

**Mules Ground Eagles**  
**Varsity Volleyball Defeats Brackenridge To Improve Playoff Position**  
**By Brian Yancelson, *Hoof Print* Co-Editor In Chief**

On Oct. 12, the Mules Varsity Volleyball team defeated the Brackenridge Eagles 3-1 at the Muledome. It was a crucial district win for the Mules, as they are now two games ahead of the Eagles in 4th place in District 27 of 5A Region IV with three games remaining. Four teams from each district qualify for the playoffs, so the Mules are on the cusp.

"It's really sad to know that the season is coming to an end because I'm a senior and I just want to spend more time with these girls," senior Outside Hitter Grey Simpson said. "I'm really proud of the work we've put in, and playoffs are right around the corner, so we're super excited."

Other than the second set, which saw a hectic finish ending with a close Eagles win, the Mules dominated the match. They dealt with a rowdy crowd on both sides, as Brackenridge brought a fairly large and loud contingent of fans.

"Volleyball is super mental, so it's easy to feed off the energy that comes from the crowd," senior Setter Kate Jaeckle said. "It's a little intimidating when you can hear the opponents, but it also just makes the game more fun."

The Mules lost to Brackenridge on the road during the first round of district games, making this victory at home all the more rewarding.

"It feels a lot better this time," Jaeckle said. "We have the whole team with us, so it's a better representation of who we are and how we play."