

Sturgill, Isaacs Named All-Stars

Written by Mike Kelly

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The Watauga Junior American Legion baseball team will be well represented in the Area IV All-Star Classic Saturday at McDowell High School in Marion. Watauga had five players chosen for this event, but only two will be in

uniform.

Tyler Sturgill, who had a solid summer at the plate, Hunter Isaacs and coach Bradley Rudisill will represent Watauga. Carson Isaacs, Justin Greer and Jesse Illich were also chosen to play in this all-star event, but they will not play because of previous family commitments.

And the format, which was originally set up for a two-day event on Saturday and Sunday, will now be just a one day, three-team event on Saturday. Rudisill, Sturgill and Isaacs will coach and play for the black team, which will feature players from Watauga, Caldwell, Lincoln, McDowell and Iredell Counties. There will be a blue team that will feature players from the Charlotte area, and a camouflage team from the Hickory area.

"It's basically an all-day event," Rudisill said. "They're going to get things started in the morning, and wrap things up by the evening. I like the format. There was a lot of thinking that went into this format. It should be a lot of fun for the kids. I know I'm looking forward to it."

The black team will play the blue team Saturday morning at 10 a.m.; then Rudisill's crew takes on the camouflage team at 12 noon. The Blue team plays the camouflage team at 2 p.m.; the finals, featuring the top two teams in the three-team field, begins at 6 p.m. There will also be a home run derby at 5 p.m.