

## Connie Mack

# 'Major' Dodgers win title, DeAngelo, Mergler hit home runs

On a hot and humid night last Tuesday evening, the Connie Mack "Major" Dodgers battled the Giants to an 11-8 victory.

The visiting Giants got off to a fast start off Dodgers pitcher Eric Gorenflo. Leadoff batter Brad Pohlman walked and Henry Frome tripled him home. Frome scored on a single by Zach Plewa.

The Giants' effort resulted in a two-run inning but that was all Gorenflo would allow, pitching the first three innings, yielding two runs and striking out five.

Giants starting pitcher James Roehl was on his game in the first inning, facing only four Dodgers.

The second inning for the Dodgers was their best. Carmen DeAngelo started things off with a line drive home run over the center field fence to get the Dodgers on the board.

Jake Edere walked, Connor Rosenecker hit a single, and Lauton Rushford reached base on an infield single. Cameron Rosenecker, the youngest player on the Dodgers, then lined a shot to center field that hit the fence on a bounce, resulting in a double and driving home three. Rich Banning walked and Gavin Cummings ripped a ball to right center all the way to the fence, earning a triple and scoring Banning and Rosenecker.



The Connie Mack Dodgers beat the Giants, 11-8, to win the "Major" title. Members of the team, pictured from left, are: front row - Connor Mergler, Bryan Smith, Rich Banning, Eric Gorenflo, Carmen

DeAngelo; second row - Josh Downs, Lauton Rushford, Gavin Cummings, Cam Rosenecker, Jake Edere, and Connor Rosenecker; third row - coaches Mark DeAngelo and Scott Mergler.

The Giants cut the score to 7-6. Plewa and Peter Masters reached

base on singles, Jaelin Marong walked and Alex Tyrecki lined one to right center for a double, scoring Plewa, Masters and Marong.

Giants pitcher Plewa quieted the Dodgers' bats in the third and fourth innings, facing only seven batters.

The Dodgers brought in their closer, Connor Rosenecker, for the last two innings. In the fifth, the Giants took the lead on two errors and a double by Masters, driving in Frome and Plewa. Connor Rosenecker shut the door after that, striking out the next two batters to end the Giants rally.

The Dodgers showed why they were 14-3 in the regular season in the bottom of the fifth. Rich Banning started with a single, Bryan Smith hit a double to score Banning, then scored on an error. Connor Mergler then hit a long home run over the left field fence. The next batter, DeAngelo, lined a shot to left center for a double then scored while Rosenecker reached base on an error.

The Dodgers had the lead back 11-8 but the Giants still had another turn at the plate.

Dodger Connor Rosenecker was all business forcing a ground out to first and striking out the last two batters to help the Dodgers to the win. Dodgers Edere, Smith and Josh Downs all made great defensive plays, Edere and Smith made running catches in the outfield and Downs made two ground out plays at second base.

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## Central Amherst

# Orioles overpower Cardinals

The Central Amherst "Major baseball" Orioles recently defeated the Cardinals, 15-3.

With the Orioles clinging to a 4-3 lead going into the fourth inning, consecutive hits by Andrew Pierino (triple) and C.J. Westcott, Nick Hillebrand and George Zimmermann (all dou-

bles) led to five Oriole runs and a 9-3 lead.

The hot hitting of Michael Spina continued with two hits along with three each by Pierino and Zimmermann.

John Barden also added two doubles along with some nice defensive plays.

Hillebrand and Zimmermann were solid on the mound as well. Matt Macdonald and Mike Uba led the Cardinals with two hits each. Macdonald did his best to keep his team in it with several nice defensive plays, including an unassisted double play. He was also strong on the hill.



**THROWING THE HEAT** — Mel Ott Panthers 12U pitcher Kailee McHenry delivers a pitch during the Holiday Inn/West Seneca girls softball tournament held at Sunshine Park in West Seneca on June 29. Mel Ott played the Orchard Park Stars.

Photo by John Normile

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