View

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DES MOINES - This is only the third year for the Mount Mercy men's volleyball program and the Mustangs have already collected a significant milestone victory.

Coach Mary Kay Van Oort and the Mustangs stunned top-ranked Grand View, 3-2, in a dramatic Heart of America Conference match that went deep into overtime Tuesday night in Des Moines.

Mount Mercy battled hard but dropped the first two sets 25-22, 32-30, but the Mustangs fought back and tied the match at 2-2 by winning the next two sets 25-20, 25-22.

The Mustangs claimed the decisive fifth set in overtime, 20-18, to claim bragging rights and conference rights in Des Moines.

Nikola Stoimenov rolled up 20 kills for Mount Mercy. Julian Armendano joined the attack with 15 kills, followed by Evan Gaskill (7), Ben Steffen (5), Strahil Svilenski (5) and Andrew Colantone (4).

Colantone dished out 48 assists. Gaskill served four aces. Mitchell Wannahwilai made 12 digs, followed by Armendano (8), Gaskill (6), Colantone (6), Stoimenov (5) and Svilenski (3).

Steffen came up with eight big blocks at the net. Stoimenov had six blocks and Svilenski had five.

Felix Chapman had 26 kills for Grand View, which suffered its first loss of the season, falling to 5-1 overall and 2-1 in the league.

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The surging Mustangs raised their records to 8-4 overall, 1-0 in the league, with their fifth straight victory.