1 -

2 -

3 -

0.137

0.280

0.244.

-0.167

University of the Pacific vs. Florida State University

DATE: 12-05-1993 ATTENDANCE: 625 LOM: 1:50 REFEREES: Bobby Clarke, Sue Lemaire

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NCAA TOURNAMENT

Rard sparkles in otherwise gloomy day for Florida State

The Lady Seminoles lose the NCAA Tournament second-round game to Pacific in four games.

By Noell Barnidge DEMOCRAT WRITER

Franci Rard, a 5-foot-7 outside hitter with a 28-inch vertical leap, played the game of her life on Sunday afternoon, but it was still not enough to catapult Florida State out of the NCAA Tournament's second round.

No. 11 Pacific defeated No. 25 FSU 15-6, 15-17, 15-6, 15-9 before a crowd of 625 at Tully Gym.

Pacific (21-9) used its height advantage — the Tigers had eight players at least 6-feet, compared to FSU's two — to power past the Lady Seminoles. FSU (24-10) was making its first second-round appearance in eight NCAA Tournaments.

"We knew they would be bigger than we were, so we hit off the block a lot," said FSU coach Cecile Reynaud, who has 499 career wins in her 18 years at FSU. "They started putting two people on Vicki (Zinkil, a 6-foot-1 middle hitter) and that shut down one offensive option for us."

Zinkil, a senior, recorded 21 kills and a career-high six assists. Senior setter Jen McCall posted 66 assists and junior outside hitter Luiza Ramos had 25 kills. Rard had a career-high 28 kills, with 24 of them coming in the first two games.

"(Franci Rard) was awesome. That had to be a career performance for her. She was a star to-night," Pacific coach John Dunning said. "In the third game, we started blocking differently because of her."

FSU plays tough

After Pacific cruised past the Lady Seminoles 15-6 in the first game, the Tigers, who had won all of their games when they captured their second match, lost thanks to FSU's Rard.

FSU went ahead 3-0 in the second game on three kills from Rard, but the Tigers cut the lead to 1. From there, Rard took over again and, despite being double teamed at the net by 6-footers, recorded four more kills.

"I waited long enough to keep the ball in front of me and I was able to hit it off their hands and out of bounds," said Rard, a senior. "Knowing it was our last game in our gym, I was just thrilled to be out there."

Zinkil added another kill and FSU led 8-2, but Pacific battled back to tie the game twice and gain the lead at 14-13 by playing five of its eight 6-footers at one point. FSU won the second game when McCall and Zinkil teamed for the final 2 points.

"To come back and stay in that game the way we did, it was very fatiguing," Reynaud said. "I thought if we lost that second game, that would be it for us. I thought we would do better in the third game. We had more kills, more assists and more digs than they did. We needed to serve and block more than we did, that was the difference."