



MENDOCINO-LAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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EAGLES START THE MONTH WITH WINS

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On Tuesday, playing on the road on Election Day, the on-the-field results were quite favorable for the Mendocino College Eagles softball and baseball teams.

Playing their first games of the month, both teams pulled out the heavy lumber (actually metal), with each team putting up big offensive numbers, including double-digit runs scored in each game played.

The results showed the Eagles getting wins in all three games played, two by the softball team and one by the baseball team.

The Lady Eagles, playing on the road at Marysville vs. the host Yuba College 49ers in the Bay Valley Conference opener for both teams, took both ends of the doubleheader by scores of 14-0 and 18-6.

The Eagles baseball team, playing a fellow BVC member Solano College in a non-conference game, got a huge come-from-behind win over the Falcons in extra innings, scoring 7 runs in the ninth to tie the game 3 runs in the top of the 10th to beat Solano 14-11.

The Eagles softball team was coming off a disappointing non-conference double blanking at home on Saturday by Butte College, losing both ends of that doubleheader, the first game 8-0 and the second game 9-0.

The Eagles got just 5 hits in the first game and 2 hits in the second game, while Butte had 12 and 11 hits respectively. The Eagles committed a total of 5 errors in the games, resulting in 8 unearned runs scored by Butte.

Sometimes the best remedy for games like that is to chalk it up as “just one of those days” that all teams will have from time to time and endeavor to play better in the next games.

Whether that was the case or not on Tuesday, or the Eagles were just that much better than the host team, or a combination of both, whatever, they jumped on the 49ers early and often and never let up.

In the top of the first of Game 1 of the doubleheader, the Eagles scored 4 runs then 6 more in the second. They added single runs in the third and fourth and 2 in the fifth, the final inning, the game being called on the 8-run lead



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“mercy rule.”

Eagles pitcher sophomore Jamie Johnstone allowed just 2 hits in the game and no walks. Her teammates collected a total of 15 hits. Every Eagles batter aside from Johnstone had at least 1 hit. Johnstone did reach base and score a run.

Center fielder Kennedy Lynch, leading off, had two hits, including a double, driving in 2 runs and scoring 2. Second baseman Kerrigan Nevill had a triple and scored a run. Shortstop Riley Goff had 2 hits and scored 2 runs.

Left fielder Erika Olson had 2 hits, including a double, drove in 2 runs and scored 3. Third baseman Ashley Bond had 3 hits, including a double, driving in 4 runs and scoring 3. Erin Hale, playing right field, had a hit and an RBI.

Catcher Mikelynn Rowe had 3 hits, drove in 2 runs and scored a run. First baseman Courtney Peterson had a hit, an RBI and a run scored.

Any hope of Yuba getting a split in the doubleheader was quickly dashed in the first inning of Game 2 of the doubleheader when the Eagles put up a 9-spot. To their credit, Yuba answered with 3 runs in the bottom of the inning.

In the first of two scoreless innings in the game, both teams scored no runs in the second inning.

But the hit switch turned back on in the third, with the Eagles scoring 7 runs and the 49ers 3. No runs were scored in the fourth. The Eagles scored their 17th and 18th runs of the game in the top of the 5th.

When Yuba failed to score in the bottom of the fifth, the game was again stopped via the 8-run rule.

In this second game, the Eagles amassed 25 hits to Yuba's 6, with every Eagle having a at least 2 hits, and all but Olson having at least 1 RBI. Every Eagles score at least 1 run, the averaging being 2 per player. Every Eagles had at least 1 RBI.

Nevill led the Eagles with 5 RBIs. Lynch, Lawler, Goff, Bond and Peterson had 2 hits each. Hale pitched the five innings for the Eagles and got the win.

The Eagles' next games will be a non-conference doubleheader at College of the Redwoods on Friday the 6th and then a doubleheader at home this Saturday the 7th vs. Chabot College, the first game starting at noon.

Next week the Eagles are scheduled to play Los Medanos at home on Tuesday the 10th, and then at Lassen on Friday the 13th and at Lassen on Saturday the 14th; all schedulings being doubleheaders with noon starts and second games scheduled for 2 p.m.

The Eagles baseball team is playing pre-conference games this week against conference teams. The wins count on the teams' overall season records but not in their conference records. Conference play officially starts next week.



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After Tuesday's win over Solano, the Eagles' pre-conference record stands at 5-9. Though not on the winning side of the ledger, that record is third best among conference teams, behind Los Medanos at 12-5 and Marin at 9-8.

Tuesdays' win was the Eagles' second win a row following a 4-2 win at home over Redwoods the prior Tuesday.

The Eagles had gone through a grueling stretch of games against teams (Santa Rosa, Folsom Lake and Ohlone) that had amassed combined season records of 40-3.

One of games, against Folsom Lake on February 18, was similar to the game played against Solano on Tuesday. The big difference was in the win-loss column.

Against Folsom on February 18, Folsom built a 10-0 lead after four innings of play. The score was 11-1 after six innings. But the Eagles rallied to score 9 runs in the top of the 7th and then tied the game with a run in the top of the ninth. However, Folsom managed to avoid a big-lead-squandered loss by scoring a run in the bottom of the ninth to edge the Eagles 12-11.

Though a loss is a loss in the record book, Eagles head coach Bret Ringer applauded his teams don't-quit attitude in that game and noted the team's effort might serve the team well in future games.

Flash forward to this Tuesday's game at Solano. In similar fashion to the Folsom game, the Eagles found themselves trailing by a large margin again; in this case, Solano leading 9-0 going to the top of the seventh.

The Eagles broke through to score 4 runs in the top of the seventh to close the gap. But Solano responded with 2 runs in the bottom of the 7th to make it a 11-4 game. Neither team scored in the 8th, leaving the Eagles with 3 outs in the top of 9th.

But, apparently, they had learned a lesson of sorts at Folsom; it's not over until it's over.

They proceeded to score a touchdown in the top of the ninth to tie the game (actually 7 runs), starting with a Will Iannacone leadoff double. Before their at bats concluded, they had sent 12 batters to the plate, scored 7 runs on 5 hits, a hit batter, 3 walks. They left 2 runners on second and third.

Freshman Christopher Doak, pitching his third inning of relief, retired the side in order in the bottom of the ninth to send the game into extra innings.

In the top of the 10th, starting with a rally's best friend, a leadoff walk (by James Wirt), the Eagles went on to score 3 runs, highlighted by a one-out single by Preston Mello to drive in 2 runs. Mello later scored a third run on a catcher's error after advancing to second on a Logan Barrick single and stealing third.

Solano had a chance to tie or win the game with their at bats in the bottom of the 10th. But, for the second inning in a row, Doak set the Falcons down in order in the bottom of the 10th to seal the Eagles' remarkable come-from-behind 14-11 win.



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Solano outhit the Eagles 19 to 11 in the game in which 9 pitchers were used, four by the Eagles. Wirt and Barrick led the Eagles with 3 hits each. Adrian Villalobos and Mello had 2 hits each, Mello in 2 at bats. Barrick drove in 3 runs and shortstop Adrian Villalobos and Mello 2 RBIs each.

The Eagles were scheduled to play a non-conference game at Laney on Thursday the 5th and then another non-conference game on Saturday the 7th at home vs. Napa Valley, both games scheduled for first pitch at 2 p.m.

The Eagles will start Bay Valley Conference play next week, starting with an away game at Yuba College on Tuesday, March 10. Game 2 of that 3-game series will be at Mendocino on Thursday, March 12. The third game of the series will be back at Yuba on Friday the 13th.

Those three games will have 2:30 p.m. starts, with Daylight Savings Time starting on Sunday.