

# Omnivex Senior Rookie Cobras Begin Playoffs in Style

**By Wayne Rudnitski**

## **VP-KTBA**

It's hard to believe it but there it is in front of us ? cool summer evenings, school just one flip of a calendar page away and yes ? time for baseball playoff action for King Township ball players and families.

The Omnivex Senior Rookie King Cobras started their playoffs on a very good note ? rewarding their coaches for all the time spent teaching the youngsters how to play the game this summer. And the Husky bantam team completed the dream regular season going undefeated. Please drop by and support our youth on the ball diamonds in King Township as exciting playoff action continues in the month of August!

## **Senior Rookie**

On a rainy Wednesday, July 31, Omnivex King Cobras took a trip to face Vaughan's Ontario Trillium in the first round of the playoffs. In the first inning Omnivex came out swinging as Brandon Petrova started them off with a base hit. Joseph Carvalho put Omnivex on the board as he doubled and brought in Petrova, and Nathaniel Bannister. Courtesy of a base hit by Jeffery Long, Omnivex was up 5-1 by the end of the first.

Omnivex went back to the top of the order to start the second and the bats continued to produce. Tyler Oletic, Massimo Amodio, and William Swanson all had big hits and scored as well. By the end of the second, the score was 10-3 for Omnivex. As the rain continued to pour on the diamond, neither team was willing to give up. The third inning started with a base hit by Daniel Sansone, who would later score. Omnivex would bat through their entire lineup and finish the game with 15-3 win.

This was a great game for Omnivex as most of the players went three for three at the dish, and showed some good defense as well. The Player of the Game is Jeffery Long. Long has been in a slump as of late, but in this game he got his mojo back. He had three big hits, and brought in five runs.

## **Bantam**

On July 29, in an outstanding four-inning game at Nobleton, Husky's brought out the big lumber and demonstrated their power against Vaughan's BARMAC, with a 13-0 victory!

Husky's pitchers Eric Marchetta, Zach Long, Jr. Ritter and Daniel Pignataro dished it out ? pitching clean innings and forcing the Vaughan batters, with heads bowed, back to the bench.

At the plate, the Cobras waited for a quality at-bats, either getting on base or driving the ball into the gaps. Thomas Galt's wheels allowed him to stretch a single into a double. Matthew Lancaster used sound swing mechanics in going 2 for 2 at the plate putting Husky in a good place with some solid hits that advanced runners to scoring positions and earning him an RBI. Leighton Costanzo cranked an impressive single to left field, stole second then scored as a result of some Vaughan overthrows. A determined Galt, Scott Cameron and Ethan Cooney each plated two runs for a combined contribution of almost half of the 13-run count!

Husky fielders were on their game as Alex French caught a moon shot in right field in the 1st inning; Costanzo fielded a grounder to 1st in the 2nd, and Daniel Pignataro threw to Cooney at 1st in the 4th. Husky's strategy, teamwork and good execution resulted in a shutout victory to end the season!

Special mention goes to Lancaster, for going 2 for 2 at the plate, plating a run and scooping an RBI. Player of the Game is awarded to Galt for his solid hit, good base running, banding out a double and multiple stolen bases, plating 2 runs, and cashing an RBI.

## **KTBA Player of the Week**

The KTBA Player of the Week honours goes to Jeffrey Long of the Omnivex King Cobras senior rookie team. Long broke out of a slump at the plate in dramatic fashion ? knocking out 3 hits and driving in 5 runs to lead his team to victory in their first game of the playoffs.