



Citrus College

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Owl Athletic Release
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Cerritos Win's Softball State Championship

Riverside, CA (Softball) -- For the first time since 1978, the Cerritos College Falcons have captured a California Community College Athletic Association Softball State Championships. The Falcons completed an undefeated tournament run with a 5-1 win over Mt. SAC in the state championship game on Sunday afternoon.

Elimination Game

Sacramento City vs Mt. SAC -- With a second straight state title game trip on the line, the Mt. SAC Mounties came through when it mattered the most, scoring a 3-1 victory over Sacramento City College on Sunday afternoon. It's their second straight trip to the championship game and their third in the last four years.

It was only a matter of time until the Mounties broke the game wide open. Mt. SAC put runners on third base in each of the first three innings, but fell short each and every time. Things finally turned around in the fifth however as Missy Mendoza's sacrifice fly in the top of the inning drove in Francesca Gonzales from third, giving Mt. SAC a 1-0 lead.

While the Mounties were poised to strike in practically every inning, the same couldn't be said of the Panthers. Sacramento City didn't get a runner past second base in the first four innings of the game. The Panthers were able to answer in the fifth however, with a RBI single back up the middle off the bat of Kristina Serna, but the game wouldn't be tied for long.

After getting sat down in order in the sixth, Mt. SAC came back swinging in the seventh when they added two more runs to take back the lead. One of those runs, would come thanks to an RBI double to left-center field from winning pitcher Shelair Rowell. Minutes after helping the Mounties grab the lead, Rowell set down the Panthers in order in the bottom of the seventh, ending the game and ensuring the Mounties spot in the title game.

Their meeting with Cerritos will be the second meeting this weekend, and the second straight year that the two teams have met in the State Championship game. The Falcons took last night's game 5-2, but the Mounties won last years state title with a 4-0 win over Cerritos.

Championship Game

Cerritos vs Mt. SAC -- If revenge is a dish served best cold, than the Falcons of Cerritos College were practically a glacier in the glaring sun of Riverside, CA on Sunday afternoon. After losing to Mt. SAC last year in the state championship game 4-0, the Falcons avenged it this year with a 5-1 win over the Mounties in Sunday's title game.

Despite ending the game up by four runs, the Falcons struggled to start off the game as they were sat down in order through the first three innings. While the Falcons were trying to regain their stroke, the Mounties were coming up just short, as they failed to score after having the bases loaded in the second and another runner in scoring position in the third.

After coming up just shy of getting in a run in the bottom of the third, Cerritos made Mt. SAC pay with five runs in the top of the fourth. With runners on first and second, the Falcons got their first score thanks to a single by State Tournament Most Valuable Player Jessica Navarro.

The Falcons would then follow that up with a double to right center by Nadine Garcia, and another single to left field this time by Jennifer Salas. Before all was said and done the Falcons had a 5-0 lead that would be a hard climb for even the Mounties.

Trailing by five runs, Mt. SAC was only able to muster a single run in the bottom of the fifth thanks to a solo home-run to dead center field from third baseman Liz Javier. After that though, Navarro took over facing only one runner above the minimum the rest of the way, helping guide the Falcons to the State Championship.

Cerritos would finish off their magical season with a 41-5 record, while ace Jessica Navarro ran her record to 26-5. Navarro continued her dominate season in this tournament going 4-0 with a 1.12 ERA, and doing the same at the plate batting .500 with 5 runs driven in.

All-Tournament Team

Tournament Most Valuable Player – Jessica Navarro (Cerritos)

Tournament Most Valuable Pitcher – Mandy Pongs (Mt. SAC)

Golden Glove Award – Francesca Gonzales (Mt. SAC)

Best Hitter Award – Janel Guadagno (Cerritos)

All Tournament Team

P Amanda Monday (Sacramento City)

P Alyssa Freight (Cypress)

P Jessica Navarro (Cerritos)

P Shelair Rowell (Mt. SAC)

C Kristin Serna (Sacramento City)

C Nadine Garcia (Cerritos)

1B Stephanie Lomeli (Cerritos)

IF Christina Robello (San Jose City)

IF Charlotte Honciano (Sacramento City)

IF Jenel Guadagno (Cerritos)
IF Amanda Schuler (Shasta)
OF Jennifer Salas (Cerritos)
OF Alicia Esquivido (Sacramento City)
OF Vanessa Samudio (Long Beach City)
OF Kayla Van Dieren (Cypress)
OF Katie Zauner (Siskiyou)
UTIL Mandy Pongs (Mt. SAC)

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