

Cougars Hold on to Lead over Dons

By Steven Johns



John Treat (Dons 14)

Photo Gavin Schlissel

In their first game against each other this year, the Cougars baseball team took advantage of the Dons' wild pitching on Thursday, March 13 in a 6-2 win.

The game started off with Campolindo's Jeff Gold getting an easy 1-2-3 inning. In the bottom of the first the Dons' John Treat got the first two Cougars out, but then walked Anthony Fadelli. Chris Hilk singled to put runners on first and second. Next up was sophomore Chris Killeen, who launched a double into the left-center gap. Fadelli came in to score and the Cougars took an early 1-0 lead.

The Dons came back in the third inning with two runs of their own. Spencer Cuiper started off the inning with a single. After two outs Sean Nixon singled up the middle to score Cuiper. The next batter, Treat, grounded one between the third

baseman and shortstop to give the Dons the 2-1 lead.

In the fourth inning, however, the Cougars blew the game wide open. Treat walked the first batter, Corbin Chase, on four straight pitches. After a Michael Kathan sacrifice bunt, senior Sam Gregory came to the plate. Gregory singled between the first and second basemen to tie the game at 2-2. After a Tom Wraith single Treat became wild. He walked Fadelli to load the bases and then proceeded to hit Hilk. Treat still could not find the strike zone when he walked Killeen to give the Cougars a 4-2 lead.

The Dons then pulled Treat in favor of Adam Hoffman. Hoffman walked home a run to give the Cougars a 5-2 lead. With the bases still loaded, Chase came to the plate for the second time in the inning. Chase hit a shallow fly

into left-center. The runners on second and third forgot that there were two outs and didn't start running until the ball hit the ground. By that time the runner on first base passed the runner on second and was automatically out. The runner on third was able to score, however, to give the Cougars a 6-2

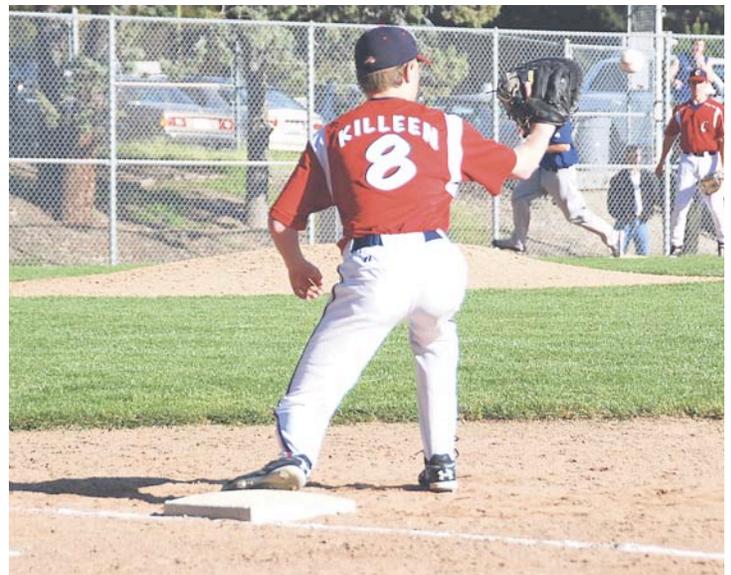
lead.

Cougars junior Jeff Gold and sophomore Nick Russ were able to shut down the Acalanes offense for the rest of the game, holding on for the 6-2 win.

With this win the Cougars brought themselves back to .500 and continued their inconsistent year. In each of their three wins the Cougars have scored six or more runs. However, in two of their three losses they did not score more than one run. If the Cougars hope to go far they will need to pitch and hit more consistently.

The Dons have also played inconsistently by scoring more than four runs in three games and less than three runs in their other three games.

This win put the Cougars at 3-3 overall and 1-1 in DFAL. This loss drops the Dons to 2-4 overall and 0-2 in league.



Chris Killeen (Campo 8)

Photo Gavin Schlissel