

Little League All Stars Start Sizzling Summer

By Jack Fernbacher



Little League All Star play Albany

Photo Doug Kohen

After the postseason of Lafayette Little League Baseball, a select few opt to continue playing their beloved sport through the long summer nights.

At 6 pm on the first of July, the Lafayette eleven-year old All Star team started the All Star season off with a night game against Albany at Buckeye Fields.

The All Stars got off to a blazing start as they scored four runs in the first inning and seven runs in the second. The Lafayette pitchers didn't allow Albany to get any runs in the four-inning game.

The pitchers hit the corners of home plate nicely and combined for six strikeouts. The pitchers responsible for blanking Albany were Ryan Donat, Casey Harrington, and Alexie Shurtz. The three pitchers each had two strikeouts.

Helping out in the Albany game with their bats were Alexie Shurtz, Matt Stanners, John O'Malley, Will Brueckner, Charlie Ziolkowski, and Ryan Donat. Shurtz had two doubles in the contest and four RBIs.

Stanners was the lone player

on the team with a triple and also scored one run in the 13-0 victory.

With all the talent at the plate, the Lafayette team would be tested the next night against Walnut Creek on the pitching mound.

The pitchers brought in the team's momentum from the Albany game by allowing only three runs in six innings of play. The four pitchers for Lafayette were Donat, Shurtz, Ziolkowski, and Brueckner. Lafayette faced a Walnut Creek pitching trio in Andrew Narloch, Kiril Yantikov, and Matt Machado.

In the first inning, Lafayette was held scoreless for the first time in this year's All Star season. After that, Lafayette got back to its scoring ways, as they scored six runs in the second inning. Lafayette then scored one run in the third inning and three in the fifth to defeat Walnut Creek 10-3 in six innings.

Helping to drive in the runs was Andrew Shatz and Ziolkowski who combined for five rbis. Rounding the home plate in the game for Lafayette was Matt Jorgenson, Brueckner, and Harrington.

The eleven year old All Star Lafayette team has started off its season with an impressive two victories, and the ten year old Lafayette team also was victorious in its All Star opening game.

The ten year old team beat North Oakland 11-2 with some great pitching from Jake Rowley. Rowley pitched 4 2/3 innings, only allowed two runs and struck out six batters.

The Lafayette Little League All Star teams hope to continue its success for the rest of the summer.



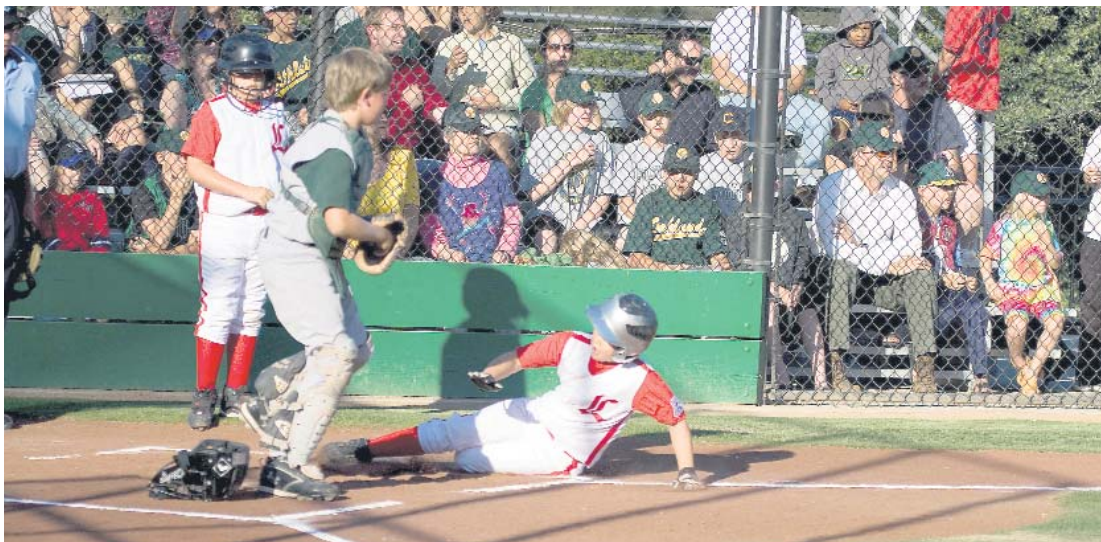
Ryan Donat (17)

Photo Doug Kohen



All Star Pitcher

Photo Doug Kohen



Little League All Star play North Oakland

Photo Doug Kohen