

## **WOLFF NO-HITS ST. ELMO**

On Monday, August 15, the St. Elmo Eagles came to Altamont looking to kick off their junior high baseball season with a win. Instead, they ran into the Altamont Lutheran Rockets and the strong right arm of Klaiton Wolff. Wolff completely dominated the Eagles' batters, throwing a complete game six inning no-hitter, while striking out 16 St. Elmo batters. For good measure, Wolff also blasted a fifth inning home run over the center field fence at Gilbert Park to break the game open.

Early on, it looked as if the Rockets would jump on the Eagles as they had their previous opponents. Brett Harmeier and Christian Freezeland opened the bottom of the first inning with consecutive singles and Harmeier scored the game's first run to make it 1-0 Rockets. But Eagles' hurler Noah Flowers settled down and shut the Rockets' offense down through the fourth inning.

With the score still 1-0, Kaleb Whitt led off the Rockets' half of the fifth with a walk, and pinch runner Austin Kline scored on a play that featured two St. Elmo errors. Wolff then put one over the center field fence to score Harmeier, making it 4-0 and the rout was on. Devon Guerrettaz followed Wolff's home run with a single, Travis Whitt singled, and a wild pitch and consecutive walks to Logan Deadmond and Eric Wolff made it 6-0.

Meanwhile, Wolff was simply overpowering the St. Elmo batters, striking out the side in each of the first, second, third, and fifth innings, allowing the Eagles only two weak ground balls the entire game.

In the bottom of the sixth, the Rockets struck the knockout blow. Christian Freezeland got the rally started with a bloop single to center and a steal of second. Wolff walked, and both scored on Guerrettaz's scorched triple to deep center. Adam Mayhaus' single plated Guerrettaz, and with the score now 9-0, pinch hitter Jacob Sigg's single to right brought home Mayhaus with the Rockets' tenth run to end the game. The win marked the fourth consecutive game in which the Rockets have "short-gamed" their opponents by winning via either the ten run or fifteen run rule.

While Klaiton Wolff's complete game no-hitter and long home run made him the game's outstanding player, the Rockets got contributions from their entire lineup. Nine different Rockets collected hits, led by Devon Guerrettaz and Christian Freezeland who had two each. Seven different Rockets scored runs, and five Rockets' names were in the RBI column led by Guerrettaz with three runs driven in. The Rockets scored ten runs on eleven hits and committed no errors, while the Eagles had no runs, no hits and two errors. The win for Wolff pushed his record on the young season to 2-0 and the Rockets improved to 4-0 on the campaign.

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