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Husky bantams earn spot in championship final

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Many KTBA baseball teams concluded successful seasons recently ? including the Omnivex Senior Rookie King Cobras as outlined below ? with lengthy and exciting playoff runs that ended just short of a championship last week.

The Husky bantam King Cobras have earned the right for a one-game, winner-take-all match against rival Vaughan for both bragging rights until next year and the right to take home the hardware. We wish the Husky team all the best in their quest for the championship.

Senior Rookie playoffs

On Aug. 19, Omnivex King Cobras took a trip to Routley Park to face Vaughan's Ontario Trillium in the third round of the playoffs. In the first inning Omnivex only managed to score one run when Brogan Grammenz doubled to bring in Nathaniel Bannister and Vaughan robbed Joseph Carvalho of a big hit by making a great catch. Vaughan managed to take the lead in the bottom by scoring three runs.

Omnivex rallied back in the second by scoring five runs. Daniel Sansone, Sean Gunnip, Massimo Amodio, Brandon Petrova, and Nathaniel Bannister all got big hits and all scored. In the bottom of the second, however, Omnivex showed good defence and only allowed Vaughan to score three runs.

Inning three wasn't Omnivex's greatest, as only William Swanson and Jeffery Long managed to get on base and only Swanson scored. However, in the bottom half, Bannister showed good defence as he scooped up two grounders and hustled back to first to get two outs. However Vaughan still managed to get three runs and take the lead 9-7.

In their last at bat, Omnivex gave it everything they had. Tyler Oletic got a base hit, Tanner Budway almost swung out of his shoes, but unfortunately they couldn't get the runs they needed and lost the game 9-7. With this loss, Omnivex is out of the playoffs.

Despite coming up short in the playoffs, Omnivex did extremely well. All the players played their hardest and left everything they had on the diamond. The players have improved a lot since the start of the season, and more importantly they all had fun.

The success this team had this season would not be possible if not for the great dedication and commitment of the coaches. So thank you Corie Bannister, David Swanson, Gino Amodio, and John Carvalho for a great season, and a job well done. All the players did very well and we are proud of all of them. Thanks for a great season!

Bantam playoffs

On August 19, at Sports Village Diamond, the Husky King Cobras lost their first game to long-time Vaughan rival Krcmar 5-4. Coach David Long commented: ?As we expected, the game against Team Krcmar was a tough battle, and every swing of the bat, and every base runner, became a potential difference maker.?

The Cobras struggled in the early part of the game with dormant bats allowing MacDonald, Costanzo, Di Carlo and Cooney to plate the only four runs of the game. Slugger Ritter contributed to half the runs when he lined up a powerful two base hit earning him two RBIs and loud accolades from the dugout and Husky fans in the bleachers!

It looked like the beginning of a comeback for Team Husky but the clock was not in their favour. Coach Long agreed. ?If the time limit had not halted the game, I think we had started a turn-around and might have taken the game.?

Pitchers MacDonald and Pignataro showed excellent command of their pitches, pounding the strike zone, and pulled off two shutout innings providing an opportunity for Husky to plate some runs.

Shortstop French made a spectacular line drive catch, while pitchers Pignataro and Long made clothesline throws to Galt and Costanzo on first. Clooney and Ritter turned in superb defensive plays by tracking down some pop flies.

Since the ?double knock-out? format is in-place, and with only one loss in the season, the Husky Cobras are still alive. They played Monday at the Sports Village in Vaughan (results unavailable at press time).

KTBA Player of the Week Honours

The KTBA Player of the Week honours go to Junior Ritter of the Husky King Cobras bantam team. Ritter did his best to keep the

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Husky dream season alive ? driving in half the teams runs and turning in some awesome defence. While Husky may have lost their first game of the season, they made it to the championship final where Ritter and company will seek to take home the big prize!