

CCCAA 2009 WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Day 2, Saturday, December 5

at San Joaquin Delta College, Stockton

MATCH 8

S3 Cypress d. N1 Sacramento City, 3-0 (25-18, 25-22, 25-23)

Records: Cypress 23-4, Sacramento City 31-1

RECAP: In a winner's bracket, non-elimination match, Sacramento City College's 31-match, season-long winning streak was broken by South 3 seed Cypress in a shocking sweep over the Panthers.

It had been almost an entire year since Sacramento suffered a defeat when it was eliminated in the 2008 Championships at Pasadena in a 5-gamer v. Orange Coast. Sac City played for the first time this season against a South team.

The Chargers, the Co-Orange Empire Conference champions, played like a champion against Sacramento, hitting a spectacular .311 as a team and building a potent offensive attack thanks to brilliant setting by Giajaida Vargas. The All-State setter was a wizard with 39 assists, 2 aces, 5 digs and 5 kills off of dump plays.

Vargas made life simple for hitters Marina Samoa (18 kills and 13 digs) and Katie Saavedra (15 kills, only 1 error, .500 percentage, plus 12 digs). The veteran trio continue to excel, now putting the Chargers in the winner's bracket final against fellow OEC foe Irvine Valley (4 p.m.). Also for Cypress, Madison Moss tacked on 12 digs.

For Sacramento, its All-State player Natasha Vinnikova held her own with team highs on 13 kills (.294) and 14 digs. Alex Tkachuk also added a double-double with 10 kills (.364) and 11 digs. Breanna Warnock totaled 6 kills and 5 blocks. Setter Emmie Moroski had 35 assists.

The Panthers tried to extend the match in an exciting third game, coming back from a 19-14 deficit to tie it at 21-21. Two kills by Saavedra helped put Cypress back in front, 24-22, and it clinched on a Sacramento attack error.

Sacramento faces Orange Coast and Santa Rosa takes on Sierra in elimination matches at 1 p.m. today.

Quotebook: Cypress Coach Nancy Welliver: "The players really were fired up to give Sacramento its first loss. We didn't play any differently than we have all season. We play scrappy volleyball. Vargas is playing at a higher level than what you see at the community college level. She's the best setter I've had in 27 years of coaching."

CCCAA Championship History Note: Sacramento's loss means that Orange Coast continues to be the last undefeated state champion, accomplishing the feat in the 2005 season at 26-0.