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JOHNSTOWN - Freeport's win in the PIAA Class 2A girls volleyball title match at Johnstown Richland High School had even more significance than the obvious.

"It's the first state title in school history, in any sport," Freeport coach Tom Phillips said. "I couldn't be happier for our players, our faculty, our community, and especially our fans. It's a dream come true."

Freeport (21-4), the District 7 runner-up, posted a 3-1 come-from-behind victory over District 3 champion Delone Catholic (20-1), and handed the Squirrellets their first loss of the season.

The Yellow Jackets had made seven previous appearances in the state tournament but never made it past the quarterfinals. Delone Catholic was making its fourth appearance in the PIAA finals and first since 2013. The Squirrellets had to settle for a third runner-up trophy.

"Winning a state championship is the best feeling in the world," said senior libero Claire Crytzer, who led the Yellow Jackets defense with 30 digs. "It's much better than the two WPIAL gold medals I have. It's a great way to end my high school career. I couldn't imagine anything better."

Freeport looked a bit nervous at times during the first set, as Delone Catholic jumped out to a 6-2 lead. The Yellow Jackets rallied to tie the match at 8-8. That was the first of 11 ties, as the two teams traded points. The Squirrellets scored the final two points to pull out a 25-23 victory.

"We regrouped after that first set and knew we were going to win the next three," Crytzer said. "There was no other option. We didn't want to go to a fifth set."

Freeport dominated the second set by jumping out to a 7-1 lead en route to a 25-9 victory. Junior opposite Allison DeJidas recorded seven of her match-high 20 kills to lead the way.

"It was a really well played match, except for when we got blown out in game two," Delone Catholic coach Jason Leppo said. "Freeport is a fantastic team. We knew it wasn't going to be a sweep either way.

"You don't like losing a game like that, but what's the difference between losing 25-23 or 25-9. It's still a loss. We talked all week and said that if we were 1-1 at the end of two games, then we would be in really good shape."

Freeport continued its fine play in the third set by building a 14-8 lead. Delone Catholic rallied to tie the match at 18-18, but the Yellow Jackets pulled out a 25-23 victory.

"The momentum we picked up in the second set carried over to the final two sets," Phillips said. "I watched a lot of film on Delone, and I could probably go through their rotation and tell you about it just as good as any of their players."

Freeport trailed only once in the fourth set and came away with a 25-22 victory, thus clinching the match and title.

"We tried to reset in the third set and gave them a run for their money in both games. It was really fun match to be a part of.

DeJidas capped the victory with the last of her 20 kills.

"I knew I had to put it down for my team," DeJidas said. "This is such an amazing feeling. We worked so hard for this."

Phillips was impressed by DeJidas' performance.

"Ally [DeJidas] played a huge role on the right side," Phillips said. "We looked at the matchups and thought we could exploit the right side. That's why we went to her so much. Ally is a great player. She did a great job today."

Maddie Clabaugh led Delone Catholic with 18 kills, while teammate Autumn Altland added 10.