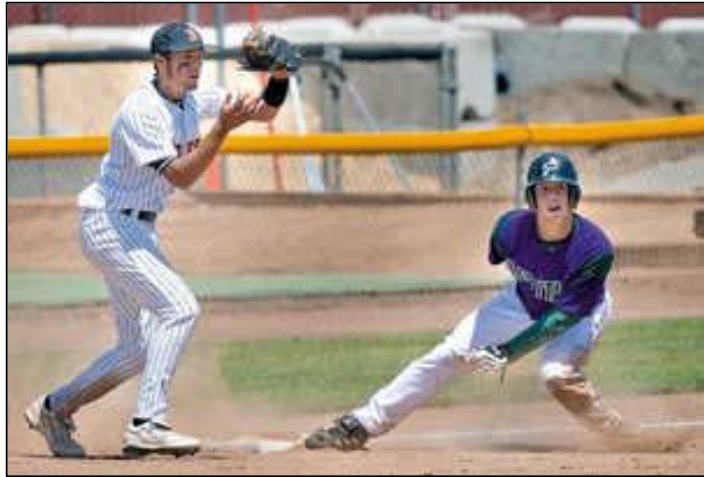


## All-State Baseball Olson's Long Ball Helps Dodgers to Championship

By Roger Underwood  
Yakima Herald Republic



Auburn's David Olson of Team D celebrates his fifth inning homerun that was part of a nine run rally that put them ahead 14-6 during the All State Baseball. Team D's Kori Brede, left, from Battle Ground and Team B's Michael Blake from Heritage wait for the call at third during All State Baseball, Sunday, June 8, 2008 at Parker Field in Yakima, Wash. Blake was out.

YAKIMA -- David Olson smiled broadly from the top step of a Parker Field dugout Sunday and said he'd had "a blast." Little wonder, since the Auburn High School product provided a literal detonation during the title game of the All-State Baseball Series.

His three-run homer, after all, had been the final blow of a nine-run fifth inning for the Dodgers, and from a competitive standpoint was likely the last straw in an 18-11 defeat of the Braves.

Earlier, in a game for third and fourth places, six-hit pitching from four hurlers including Davis' Evan Morris and East Valley's Kevin Elkins led the Athletics past the Cardinals 10-4.

"I felt like I hit it pretty good," said Olson, who'd launched 10 round-trippers during the recently completed prep season, "but since it was a line drive I was hustling down the line. I wasn't sure it would go out. It was great to see it clear that fence." The pitcher-first baseman, who had entered the game that very inning, is headed to Washington State.

The other big blow in the Dodgers' big inning — one including 12 batters, and eight hits — was a two-run double by Olympia's Jeremy Gendlek. "I was just trying to get the bat on the ball," said Gendlek, who will join high school teammate Kramer Champlin and Stadium's Kevin Meyers next fall at Western Nevada College in Carson City, Nev. "I was just trying to put the ball in play and make something happen."

Something later happened to Gendlek — something quite scary, in fact. While pitching the seventh inning, the right-hander was felled by a wicked shot off the bat of Battle Ground's Tracy Chelini and, while the crowd grew silent, lied face down near the mound for several minutes. "I'm fine," Gendlek would say later, explaining that the ball had glanced off his right arm before boring into his midsection. "Felt like I got punched," he said.

There was plenty of punch from both lineups, for the record, with each squad totaling 16 hits. Gendlek had worked 2 1/3 scoreless innings before being dropped by Chelini's drive, and was clearly the game's pitching

standout along with Central Valley fireballer Rusty Shellhorn. The Braves' left-hander produced an overpowering first inning, striking out the side, though he was touched for a second-inning run via a walk, stolen base and single. In fact, the Braves built a 6-1 lead before the Dodgers scored four times in the bottom of the fourth, then exploded in the fifth.

Stanwood's Doug Joyce, who finished the game after relieving Gendlek, was 3-for-3 with three runs scored and two driven in. Richland's Houston Castillo was 2-for-2 with a walk and three runs scored, and Wenatchee's Kris Carlson was 2-for-2 with two runs driven in and two scored. Chelini had an RBI double among his three hits to lead the Braves, and Emerald Ridge's Colby Sokol was 2-for-3 with two walks. Goldendale's Nick Dohrman, meanwhile, went 1-for-3 and pitched two innings for the Braves to conclude a sparkling three-sport prep career.

"This was good," said Dohrman, who will take his baseball talents to Wenatchee Valley College. "It felt good to put this jersey on one last time."

Morris and Elkins joined Bellevue's Colton Bielaski and Redmond's Matt Burrows in producing the series' best-pitched game.

Morris worked a scoreless, two-strikeout fourth and then yielded two runs on three hits in the fifth. Elkins followed with a perfect sixth and survived two walks for a scoreless seventh. A two-run homer by Snohomish's Ethan Hargraves' highlighted a six-run seventh for the A's in which Morris had an RBI single.

Also, Saturday night's banquet afforded series officials a chance to honor a longtime Yakima sports activist. Mel Moore was presented with an engraved bat that read, "Thank you for a lifetime of dedication to the athletes of our community."

## **DODGERS 18, BRAVES 11**

*(Winner 1st, loser 2nd)*

Braves	1	0	2	3	0	0	0	5	11	16	2
Dodgers	0	1	0	4	9	1	3	x	18	16	2

Rusty Shellhorn, Nick Dohrman (3), Tracy Chelini (5), Alex Evans (6), Ian Miller (7) and Derek Johnson, Sean Simpson (6); Kramer Champlin, Jeremy Gendlek (5), Doug Joyce (7) and Taylor Ausbun.

**Highlights** — Braves: Kevin Meyers (Stadium) 2b, 2 RBI; Michael Blake (Heritage) 2-3, 2b, 2 RBI; Ian Miller (Heritage) 1-1, 2b, BB, 2 runs; Aaron Grenz (Ridgefield) 1-1, 2b, BB; Tracy Chelini (Battle Ground) 3-5, 2b, RBI; Colby Sokol (Emerald Ridge) 2-3, 2 BB; Derek Johnson (Wenatchee) 2 RBI. Dodgers: Houston Castillo (Richland) 2-2, BB, 3 runs; David Olson (Auburn) HR, 3 RBI; Doug Joyce (Stanwood) 3-3, 2 RBI, 3 runs; Jay Skilton (Stadium) 2-4, RBI, 3 runs; Kris Carlson (Wenatchee) 2-2, 2 RBI, 2 runs; Travis Todd (Odessa) 2b, RBI; Kyle Macy (Anacortes) 2-4, 2 RBI; Jeremy Gendlik (Olympia) 2b, 2 RBI, 2 1/3IP, 1K, 1BB, 2H; Rusty Shellhorn (Central Valley) 2IP, 3K, 1BB, 1H.

## **ATHLETICS 10, CARDINALS 4**

*(Winner 3rd, loser 4th)*

Cardinals	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	4	6	4
Athletics	0	0	0	0	4	0	6	x	10	12	2

Alex Phillips, Drew Pettit (5), Jason Jones (7) and Brice Herrick; Colton Bielaski, Evan Morris (4), Kevin Elkins (6), Matt Burrows (8) and Cody Ryckman.

**Highlights** — Cardinals: Bryndon Ecklund (Elma) 2b, RBI; Eric Lane (Port Angeles) 1-1, 2 walks, 2 runs; Patrick Claussen (Lindbergh) 2-3, 2b, 2 RBI; Jason Jones (Kamiakin) RBI. Athletics: Logan Bushnell (Emerald Ridge) 2-5, 2b, 3b, 2 RBI; Ethan Hargraves (Snohomish) HR, 2 RBI, 2 runs; Cody Ryckman (White River) 2-4, 2b; Evan Morris (Davis) 1-1, RBI, 2 runs, 2 IP, 3H, 3K, 1BB; Tim Wilson (Redmond) 1-2, 2b; Chris Pierce (Kalama) 1-1; Colton Bielaski (Bellevue) 3 IP, 3H, 1K, 1BB; Kevin Elkins (East Valley) 1IP, 0H; Matt Burrows (Redmond) 1IP, 0H, 2BB; Matt Minium (Mark Morris) 2-6.