Errors hurt Seahawks in loss to Canada

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APTOS — Several times Cabrillo College nearly made it out of an inning unscathed, but mistakes led to a 4-2 Coast Conference-Pacific loss to Canada College Thursday.

“We didn’t stick to our game plan,” said Cabrillo head coach Bob Kittle. “We made tons of mistakes like we have been doing the whole year.”

The Seahawks (15-13, 8-8), who are currently ranked as the No. 10 team in Northern California, started making errors as early as the third inning. With two-outs and nobody on base, Canada shortstop Dante Biagini reached base on an error by Seahawks shortstop Scott Akrop.

During the next at-bat, starting pitcher Matt Palazzo threw a wild-pitch that allowed Biagini to get to third base. Biagini then scored when rightfielder Justin Fink doubled to put the Colts on the board first 1-0.

In the top of the sixth and the game tied 2-2, Canada got their first two batters on, but nearly didn’t get a run across. Palazzo sent down the next two batters and faced third baseman Chris Miguel. He hit a hard grounder to Akrop at shortstop who had trouble fielding the ball cleanly. Two Colts scored as a result and they took a 4-2 lead.

Palazzo went seven innings while allowing three earned runs and striking out six.

“I think Matt did great,” said leftfielder Jake Raynald. “A couple unfortunate hits led to a few more runs than we had expected.”

Raynald nearly put the Seahawks on the board first. With one out in the bottom of the second inning, he hit a triple over the left fielder, who nearly made a leaping catch. The Seahawks weren’t able to take advantage and left Raynald stranded.

Colts starting pitcher Josh Eclavea allowed two earned runs on four hits and four walks in eight innings.

After allowing a run in the second inning, the Seahawks didn’t waste any time and immediately answered. Akrop hit a single that scored freshman Luke Tokunga from second base.

It wasn’t tied long before Canada retook the lead 2-1 in the top of the third after cleanup hitter Randy Ventura singled right up the middle to score Gaudencio Lucca, who had reached base after getting hit by a pitch earlier in the inning.

For a second straight inning, the Seahawks matched the Colts and tied it up. Raynald led off the inning with a single and then scored off a single by freshman third baseman Zane Gelpman.

After falling behind 4-2 in the sixth, the Seahawks couldn’t get more than one guy on at a time and didn’t get a runner into scoring position until Gelpman doubled with two outs in the bottom of the ninth.

Colts closer Ryan Cortez didn’t have any issues besides Gelpman. He got freshman Mike Mine to ground out to end the game.

The Seahawks face Hartnell at home on Saturday at noon.