

Monday
November
12
2012
5:11 pm



AdChoices

RSS feed
Daily Journal Quick Poll

In San Mateo County, early voting begins Oct. 8. When are you planning to vote?

- As soon as possible
- I'll wait a week after my ballot arrives
- I'll wait until closer to the election
- Election Day

VOTE VIEW RESULTS

AdChoices

THE DAILY JOURNAL

The Peninsula's homepage

Hillsborough wins district title

July 12, 2010, 03:30 AM By Emanuel Lee Daily Journal Staff

George Delegans says he never goes up to the plate thinking home run.

The shortstop certainly has a funny way of showing it. Delegans' grand slam with two outs in the bottom of the fourth inning — his second home run of the game, capping a 10-run inning — put the finishing touches on Hillsborough's 14-1, mercy-rule victory in Sunday's winner-take-all game of the District 52 11-12-year-old All-Star tournament at Ortega School in Pacifica.

Hillsborough, which received a stellar pitching performance from starter Blake Marcus — the right-hander threw a complete-game, one-hitter — repeated as District 52 champions and advances to sectional play against San Ramon on Saturday in Fremont.

Hillsborough's latest victory will go down as one of the most dramatic in its proud and storied Little League tradition. Delegans was merely looking to extend the inning before hitting a towering drive over the fence in right field to send the team into a frenzy.

"I was just try to get a base hit," said Delegans, who finished 4 for 4 with seven RBIs. "(The grand slam) was the best feeling ever. No matter what happens (the rest of my career), this is going to be one of the best moments of my life. It's something I won't forget."

Judging by their reaction on Delegans' walk-off hit, the rest of the Hillsborough players and coaches feel the same way. As the ball sailed over the fence, Hillsborough manager R.J. Waldsmith — who broke his right ankle in practice last week — immediately started hopping out of the first-base box even with a cumbersome brace covering the lower portion of his right leg.

Players and coaches stormed out of the dugout to rush home plate and a half-dozen players from Hillsborough's 9-10 and 10-11-year-old teams who were in attendance jumped the outfield fence to join in on the celebration. Hillsborough certainly has a flair for the dramatic. A day earlier, Riley Krook's walk-off home run leading off the bottom of the sixth inning capped a wild 15-14 win to force Sunday's winner-take-all contest.

Hillsborough needed to beat Half Moon Bay twice after it dropped a 10-9 decision to Half Moon Bay in the winner's bracket semifinal last Thursday. Hillsborough came back Friday and defeated Menlo-Atherton before summoning up a serious power surge over the weekend. In the two wins over HMB, Hillsborough hit eight home runs, including five on Saturday.

For the tournament, Hillsborough scored a whopping 82 runs in seven games, including 14 homers from eight different players.

"It's great because we can truly say this was a team effort," Waldsmith said. "It's funny, before the fourth inning I told the kids it would take seven runs (to invoke the mercy rule and end the game). I knew they could do it, but you just don't think it's going to happen."

Hillsborough led 4-1 entering the bottom of the fourth, having scored in every inning. But what looked to be a competitive game soon turned into a runaway. Hillsborough recorded six of its 14 hits in the decisive fourth, highlighted by a two-run homer from Joe Klein, a two-run single from Krook and Delegans' grand slam to cap an uprising that saw Hillsborough send 12 batters to the plate.

Hillsborough certainly picked a good time to dial up the power. In addition to Delegans' two homers — the first two of his Little League career, Waldsmith said — Jacob Tan, who came within a foot of hitting a home run Sunday, went deep for the first time ever in Saturday's game. And Krook's walk-off blast Saturday represented his first home run of the All-Star season.

Waldsmith said it's no coincidence Hillsborough scored runs at a prodigious rate this tournament. Having coached Hillsborough's 9-10 and 10-11-year-olds previously, Waldsmith knew after last year's runner-up finish in the 10-11 age group, the players would need to improve offensively as they moved up in age. Well, they certainly did that and then some.

"After last year's loss (in the 10-11 title game), we met and decided to make a concerted effort on our hitting," Waldsmith said. "We were at a fork in the road and knew hitting was going to win (at the 11-12 age group). So the kids worked extra hard in the (batting) cage and it paid off."

Lost in Hillsborough's offensive pyrotechnics was the pitching of Marcus, who made just one costly mistake when he left a pitch over the plate that HMB clean-up hitter Antonio Lopez blasted for a home run in the fourth. Other than that, Marcus was solid. His performance was all the more remarkable considering it came against a potent HMB lineup that ripped off 20 hits — yes, 20 — in Saturday's game.

Sunday, however, was a different story. Marcus, who plays catcher when he's not pitching, changed speeds effectively and was able to consistently work out of jams — he walked three over the four innings. Marcus was also a big reason why Hillsborough was able to force Sunday's decisive game. Saturday, he had two of Hillsborough's five home runs to go along with five RBIs to help offset HMB's 20-7 hit advantage.

"Blake is probably the best catcher in the district," Waldsmith said. "He's not bad on the mound, either. This late in the tournament everyone is thin on pitching, and we needed him to step up big time and he did that."

Although Hillsborough would not be denied, HMB showed a champion's heart, too. It trailed 14-8 entering the top of the sixth in Saturday's game before erupting for six runs — Devon Canty, Lopez and Tomas Nuno hit back-to-back-to-back home runs in the inning — to level things at 14 before Krook's game-winning round-tripper in the bottom half.

It was an incredible comeback effort for HMB, which simply didn't have enough pitching left to contain the white-hot Hillsborough bats.

"The 14-1 score doesn't do Half Moon Bay justice," Waldsmith said. "That's a great team over there and we had all we could handle against them. We're fortunate we didn't have one star, we had 13 superstars. Everyone had a hand in this."

Indeed, Hillsborough received contributions from its entire roster. Timmy Lynch homered Saturday, Alex Waldsmith consistently got on base and Adam Janscek, Shane Snow, Spencer Sinclair, Calean Lietz, Nick Pratt and Jon Hall all had either strong showings at the plate or in the field.

Game boxes

Little League District 52 All-Star tournament

- Home
- Local News
- State / National / World
- Sports
- Opinion / Letters
- Business
- Arts / Entertainment
- Lifestyle
- Obituaries
- Calendar
- Submit Event
- Comics / Games
- DJ Designers
- Archives
- Advertise With Us
- About Us

The print edition in its entirety. Click here to see it.

Click here for locations of where to find Daily Journal news racks.



DOJO USA
World Training Center
731 Kains Avenue
San Bruno
www.dojousa.net
650-589-9148

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK! Click here

Follow us on Twitter!



11-12-year-old winner-take-all championship game

At Ortega School-Pacifica

Hillsborough 14, Half Moon Bay 1

(Game ends after four innings due to mercy rule)

Half Moon Bay 000 1 — 1 1 3

Hillsborough 121 (10) — 14 14 0

WP — Marcus. LP — Nuno. HR — (HMB) Lopez; (Hills) Delegans 2, Klein. 2B — Klein, Tan. Multiple hits — Delegans 4, Klein 2, Marcus 2. Multiple RBI — Delegans 7, Klein 2, Krook 2.

Saturday

Hillsborough 15, Half Moon Bay 14

Half Moon Bay 420 116 — 14 20 3

Hillsborough 262 041 — 15 7 3

(Note: Krook wins game with home run leading off bottom of sixth)

WP — Lietz. LP — Lopez. HR—(HMB) Canty, Lopez, Nuno, Welch; (Hills) Marcus 2, Tan, Krook, Lynch. Multiple hits — (HMB) Welch 3, Canty 3, Lopez 3, Anderson 2, Blais 2, Cartwright 2, Donovan 2; (Hills) Delegans 2, Marcus 2. Multiple RBI — (HMB) Canty 4, Welch 2, Anderson 2; (Hills) Marcus 5, Lynch 3.

 [Print this Page](#) | [SHARE](#) [f](#) [t](#) [e](#) [...](#)

[<< Back](#)

smdailyjournal.com User Agreement

[Archives Home](#) • [San Mateo Daily Journal Home](#) • [Local News](#) • [State / National / World](#) • [Sports](#) • [Opinion / Letters](#) • [Business](#)
[Arts / Entertainment](#) • [Lifestyle](#) • [Obituaries](#) • [Calendar](#) • [Submit Event](#)
[Comics / Games](#) • [Classifieds](#) • [DJ Designers](#) • [Archives](#) • [Advertise With Us](#) • [Contact Us](#) • [About Us](#)

©2012 Daily Journal - San Mateo County's homepage

[Litter Barrel](#)