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## WOMEN'S JUNIOR COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Cabrillo  
wins home  
opener

Seahawks struggle early, top Napa

By ANDREW MATHESON

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APTOS — Forgive the Cabrillo College women's basketball team if, in the first half, it lacked much offensive power, so to speak.

The team's home opener with visiting Napa Valley College was actually canceled for roughly 20 minutes Wednesday night after an electrical outage left the junior college without power prior to the 7 p.m. tip.

"But then," Cabrillo head coach Kristy Netto said, "the lights came on."

So, too, did Cabrillo's offense.

After a sputtering first half in which it shot just 27 percent from the field, the Seahawks exploded in the second half behind 43 percent shooting and a game-high 28 points from Laura Johnston as Cabrillo routed Napa Valley 64-43 in nonconference play.

Isabel Concha-Foley contributed a double-double effort with 17 points and 20 rebounds while Cristina Locatelli added 11 points.

Johnston paced the team's second-half effort, though, scoring 22 of the Seahawks' 39 points. Cabrillo [2-2] led by as many as 22 points late in the contest after narrowly leading 25-16 at halftime.

"I think everything just clicked," said Johnston, a 5-foot-10 sophomore from Aptos. "It was our first [home] game and we had the jitters in the first half."

And — for a brief moment — the Seahawks believed they weren't even going to play. The game was officially canceled at about 5 p.m., after the Cabrillo campus lost power due to high winds.

Napa Valley began to turn around on the highway and the refs were about to leave the gymnasium when power was restored.

"Everyone went to go get taped. I went to go get the refs. It was crazy," Netto said. "It was an emotional roller coaster."

Napa Valley didn't arrive until about 6:20 p.m., and the game was pushed back to a 7:10 tip. The

## SEAHAWKS

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delay, as well as the on-again, off-again schedule, led to struggling offenses by both sides.

Napa Valley didn't shoot a field goal until four minutes into the game and didn't score until nearly six minutes in. But the slow start by the visitors only led to a 5-0 start by Cabrillo, which was finding its shot.

The problem was, the shot simply wasn't dropping.

"I think it probably caught us off-guard," Johnston said of outage. "We came here ready for a game, and then the game

was canceled. We had to turn it back on and it caught us off-guard a little bit."

Still, the Seahawks garnered a nine-point halftime lead behind their rebounding prowess. They took 16 more shots than Napa Valley by halftime, 24 more for the game — much of which was a product of Cabrillo's rebounding on both the offensive and defensive glass.

Napa Valley was often limited to one shot on offense, whereas the Seahawks sometimes had three, even four chances at a basket.

"We are emphasizing rebounding," Netto said. "Our goal is for everyone every game to get one more rebound and one less turnover."

"We still had too many turnovers. But we stepped it up with our rebounding, so it balanced out."

Cabrillo had 24 turnovers in the game. Napa Valley had 23.

The Seahawks' Annabelle Balcazar had 13 boards to go along with six points and six assists while Kelsey Heard led Napa Valley with 17 points on 5-of-9 shooting.

Cabrillo will open an eight-team tournament against Taft at Hartnell College at 2 p.m. Friday.

"It's going to be tough," Johnston said. "This was a good win for us, but we definitely have to turn it up about 10 notches. And we definitely can't have as many turnovers."

CABRILLO 64,  
NAPA VALLEY 43

**FRIDAY'S  
GAME:** Cabrillo  
vs. Taft  
at Hartnell  
Tournament  
**TIME:** 2 p.m.

SEE SEAHAWKS ON D3