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Import

Five no-hitters give Classie Lassies tourney title

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Monday, July 12, 2004 3:00 AM EDT

By By:

COLONIE - Matt Johnson didn't have any grandiose plans for his 9-year old Classie Lassies All-Star team before competing in this weekend's Colonie Tournament.

But what Johnson's players did over five games of the event turned out be truly spectacular. In fact, it has to be considered one of the most amazing achievements ever turned in by an area amateur team.

Classie Lassies captured the tournament title Sunday with a 7-0 victory over Colonie Team No. 2 - marking the fifth straight game the team won with a no-hitter.

"I talked to last year's coach, Matt Brinkman, before the tournament started and he said the team's were always stacked, stacked and stacked. I didn't know what to expect," Johnson said. "This is really a nice achievement."

What makes the five consecutive no-hitters even more impressive is they were all combined efforts, plus the fact this is the first time the team has played together.

"All we had together was a 45-minute practice," Johnson said.

The two main pitchers for the Classie Lassies All-Stars are Julie Brinkman and Emily Johnson. The duo combined to start all five games. Of the 75 outs the Classie Lassies' pitching staff recorded, an incredible 74 came via strikeouts.

Shannon Johnson, Allison Nunziato and Molly Fryer also pitched in the tournament for Classie Lassies, while Stephanie Watrous caught all five games. The team combined to outscore its five opponents, 58-2.

Brinkman, Watrous, Fryer, Molly Hurst and Emily Johnson paced the offense for Classie Lassies. The rest of the team is comprised of outfielders Rachel VanVleck, Morgan Murphy, Elizabeth Robert, Lauren Lake and Angela Halls.

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