



JAN 26, 2008

## WEST LA BASEBALL WINS OPENER 3-2

Plotkin, Christensen and Kondo Shut down #7 Saddleback,  
Fileto's 2 Run Double leads Offense

---

West Los Angeles College's Men's Baseball team, playing for the first time in twenty-one years, defeated the pre-season #7 ranked, Saddleback Gauchos 3-2 Saturday at Saddleback College. The first game of a doubleheader, it was a well played season opener for both teams and pitching dominated.

Through five innings it was a zero-zero ballgame. West LA starting pitcher, Andrew Plotkin (Westchester H.S.) was outstanding through five innings. Plotkin gave up only two hits and walked one while striking out five Gauchos.

In the sixth inning, West LA broke the scoreless tie with a three run inning. Shortstop Kyle Skinner (Sammamish H.S. WA.) lead-off with a single and later stole second base. With one out, third baseman Dylan Cohen (Palisades HS) moved Skinner to third with a single. West LA catcher, Mark Sunga (Sherman Oaks Notre Dame HS) followed with a hard hit ball that the Saddleback second baseman couldn't handle and Skinner scored West's first run of the season. Freshman Edgar Fileto (Hamilton HS) then smashed a two-run double into left-field and West LA led 3-0.

In the bottom of the sixth, Saddleback came back and scored two runs with three hits and a hit batter. They had two runners on base and two outs when West LA brought in Todd Christensen (Redondo HS) from the bullpen to relieve Plotkin. Christensen ended the Saddleback threat by striking out Chad Richardson on three pitches. Christensen then pitched a scoreless seventh inning, before turning the game over to West LA closer Kesley Kondo (Sao Paulo, Brazil).

The freshman from Sao Paulo, Kondo, pitched the final two scoreless innings, striking out two and not allowing a hit. He picked up his first save of the year.

This was West LA College's first baseball game since 1986.

West LA 000 003 000--3  
Saddleback 000 002 000--2

Plotkin, Christensen (6), Kondo (8) and Sunga  
Condon, Aguera (6) Brayley (7) and Burnett

Win-Plotkin (1-0)  
Loss-Condon (0-1)  
Save-Kondo (1)

In the second game of the doubleheader, Saddleback defeated West LA 9-3. West LA led 1-0 at the end of the third inning after freshman Josh Fernandez (Westchester HS) laced a double down the right field line to start the inning for West. Jeremy Walker (Redondo HS) then followed with a sacrifice bunt to move Fernandez to third. David Vibiano (New Roads HS) then drove Fernandez home with an RBI single to right field. West LA led 1-0.

In the bottom of the fourth, Saddleback finally got to West LA starting pitcher, Alex Coons (Culver City HS). Coons who had pitched a fine three innings faltered in the fourth inning. The Gauchos scored three times in the inning knocking Coons out of the game. After four innings Saddleback led 3-1.

West LA battled back in the top of the fifth when Josh Fernandez walked to open the inning. He moved to second on a ground out and then went to third on a fly ball out to the center fielder. Todd Christensen followed with a walk. With two out and runners at first and third, Dylan Cohen drove Fernandez home with an RBI single to make the game 3-2 Saddleback. That was as close as West LA would get.

West scored a single run in the eighth when Dago Perez (Hawthorne HS) walked and then moved to second on a groundout. He then scored on a double by Shotaro Yamada (New Roads HS).

Saddleback scored two runs in the fifth and sixth and single runs in the seventh and eighth innings to make the final score 9-3.

West LA 001 010 010--3  
Saddleback 000 322 11x--9

Coons, Venegas (3), Gallardo (6), Gutierrez (7) Boardman (8) and Sunga, Olmos (6) and Gonzalez (8)  
Kemp, Jacobson (5), Gunderson (8), Ross (9) and D'Alessio

Win-Jacobson (1-0)  
Loss-Coons (0-1)

West LA will play this weekend in the Grossmont Tournament in San Diego. They play Grossmont College Friday at 1 PM and then come back against San Diego City College Saturday morning at 10 AM. West concludes the tournament by playing at pre-season # 9 Southwestern College at 2 PM Saturday.

West LA's first home game of the season will be Wednesday, February 6, at 2 PM against Cerro Coso College.