

## **GAME 2 – San Joaquin Delta (32-17) vs. Orange Coast (34-13)**

FRESNO – The Orange Coast College baseball team jumped out early, then hung on for an 8-5 win over San Joaquin Delta on Saturday night at the 2009 CCCAA Men's State Baseball Championship, held at Fresno City College's John Eules Ballpark.

The Pirates (35-13) scored first in the bottom of the second when Beck Wheeler led off with a single, advanced to second on a Scott Hong hit-by-pitch, went to third on a sacrifice Bunt by D.J. Arellano and scored on a sacrifice fly by Ryan Dunn. Ryan Sheeks followed with an RBI single, scoring Hong to make it 2-0.

The two-out rally continued when Mykal Stokes ripped an RBI triple to center, scoring Sheeks to make it 3-0.

The Pirates extended their lead in the third when Ricky Stokes led off with a single, went to second on a ground out by Beck Wheeler and scored on an RBI double by Hong, giving Orange Coast a 4-0 advantage. OCC made it 5-0 when Dunn blooped a single to center, scoring Hong.

A dropped pop up by the Mustangs pitcher helped pad the Pirates' advantage. Drew Hillman reached on the miscue, went to second on a single by Brett Wallach and scored on an RBI single by Ricky Stokes to make it 6-0 after four innings.

San Joaquin Delta (33-17) began to chip into the Coast lead in the top of the sixth when Jared Schlehuber came through with a one-out, RBI single to center, scoring Vinnie Devencenzi to make it 6-1.

Evan Peters made it 6-3 with a two-out, two-run single to right, scoring a pair of Mustang runners. On the play, OCC right-fielder Ricky Stokes picked up the line drive off the wall, turned and fired a strike to Wheeler to retire Peters on the play to end the threat.

In the bottom of the seventh, an RBI single by Wheeler and a run-scoring grounder by Hong, helped the lead grow back up to five at 8-3.

Devencenzi was hit by a Licon pitch with one out in the eighth, stole second, went to third on a grounder by Schlehuber and scored on a sacrifice fly by Burnett, making it 8-4.

The Mustangs got as close as 8-5 in the ninth on an RBI single to right by Morgan, but Williams was able to retire the side in the ninth to earn his sixth save of the game.

Licon was replaced by closer Brett Williams and the sophomore righty retired his only batter in the eighth, stranding two SJD runners on base.

With the win, the Pirates will play Diablo Valley in the winner's bracket semifinals on Sunday, beginning at 2 p.m.

With the loss, the Mustangs will play Santa Ana in the loser's bracket semifinals against Santa Ana, beginning at 10 a.m.