

## **ROCKETS CHAMPIONS OF BEECHER CITY TOURNEY**

On August 13, the Altamont Lutheran Rockets boys baseball team traveled to Beecher City and came home with the championship trophy, defeating both Effingham Sacred Heart and Mulberry Grove Junior High in convincing fashion by a combined score of 29-1. Strong pitching from Adam Mayhaus and Brett Harmeier was backed by a balanced Rocket offense that pounded out 26 hits and put 29 runs on the board in the two games.

In the championship game, the Rockets blasted the Mulberry Grove Eagles with ten runs in the first inning on the way to a 14-1 win. Harmeier and Christian Freezeland led off the game with consecutive walks before Klaiton Wolff slammed his fourth double of the day to deep center field. Walks to Devon Guerrettaz, Adam Mayhaus, Eric Wolff, and Austin Kline made it 4-0 before Harmeier plated two more with a double to right center. Freezeland drew his second walk of the inning, Klaiton Wolff drove two home with a ground ball single up the middle and Guerrettaz doubled to make it 10-0.

In the second, the Rockets stretched their lead to 11-0 when Freezeland's seventh consecutive hit to start the season scored Logan Deadmond, and they added three more in the fourth on a double by Deadmond and singles by Kline, Harmeier and Guerrettaz. For the third consecutive game, the Rockets won by the ten run rule after five innings, scoring 14 runs on 10 hits and committing no errors.

Harmeier collected the complete game win for ALIS, allowing one run on four hits while walking one and striking out four. Klaiton Wolff and Devon Guerrettaz led the offense with two hits and three RBIs each. Harmeier helped his own cause with two hits, two runs scored and two RBIs, and Christian Freezeland, Logan Deadmond, Austin Kline and Krayl Gehle each had one hit.

In the opening game, the Rockets used a similar strategy of strong pitching and a first inning offensive blitz to overwhelm the Sacred Heart Shamrocks 15-0. The eight-run first inning came from singles by Harmeier and Freezeland, a two-run double by Klaiton Wolff, consecutive singles by Mayhaus, Deadmond, and Travis Whitt, a walk to Eric Wolff, a bases-clearing triple to center by Harmeier and another single by Freezeland. The Rockets piled up six more runs in the third on a single by Kaleb Whitt, Freezeland's third single of the game, Klaiton Wolff's third double of the game, Guerrettaz's two-run double, Deadmond's single, and Travis Whitt's two-run triple to deep left field. When Whitt scored on a Shamrocks' error, it was 14-0 in favor of ALIS. In the fourth, Mayhaus' sharp single to center ended the game, scoring Klaiton Wolff and making the score 15-0. The game was called because the Rockets led by 15 after four innings.

On the other side, Mayhaus dominated the Sacred Heart batters, yielding only one hit and striking out nine Shamrocks in the four inning complete game victory. Rockets hitters collected 16 hits, with Klaiton Wolff and Christian Freezeland each having three. Adam Mayhaus, Logan Deadmond, Brett Harmeier, and Travis Whitt all had two hits each, and Devon Guerrettaz and Kaleb Whitt each added a hit to round out the attack. In the opening game, the Rockets scored 15 runs on 16 hits and committed no errors.

The Rockets are coached by Alan Whitt, Lance Freezeland and Benton White.