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SPORTS

LAMORINDA'S LOCAL SPORTS NEWS

MBA Box Scores for March 27-April 11, 2009

Submitted by Donald DePaolo

Moraga Baseball Association Pony Division

April 4, 2009

Martinez Mad Dogs 12, Moraga A's 2

Mad Dog Highlights: Danny R 3-4, 4 RBI's, 1 3B; Danny E 3-4, 3 RS; Devin

April 5, 2009

San Pablo Yankees 4, Moraga Tigers 3 Tigers Highlights: Matthew Barry 4 IP, 5 RS. Drobenaire 1 RBI

Rodeo Buccaneers 6, Moraga A's 10 Buccaneer Highlights: Romell 2 IP, 3 K, 0 BB; Sean 3-4, 1 2B, 2 RS; Alfonzo 3-3, Orinda Bombers 5, Moraga Nationals 5 2B, 2 SB; Garrett 1-2, RS

pitched, 16 K, 0 BB; Tommy Pride 1-1, 2 R, 2 BB, 2 SB, 3 IP, 1 H, 0 R, 2 K; Moran 1-2, RS

Moraga Baseball Association Bronco Division March 27, 2009

Moraga Bears 14, Moraga Giants 3 Bears highlights: Russell Bruck 4-5, 4RS; Perry Walker, 3-4, 3 RS; Alex Gannett, 4IP. 3R. 6Ks: Sam Larson, 2-4, 2 2b. Giants highlights: Patrick Duryea, 3-3, 1RS; Josh Sherman, 1-4; Sam Phillips, 1-4, RS.

April 5, 2009

Moraga Nationals 9, Orinda Spartans 2 Nationals Highlights: Marty Cunnane, 3-4, RBI, 2 R, 2 SB; Brian Lyle 1-3, RBI, A's Highlights: Ryan Smith 1-2, 1 RS; R, BB, 3 SB, 2 1/3 IP, 2 H, 2 R, 3 K; Tan-Jason Hofmann 1-2, 1 RS; Nathaniel ner Hinds 1-4, RBI, R, SB; Jacob Molloy Armen 1-2, 1 RBI; Bradley Rochlin 3 IP, 1-4, 1 RBI, R, SB; Matthew Tuan, 4 IP, 2 H, 0 R, 3K, 0 BB.

April 11, 2009

Orinda Spartans 9, Moraga Mariners 2 Spartan Highlights: Jarret Perches 3-3, RS, 22B, 3 RBI; Will McConnell 1-2, 2B, RBI; Sam Miles RBI; Zach Wong 1-2, 2

K, 1 H; Tyler Tekata 1 H, RBI; Hunter Mariners Highlights: Sean Pappa 1-2, 2B, 3 IP 3K; Ramin Nazeri 1-2, RBI; Griffin Whiting RBI; DP: Parker Duncan to Damien Stoner.

(Tie game)

A's Highlights: Spencer Nichols CG Nationals Highlights: Andrew Willmore, RS; Jack Price 2-4, 2 RBI, RS; Will Matthew Tuan, 1-2, 2 R, 3 BB, 3 SB, 3 IP, 1 H, 1 R, 3 K; Michael Wright, 1-2, 2 BB, 3 SB; Tanner Hinds, 1 R, 3 BB, 2 SB.

> Moraga Rays 8, Tara Hills 5 Rays Highlights: Jack Stephens 3IP, 4 hits, 1ER; Jake Rider W, 3IP, 5 hits, 4ER, 4K's; Patrick Ratchford 3-3, 2 RS, 1 RBI, 2B; Scott Chen 1-3, 1RS, 1 RBI; Neil Kelley 1 for 3, 1 RS, 1 RBI; Chase Corallo 0-1, 2 RS, 2 BB's.

Moraga Baseball Association **Mustang Division** April 11, 2009

www.lamorindaweekly.com

Moraga Orioles 14, Moraga Yankees 5 Orioles Highlights: Quinn Lyon 2 IP, 4 K's, 0 ER, 2 H, 0 BB, 2-3, 2RS; Jason West 1-1, 2 RBI, 2 RS, 2 BB, 3 SB; Nick Erickson 3-3, 2 2B, 2 RBI, 3 RS; Harry Curtis 2 IP, 2 K's, 0 ER, 0-1, 1 BB, 1 RS. Yankees Highlights: Trevin Kroichick 2-3, 2 RBI, RS; Parker Windatt 1-1, BB, RS, RBI; Michael Hooper, 1 IP, 2 K's, 0 ER, 1-2, RBI, 2 SB, 2 RS; Calvin Gee 2 IP, 3 ER, 3 K's, 1-3, 2 SB

Moraga Baseball Association Pinto Division April 11, 2009

2,Bryan Kikugawa 2-2, 2RS

Moraga Giant's 9, Moraga A's 4 Giants Highlights: Michael Crews 3-3,RS, 2RBI; Zoe Crouch 1-3,RS, Unassisted DP; Sam Ouzounian 2-3, 2RS, RBI A's Highlights: Bryson Lothamer 2-2; Beck Chambers 2-2, RS; Adrian Hyatt 2-

Moraga Phillies 17, Moraga Cubs 6 Phillies highlights: Joe Arth 3-3, 2 BBI, 3 runs; Jake Chan 4-4, 2RBI, 2 runs; Stephen Chilimidos 3-4, 2 runs; Billy Woolsey 2-3, RBI, 2 runs. Cub highlights: Grant Harper 2-3, RBI, RS; Will Bishop 2-3, RBI, RS; Keoni Vuong 1-3, RBI, RS; Ryan Fritch 2-2, RS; CJ Rago

Lafayette Little League Scores, April 6 – April 11

Submitted by Todd Bequette Majors Division, April 6-11

Dodgers 5 Cardinals 2

Jack Eisner was 2 for 2 and slammed a double off the left field fence to power the Dodgers. Matt Bostwick and Greg Genovese chipped in with two hits a piece and Ethan Lindgren drove in two insurance runs in the sixth with a clutch single. Yankees 4 A's 3

Pitching and defense was key for the Yankees in a tight game at Buckeye Field. Will Brueckner pitched out of a bases loaded jam in the third, and struck out six in two and a third innings of work. Johnny O'Malley got the save with a scoreless 6th, the A's hopes dying when Brueckner and Ben Miller combined on a sparkling 6-3 putout. For the A's, Jake Berry, Cameron Dunmire and Chris Hansen combined to strike out 8 Yankee hitters.

Giants 9 Cubs 6 With both teams missing key players, the teams combined for 18 hits. For the Cubs, Drew Ventrelle and Ryan Leamy each went 2 for 3 at the plate, while the Giants relied on a team effort and solid defense. Cubs 15 Cardinals 7

The Cubs pounded out 18 hits, including 4 each from Tommy Henderson and Drew Ventrelle, 3 each from Will Price and Alexie Shurtz, and 2 from Leo Barakos. Will McCandless saved a run for the Cubs, throwing out a runner at the plate from left field, and Alexander Grace Cubs 13 Mets 5

Trent Nemanic also collected a hit. Yankees 12 Red Sox 1

The east coast rivalry went to the Yanks, as Johnny O'Malley, Ben Miller, Will

and Joey Hewitt all had multi-hit games. The Yankees pitchers combined for 12 strikeouts, limiting the Redsox to 2 hits, one each by Matt Jorgensen and Dylan Foster. Jorgensen also had a stellar day at shortstop for the Redlegs.

Giants pitchers Jack Cassidy, Adam Remotto and Trevor Martinho dominated, allowing only 1 hit over 6 shut-out innings. In his Majors debut, having been called up from AAA, Sam Dinerman was 2 for 2 with a double and single. For the A's, Jake Berry went 1 for 2 and Cameron Dunmire starred on the mound.

Angels 13 Dodgers 4

The Angels jumped to an early lead and never looked back. Doug Nimura and Bryan Stone drove in 3 Angel runs to back the solid pitching of Nimura, Cole Galagher, Jack Stryker, Max Flower and Grant Young. Jack Eisner ripped an RBI triple for the Dodgers and Tyler Henderson and Alex Baldwin both scored two

AAA Division, April 6-11

scored twice. The Cardinals rallied late, The Cubbies outslugged the Mets in the led by hits from Kyle Everly, Logan Mac-first game at Chaney Field after Spring Donald, and Will McKay. Ben Lenz Break. For the Mets, Joey Moran and

pitched well in 2 innings of work and Dimitri Katsanos combined for three scoreless innings on the mound and Evan Levy scored two runs. Recent AA call-up Sungwoo Jun contributed with the glove and scored a run.

Yankees 16 Marlins 1

Yankee hurlers Kevin McConnell, Colin Fogarty, Matty Vicencio and Nicky Henderson combined on a 1-hitter while facing just 2 over the minimum. Meanwhile, the pinstripers got two hits each from Vicencio, Henderson, McConnell, Fogarty and Justin Plummer. For the Marlins, Jack Lewerenz and Jonathan Barnes were the offensive stars.

Dodgers 8 Cubs 2

Dexter Varrelman, Tyler Ewing and Thomas Higgins chipped in RBI singles for the winners as the Dodgers won the first of a double-header. Jason Cornell, Ewing and D'Amante all pitched scoreless innings for the Dodgers. For the Cubs, Michael Bone starred defensively. Dodgers 6 Angels 5

The Dodgers won their second game of the day, topping the Angels in a nail-biter. Thomas Higgins was 2 for 3 with a double, triple and 3 RBI while Jason Cornel added another scoreless inning on the mound.

Yankees 12 Cardinals 6

Yankee slugger Justin Plummer carried the day, driving in 4 with a homer and a double. Ben Ross (2 hits, 1 run) and Kyle Bunting (1 hit, 1 run, 1 RBI) chipped in for the Yankees. The Cards got doubles from Kyle Ashburn and Nikolaus Moore and Jake Lillienstein scored 3 runs.

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Kendall's Double Sparks Comeback Win For Miramonte By Kevin D. Shallat



Acalanes' left-handed pitcher John Treat on the mound Photo Jordan Fong

calanes held a 2-1 advantage going into the final inning of play against Miramonte's baseball team on Wednesday, April 1, and were in position to continue their undefeated conference streak, and move to 4-0. However, Chris Kendall and the rest of the Matadors had other ideas, as Kendall's leadoff double led the final inning rally that capped off a 3-2 comeback home field win for Miramonte.

The Miramonte game started off as a relatively routine pitchers' duel. Both John Treat (Acalanes) and John Vaccaro (Miramonte) gave up only one run on five hits on the day. Yet, as the game progressed -or rather, regressed -- the game took on a strange and unfamiliar turn, be-

coming anything but routine. It started in the bottom of the second when Miramonte's Michael Mann was called out at the plate on a batter interference call. The umpire claimed the batter got in the way of the throw down to second on a steal attempt.

Miramonte was able to score the first run of the game in the bottom of the third inning when catcher Kevin Paulson lined a double to left field. Two batters later, center fielder

Joey Epperson drove Paulson home

on a single to right center field.

Two innings later, Acalanes struck back with two of its own runs. After Paulson was called for catcher interference, shortstop Evan Heptig

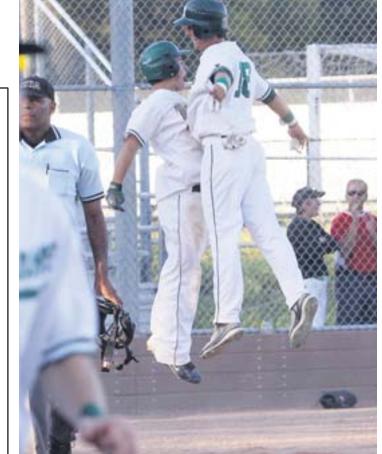
was awarded first base for Acalanes. Acalanes left fielder Mike Avery followed with a fielder's choice. After Treat was able to get a walk, third baseman Trevor Lahonta unleashed a big hit to right center to give the Dons a 2-1 advantage. Lahonta went 2-3 with two RBI's on the day.

The Dons were not immune to the odd calls themselves, as perhaps the biggest call of the day went against Acalanes. Treat was in the process of pitching a gem when the umpire ruled that he had to leave the pitcher's spot because the Acalanes manager took two trips to the mound, rather than the one trip allowed per inning. Treat relinquished the mound, but remained in the game, playing first base.

With Miramonte down 2-1 in the bottom of the final inning, the Matadors turned to their nine hitter and second baseman, Kendall, for some April Fool's Day heroics.

Kendall connected on a fastball that caromed off the Orinda Shell sign in deep left field. He was 2-3 on the day. Paulson then followed with his second double of the day. Three batters later, Matt Lloyd hit a walk-off single that bounced off the glove of the pitcher, clinching this dramatic 3-2 win for Mira-

"It's definitely a bounce back from losing to our rival (Campolindo)," said Kendall after the game, "This will definitely set us off on a good track for the next weeks



Miramonte's Kevin Paulson (left) and Joey Epperson celebrate win against Acalanes Photo Jordan Fong

Power Hitter at Buckeye Field has Big Dreams By Mikaela Cowles



Lafayette Little League's Alexie Shurtz at the plate Shurtz rounds third, heading towards home Photo Sheryl Cardiff

s Cubs player #14 approaches the plate at Lafayette Little League's Buckeye Field, it's as if the opposing team recognizes the jersey number of arguably the most famous Chicago Cubs player – big hitter Ernie Banks. The outfielders move deep. Really

"She has incredible power," says Bob Brueckner,

the manager of this season's Yankees, another Little League Majors' team. "She can be fooled on a pitch and still onehand it out of the park."

Yes - she. Meet 7thgrader Alexie Shurtz, one of those players everyone loves to watch this season, and not because she's the only girl wearing a Lafayette Little League Majors uniform, although she

Photo Sheryl Cardiff is. It's because Alexie has that kind of break-out 12-year-old strength that makes watching Little League Majors ball exciting – a home run All-Star hitter who's also a formidable force on the pitching mound. The one-two skill punch that makes it easy to imagine Alexie achieving the collegiate athletic dream – Division I ball. Only it's not a baseball dream.

"UCLA's my dream school," says Alexie, who hopes to play collegiate softball.

Alexie has been playing Little League since T-ball, when she first stepped up to the plate at age 6. It's still fun, she

"There's striking a guy out, and then there's getting a hit off a guy. I don't know which one is better," says

Still, Alexie plans to transition to softball. The question is, when?

Brueckner, a former Acalanes softball coach and father of collegiate softball player Alyssa Brueckner, has taken a strong interest in Alexie's playing, and says she has the potential to be one of the "top five" softball players in Lamorinda.

Says Brueckner: "Softball is a quicker game... it's more about strategy. In softball one little mistake and the person is safe at first, instead of out."

With Alexie's potential to excel as a softball player, Brueckner has encouraged her to make the move soon.

This season, though, look for Alexie at Lafayette's Buckeye Field. She'll probably be rounding third base, smiling as she runs towards the rest of her team who gather at home plate, waiting to congratulate her for yet another homerun.

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