



Cougars Out-Slug Gaels

By Steven Johns

On Tuesday April 8, the Campolindo Cougars out-slugged the Dublin Gaels in a thrilling 10-9 victory.

In their first game against each other, the Cougars and the Gaels used their offenses to overcome poor defenses and poor pitching.

Campolindo took the early lead in the bottom of the first inning by taking advantage of two Dublin errors. Corbin Chase led off the inning with a walk. After an out, Anthony Fadelli singled between first and second to put runners on first and third. Clean up hitter Chris Hilck came up to the plate and hit a ground ball towards the shortstop. The shortstop could not handle it and Chase was able to score. After a strikeout Chris Killeen hit a ball that the third baseman booted, plating Fadelli.

After a third inning run by Campolindo the Cougars looked to be on their way to a win.

In the fourth, however, defensive mishaps and wild pitching allowed Dublin to take a big lead. The first batter of the inning, Steven Zanders, hit a dribbler back to pitcher David Wirth. Wirth threw to first, but Killeen dropped the ball and Zanders was safe.

Wirth then proceeded to walk the next three batters. After a ground out, Wirth hit Chuck Krause and walked Spencer Humphrey. Freshman Joey Mello came to the plate and hit a single to score another run. Zanders singled, plating another run. After a throwing error by catcher Vance Vergara, Nick Russ came in to pitch and got the final out of the inning. By the end of the fourth the Gaels scored 7

runs and made the game 8-3.

Despite this horrible inning, the Cougars were not done yet. In the fifth inning the Cougars offense picked up the fourth inning mishaps.

The first two batters of the inning were erased on a questionable interference call that resulted in a double play. With two outs Fadelli singled, Hilck reached first on an error, and Scott Hogland walked. Killeen then hit a 2 RBI single that was followed by yet another walk. Tommy Stephens got Campolindo's third hit of the game and drove in two in the process. This hitting barrage put the Cougars back on top 9-8.

In the top of the seventh, Dublin was able to take advantage of Mazzie's lead off double to tie the game at 9.

The resilient Cougars, however, were able to come back. A lead-off walk by Hogland gave Campolindo the chance to win the game. Pinch runner Jaime Fox moved to second base on a wild pitch, and got to third on Killeen's sacrifice bunt.

With one out and a runner on third, pinch hitter Will Coleman came to the plate. With a 2-2 count Coleman smashed the ball over the left-fielder's head to win the game.

The Cougars were able to overcome six errors and six walks to win the game. "We made a bunch of errors but we got it together and rallied and eventually came out on top" stated Fox.

This great comeback gave the Cougars their fourth win in a row and improved their overall record to 7-5.