

Conclusion of Lafayette Little League

By Jack Fernbacher



Ladrech hitting a home run

Photo Doug Kohen



For three months, Lafayette little leaguers perfected their game with one goal in mind: to win the championship in June. In a grueling double-elimination playoff system played at the Buckeye Fields in Lafayette, four different divisions of

age groups battled for the number one spot.

In the youngest division, the AAA No. 2 seeded Mets (9-2-1 regular season) faced off against the No. 3 seed Reds (9-4). The Mets got off to a nice start with a lead off home

run from slugger Devin Shields.

Daniel Kim aided in the effort on offense driving in two RBIs and the Mets rolled over the Reds 5-2. On the mound in the game were Jason Cornell who struck out six and Paul Griessel who struck out four

batters.

In the AAA division, the road to the championship was a difficult task. The Giants (5-4) cruised through the playoffs unscathed with three straight wins. The Giants faced the Pirates (6-3), who were 3-1 in the playoffs coming into the championship game.

“The championship game was between two very evenly matched teams throughout the season,” said the Giants skipper Tim Martinho. “The championship game was very well-played on both sides.”

In the championship, both teams connected with the ball really well combining for a total of 23 hits in the game. Matthew Barr and Tyler Ewing led the Pirates by both going 2-3 in the game and driving in a run.

The Pirates’, managed by Russ Stryker, offense wasn’t enough against the relentless Giants who scored 13 runs in the game. The Giants slugger Gavin Thatcher went 2-3 in the game and had four RBIs.

The Giants closer Trevor Martinho pitched the last two innings in the game and struck out two batters. Martinho held the Pirates to one inning and grabbed the championship for the Giants, winning the game 13-6.

In the Majors division, the game was very close all the way down to the wire. The fourth-seeded Padres (4-4) edged out the No. 2 seeded Pirates (7-1) 4-3 to win the title.

In the oldest division of the Juniors, the Lafayette A’s defeated the Lafayette Rangers.

Overall, the kids had fun and gave it their all in the spring season wrap-up. At the closing ceremonies of the Lafayette Little League, the A’s mascot Stomper made an appearance.

The ceremony included a presentation of \$2,950 raised by the Lafayette Little League for ALS.