

June 6, 2012 – **NIAGARA GAZETTE**

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[How The West Was Won](#)

By Mike Meiler Niagara Gazette

Dylan Kelly hit a walk-off, two-run single with two outs in the bottom of the 10th inning Tuesday night at Sal Maglie Stadium to give the Grand Island Vikings a 7-6 win over Section V (Rochester) foe Honoeye Falls-Lima in the Class A Far West Regionals.

Trailing by three runs entering their final at bats, the Vikings rallied, scoring four runs on four singles and a walk and winning their fourth straight one-run game.

“These kids don’t crack,” Grand Island coach Dean Santorio said. “Being down three and getting that first out, it took a lot for them to come back, but they stayed in it.”

Sophomore Quinn Corrao, who replaced injured starter John McGinty, struck out to lead the bottom of the 10th. C.J. Fadel followed with a walk, and Jesse Ciffa singled to put runners at second and first.

Leadoff hitter Kevin Dobson hit a fly ball to shallow right field that was chased down by the HFL second basemen. Fadel advanced to third on the play, and Santorio took the opportunity to put in pinch runner Matt Lenz, who’s father passed away after the Vikings’ Class A final win against Albion on Thursday.

“I had to get Matt in there,” Santorio said. “I thought it might be my last chance, and I really wanted to see him score a run.”

Lenz scored on Jon Voyzey’s single, which advanced Ciffa to second base. Senior A.J. Jasek followed with another single, scoring Ciffa. Voyzey advanced to third base and Jasek to second on a throwing error by the left fielder, setting up Kelly’s winning hit.

With two strikes, Kelly laced a pitch up the middle, just past the diving centerfielder. Voyzey and pinch runner Ryan Miller scored as the Vikings stormed out of the dugout.

“I just went up there and prayed to God,” Kelly said. “I said a quick prayer and hoped for the best.

“I can’t describe the feeling. It’s a once-in-a-lifetime moment.”