Written by Mike Kelly
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The Watauga Junior American Legion team is on a roll right now. Watauga (11-8-1) won its third game in a row by sweeping Bunker Hill in a non-Area 4 double header Sunday night. Watauga won the opener 3-1 in seven innings; and the Junior Legion rallied to win the nightcap, 4-3. Watauga won

the opener thanks to a two-run rally in the top of the seventh. A walk, two bunt singles and a throwing error plated Matt Lambert with the eventual winning run; Justin Greer added an insurance run with a pinch-hit RBI single for a 3-1 lead. Lambert drove in Watauga's first run with a sacrifice fly in the fourth; Clay Mizner had two hits.

Jesse Illich picked up the win in relief in game one. He tossed two scoreless, hitless innings with a pair of strikeouts. Adam Greene, who got the start, went five innings and gave up an earned run on five hits with a walk and two strikeouts.

In game two, with Watuaga trailing 2-0, Steadman Sauls belted a game-tying, two-run double in the fourth inning; Ryan Church followed with an RBI single that scored Sauls and gave Watauga a 3-2 lead. A squeeze bunt by Matt Tindall drove in an insurance run for a 4-2 lead.

Andy Gilliam went three innings and gave up two runs, both unearned, and struck out three to get the win; Jesse Illich came on in relief in the fourth and picked up the save. He gave up an earned run on two hits with a three strikeouts.

"We manufactured some runs today, and we also got some timely hitting in spots," said Watauga coach Bradley Rudisill. "And our pitching and defense was pretty solid. This is a good group to work with. They're team oriented; they work real well together."

Tonight's game with Fred T. Foard has been cancelled and will not be made up. The reason for the cancellation, the majority of Watuaga's players are participating in a team basketball camp at Emory & Henry College in Emory, Va. The Friday night game that was rained out with East Burke has been cancelled as well. East Burke is all ready playing four games this week and there's no room on the schedule; and the Maiden game on Saturday, June 30 has cancelled because Maiden doesn't have enough players to field a team.

Watauga wraps up the regular season next Sunday, July 1 at East Burke at 3 p.m. Watauga is 7-7 in Area 4. The playoffs begin on May 6.