

Game 5

Mt. Sac Makes Its Way to the Championship Bracket, Defeats Cosumnes River Again

Day two of the 2010 Softball State Championship Tournament ended Saturday as Mt. Sac and Cosumnes River faced off for the second time in this tournament in the loser's bracket. Cosumnes River put plenty of runners in scoring position but stranded most as the Mounties won 7-4 to move into the Championship bracket. Cosumnes River ends its season while Mt. Sac will attempt to win its fifth state championship tomorrow needing two straight wins against Cypress.

The Mounties kicked off the offense in the first with four runs, all unearned thanks in part to a run double by sophomore left fielder Korinne Randazzo. CRC cut into the lead with two unearned runs of its own to cut the lead to 4-2.

The Hawks inched closer with back-to-back doubles by freshman pitcher Morgan Hayes and sophomore third baseman Emily Richardson to cut the Mt. Sac lead to one. Mt. Sac gained some distance with two in the bottom of the third including an RBI single by sophomore third baseman Crystal Venegas. A sacrifice fly by All-State shortstop Samantha Sloniker gave Mt. Sac its seventh run.

CRC loaded the bases in the top of the sixth with just one out and the tying run at bat but stranded all three to remain four down. The Hawks stranded eight runners in scoring position over the night. CRC had its last shot in the seventh and put together a two-out rally including an RBI single by freshman first baseman Alicia Cook. CRC's offense ended there with Mt. Sac taking the win.

Sophomore starter Carissa Bronson earned the win for Mt. Sac with five innings of work to improve to 7-4. Freshman reliever Alexa Limon pitched the final three innings striking out three for her fourth save of the year. Freshman starter Morgan Hayes suffered the loss for CRC falling to 11-10. Freshman reliever Alejandrina Garcia pitched the final 3.2 innings for the Hawks striking out four and allowing just three hits and no walks.

Mt. Sac (38-12) moves on to tomorrow's championship round to take on Cypress at noon. The Mounties are chasing Cypress's record five state championships and must win two straight to tie the record. Cypress defeated the Mounties 2-1 earlier today. Cosumnes River (31-16) finishes its season as the third place team in the state.