

RAMS ELIMINATED IN SECOND ROUND OF 3C2A BASEBALL REGIONAL

Jonah Kwock | Reporter

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On May 8-9 Fresno City men's Baseball suffered back to back losses to West Valley College 6-9 and 7-8. Eliminating them from the California Community College Athletic Association (3C2A) Baseball Regionals.

The Rams started off the first game on May 7 with a runner batted in (RBI) by Drake Davis in the bottom of the first inning to go up 1-0. After trading hits back and forth a single from Catcher Gilbert Acosta put the Rams up 3-2 at the bottom of the third inning.

West Valley would pull ahead in the top of the fifth inning following home runs from Max Ghiglieri and Eric Altmark to go up 4-3. West Valley would put the game out of reach with a three run home run from Kenji Colston to go up 9-4. Fresno City attempted to come back with home runs from DH Drake Davis in the seventh and C Gilbert Acosta in the ninth. The Rams would lose 6-9.

In the second game Fresno City took an early lead in the top of the second inning following a sacrifice fly by Right Fielder Brayden Chiarito to go up 1-0. The Rams would go on to tie the game up 2-2 with a RBI single from 1st baseman Noble Ortega in the top of the third inning.

West Valley responded with three runs in the bottom of the third to go up 5-2. The Rams would cut the deficit in the top of the fifth inning 4-5 with a RBI double from 3rd baseman Isac Mandujano and a RBI single from

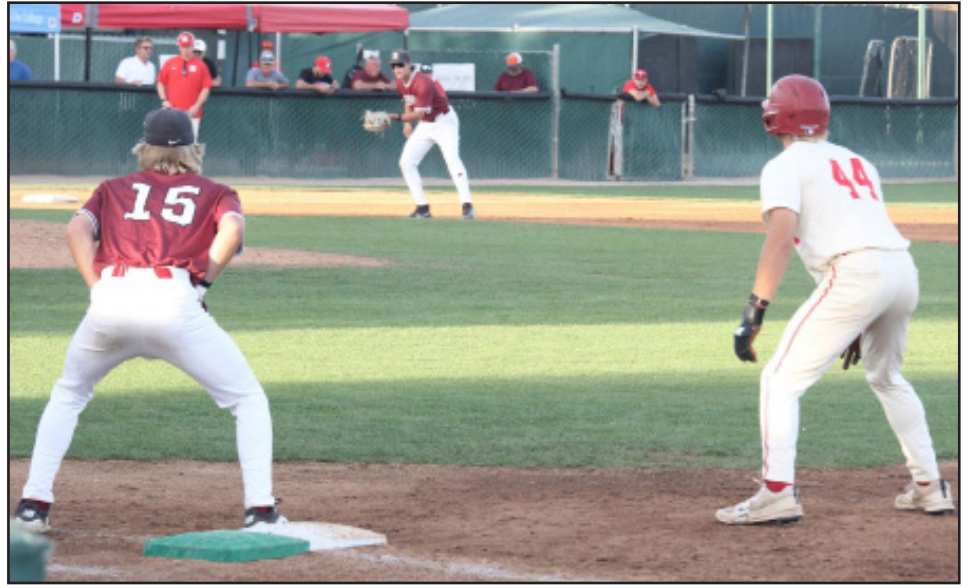
1B Noble Ortega. West Valley would add on 3 runs by the bottom of the eighth inning to go up 5-8.

Fresno City Baseball attempted a comeback in the top of the ninth inning with pinch runner Luke Ramos scoring on an error and a home run from C Gilbert Acosta. The Rams would still fall short in a 8-9 loss.

These disappointing losses came after a successful season where the Rams finished 37-3 and clinched the Central Valley Conference (CVC) for the fifth straight season.

CVC Pitcher of the Year sophomore Nathan Leffel won every game he started pitching during the regular season with a record of 11-0 with 106 strikeouts. CVC Freshman of the Year and 1st Team Designated Hitter Drake Davis 1B/OF had an outstanding season with a batting average of .387 while leading the team in runs batted in (RBI) and home runs.

Central Valley Conference (CVC) Pitcher of the



Freshman DH Drake Davis preparing to run off first base in game two of the 3C2A Baseball Regional against Sierra College on May 1. Photo by Jonah Kwock.

Year sophomore Nathan Leffel won every game he started pitching this season with a record of 11-0 with 106 strikeouts. CVC Freshman of the Year and 1st Team Designated Hitter Drake Davis 1B/OF had an outstanding season with a batting average of .387 while leading the team in runs batted in (RBI) and home runs. Central Valley Conference (CVC) named FCC head coach Mitch Karraker Coach of the Year.

FCC COACHES TALK ABOUT EXPERIENCES AND HOPES FOR ATHLETICS

Juan Muratalla | Sports Editor

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A panel discussion about athletics at Fresno City College that had three accomplished coaches happened on Tuesday, April 21. The conversation ranged from funding-related concerns, facility maintenance and the experiences of coaching at a community college level.

Jamenson Henkle, an instructor at FCC, said the event was set up by the Fresno City College Cross Campus Colloquium. The Colloquium is made to inform and get students involved in events happening in and around campus, according to Henkle.

The moderator of the panel, Scott Bemis, has been a member of KSEE24 and CBS47 since 2014. There was a recurring topic around the quality of the sports facilities and how there needs to be renovations done to venues like the soccer fields and Ratcliffe stadium, where the Rams play football.

Bemis asked Oliver Gremond, the head coach of the women's soccer team, about renovations and if there is an arms race within junior college when it comes to more funding towards stadiums and facilities.

"It is frustrating at times because we put in so much time and effort to be successful, and I think we have been successful as an athletic program," Gremond said.

Gremond wishes FCC would pay attention to its athletic needs.

"And you hope that your school institution notices

that and rewards you by constantly upgrading facilities to promote the success of the school. Unfortunately, as coaches, we are a little frustrated at that part," Gremond said.

Gremond said that when recruiting athletes from high schools and other colleges, the facilities are often nicer than those at FCC.

"We play Folsom every year; they have a soccer stadium with lights. That is something I constantly talk about for my program with men's and women's soccer; we don't have lights on our field. Our games are early. Who can come to our games at 3 or 4 o'clock? Not many people," Gremond said.

Gremond also explained that since the facilities are not as up to date, some student athletes will not want to transfer to FCC, making recruitment harder.

Gremond continues by saying that by having nice sports facilities, attendance and athletic participation will grow.

"We are missing the boat at our school. If you have nicer facilities with the proper equipment and lighting, not only will that help promote your institution, but it's gonna draw more people to the games and gonna draw more attention to the school. You can also rent out the facility to other programs, to make money from that," Gremond said.

Fresno City College football Head Coach Tony Caviglia brought up the fact that there will eventually be an upgrade to sports facilities on campus.



Tony Caviglia talking about football to the audience and panel on April 22. Photo by Juan Muratalla.

Read the rest of the story
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STUDENT ATHLETE VOICES

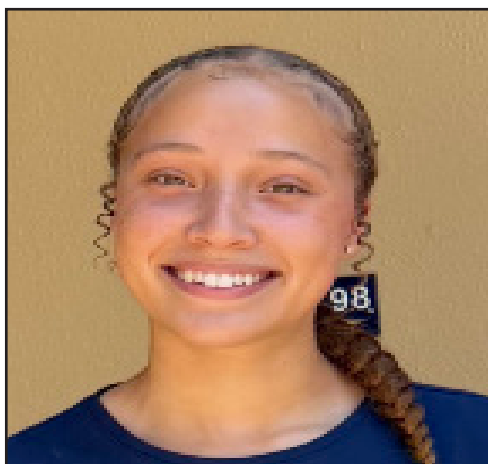
"What do non-athletes misunderstand about your sport?"

Compiled by Donovan J. Rivas & Jonah Kwock



Hudson Swaim
Men's Basketball

"I would say that one of the biggest misconceptions from non athletes about our sport is that if guys were just a little bit taller they could play for our team," Swaim said.



Destiny Edwards
Women's Basketball

"That we all walk the same like, there's like an ongoing joke that all hoopers or basketball players walk with the same kind of limp or like dragging their feet. They call it the 'Hooper walk'," Edwards said.



Joshua Nicholson
Men's Basketball

"People wouldn't suspect it is really fun in a way. It's like competitive. It's really competitive. It's very fun to play if you love to win," Nicholson said.