Junior College Football: Cabrillo 23, Hartnell 16

Cabrillo shocks Coast Conference rival Hartnell

Concha-Foley helps Seahawks snap losing streak

By ANDREW MATHESON

APTOS — The Cabrillo College football team was expected to struggle Saturday night during its Coast Conference South Division opener against visiting Hartnell. Limited to a touchdown or less in three games this season, the Seahawks were without starting quarterback Jerry Alvarez and were up against a formidable opponent in the Panthers, ranked No. 16 in Northern California.

But backup signal-caller Roberto Concha-Foley came through by running for a team-high 44 yards and throwing for 219 yards and a touchdown. That, combined with the Seahawks' solid defensive effort, allowed them to snap a three-game losing streak with a 23-16 victory.

Concha-Foley finished with 17-of-32 passing and hit receiver Jake Pruger six times for 90 yards and a score. Dylan Jackson added 28 yards on 13 carries, while Devin Grimes had 28 yards on 10 carries.

Cabrillo improves to 1-0 in the division and 2-0 overall, and will visit Monterey Peninsula College at 6 p.m. Saturday.

It was a key victory for the Seahawks, who had lost three straight contests entering the game. And it comes over a Panthers team that had defeated Reedley — a team Cabrillo lost to earlier this season 58-7 — 27-20 just last week.

Leading 17-13 at the break, Cabrillo couldn't find the end zone in the second half, instead converting just two field goals from kicker Matt Burke from 27 and 45 yards.

But Cabrillo didn't let Hartnell [3-3, 0-1] find the end zone either.

Trailing 20-16 midway through the fourth, the Panthers drove deep into Cabrillo territory and had third-and-goal from the 7 when quarterback Josh Correa threw an interception in the end zone. The ball was picked off by Derick Delucchi.

Later, after Burke narrowly missed a 32-yarder wide left on the Seahawks' ensuing possession, Hartnell set up near midfield to march down for the go-ahead score. But Cabrillo's Chris Jackson stripped Hartnell running back Alvin Jelsk on a run play, and the ball was recovered by Terry Wynne.

The Seahawks then took five minutes off the clock before Burke connected on a 45-yarder to push Cabrillo ahead by seven points with less than three minutes left.