

# Lafayette Angels Win District Four AAA Championship

By Kevin D. Shallat

The city of Lafayette has had its share of baseball championships this year. The Acalanes Dons won the North Coast Section championships in baseball, and now we have another winner from Lafayette in the Little League age group. The Lafayette Angels beat the Albany White Sox in the AAA district four championships Saturday, June 30, at Concord American Field.

The White Sox would strike first in this game, scoring two runs in the first inning. The Angels answered right back in the bottom of the first inning by scoring four runs, and never looked back as they went on to win the game, 10-6. Although the Angels only won by four runs, they were ahead by eight runs for much of the game.

Adam Remotto, who plays pitcher and shortstop positions, got his team going by hitting a double to start off the day for the Angels. First baseman Jack Burford then hit a key triple to bring two players home, recording two RBI's on the play. Both of these players would go on to have several hits in this game.

Lafayette received good contributions all year from their combo of four pitchers, Jonathan Lee, Max Flower, Adam Remotto, and Thomas Henderson. Max Flower pitched four innings and had four hits at the plate. When asked what was working well for him on the

mound, Flower replied, "I was trying to keep the ball down in the zone early in the count, then later in the counts I would try and keep the ball a little up in the zone."

The story of the day was not just the pitching. The Angels had timely hitting in almost every inning. This allowed the Angels to pad the bases with runners throughout the day. "Every batter reached base in almost every playoff game, which was big," said Head Coach Mark Flower. The key to putting the game out of reach was the aggressive base running. The Angels took advantage of almost every miscue or passed ball by the White Sox. In the bottom of the third inning we saw Burford steal second base, allowing teammate Jonathan Lee to score from third base on the errant throw to second.

There is an old saying in baseball that the hottest team at the end of the season has the best shot at winning the championship. "We averaged almost ten runs a game in the playoffs," said Flower. Flower also mentioned how much of a contributing factor right fielder Jack Fink was to the team this year. Fink was injured at the beginning of the season, yet managed to come to almost every game and help cheer his team on. "This was a huge motivator for us," Flower said.



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