

West Zone Champions Upland, California knocked off North Zone Champs Bay County, Michigan 8-5 in Game 16 of the Colt World Series.

Upland got started right away when Michael Santana drew a one-out walk in the top of the first and advanced to third on Christian Serna's single to center. Santana scored on an error by shortstop Garrett Glysz, making the score 1-0. Bay County responded right away in the bottom of the first, as Glysz led off the inning with an infield single. Carson Kwapiszewski and John Dorman both followed with singles and Glysz scored, tying the game at one. Cooper Kauffold drew a walk and Mason Fetter-Schumacher doubled, scoring two and giving Bay County a 3-1 lead. Kauffold later scored on a wild pitch and Bay County headed to the second leading 4-1.

After a quiet second inning, Upland found more offense in the top of the third, as Christian Serna was hit by a pitch and Joshua Sosa reached on a bunt single. Robert Lopez Jr. doubled to left, bringing home both Serna and Sosa and closing the gap to 4-3. Upland kept up the offensive attack in the fourth, as Alfred Castaneda doubled to center and later scored on a sacrifice fly from Juan Garza, tying the game at four after the fourth inning.

Bay County found a response in the bottom of the fifth as Mason Fetter-Schumacher continued his good day at the plate with a one-out double to left. He advanced to third on a wild pitch and scored when Branden Brown singled on a grounder through the right side of the infield, giving Bay County a 5-4 lead.

Upland answered back in the top of the sixth, when Alfred Castaneda smacked a one-out single to right, and advanced to third when Juan Garza doubled to left. Michael Santana drove a single to right and both Castaneda and Garza scored, putting Upland back in the lead by the score of 6-5. Upland added to their lead in the top of the seventh, when Joshua Sosa drew a leadoff walk and Emilio Mata doubled to left, putting runners at second and third with no outs. Neo Santana then singled to through the left side, scoring both Sosa and Mata, extending the Upland lead to 8-5.

Sosa took the hill in the bottom of the seventh with just three outs standing between Upland and the Colt World Series championship game. He proved he was up to the task and sent Bay County down 1-2-3 and Upland advanced to the title game in their first Colt World Series appearance.

Upland, California remains undefeated and will play in the championship game tomorrow at 7:00 PM. Bay County, Michigan is eliminated from the tournament.