

Doing that Shootout thing they do ...



Photos by Bob Minenna

Football, golf and rock 'n' roll collide beginning tonight when the 13th annual Pepsi Celebrity Skins Shootout weekend gets under way at Konocti Harbor Resort & Spa with the pairings party. After the party, Toby Keith will perform in concert, with special guests The Lost Boys, Lake County's homegrown band. Action shifts to Buckingham Golf and Country Club on Saturday for the Shootout, which features many NFL stars, including Kenny Stabler and Roger Craig. Members of The Lost Boys (above and right) were gearing up for their big weekend on Thursday at Buckingham. Pictured in the photo above are (from left), Matt Weiss of The Lost Boys, PGA Professional Mark Wotherspoon of Buckingham, Matt Wotherspoon, Jordan Mills and Beau Bastian of The Lost Boys, PGA Professional Ted Mattila of Buckingham, and Lost Boys Thomas Cano and Gary Boyd.



Rookie blanks Angels

■ Cahill, bullpen spark 2-0 A's win

ANAHEIM (AP) — Rookie Trevor Cahill and two relievers combined on a three-hitter and Ryan Sweeney came within a double of hitting for the cycle, leading the Oakland Athletics to a 2-0 victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Thursday night.

The opener of this four-game series had been rescheduled from April 9, when Angels rookie Nick Adenhart was killed along with two friends in an early morning car crash caused by a drunken driver just hours after he pitched six scoreless innings in a no-decision against the Athletics. Monday would have been Adenhart's 23rd birthday.

Sweeney, who came in 4 for 9 lifetime against Angels starter Ervin Santana, homered, singled and tripled in his three at-bats against the right-hander to help the A's recover from a three-game sweep at Seattle.

Cahill (7-12) held the AL West leaders to a two-out single by Vladimir Guerrero in the fourth inning and a leadoff double by Jeff Mathis in the sixth. The Angels came in leading the majors with a .290 team batting average and a .305 mark with runners in scoring position.

Los Angeles got one baserunner as far as third base against the 21-year-old right-hander.

Cahill was 0-10 in 18 previous starts this season in which he received three runs of support or less while he was in the game. Cahill, who already has set an Oakland rookie record by allowing 25 home runs, hasn't given one up in 27 innings over his last four starts.

Michael Wuertz pitched a perfect eighth, and Andrew Bailey gave up a two-out bunt single by Torii Hunter in the ninth before retiring Guerrero on a groundout for his 19th save.

Santana (7-7) allowed two runs and eight hits over six innings and struck out six, after winning each of his previous four starts.

Arizona pounds S.F. from the start

■ D'backs grab 3-0 lead in first inning, never look back

D'backs 11, Giants 0

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Mark Reynolds homered and drove in two runs in his return to Arizona's lineup, Yusmeiro Petit snapped a personal three-game skid and the Diamondbacks ended a disappointing road trip with an 11-0 win over the San Francisco Giants on Thursday night.

Brandon Allen added his first career home run, a three-run shot in the fifth when the Diamondbacks scored four times. Arizona went just 2-8 on their 10-game trip.

Petit (3-8) scattered four

hits over six innings and had five strikeouts with two walks to win for the first time since Aug. 4.

Reynolds missed Arizona's three previous games with the flu and received an IV treatment in San Francisco on Tuesday. The veteran slugger didn't play in the first two games of the series against the Giants but returned Thursday to lead the Diamondbacks to their third-highest run total since the All-Star break.

He had an RBI single during Arizona's three-run first inning then hit a towering home run to center off San Francisco starter

Joe Martinez (3-2) with one out in the fifth. The home run was Reynolds' 39th of the season, one behind St. Louis' Albert Pujols who leads the majors with 40.

Reynolds also made a nice play on Juan Uribe's high popup in the second, falling to his knees just before making the catch.

Before the game, manager A.J. Hinch said Reynolds lost weight during his bout with the flu and is still not fully recovered.

Petit didn't need much support. He retired nine of the first 10 batters he faced and didn't allow a hit until Edgar Renteria's single to center leading off the fourth. The Giants loaded the bases later in the

inning with two outs but Petit escaped the jam by getting Aaron Rowand to strike out looking on three pitches.

Petit had lost his previous three starts, including his last outing in Houston.

Esmerling Vasquez, Clay Zavada and Blaine Boyer completed the five-hitter for Arizona's 11th shutout of the season.

San Francisco, which played without leading hitter Pablo Sandoval (tight calf) and Bengie Molina (quad), didn't put up much of a fight and lost for only the fourth time in 12 games against Arizona this year.

The Giants' seventh shutout loss of the season also cost them a chance to gain ground in the wild-card race.

Horny Toad lure catching bass like crazy on lake

The hottest lure at Clear Lake continues to be the Horny Toad and it really doesn't matter the color you use. The key to success is not the color but the time of day you fish. How you fish is equally important. The Horny Toad is most effective from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the middle of the day being the most successful. Another thing to consider is the hotter the day the better the bite.

One reason the Horny Toad is so successful is because during the hottest part of the day the silverside minnows school under the available weed mats and the small bass (3-5 inches) follow them. As a result, the larger bass chase after the smaller bass. The explosions you see in the weed mats are the larger bass chasing the smaller ones.

The trick is to use a stiff rod and braided 30-pound

Outdoorsman

test line. Cast the Horny Toad just beyond the weed mat and retrieve it so that it passes right above the mat. The bass have been blowing up on the lure right in the thickest part of the mats. That's one reason why you need the braided line so that you can force the fish out of the heavy weeds. A package of five Horny Toads costs \$4 and the special hooks are two for \$2.50. All the local tackle shops carry the Horny Toad and the staff will show you how to rig and fish them.

Another trick is to watch for the minnows and the grebes that have been chasing after them. Where you find minnows you also find the bass. The only problem is that most of the weeds are disappearing and where you

find a good number of mats one day they might be gone the next. It's important to keep on the move.

In areas with few or no weeds, crankbaits like the Speed Trap have been effective. Drop-shotting a plastic worm or casting a jig also has been very effective. Senkos rigged wacky style have been catching good number of bass. This is especially true in the deeper water in the south end of the lake where there are rockpiles.

The good news is that most of the bass are finally starting to put on some weight as they are finding more food. Most of the fishermen report catching several fish between 4-7 pounds. There have even been a few in the 9-pound class caught.

American Bass will hold a team tournament on Sunday and it operates out of the Skylark Shores Motel in

Lakeport. The weigh-in starts at noon. Fishermen can sign up for the tournament at the Tackle It tackle shop located next to the Skylark Motel today and Saturday or before blast-off on Sunday morning.

Catfish action remains good in the deeper water in the south end of the lake. Cut bait and nightcrawlers are catching most of the catfish that are weighing up to 15 pounds. The water is too shallow in the north end for any catfish action.

Crappie continue to be a no-show and the same goes for adult bluegill.

No local waters are scheduled to be stocked with trout this week, however, Upper Blue Lake is scheduled to

be stocked with trout on Tuesday. It will be the first stocking by the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) since last year. The lake will be stocked again later in the month.

Deer hunters are waiting for some cool weather to improve their hunting. Usually Labor Day weekend the weather starts to cool and the hunting improves. To date, the Zone A season has been pretty much of a bust. Most of the hunters report seeing very few deer and practically no bucks. It's the old story of a loss of habitat and the drought.



Terry Knight