CABRILLO COLLEGE SOFTBALL

HAWKS SET SIGHTS HIGH

By TONY NUNEZ

APRIL 5, 2014 - 14TH YEAR - NO. 14

Cabrillo College softball teams look to the sky as third baseman Valerie Silva (11) hits a pop fly during the Sea Hawks softball game over a pop fly during the Sea Hawks softball game on Thursday in Aptos. Cabrillo won 8-2. Below: Cabrillo infielders gather around pitcher Taylor Tesner, right.

CABRILLO

From page 91

Your Home Column (127.71 KB), I and the help of three other All-CAB-most selection, the Sea Hawks are right back in the state to prepare for conference champion, and make another run at the state championship.

Your Home Column, Ballinger. Even when we come out not that easy, we just figure our way to it. We like to do it at the beginning of the season, and use it to make it to the playoffs, and win playoffs and go to state. I'm like, you got to do it, if you want to get on and that's the close of that.

Incredibly, even before that, this year's group of characters on the Sea Hawks roster had already come together and formed a team.

"We all really gel well together," said freshman pitcher Taylor Tesner. "We alloyed the field and when we're on the field, we're a family."

And a tight one at that. No matter where they go, the Sea Hawks are a tight-knit group and cherish one out of the dugout to support their teammates.

And they're not gone. They're all specific to the players at the plate and exist to fit their personality.

Like the players on the team, they all have their own

"We all have our little quirks," Bryant said, "and we all have strong personalities, but we have that trust in each other and it makes it easier to play together."

From calling pitches, 5-foot 2-inch Bryant a "bust" in physical terms, to spinning in the center of the world while wrapping the world Miss and Miss for freshman outfielder Mikah Cifaretto, the women know each other well and they play for one another.

"Everyone has each other's back," Bryant said.

They get to practice an hour early on things they need to tweak, but mostly, they have fun while with their extended softball family.

In the field they get to join in and learn from the world of the team, get up to the plate, and get up to the plate.

"I've been going there since the end of the season," Tesner said. "It's all different."

"Since we step on that line, it's the dugout," Tesner said. "It's a whole different game. We can have fun and let loose in the dugout, but once you get out on the field it's all business."

And business has been good for Cabrillo, so far.

The Sea Hawks are a full game ahead of San Jose City College for the top spot in the conference,

Cabrillo head coach Krisy Ballinger and with a smile.

But the way it looks like it, and her girls would have it no other way.

"We're all going out and having fun," sophomore centerfielder All-Sea

Ballinger said. "We all have that respect, and we all bring something different, and we're all playing for fun. We're playing for each other, not just ourselves.

That bizarre formula — a team to some teams — has led the defending Conference South champions to the top spot in the conference at 0.8 (22.0 overall) with five games left to play.

Despite losing the hitting and pitching prowess of CC South Player of the

See CABRILLO, page 82

Above the Cabrillo softball team looks to the sky as third baseman Valerie Silva (11) hits a pop fly during the Sea Hawks Coast Conference opener against De Anza Thursday in Aptos. Cabrillo won 8-2. Below: Cabrillo infielders gather around pitcher Taylor Tesner, right.