Cabrillo cuts it close  

Seahawks fend off Gavilan to win in 10 innings  

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GILROY — It took a few harrowing moments for the Cabrillo College baseball team to escape Gavilan College with a victory Monday night. 

The Seahawks' comfortable lead went away in the seventh inning. Its 12-run cushion in the ninth also wasn't enough. But thanks to a hit batter and a walk, Cabrillo defeated the Rams 9-6 in 10 innings to get its seventh win in the 2012 Coast Conference season. 

Cabrillo finally got the job done in the 10th inning when Vince Augustaze and Justin Sobirach reached base on a hit and a walk, respectively. 

After a sacrifice, Matt Horton was intentionally walked to load the bases. 

Derek Pahling was ahead in the count 3-1 when a pitch hit him in the back, forcing home the go-ahead run. 

Kevin Hatch had a chance to break it open, but he was walked, forcing in another run. The Seahawks (10-6, 7-2 Coast Conference) were salivating as they had a two-run lead and Sergio Sanchez, who destroyed a ball for a home run, on deck. 

Online Pictures from Monday's game can be found at register-pajaronian.com. 

earlier in the game, up to bat. However, he hit into a double play, and Cabrillo had to settle for just the two-run lead. 

Much like the rest of the game, Gavilan didn't go down quietly, getting the first two runners on base. After a fielder's choice, the game ended when Cal Tashiro grounded into a double play fielded by shortstop Horton. 

"We played hard, and we played hard," Sanchez said. "If you love the game, it doesn't matter how long it goes." 

It could have been over in the ninth, as Eric Vegas hit a two-out single to bring home Hatch and Sanchez to give Cabrillo a 6-4 advantage. 

Gavilan responded in the bottom of the ninth. With two outs, Kenny Hall hit a double to center field that scored Tashiro. 

The next batter, Chris Bradley, was down to his final strike before hitting a blooper over the third baseman that brought home hatch to tie the game. 

The game was originally scheduled for March 17, but rain got in the way. Monday was the first of four games this week for the Seahawks. 

"We'll be fine," said Cabrillo coach Bob Kittle. "We're deep on the hill so we should be OK. Cabrillo never trailed in the game, taking a 5-4 lead when Sanchez took a 1-0 pitch deep to left field. The home run is a welcome sign, considering that Cabrillo's home field isn't the most ideal place to hit one deep. "I'm not (it the pitch) and I

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didn't miss it," said Sanchez, who finished 2-for-4 while getting hit twice. "I've been getting good swings on the ball, and that's what the coaches preach. Now it happened to be gone." 

Garcia got one run back in the bottom of the third, but Cabrillo answered in the top of the fourth inning when Hatch scored on a single by Vegas. 

Cabrillo was rolling until the sixth, when Gavilan scored three times on a single and two doubles. 

In the eighth, the Rams eyed the lead when Bradley and Colby Lee were on first and third with two outs. 

Lydell Martin had a 1-0 count when he hit the ball barely seven feet in the air and just a couple of feet away from home plate. Sanchez took off his catcher's mitt and extended his glove out to catch it and get Cabrillo out of the inning. 

"You have to be ready for anything," Sanchez said. "Since I'm always at the plate, I don't get nervous." 

Four Cabrillo batters had two hits. 

"I thought we left a lot of runners on base, and Gavilan came back and didn't quit," Kittle said. 

The Seahawks are 2-0 in extra-inning games this season. They head to Endicott City today to face Canada.