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May 23, 2012

**Vikings open sectionals with big win**

By Mike Meiler [Niagara Gazette](#)

The third-seeded Grand Island Vikings tallied 17 hits over six innings as they blew out 6-Hamburg by a score of 16-4 at home in Tuesday's Section VI Class A-1 quarterfinal game.

The game didn't start as smoothly as it ended.

Grand Island pitcher Dylan Kelly struggled early, loading the bases and walking in a run before recording an out in the top of the first inning. His defense rallied around him, though, and left fielder Jon Voyzey threw out a runner attempting to score from third on a sacrifice fly to get out of the jam.

"That was huge for us," Grand Island coach Dean Santorio said. "(Dylan) is a guy who likes to pick his corners, and usually he doesn't give up a lot of walks. Baseball's funny that way, and it looked like we might be down big early, but Jon made a real nice play to get us out of it.

"Dylan did a great job rebounding, though. He got us some big outs after that."

Kelly shut the Bulldogs down from there, striking out six and giving up only three hits over the next five innings before being taken out for the top of the seventh with the Vikings holding a 13-run lead.

The Vikings' bats came alive for two huge innings, putting up five runs in the bottom of the second and nine in the bottom of the fifth.

Voyzey's two-run single highlighted action in the second, and Jesse Ciffa, batting ninth, hit a bases-clearing triple in the fifth. Six singles, a walk and a sacrifice fly led to six more runs in the inning and gave Grand Island a commanding 14-3 lead.

Ciffa led the way offensively with five RBI. Voyzey, John McGinty and Drew Chorey knocked in two runs apiece, and A.J. Jasek and Connor Frascatore had two hits each.

"We've got a lot of guys who can hit, and I'm comfortable saying there's not a guy in there, one through nine, that I don't expect to put the ball in play," Santorio said. "It's a big advantage for us."

The Vikings (13-7) will host 7-Williamsville South at 5 p.m. Friday in the semifinals.