

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

**CANYONS UPSETS NO. 1 IRVINE VALLEY;
NORTH'S BIG 8 TRIO ADVANCES TO STATE**

College of the Canyons put an end to state No. 1-ranked Irvine Valley's 22-match undefeated streak Saturday and with the 5-game victory sent the Cougars to their first-ever appearance at the California Community College Athletic Association Elite Eight tournament. Canyons, ranked No. 14 and the South's No. 9 seed, recorded its second straight upset of an Orange Empire Conference team.

The other three top South seeds will join Canyons as state No. 2 El Camino, No. 3 Golden West, and No. 5 Fullerton all advanced with 4-game victories.

In the North, the Big 3 from the Big 8 Conference will take the trip to Fresno as No. 4 Sacramento, No. 7 Santa Rosa and No. 13 San Joaquin Delta picked up second-round victories. Cabrillo, ranked No. 8 from the Coast Conference, complete the eight teams that will participate in the state tourney Nov. 30-Dec. 2 at Fresno Pacific University.

SOUTH REGIONAL RECAPS

Canyons (16-6) d. Irvine Valley (22-1), 30-26, 30-20, 15-30, 17-30, 15-13

Peaking at the right time, state No. 14 Canyons once again proved that rankings and undefeated streaks can sometimes take a backseat to plain determination. The Cougars shocked the volleyball world again, first taking a 2-game-0 lead, then rebounding from two decisive defeats in games 3 and 4, to upend No. 1 Irvine Valley's perfect season.

In the fifth game, Irvine led 6-4 before Canyons went on a 7-1 run thanks to three aces from All-SoCal selection Priscilla Bremer. IVC's All-American Chelsea Pavlik again brought the Lasers back with two of her match-high 31 kills that tied it 13-13. Two points separated two teams quest for the state tournament, but it was Canyons that survived on a pair of Irvine errors to close out the second-round playoff stunner.

Bremer put on a show with 16 kills, 16 digs, 7 blocks and 6 aces in a versatile effort. Also for Canyons, Caitlyn Ramirez had 14 kills, Bridgette Redmond recorded 34 digs, and setter Heather Seddon added 55 assists and 5 blocks.

For Irvine, All-SoCal setter Kelly Keating delivered 56 assists and Mari Guadagnini added 12 kills and 13 digs. Pavlik contributed 18 digs.

Opening State Tourney matchup: S1-Canyons v. N4 San Joaquin Delta

MORE SOUTH REGIONAL RECAPS

El Camino (27-1) d. Cuesta (20-4), 30-26, 24-30, 30-26, 30-15

El Camino felt it played flat in being eliminated at last year's Elite Eight, but the Warriors look like a team on a mission this year. The state's No. 2 team won its 26th consecutive match in beating No. 10 Cuesta in four games.

For El Camino, All-American Lauren Simmons scored 15 kills and 9 digs, while Kerry O'Brien led her team in kills for the second straight playoff match with 19. The player who made the most impact though was Marcella Hernandez, who had 18 kills and 6 blocks. All-State player Julie Coelho made 16 kills, Amy Rosser had 20 digs, and Tess Gellerman set 34 assists as Cuesta's fine season came to an end. The Cougars were the Western State Conference North Division champions.

El Camino won the South Coast Conference title for the seventh straight season.

Opening State Tourney matchup: S2-El Camino v. N3-Cabrillo

Golden West (20-4) d. San Diego Mesa (20-6), 30-19, 24-30, 30-21, 30-22

For Golden West fans, it must feel like an eternity since the Rustlers last made the tournament—2004. For the rest of the state, seeing Golden West, a team that won an amazing 12 straight state titles from 1993-2004, return to the Elite Eight might prove unsettling.

The Rustlers, the state's No. 3-ranked team, knocked off their second straight conference champion in downing No. 9 and Pacific Coast champ San Diego Mesa in four games. Golden West is led by All-SoCal middle blocker Taylor Cook and sophomore setter Jana-Lee Mays.

SD Mesa was paced by All-State selection Anne Vaughan.

Opening State Tourney matchup: S3-Golden West v. N2 Santa Rosa

Second Round-Golden West hosts San Diego Mesa

Fullerton (19-5) d. LA Pierce (26-4), 31-29, 30-22, 31-33, 30-24

No. 5 Fullerton might have finished third in the Orange Empire Conference, but its going to the state tourney after outlasting tough No. 6 LA Pierce in four games, two of which took extra points to decide. Pierce was last year's state runner-up.

For the winning Hornets, Nicole Coffey led the way with 18 kills, 3 aces, and 13 digs. Leah Haproff dropped down 15 kills while All-SoCal outside hitter Crisi Nihipali had 14 kills. Brooke Raynor tallied 18 digs and All-State player Gina Conley played her usual strong defense with 14 digs.

LA Pierce, the Western State South champions, had its string of three straight Final Eight appearances (2004-2006) end.

Opening State Tourney matchup: S4-Fullerton v. N1-Sacramento City

NORTH REGIONAL RECAPS

Sacramento City (23-3) d. Shasta (17-12), 30-18, 30-23, 30-25

The North region's top team and state No. 4-ranked Sacramento City hasn't been taxed in winning two straight playoff matches while advancing to its second straight Final Eight appearance. In this sweep, the Panthers knocked off No. 21 Shasta.

Sacramento was led by All-American Michelle Johnson with 11 kills and 12 digs and Jessica Trammell with 12 kills and 4 blocks. Kendall Eayrs added 9 kills and 5 blocks, while Nicole Sikich contributed 20 digs.

Opening State Tourney matchup: N1-Sacramento City v. S4-Fullerton

Santa Rosa (24-3) d. Fresno City (18-5), 30-17, 24-30, 30-22, 30-23

All-State setter Kaitlin Ferguson dished out 43 assists in helping 7th-ranked Santa Rosa Junior College down No. 16 Fresno City in four games. The Bear Cubs are making their first Final Eight trip since 2000.

All-NorCal selection Krista Mattos came through on defense with 25 digs. Gina Sbragia led the offense with 16 kills and Cassie Nelson added 12 kills.

For Fresno, the Central Valley Conference champions this year, All-State selection Lauren Manzo totaled 40 assists and 11 digs. Tanena Jackson scored 10 kills.

Opening State Tourney matchup: N2-Santa Rosa v. S3-Golden West

Cabrillo (23-2) d. Siskiyou (23-4), 30-28, 30-25, 30-26

While winning the Coast Conference South Division this year, No. 8 Cabrillo and North Region Coach of the Year Jessica Kaven relied heavily on All-State selection Leah Anthony and All-NorCal choice Bernadette Erlach. But in sweeping a steady No. 15 College of the Siskiyou, it was Cabrillo's other stars who shined.

Hayley Hall led the Seahawks with 16 kills and 20 digs and Phoebe Hettel had her second straight postseason double-digit kill performance with 14 kills. Setter Kristin Kenney added 43 assists. Erlach chipped in 6 blocks and Anthony 15 digs.

Cabrillo's defense totaled 72 digs overall to shut down the Golden Valley Conference champion Eagles. Like No. 7 Santa Rosa, Cabrillo is also making its first Elite Eight trip since 2000.

Siskiyou All-State middle blocker Jennifer Mendenhall was limited to 9 kills and Crislyn Chewing topped the Eagles with 10 kills.

Opening State Tourney matchup: N3-Cabrillo v. S2-El Camino

MORE NORTH REGIONAL RECAPS

San Joaquin Delta (20-7) d. Foothill (20-7), 24-30, 30-23, 30-22, 33-31

During Golden West's run of state titles, San Joaquin Delta was staying steady as the class of the North region. The No. 13 Mustangs saw their 11-year streak of conference titles end this season, but not their streak of Final Eight trips. For the ninth straight year, Delta advanced to the state tournament with a 4-game road win over No. 12 Foothill.

All-NorCal middle blocker Alisha Thomas slammed down 20 kills with 4 blocks to lead Delta, while Ashley Davidson added a team-high 9 blocks. Sophomore setter Stephanie Williamson contributed 46 assists and 14 digs. Gigi Terlouw defended well with 35 digs.

Foothill, the co-champs of the Coast North Division, lost on the Owls' home court despite Lori Maumasi scoring 15 kills and teammate Jordan Sanchez making 20 digs.

Of the eight teams that advanced to the Elite Eight, only three were conference champions in El Camino from the South and Cabrillo and Sacramento City from the North.

Opening State Tourney matchup: N4-San Joaquin Delta v. S1-Canyons

Recaps by Robert Lewis, CCCWVCA publicist/statistician