

SPORTS

■ High School Softball

La Cañada Captures Second Straight League Crown

By Oscar Arelliz
The Outlook

The La Cañada High School varsity softball team clinched a share of the Rio Hondo League championship after clobbering Temple City by 11 runs on Monday, but the Spartans weren't finished with the Rams just yet. They carried over their winning ways into Tuesday's regular season finale and defeated visiting Temple City, 7-3, for sole possession of the league crown.

"I'm so happy I did it for my team," said pitcher Holly Stoner, who earned a win, tossing 5 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings and striking out three. "We're all so happy. I wanted to win it so much for the seniors because it's a senior game."

La Cañada (18-6 overall record, 11-1 in league) avenged its lone Rio Hondo League setback of the season with the 11-0 and 7-3 victories to claim its second consecutive league title.

"Really, [there were] no adjustments," said LCHS first-year head coach Chuck Gunter. "The girls just played these last two games how they've been playing the past couple of years. Nothing has changed."



Photo courtesy Leigh Harris

The La Cañada High School varsity girls' softball team defeated Temple City, 7-3, to capture the Rio Hondo League championship outright on Tuesday. The winning squad, which jumped into the LCHS pool to celebrate the crown, includes (from left) Amy Markowicz, Megan Reilly, Maddy Reilly, Sammy Jedrey, Abby Au, Gillian Arnold, Meghan Henry, Emily Tinkham, Katerina Kamar, Taryn Harris, Alexis Abboud, Hailey Walton, Daisy Kim and Holly Stoner.

Stoner was lights out through five innings and received plenty of help from her teammates. Maddy Reilly, who collected a team-high four hits, put the Spartans on the board in the third when she crossed the plate on a throwing error.

La Cañada's came to life in the bottom of the fourth inning, as Taryn Harris sparked the offense

with a double. Amy Markowicz and Katerina Kamar followed with consecutive singles.

The Spartans closed out the frame with six runs on six hits, taking advantage of two errors committed by the Rams' defense.

The CIF-Southern Section Division 4 softball pairings will be

announced on Monday, May 16, at noon. The Spartans feel confident going into the first round of CIF next Thursday.

"Last year, we got out in the first round, so this year it's our goal to go farther than that," said Stoner. "Maybe we make it to the championship. Whatever we do, we have to win every inning, and we'll win the game."