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## Can You Hit Off a Kid?

By Stuart Gruendi



Tyler Bartis at bat Photo submitted

On Friday, November 7, the Lamorinda Baseball Academy Rangers challenge you to try to hit off of one the strongest pitching staffs in 12U Northern California travel baseball. At the same time, you will help the team raise money for its efforts to send its Championship team to Cooperstown Dreams Park National Invitational Tournament in the summer of 2009.

The Rangers is a competitive, community-based baseball team that is currently one of the top-ranked 12U Fall Baseball teams in Northern California. LBA (or "the Academy,") consists of seven different teams representing five different age groups. The Academy was formed in order to foster a high level of training and skills development for each player involved. The goal is to hone their love and skill of the game.

"This is our second year with the Lamorinda Baseball Academy, which has been awesome for our 12 year old son Tyler. He loves to travel to tournaments and pitch in clutch situations and close in big games. He has a lot more experience now than when he was younger, and I am worried that I won't even be able to get a hit off of him," says Steve Bartis of Moraga.

Bartis' son Tyler talks about his experience with LBA: "I love playing for the LBA Rangers because it gives me a chance to deal with a lot of pressure when I pitch in big games, while also being able to hang out and make jokes with my friends. Going to Cooperstown, New York, to play baseball has been a dream of mine since I was eight years old, and I am getting closer to fulfilling that dream with the Rangers."

To help Tyler and his teammates go to Cooperstown, come to Buckeye Fields, 711 St. Mary's Road, between 4:00 and 6:00 on November 7. \$20/at bat - Get a hit and make it to 1st base--Win a prize! This event is sponsored by All Out Baseball of Pleasant Hill. For more information and to sign up contact Stuart Gruendi, 510-682-6108, [stuart@bay-rock.com](mailto:stuart@bay-rock.com).

Reach the reporter at: [info@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:info@lamorindaweekly.com)

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