Cabrillo holds on for one-run win

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APTOS — The Cabrillo College baseball team allowed one hit after the fifth inning and made a one-run lead stick as it defeated Modesto Junior College 4-3 on Tuesday afternoon.

Cabrillo got all of its runs in the first three innings, including two in the third. On a hit-and-run with one out, Eric Vegas singled to bring home J.Q. Folena and give Cabrillo a 3-2 lead.

Steven Nakahama then walked and got caught stealing while Nick MacFarland was at the plate. MacFarland then singled Vegas to third base, bringing up Erick Columbus with a chance to do major damage.

Instead, a double steal was called and executed to perfection. MacFarland safely got to second, and Vegas raced home to give Cabrillo a 4-2 lead.

Modesto scored a run in the fourth inning to close the game to 4-3. The Cabrillo pitching then put the clamps on the game, allowing two hits the rest of the way.

In the sixth, Cabrillo turned to Julian Garcia to take the mound. He immediately allowed a triple. Garcia shook it off and got an infield fly. Then, Garcia got a line-drive double play to end Modesto's threat.

Garcia pitched the sixth and seventh, while Matt Deane pitched a perfect eighth. Mike Murano closed out the ninth.

not allowing the ball to get out of the infield.

“Our bullpen is tough, and that’s why we’re going to be in games this season,” said Cabrillo head coach Bob Kittle.

The win boosted Cabrillo’s record to 4-3 overall. The squad has won two in a row.

Tuesday’s game was the first at home since it won two of three against 19th-ranked Santa Barbara Community College to start the season.

Now, it’s Modesto which the Seahawks will see frequently. The two teams will play twice more, today and Friday, over in Santa Maria.

It appeared the team’s first battle on Tuesday was going to be a slugfest. Cabrillo starting pitcher Zach Settles was the first to calm the waters, as he picked up the win. Settles pitched five innings, allowing just three runs and not letting the nine hits sting too much.

“I knew he’d settle down,” Kittle said of Settles. “Zach is a contact guy, so they’re going to put the ball in play.”

MacFarland went 2 for 4 with an RBI, while Drake Yoshioka had two hits.