

## Watauga Batters Valdese In DH Sweep

Written by Mike Kelly

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Bradley Rudisill has the Watauga American Junior Legion A Team playing with a lot of confidence right now.

The A Team, riding a three-game winning streak, showed off that confidence by clobbering Valdese in a double-header sweep Monday night at Pioneer Field. Watauga (3-1) won the opener 11-1; they won the night-cap 14-2. Both games only took three innings.

"We've got a pretty good group of players," Rudisill said. "We played very well. And we took advantage of things against a team that's really struggling right now."

Chris Winkler got the win in game one. He gave up an earned run on two hits and struck out two men in his three innings of work. Jake Cody and Matt Byrum paced the offense. Cody had two hits, two RBI and scored twice; Byrum had two hits, and knocked in four runs. Taylor Shuford doubled, scored a run and drove in three; Andrew Miller had a base hit and scored twice.

In game two, the A Team broke the game open by scoring 12 times in the second inning.

Shawn Buchheit highlighted the explosion with a pinch-hit grand slam. Tyler Strugill had a base hit and drove in two runs; Corey Beldon and Brian Bolster each had two RBI apiece.

Austin Wilcox had a single and scored twice; Justin Isaacs and Shuford each scored two runs.

Tripp Taylor got the win. He went two innings, with no runs or hits allowed and he struck out two. Bolster went one inning and gave up two unearned runs with a strikeout.

The A Team travels to Maiden Saturday night at 5 pm. The Watauga B Team (0-2), coached by Dustin Kerley, travels to Draughn High School for a double-header Tuesday night against Valdese at 5 pm.