**JC BASEBALL**

Disappointed Seahawks edged by 2014 state finalist Delta

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APTS » Cabrillo College’s baseball team put a scare into Delta—a defending state finalist and the No. 1 ranked program in NorCal—Thursday at The Nest.

But a scare wasn’t enough to please coach Bob Kittle or his No. 12 Seahawks. They wanted a win.

THE SCORE

DELT A 4, CABRILLO 3
Up Next: Cabrillo at Delta
When: Saturday, 1 p.m.

“I’m terribly disappointed,” Kittle said. “We should have won the game.”

Several little miscues proved costly in the 4-3 loss.

One pitch after Cabrillo pinch hitter Michael Mine drew a two-out walk on four straight pitches to load the bases in the bottom of the ninth inning, leadoff hitter JQ Folena popped out to center field on the first pitch he saw. It was the last of four innings in which the Seahawks stranded runners in scoring position.

Cabrillo’s hitting woes started in the first. Trailing 1-0, Angel Sanchez hit a one-out double and was left stranded on second base.

“We left a lot of chances out there,” Kittle said. “We’re not hitting well with runners in scoring position. And in a game like this, you have very few chances. Not getting anything in the first was a huge momentum kill for the first half of the game.”

Seahawks pitcher Devon Loomis threw three innings in relief of starter Ryan Capozza and took the loss, which drops Ca-

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brillo to 6-4.

Delta (9-0) hosts the Seahawks on Saturday at 1 p.m. in Stockton.

“It’s always a battle coming over here and playing these guys,” said Delta coach Reed Peters. “They always play us tough. ... It’s hard being No. 1. I hated it, being No. 1 in the preseason poll. Everyone’s coming after you and you have nowhere to go but down. But the kids have responded well.”

Delta left-handed starting pitcher Cameron Avila-Looper — a former University of Arizona commit who was selected in the 29th round of MLB’s 2014 First-Year Player Draft by Minnesota — allowed just one hit and two base runners over the first five innings.

Down 2-0 in the bottom of the sixth, Lucas Hewitt hit a two-out single to score Folena and Sanchez to tie the score. Hewitt advanced to third on a stolen base and wild pitch, but a strikeout by Scott Akrop ended the inning.

“We kept up with them, kept the pressure up,” Hewitt said.

Avila-Looper lasted seven innings.

Delta re-took the lead in the seventh after Nelson Muniz hit a two-out double and scored on a fielding error at shortstop. The Mustangs added an insurance run in the ninth, when Kris Bartlett and Zack Perugi reached on singles and were moved up a base on Collin Theroux’s sacrifice bunt. Muniz’s sacrifice fly drove in Bartlett with the eventual winning run.

For more on this game, visit santacruzsentinel.com/sports.