



**California Community College Athletic Association  
Men's Volleyball Championship**

April 24/26, 2008

Irvine Valley College (Irvine, CA)

**Day 2 – State Championship Final  
April 26, 2008**

***Irvine Valley makes it back-to-back state championships after sweep of Orange Coast***

Irvine Valley College rolled to a three-game sweep of Pacific Coast Conference rival Orange Coast College on Saturday night to capture the 2008 California Community College Athletic Association Men's Volleyball Championship in Irvine.

Irvine Valley won its second consecutive state title after taking Long Beach City College to five games in 2007.

But things were a bit easier in '08 for head coach Tom Pestolesi's Lasers. Heading into the championship final, IVC had rolled to sweeps in 13 of its previous 17 victories. And only Orange Coast had forced Irvine Valley to play five games in a match this season.

IVC cruised to the sweep by scores of 30-24, 30-23, and 30-19.

State tournament most valuable player Peter Johnson led the way with a match-high 22 kills.

According to Pestolesi, Johnson was the difference in the match.

"What can you say about Peter," Pestolesi said. "Whenever we needed a clutch kill or dig, he came up with it."

Pestolesi was also proud to announce that Johnson had signed his national letter of intent before the match to play next season at UC San Diego.

In the opening game, Orange Coast led early before IVC rallied to take the lead. OCC stayed close, getting within two points at 22-20. But Irvine Valley scored five of the next seven points to jump ahead 26-21 and rolled to the win.

Game two saw an impressive stretch by Johnson.

After OCC went ahead 4-1, Irvine Valley fought back and got within one point at 7-6 before Johnson took over by scoring IVC's next five points. Irvine Valley built a commanding 22-15 lead before cruising for the win.

And in game three, Irvine Valley surged out to a 7-2 advantage and never looked back. Johnson had eight kills in game three to pace the Lasers. A net violation by Orange Coast on match point gave IVC the state championship win.

"This team did everything we asked them to," said Pestolesi. "We knew we had the talent to be successful this season. It was just a matter of the players and coaches trusting each other."

"We knew Orange Coast was going to be tough," he added. "Kevin Welch willed that team to win. He made everyone a better player on the team."

Welch led Orange Coast with 19 kills. Grant Keene added nine kills, Corey Ferraro paced OCC with 36 assists, and Andrew Pizula led the Pirates with seven digs.

Orange Coast closes its season with a 15-7 overall record.

Irvine Valley concludes its championship season with an 18-2 overall record. Reese Haine added 11 kills, Tim Golden chipped in six kills, Kaleo Baxter had six digs, and Phil Younglove totaled 44 assists.

<b>Games</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Orange Coast	24	23	19
Irvine Valley	30	30	30

**Final Records:** Irvine Valley 18-2; Orange Coast 15-7

### **2008 ALL-STATE TOURNAMENT TEAM**

Peter Johnson, Irvine Valley – MVP

Reese Haine, Irvine Valley

Kaleo Baxter, Irvine Valley

Kevin Welch, Orange Coast

Andrew Pizula, Orange Coast

Casey Bennett, Long Beach

Collin Williamson, Santa Monica

*- Report by Chris Ruiz for the CCCAA*