

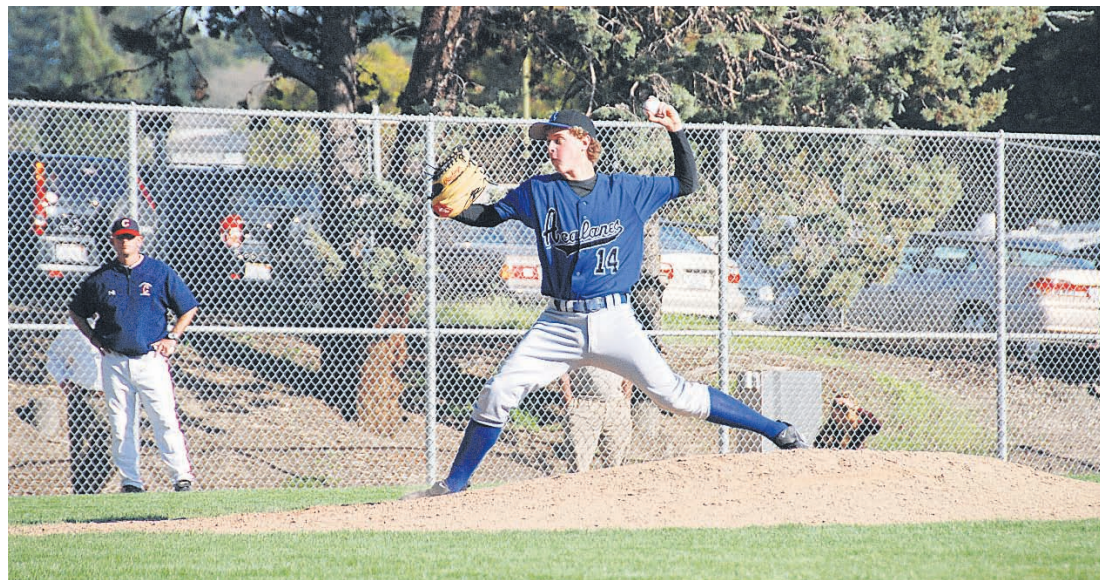
SPORTS

LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS



Cougars Hold on to Lead over Dons

By Steven Johns



John Treat (Dons 14)

Photo Gavin Schlissel

In their first game against each other this year, the Cougars baseball team took advantage of the Dons' wild pitching on Thursday, March 13 in a 6-2 win.

The game started off with Campolindo's Jeff Gold getting an easy 1-2-3 inning. In the bottom of the first the Dons' John Treat got the first two Cougars out, but then walked Anthony Fadelli. Chris Hilk singled to put runners on first and second. Next up was sophomore Chris Killeen, who launched a double into the left-center gap. Fadelli came in to score and the Cougars took an early 1-0 lead.

The Dons came back in the third inning with two runs of their own. Spencer Cuiper started off the inning with a single. After two outs Sean Nixon singled up the middle to score Cuiper. The next batter, Treat, grounded one between the third baseman and shortstop to give the Dons the 2-1 lead.

In the fourth inning, however, the Cougars blew the game wide open. Treat walked the first batter, Corbin Chase, on four straight pitches. After a Michael Kathan sacrifice bunt, senior Sam Gregory came to the plate. Gregory singled between the first and second basemen to tie the game at 2-2.

After a Tom Wraith single Treat became wild. He walked Fadelli to load the bases and

then proceeded to hit Hilk. Treat still could not find the strike zone when he walked Killeen to give the Cougars a 4-2 lead.

The Dons then pulled Treat in favor of Adam Hoffman. Hoffman walked home a run to give the Cougars a 5-2 lead. With the bases still loaded, Chase came to the plate for the second time in the inning. Chase hit a shallow fly into left-center. The runners on second and third forgot that there were two outs and didn't start running until the ball hit the ground. By that time the runner on first base passed the runner on second and was automatically out. The runner on third was able to score, however, to give the Cougars a 6-2 lead.

Cougars junior Jeff Gold



Chris Killeen (Campo 8)

Photo Gavin Schlissel

and sophomore Nick Russ were able to shut down the Acalanes offense for the rest of the game, holding on for the 6-2 win.

With this win the Cougars brought themselves back to .500 and continued their inconsistent year. In each of their three wins the Cougars have scored six or more runs. However, in two of their three losses they did not score more than one run. If the Cougars hope to go far they will need to pitch and hit more consistently.

The Dons have also played inconsistently by scoring more than four runs in three games and less than three runs in their other three games.

This win put the Cougars at 3-3 overall and 1-1 in DFAL. This loss drops the Dons to 2-4 overall and 0-2 in league.

JM Boys Win Basketball Championship

Submitted by Andrea Firth



Photo Andrea Firth

Following an undefeated season, the 7A Basketball Team from Joaquin Moraga Middle School won the area Middle School Championship defeating Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School From Berkeley in the final round. Garret Colonna was named MVP for the tournament, and Griffin McCaffery was named to the All-Tournament Team.

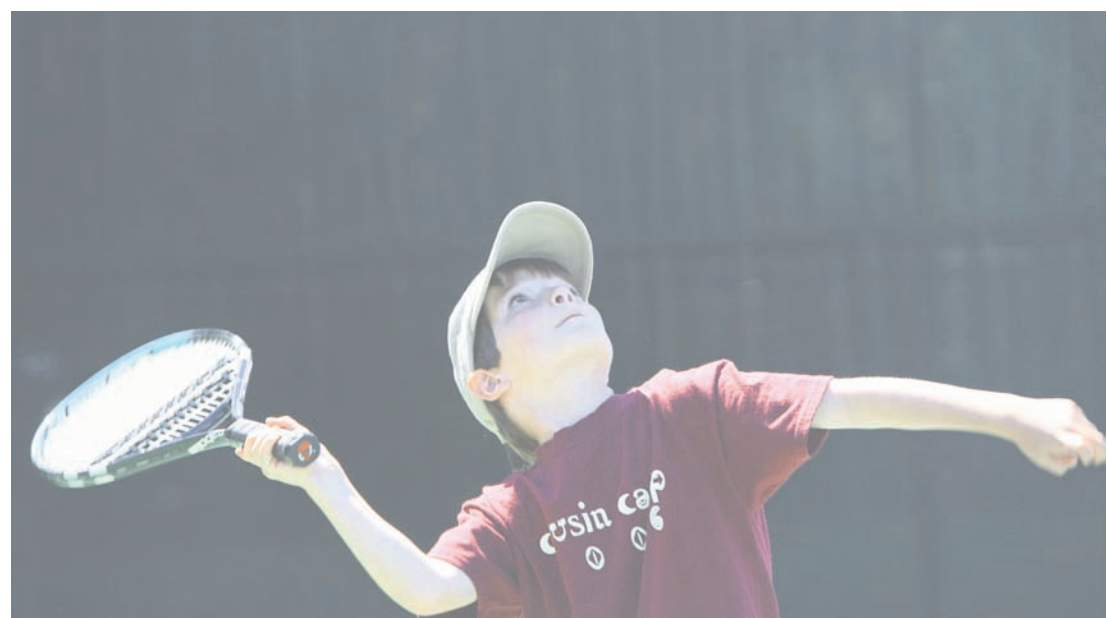
Pictured in the back row are players Jack Evans, Brian Lien, and John Schmitz. Pictured in the front row are: Coach Will French along side players JD Ratchford, Garret Colonna, Griffin McCaffery, Tyler Garrison, Brandon Dolan, and Sam Firth.

Way to go Marauders!

Lafayette 4th Grader

Wins Boys' 10 Singles Tennis Championship

By Jennifer Wake (Submitted by Anna Bird)



Isaiah Bird on the court

Photo provided

Springhill Elementary School fourth grader Isaiah Bird won the Boys' 10 year old Singles Tennis Title at the United States Tennis Association (USTA) 1st Annual Marin Spring Junior Challenger Tournament on March 9 in Tiburon, Calif.

The USTA is the national governing body for the sport of tennis and the recognized leader in promoting and developing the sport's growth on every level in the United States, from local

communities to the crown jewel of the professional game, the US Open.

After defeating Jake Kristy in the quarter final (6-3; 6-1), Bird moved on to defeat Gabriel Pizzolato in the semi final (6-4; 6-4) before facing Ryan Baumhoff in the finals. He won the championship match handily, 6-1; 6-3.

Isaiah Bird is 9 years old and lives in Lafayette.

SMC Plays Stanford for Nine Innings: No Win, No Tie, No Loss

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Aliotti looked strong from the first pitch. With a live fastball and stellar defense on the mound, the big left-hander was able to pitch a shutout through three innings of play. His first mistake of the game came on a solo home run by Stanford in the top of the fourth, which gave the Cardinal a 1-0 lead.

By the top of the fifth inning, Aliotti looked like his arm was getting a little tired, but wasn't about to get pulled in a one run game. Stanford took advantage and scored three more runs on a two-run homer to deep left field, and jumped out to a 4-0 lead.

Geoff Byrns was able to get the Gaels on the board in the bottom of the fifth inning, as his sacrifice fly to deep right field was able to score the runner from third base. The Gaels took a 5-4 lead in the seventh inning, and would extend that

lead to 6-4 in the eighth after Aliotti scored Randy Wells on an RBI base hit.

Alex Jensen pitched two and a third strong innings for the Gaels, but was pulled in the ninth inning after surrendering a home run to Stanford's Zack Jones. Stanford was then able to tie the game at 6-6, before walking in the go-ahead run to give them a 7-6 advantage going into the bottom of the ninth. Kenny Fuglerud did a great job in the bottom of the ninth to keep the Gaels hopes alive, as he was able to get a hit and a stolen base to put Saint Mary's in scoring position. Cory Miller's double was able to score Fuglerud from second base. After nine innings, and the score knotted up at 7-7, the game was called due to darkness. The extra innings for this game will be made up in Palo Alto on April 23.

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