Marion sweeps to state volleyball meet

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WASHINGTON, Iowa - The Marion High School volleyball team cruised to a 25-12, 25-14, 25-9 victory over Fort Madison in the Class 4A regional finals Tuesday night and earned its second straight trip to the state tournament.

Marion (31-8) will face Lewis Central (32-5) in the quarterfinals of the state tournament at 6 p.m. Tuesday on Court 1 at the U.S. Cellular Center. The Indians reached the semifinals of the state tournament a year ago.

Fort Madison committed 17 errors in the first set Tuesday night in a match played in Washington, about halfway between the two schools. Marion played a strong game on offense in the second set for a 2-0 lead, then rallied from a 7-4 deficit in the third set to post a convincing victory.

Olivia Frazier and Isabella Sade led Marion with nine kills and Alyssa Thomas had six. Caitlyn Smith rolled up 26 assists and was 14-for-14 on her serves with one ace. Haley Dullea was 13-for-14 in serving with three aces.

Smith finished with 10 digs and Tanea Westhoff had nine.

This will be Marion's sixth trip to the state tournament, all under head coach Roxanne Paulsen. The Indians were state champs in 2008.