

**CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL 2007  
FIRST ROUND, SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN REGIONALS**

**CHAMPIONSHIP UP FOR GRABS,  
2-TIME DEFENDING CHAMPS FALL**

Two things were learned after the first round of the California Community College women's volleyball regional playoffs Tuesday night. One was that 2007 will feature a new state champion after two-time defending champion Orange Coast was swept at home by College of the Canyons. The other is that except for Orange Coast, home cooking did the trick for all the host seeds in a round that included 14 sweeps.

**SOUTH REGIONAL RECAPS**

**Canyons (15-6) d. Orange Coast (15-7), 30-21, 31-29, 30-23**

State No. 14-ranked Canyons provided what proved to be the only upset, but don't tell that to Coach Lisa Hooper, who felt her team was better than its No. 9 seed for the regionals.

Canyons was led by All-SoCal selection Priscilla Bremer, who slammed down 20 kills. In the second game, state No. 11 Orange Coast led 25-20, but Canyons went on an 11-4 run to go up 2-0. In the deciding third game, Canyons jumped out to a 9-3 lead and cruised to the only lower-seed victory in either region.

For OCC, All-SoCal hitter Jacqui Reed had 13 kills and 10 digs. The Pirates lost 6 of their last 11 matches after starting the season 10-1.

**Second Round-Canyons at Irvine Valley**

**Irvine Valley (22-0) d. Palomar (14-10), 30-19, 30-21, 30-23**

The state's only undefeated team, No. 1 Irvine Valley, made it 22 straight victories with a sweep over un-ranked Palomar. All-American Chelsea Pavlik scored 20 kills as she is the Lasers' school record holder in single-season kills. All-SoCal setter Kelly Keating contributed a steady 39 assists.

**Second Round-Irvine Valley hosts Canyons**

**El Camino (26-1) d. Moorpark (10-12), 30-16, 30-24, 30-16**

State No. 2 El Camino is on a 25-match winning streak following its easy elimination of un-ranked Moorpark. The South Coast Conference champion Warriors were amazing in conference play, losing just one of 43 games played, to go 14-0.

El Camino was paced by All-American Lauren Simmons with 10 kills and 11 digs and All-SCC players Marcella Hernandez (11 kills, 5 blocks) and Kerry O'Brien (team-high 14 kills). **Second Round-El Camino hosts Cuesta**

## **MORE SOUTH REGIONAL RECAPS**

### **Golden West (19-4) d. Desert (17-4), 30-16, 31-29, 30-14**

All of a sudden, the team that practically owned the state championship trophy for more than a decade—state No. 3 Golden West—could be in a position to return to the State Final Eight after missing the last two years.

The Rustlers swept Foothill champion and No. 25 College of the Desert. Golden West is led by All-SoCal selection Taylor Cook.

#### **Second Round-Golden West hosts San Diego Mesa**

### **Fullerton (18-5) d. Ventura (12-9), 30-18, 30-17, 30-22**

No. 5 Fullerton had no problems against No. 20 Ventura to advance with the home sweep. The Hornets are led by All-State player Gina Conley and All-SoCal selection Crissi Nihipili.

#### **Second Round-Fullerton hosts LA Pierce**

### **LA Pierce (26-3) d. Mt. San Antonio (14-7), 31-29, 30-28, 30-25**

No. 6 LA Pierce was given a strong battle by No. 19 Mt. SAC although the Brahmas came away with the sweep. Last year's state runner-up Pierce was led by outside hitter Vanessa Murray with 14 kills and Jenna Novelli with 10 kills.

Also for the Western State South champions, Brittany Sousa added 24 digs and setter Terry Soltani was solid with 43 assists. For Mt. SAC, both Kelsey Duling and Jennifer Goodsell scored 11 kills.

#### **Second Round-LA Pierce at Fullerton**

### **San Diego Mesa (20-4) d. Long Beach (18-6), 23-30, 30-18, 30-17, 23-30, 15-12**

The match of the night was turned in by state No. 9 San Diego Mesa against No. 18 Long Beach City. The Pacific Coast champion Olympians had earlier this season played a 5-game win over the pesky Vikings and neither team let up from that on Tuesday.

Often the higher seeds find a way to win these long matches and SD Mesa used its home crowd advantage in a 2-1/2 hour marathon victory. For Mesa, All-American Anne Vaughan led the way with 18 kills. Long Beach was led by All-State player Faaalo Taumanupepe.

#### **Second Round-San Diego Mesa at Golden West**

## **MORE SOUTH REGIONAL RECAPS**

### **Cuesta (20-3) d. Bakersfield (19-7), 30-24, 30-18, 30-24**

No. 10 Cuesta did its home work after losing to No. 17 Bakersfield in a 5-game battle back in a September WSC crossover match. The Cougars won the first two games of that match before the Renegades swept out games 3,4 and 5. In this playoff match, Cuesta went up 2-0 again, but maintained its consistent play to sweep the conference foe and avenge the regular season loss.

All-State player Julie Coelho had a versatile performance with 12 kills, 12 digs and 7 blocks, while Cuesta teammate Rachel Spotten had an equally strong net match with 8 blocks. Jessica Hood led all hitters with 14 kills. For Bakersfield, Emily Ermigarat and Katie Cronk each contributed 9 kills.

### **Second Round-Cuesta at El Camino**

## **NORTH REGIONAL RECAPS**

### **Sacramento City (22-3) d. Solano (18-7), 30-26, 30-21, 30-27**

The North region's top team and state No. 4-ranked Sacramento City continued its strong play with the sweep over unranked Solano. The Panthers were led by All-American Michelle Johnson and All-NorCal selection Christy Stuart. Sacramento won the difficult Big 8 title.

### **Second Round-Sacramento hosts Shasta**

### **Santa Rosa (23-3) d. West Valley (16-12), 30-14, 30-19, 30-18**

Santa Rosa slipped a bit in the second half of the season after holding on to the North's top spot for many weeks, but the No. 7-ranked Bear Cubs are making a charge at the right time. They swept unranked West Valley, keeping the Vikings under 20 points in all three games.

All-State setter Kaitlin Ferguson tallied 32 assists while Komera Tale, Cassie Nelson and Gina Sbragia all recorded 8 kills. Another top player this year for Santa Rosa is All-NorCal selection Krista Mattos.

### **Second Round-Santa Rosa hosts Fresno City**

## **MORE NORTH REGIONAL RECAPS**

### **Cabrillo (22-2) d. Sequoias (14-9), 30-26, 30-18, 30-15**

Maybe the best-kept secret in California is No. 8 Cabrillo, the Coast Conference South champions. All-State selection Leah Anthony made 16 digs as the Seahawks swept past unranked College of the Sequoias.

Also for Cabrillo, Alisha Partney scored 12 kills and Phoebe Hettel added 11 kills. The Seahawks are also led by All-NorCal selection Bernadette Erlach.

#### **Second Round-Cabrillo hosts Siskiyou**

### **Foothill (20-6) d. Modesto (16-11), 30-17, 30-20, 30-24**

No. 12 Foothill, the Coast North co-champions, swept unranked Modesto behind the .533 hitting of Tino Aiono, who scored 9 kills. All-American Anya Katanski recorded 4 aces. Modesto was the only one of four Big 8 teams that did not advance to the second round.

#### **Second Round-Foothill hosts San Joaquin Delta**

### **San Joaquin Delta (19-7) d. Feather River (16-7), 30-13, 30-18, 41-39**

What appeared to be a rout for No. 13 San Joaquin Delta v. No. 25 Feather River turned into an epic, 80-point third game. The Mustangs were down 28-20 in that decisive third game, but eventually withstood six game points and finally outlasted the Golden Eagles in a bizarre sweep.

All NorCal selection Alisha Thomas tied Delta teammate Ashley Davidson with a match-high 19 kills.

#### **Second Round-SJ Delta at Foothill**

### **Siskiyou (23-3) d. De Anza (15-7), 19-30, 30-18, 30-25, 30-13**

While Foothill got to face an unranked team, no such luck for fellow Coast North co-champion De Anza. The No. 24 Dons were seeded 11<sup>th</sup> and went up against Golden Valley Conference champion and No. 15 College of the Siskiyou, falling in four games to the host Eagles. Siskiyou was led by All-State player and GVC MVP Jennifer Mendenhall. The season ended for All-NorCal selection Ali Hanshaw of De Anza. The match was the only playoff in the North that lasted longer than three games.

#### **Second Round-Siskiyou at Cabrillo**

## **MORE NORTH REGIONAL RECAPS**

### **Fresno City (18-4) d. Napa Valley (16-5), 30-28, 30-26, 31-29**

The No. 16 Rams of Fresno City weathered the Storm of No. 23 Napa Valley in a matchup of conference champions. All-American Lauren Manzo led Central Valley Conference champion Fresno with 54 assists while Alyssa Pitkin scored 19 kills. Donesha Jackson led the defense with 23 digs. Ashley Fantazia added 13 kills. For Bay Valley champion Napa, Chelsea Butts had 14 kills and Emilee Pahk added 25 digs.

#### **Second Round-Fresno City at Santa Rosa**

### **Shasta (17-11) d. Reedley (17-7), 30-19, 30-23, 30-24**

No one is quite sure how No. 21 Shasta earned a home seed (region No. 8), but the Knights will take it and used home advantage in sweeping No. 22 Reedley. Both teams finished tied for second in their respective conferences. Shasta has traditionally played well in the playoffs and this match was no different with All-GVC players Kelsey McGee and Danielle Nance leading the charge. For Reedley, All-NorCal selection Alyssa Whited saw her season end.

#### **Second Round-Shasta at Sacramento City**

**Recaps by Robert Lewis, CCCWVCA publicist/statistician**