Seahawks stun defending champs in OT

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SAN FRANCISCO — There won’t be a repeat state men’s junior college basketball champion this year — thanks to Cabrillo College.

The eighth-seeded Seahawks ended No. 1 seed City College of San Francisco’s bid for a repeat with a thrilling 76-70 in overtime in San Francisco on Wednesday night.

“We’ve had faith in each other all along. We are the definition of what a team is supposed to be,” Cabrillo sophomore point guard Tyler Velasquez said. “Everyone believed in each other and we wanted it more. We knew we could do it.”

Velasquez had a game-high 23 points and added five assists and five steals in the victory.

Cabrillo — champions of the Coast Conference South — ended CCSF’s 22-game winning streak and in the process ran its own streak to 16 straight triumphs.

The Seahawks (21-3) made a statement on the game’s first possession as sophomore forward Thomas Pierce scored on a thunderous dunk that sent the small, but loud Seahawks fan contingent into a frenzy.

“Great coaching, what can I tell you,” said Cabrillo guard Aaron Short. “Coach (Tony Marcopulos) puts us in great positions to succeed. “We always felt we could beat them and it wasn’t just this game we feel we can beat anybody.”

The first half was tightly contested as neither team led by more than four points. Cabrillo took a 34-33 lead into halftime behind Short’s 12 first-half points.

Short — who was held scoreless in the second half — came through by scoring seven of his 19 points in overtime. That including two clutch free throws to put the Seahawks up by six with 11 seconds to go and ultimately ice the game.