

Lamorinda Menace Wins San Jose Tournament

Submitted by Alan Goepel



The 12U girls Lamorinda Menace tournament softball team went undefeated playing six games over two days to win the Wess Jones Memorial 12U Softball Tournament in San Jose on July 15.

Tela Zemsch, Becca Crisp, Samantha Flower, Audrey Vogel, Grace Lovell, Siena Del Ponte, Kat Mathis, Jackie Welland, Sarah Chesbrough, Rachel Kelley, Natalie Goepel and Emily Streeter made up the Menace roster over the two day event.

The Menace defeated the Branham Hills Thunder (twice), the Los Gatos-Saratoga Magic, the

West Valley Slammers, and the Palo Alto Heat before meeting up with a very strong Oakland Vipers team in the Championship game on Sunday. Down at one point 4 to 1 in the championship game, the Menace battled back to take a 8 to 7 win. Becca Crisp and Natalie Goepel paired together for some very strong pitching and Kat Mathis was a stand-out behind the plate, and caught every game. The combination of strong defense, timely hitting and aggressive base running, up and down the Menace line-up, proved too much for their opponents.

The Menace summer softball

program continues to grow -- this summer 38 girls play on 2 Menace teams. The Menace players, ranging in age from 8 to 13 years old, all play in LMYA's spring softball league. The Menace have improved quickly at regular practices at St. Mary's College, led by the terrific SMC coaching staff.

The San Jose win was in the fourth of six tournaments the Menace 12U will be playing this summer. The 12U team has two remaining tournaments in Benicia and San Jose in August, and expectations are high for more exciting play from the Menace.