

Sports

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JIM GREEN / Bertie Ledger-Advance

Austin Wynne (above, No. 4) and Charles Atkins (right) each had three hits for Lawrence Academy in the state championship series against Kerr-Vance Academy over the weekend.

Baseball

From B1
 urday and were never seriously threatened in claiming the state title. For Lawrence Academy head coach Jason Wynne and seniors Jarrett Harrell, Austin Wynne, Miller Trowell and Slade Cowan, it was a bitter pill to swallow. "This was a microcosm of what we didn't want to happen," Coach Wynne said. "We've had timely hits all season, we've had certain breaks to go our way and today, when we put the ball in play it was right at somebody - they didn't even have to move." The Warriors had just three hits in the first game, four in the second game and one in the decisive game. As a unit, they batted just

.109 (8-for-73) against Kerr-Vance pitching. "When we did get some hits and had guys in scoring position, we didn't capitalize and couldn't string any hits together to have a big inning. You can't win when you rely on the other team to make errors," Wynne said. Two Warriors combined for six of their team's hits in the championship series. Austin Wynne, son of the head coach, had a hit in each game, and went 3-for-9 with two RBIs and a run scored, while Charles Atkins was 3-for-10. Wynne's double in the final game was the lone hit for Lawrence. In contrast, Kerr-Vance went 20-for-82 (.243) in the series, but 16 of those hits came in

the first and third games combined. The Spartans had just four hits against Jarrett Harrell in the second game as the Warriors avoided the sweep. Kerr-Vance tallied four of its five runs in the top of the third inning in the final game. A double by Cam Murphy, an error, a sacrifice bunt, a hit batter and consecutive doubles from Banks Conde and R.J. Johnson led to the four runs. The score stayed 4-0 until the Warriors tallied their lone run in the bottom of the sixth inning. DaQuan Wilson reached on an error and scored on a double by Austin Wynne. The Spartans added their final run in the top of the seventh frame

and finished with 10 hits. Colby Wilkerson earned the win on the mound for Kerr-Vance. He worked 5.2 innings and allowed no hits and no runs with five strikeouts and no walks. Miller Trowell absorbed the loss for Lawrence Academy. He tossed 2.1 innings and gave up four runs on four hits while striking out one and walking one. Lawrence Academy forced the decisive game with a solid four-hit performance on the mound from Harrell in the second game. Harrell struck out eight and didn't issue a walk for the Warriors. Kerr-Vance took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning, but Lawrence answered in the

top of the third frame when Wilson reached on an error and scored on a triple by Wynne. The Warriors tacked on their final run in the top of the fifth inning. Miller Trowell grounded out, bringing in Wilson. Harrell gave up a single and a double in the bottom of the first inning but allowed just two hits after that. He retired nine of the last 10 batters he faced. Atkins went 2-for-4 for the Warriors, while Bond Wilson added the other hit. In the series opener, all was well with Lawrence through the first three innings, as the Warriors held a 2-0 lead. LA scored a run in the bottom of the second when an error plated Harrell, who had dou-

bled and moved to third on a passed ball. In the third inning, Harrell walked, advanced to third on Atkins' single and scored on Trowell's fielder's choice. Kerr-Vance took the lead with three runs in the top of the fourth, but Lawrence tied it at 3-all in its half of the frame when Wilson walked with two outs and was doubled home by Wynne. The Spartans took the lead for good in the top of the fifth inning when Conde smacked a two-run single to put Kerr-Vance ahead. Harrell, Wynne and Atkins had the hits for Lawrence. Earning All-State honors for the Warriors were Harrell, Cowan and Wood Trowell.

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