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CABRILLO SOARS TO NORCAL PLAYOFF WIN

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NORCAL JUNIOR COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL PLAYOFFS

SEAHAWKS SOAR

No. 1 Cabrillo makes short work of Yuba

By ANDREW MATHESON
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APTOS — It wasn't the prettiest of three-set victories for the Cabrillo College women's volleyball team on Tuesday night. Although, considering the Seahawks were shorthanded for two-thirds of their NorCal Regional match with visiting Yuba, a quick sweep was perhaps the best news possible.

No matter how it sometimes looked.



CABRILLO DEF. YUBA,
25-14, 25-14, 25-23

SATURDAY'S GAME:

Sacramento City College at Cabrillo
TIME: 7 p.m.

Outside hitter **Tori Bozzo** picked apart the 49ers from the left side toward a match-high 10 kills, sophomore setter **Brooke Carroll** dished out 37 assists, and top-seeded Cabrillo never relented against No. 16 Yuba en route to a 25-14, 25-14, 25-23 first-round victory in Aptos.

Summer Mitchell had nine kills, seven digs, two aces and a pair of blocks for the Seahawks, who will now host No. 8 Sacramento City College [17-9] in the NorCal

second round at Cabrillo College at 7 p.m. Saturday.

The Seahawks [26-1] were without starting middle blocker **Sierra Clark** for the second and third sets after the sophomore landed hard on her previously injured left knee during warm-ups. She was held out as a precaution.

"I'm back now, 100 percent," said Clark, who suffered ACL and MCL injuries to her left knee last year and subsequently missed the 2010 postseason.

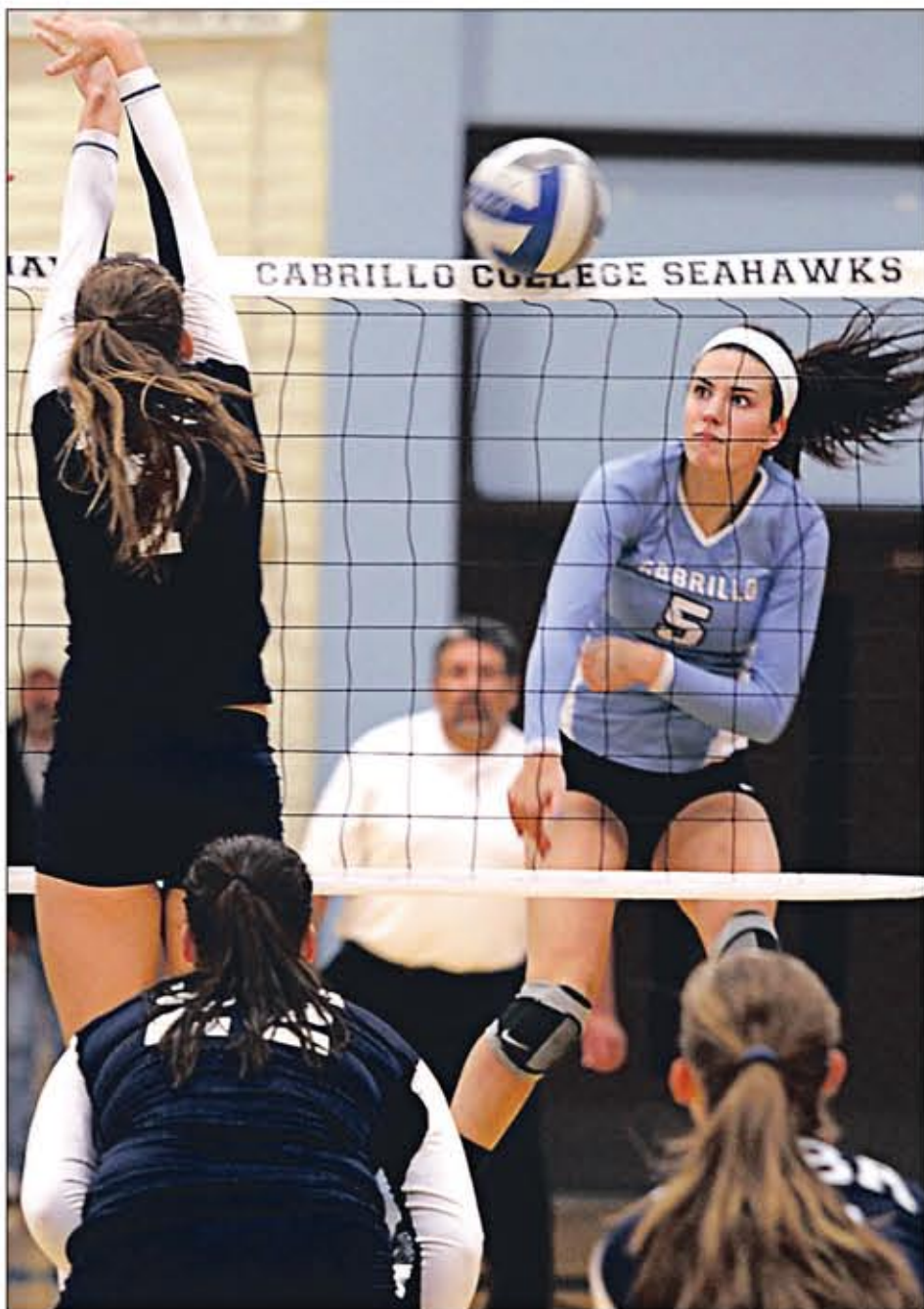
"She's fine," added head coach **Gabby Houston**. "We were just like, if we can win without her playing, then we're going to save her for semis."

"We've done it before."

Wearing a brace on her knee, Clark subbed into Game 1 against Yuba before coming out and having trainers inspect her prior injury. The hole up front forced Cabrillo to alter its substitutes against Yuba, though.

"It was a little funky at first. But I think we stepped it up without her playing," Carroll said. "We caught up

SEE SEAHAWKS ON D3



ABOVE: Cabrillo College outside hitter **Tori Bozzo**, a sophomore out of Salinas, knocks down a point for the Seahawks in their NorCal Regional playoff game on Tuesday night.

LEFT: **Summer Mitchell** keeps the ball in play for No. 1-seeded Cabrillo as it defeats No. 16 Yuba on Tuesday.

SHMUEL THALER/SENTINEL PHOTOS

SEAHAWKS

Continued from D1

to it."

Although experiencing some momentary lapses through the first two games, the Seahawks didn't really battle adversity until Game 3, when Yuba jumped ahead to 10-3 behind the serving of **Katelyn Olson** and some hitting errors by Cabrillo.

Olson finished with three aces in the match, while **Katie Reiland** had five kills and two blocks.

Houston called a timeout to regroup her team while trailing by eight points — Cabrillo's largest deficit of the night by far — and the Seahawks responded behind **Mitchell** and **Bozzo**.

Cabrillo closed the gap with an 8-1 run until it was tied at 11-all, then took the lead for good at 15-14 following a Yuba service error.

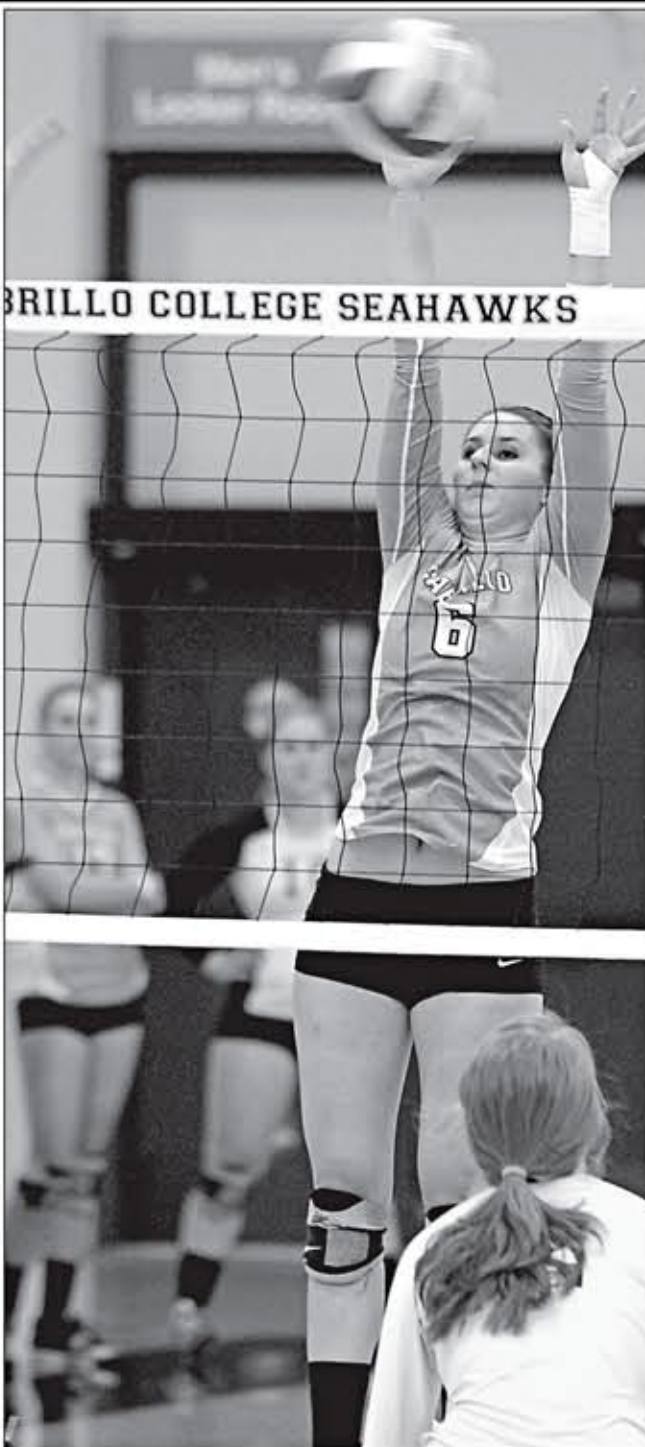
"We did all right. It was up and down through some spots, and, unfortunately, they were a little bit streaky," said Yuba head coach **Greg Chapman**, whose team drove four hours from Marysville to play against Cabrillo. "In the past, it's been up and down, but we've been able to cut the losing spots a little bit shorter."

The setter **Carroll** made sure Cabrillo kept its hot streaks going by focusing her efforts toward the left side, looking to take advantage of **Bozzo's** massive vertical leap.

"Tori's got like a 9-7 vertical, so she can hit over the smaller setters," said **Carroll**, who noted the defensive holes Yuba had when **Bozzo** lined up on the left side. "They just kind of rotated up and she took advantage of it going down that line."

Bozzo had three blocks to go along with her 10 kills, while **Kaitlyn Shaug** provided nine kills and four blocks.

Clark, of Felton, said Tuesday's match with Yuba was important toward the team's



Setter **Brooke Carroll** extends to block a shot for the Seahawks on Tuesday night in the first round of the NorCal playoffs.

development of peaking at the right moment. After all, as the top-ranked team in Northern California and No. 2 team in the state, the Seahawks have every intention of reaching the state tournament for a second year in a row.

Clark, too, has every inten-

tion of playing in it as well.

"I want nothing more than that. Last year, we got so close, and having to watch that [from the sidelines] was terrible," Clark said. "I want this, and the whole team wants this. This is the year we can do it."