The Lady Braves were sporting pink jerseys for Dig Pink Night to honor Breast Cancer Awareness.

Dig Pink

Around the country, colleges host Dig Pink Nights in efforts to raise money for the fight against breast cancer.

The organization that oversees the Dig Pink campaign, the Side-Out Foundation, was established in 2004 to unite volleyball players and coaches and to have them work toward the common goal of furthering breast cancer awareness, education, and patient services.

The organization defines itself as “a support and advocacy organization dedicated to making a significant and identifiable difference in the lives of breast cancer patients and their families by supporting clinical trials, increasing compassionate support services and educating communities.”

Sweeping victory

In the first set, both teams battled back and forth for the lead with eight tied scores. UNCP stretched the lead to seven at 17-10, and trading leads. The Lady Braves ran out to an early 5-0 lead before Francis Marion cut the lead to 9-8.

From that point the Black and Gold stretched the lead to seven at 17-10, but once again the Patriots battled back and tied the score at 21. UNCP got two key kills from Bolwerk and Hill provided a large run to take a 23-16 lead. UNCP took the next five points. Hannah Hill provided two of her six kills in the set along with a Chelsea Phillips service ace to give the Lady Braves their first lead of the set at 21-20. UNCP captured the next four points to win the final set of the match 25-20.

Bolwerk led the Lady Braves with 11 kills. Morgan recorded 10 kills, three service aces, and eight digs, while Ashlyn Rebok tallied all 36 assists for the Black and Gold.

Key players

Francis Marion came out in convincing fashion as the score favored the Patriots 6-1 early. The resilient Lady Braves put up five straight points to tie up the match. Francis Marion provided a large run to take a 19-13 lead. UNCP took a timeout and came out of the timeout to take the next five points. Hannah Hill provided two of her six kills in the set along with a Chelsea Phillips service ace to give the Lady Braves their first lead of the set at 21-20. UNCP captured the next four points to win the final set of the match 25-20.

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UNCP’s Tiara Anderson along with Rebecca Morgan and Heather Bolwerk.

The Lady Braves fought against Peach Belt Conference opponent Francis Marion in the English E. Jones Center on Nov. 2.

By Jonathan Byn

Sports Writer

Senior Tricia Varnes (middle) and Heather Bolwerk (right) combine for a block against Francis Marion.